

LEAGUE OF NATIONS.

League of Nations Publications

GENERAL

1929

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[Communiqué au Conseil,
aux Membres de la Société
et aux Délégués à l'Assemblée.]

N^o officiel: **A. 2.** 1929.

Genève, le 1^{er} mai 1929.

Société des Nations

①

Ordre du Jour

de la

**Dixième Session ordinaire
de l'Assemblée**

League of Nations

Agenda

of the

**Tenth Ordinary Session of the
Assembly**

Série de Publications de la Société des Nations

✓ QUESTIONS GÉNÉRALES
1929. 1. ✓

ORDRE DU JOUR DE LA DIXIÈME SESSION ORDINAIRE DE L'ASSEMBLÉE

qui s'ouvrira à Genève, le lundi 2 septembre 1929, à 11 heures.

(Communiqué conformément au paragraphe I de l'article 4 du Règlement intérieur de l'Assemblée ¹.)

1. Questions de procédure ².

- a) Election de la Commission de vérification des pouvoirs.
- b) Election du président.
- c) Examen et adoption de l'ordre du jour.
- d) Désignation des commissions et election des présidents de ces commissions.
- e) Election de six vice-présidents.

2. RAPPORT SUR L'ŒUVRE ACCOMPLIE PAR LA SOCIÉTÉ DEPUIS LA DERNIÈRE SESSION DE L'ASSEMBLÉE ³.

3. Election de trois Membres non permanents du Conseil ⁴.

QUESTIONS INSCRITES PAR L'ASSEMBLÉE OU RÉSULTANT DE DÉCISIONS DE CELLE-CI.

4. Convention sur l'esclavage: Rapport annuel du Conseil ⁵.

5. Procédure à suivre pour l'élection des membres de la Commission de contrôle par l'Assemblée. Propositions du Conseil ⁶.

A.10.1929.II

6. Projet de Convention pour l'assistance financière en cas de guerre ou de menace de guerre ³.

7. Etablissement d'une station de télégraphie sans fil ³.

8. Question de la revision du Statut de la Cour permanente de Justice internationale: Rapport préparé par le Conseil en vertu de la résolution de l'Assemblée du 20 septembre 1928 ³.

9. Codification progressive du droit international:

- a) Travaux préparatoires pour la première Conférence de codification (rapport sur le travail du Comité préparatoire contenu dans le rapport à l'Assemblée sur l'œuvre du Conseil et le travail du Secrétariat et sur les mesures prises pour mettre en exécution les décisions de l'Assemblée).
- b) Question de la convocation du Comité d'experts pour la codification progressive du droit international. Résolution de l'Assemblée du 24 septembre 1928 (II^e partie) ³.
- c) Travaux du Comité de trois jurisconsultes, nommé conformément à une résolution de l'Assemblée du 24 septembre 1928 (III^e partie) et chargé ³:
 - i) D'établir un aperçu systématique des matières de droit international en vue de codification éventuelle;
 - ii) De publier certaines conventions générales sous forme de code.

10. Réfugiés russes, arméniens, assyriens, assyro-chaldéens et turcs: Rapport de la Commission consultative auprès du Haut Commissaire ³.

11. Rapport sur l'Organisation du Secrétariat, notamment sur les amendements au Statut du personnel ³.

12. Rapport du Comité des cinq sur les nouveaux immeubles ³.

QUESTIONS PROPOSÉES PAR LE CONSEIL ET RAPPORTS PRÉSENTÉS PAR LES ORGANISATIONS TECHNIQUES DE LA SOCIÉTÉ.

13. Travaux de l'Organisation économique et financière, y compris les travaux du Comité consultatif économique, et son rapport sur le progrès réalisé dans l'exécution des résolutions de la Conférence économique.

¹ Le texte de cet article est cité à l'Annexe II.

² Une note concernant l'ordre habituellement suivi par l'Assemblée pour l'étude des questions figurant sous cette rubrique est préparée, à l'intention des délégués, au début de la session.

³ La résolution de l'Assemblée est citée à l'Annexe I.

⁴ La résolution de l'Assemblée et un extrait d'une proposition du Bureau adoptée par l'Assemblée en 1927 sont cités à l'Annexe I.

⁶ La proposition de la quatrième Commission adoptée par l'Assemblée est citée à l'annexe I.

AGENDA OF THE TENTH ORDINARY SESSION OF THE ASSEMBLY

to be held at Geneva on Monday, September 2nd, 1929, at 11 a.m.

(Circulated in accordance with Rule 4, paragraph I, of the Rules of Procedure of the Assembly.¹)

I. Questions of Procedure:²

- (a) Election of the Credentials Committee.
- (b) Election of the President.
- (c) Examination and Adoption of the Agenda.
- (d) Nomination of Committees and Election of Chairmen of these Committees.
- (e) Election of Six Vice-Presidents.

2. REPORT ON THE WORK OF THE LEAGUE SINCE THE LAST SESSION OF THE ASSEMBLY.³

3. Election of three non-permanent Members of the Council.⁴

ITEMS INSERTED BY OR ARISING OUT OF THE DECISIONS OF THE ASSEMBLY.

4. Slavery Convention: Annual Report by the Council.⁵
5. Procedure for the Election by the Assembly of the Members of the Supervisory Commission: Proposals by the Council.⁵
- A.10.1929.II. 6. Draft Convention on Financial Assistance in Case of War or Threat of War.³
7. Establishment of a Radiotelegraphic Station.³
8. Question of the Revision of the Statute of the Permanent Court of International Justice: Report made by the Council in pursuance of the Assembly's resolution of September 20th, 1928.³
9. Progressive Codification of International Law:
 - (a) Preparatory Work for the First Codification Conference (Report on the Work of the Preparatory Committee contained in the Report to the Assembly on the Work of the Council and the Secretariat and on the Measures taken to execute the Assembly's Decisions).
 - (b) Question of convening the Committee of Experts for the Progressive Codification of International Law: Assembly Resolution of September 24th, 1928 (Part II).³
 - (c) Work of the Committee of Three Jurists appointed in accordance with the Assembly's Resolution of September 24th, 1928 (Part III):³
 - (i) To draw up a systematic survey of the subjects of international law with a view to eventual codification;
 - (ii) To report on the question of publishing certain general conventions in the form of a code.
10. Russian, Armenian, Assyrian, Assyro-Chaldean and Turkish Refugees: Report of the Advisory Commission attached to the High Commissioner.³
11. Report on the Organisation of the Secretariat, in particular on Amendments to the Staff Regulations.³
12. Report by the Committee of Five on the New Buildings.³

ITEMS PROPOSED BY THE COUNCIL, TOGETHER WITH REPORTS FROM TECHNICAL ORGANISATIONS OF THE LEAGUE.

13. Work of the Economic and Financial Organisation, including the work of the Economic Consultative Committee, and its Report on the Progress in the Execution of the Resolutions of the Economic Conference.

¹ The text of the rule is quoted in Annex II.

² A note on the order customarily followed by the Assembly in dealing with the items under this heading is prepared for the use of delegates at the beginning of the session.

³ The Assembly resolution is quoted in Annex I.

⁴ The Assembly resolution and an extract from a proposal of the Committee of the Assembly adopted by the Assembly in 1927 are quoted in Annex I.

⁵ The proposal of the Fourth Committee adopted by the Assembly is quoted in Annex I.

- A.8.1929.X. 14. Travaux de l'Organisation des communications et du transit.
15. Travaux de l'Organisation d'hygiène de la Société.
16. Travaux de la Commission consultative du trafic de l'opium et autres drogues nuisibles.
17. Travaux de la Commission consultative pour la protection de l'enfance et de la jeunesse:
a) Rapport du Comité de la traite des femmes et des enfants.
b) Rapport du Comité de la protection de l'enfance.
18. Coopération intellectuelle:
a) Travaux de la Commission internationale de coopération intellectuelle et de l'Institut international de Coopération intellectuelle;
b) Travaux de l'Institut international du Cinématographe éducatif.
A.4.1929.X. A.4(6).1929.X. A.3.1929.X. 19. Budget de 1930, y compris les budgets de l'Organisation internationale du Travail et de la Cour permanente de Justice internationale.
Comptes vérifiés du dixième exercice financier (1928).
Rapports de la Commission de contrôle.

AUTRES QUESTIONS.

20. Election des successeurs de feu M. Weiss et de feu Lord Finlay, Juges de la Cour permanente de Justice internationale.

Annexe I.

1. *Nomination de trois Membres non permanents du Conseil.*

a) Résolution adoptée le 15 septembre 1926.

Chaque année, au cours de sa session ordinaire, l'Assemblée procède à l'élection de trois Membres non permanents du Conseil. Ceux-ci sont élus pour une période commençant immédiatement après leur élection et se terminant le jour où l'Assemblée aura procédé aux élections, trois années après.

b) Extrait d'une proposition du Bureau de l'Assemblée, adoptée le 8 septembre 1927.

Ayant à fixer un jour où il serait procédé à ce vote et à ces élections, le Bureau a cru opportun de faire, à ce sujet, à l'Assemblée une proposition de principe, c'est-à-dire pouvant, dans une certaine mesure et jusqu'à ce que l'Assemblée en décide autrement, être considérée comme une règle à laquelle l'Assemblée se conformerait au cours de ses sessions ultérieures. Il serait admis que les élections des Membres non permanents du Conseil auraient lieu le lundi qui suivrait l'ouverture de l'Assemblée, c'est-à-dire au début de la seconde semaine de la session.

2. *Convention sur l'esclavage: Rapport annuel du Conseil.*

Résolution adoptée le 25 septembre 1926.

L'Assemblée désire que la Société des Nations continue à s'intéresser aux mesures destinées à assurer l'abolition progressive de l'esclavage et des conditions analogues, et elle invite, en conséquence, le Conseil à préparer et à communiquer chaque année à l'Assemblée un document indiquant les lois et règlements que les parties à la Convention de l'esclavage auront, en vertu de l'article 7, communiqués au Secrétaire général et à y joindre éventuellement les informations supplémentaires que les Membres de la Société seraient disposés à fournir spontanément sur les mesures prises par eux à cet effet.

3. *Rapport sur l'œuvre accomplie par la Société depuis la dernière session de l'Assemblée.*

Extrait d'une résolution adoptée le 29 septembre 1922.

L'ordre du jour de chaque session annuelle comprendra un rapport sur l'œuvre du Conseil accomplie depuis la dernière session de l'Assemblée, sur le travail du Secrétariat et sur les mesures prises pour exécuter les décisions de l'Assemblée.

4. *Procédure à suivre pour l'élection des membres de la Commission de contrôle par l'Assemblée.*

Proposition adoptée par l'Assemblée le 21 septembre 1928.

(Extrait du Rapport de la quatrième Commission)

Aux termes de l'article 51 du Règlement concernant la gestion des finances de la Société des Nations, « le droit d'apporter des amendements au présent règlement appartient exclusivement à l'Assemblée, agissant sur les avis de sa Commission des finances ».

14. Work of the Organisation for Communications and Transit.
- A.8.1929.III. 15. Work of the Health Organisation of the League.
16. Work of the Advisory Committee on Traffic in Opium and other Dangerous Drugs.
17. Work of the Advisory Commission for the Protection and Welfare of Children and Young People:
(a) Report of the Committee on Traffic in Women and Children;
(b) Report of the Child Welfare Committee.
18. Intellectual Co-operation:
(a) Work of the International Committee on Intellectual Co-operation and of the International Institute of Intellectual Co-operation;
(b) Work of the International Educational Cinematographic Institute.
- A.4.1929.X.
A.4(a).1929.X.
A.3.1929.X. 19. Budget for 1930, including the Budgets of the International Labour Organisation and of the Permanent Court of International Justice: Audited Accounts for the Tenth Financial Period (1928).
Reports of the Supervisory Commission.

OTHER ITEMS.

20. Election of Successors to the late M. Weiss and to the late Lord Finlay, Judges of the Permanent Court of International Justice.

Annex I.

1. *Election of Three Non-Permanent Members of the Council.*

(a) Resolution adopted on September 15th, 1926.

The Assembly shall each year, in the course of its ordinary session, elect three non-permanent Members of the Council. They shall be elected for a term commencing immediately on their election and ending on the day of the elections held, three years later, by the Assembly.

(b) Extract of a proposal of the Committee of the Assembly, adopted on September 8th, 1927.

As the General Committee had to fix a date for the voting and the elections, it has thought fit to make a general proposal to the Assembly on this subject. This proposal, if adopted, would, to a certain extent, and until the Assembly decides otherwise, be regarded as a rule which the Assembly would follow at future sessions. The election of the non-permanent Members of the Council would take place on the Monday following the opening date of the Assembly—that is to say, at the beginning of the second week of the session.

2. *Slavery Convention: Annual Report by the Council.*

Resolution adopted on September 25th, 1926.

The Assembly desires that the League of Nations should continue to interest itself in securing the progressive abolition of slavery and conditions analogous thereto and therefore requests the Council to prepare and communicate to the Assembly every year a document mentioning the laws and regulations which parties to the Convention on Slavery, in accordance with Article 7, will have communicated to the Secretary-General, and that the Council will include therein any supplementary information which the Members of the League may be disposed spontaneously to furnish with regard to the measures taken by them to this end.

3. *Report on the Work of the League since the last Session of the Assembly.*

Extract from resolution adopted on September 29th, 1922.

The agenda of a general session shall include a report on the work of the Council since the last session of the Assembly, on the work of the Secretariat, and on the measures taken to execute the decisions of the Assembly.

4. *Procedure for the Election by the Assembly of the Members of the Supervisory Commission.*

Proposal adopted by the Assembly on September 21st, 1928. (Extract from the Report of the Fourth Committee).

According to Article 51 of the Regulations for the Financial Administration of the League of Nations, "these Regulations shall not be amended except by the Assembly acting upon the advice of its Finance Committee".

Après un examen de la question du mode de nomination des membres de la Commission de contrôle au point de vue constitutionnel, et tout en renouvelant l'expression de son entière confiance dans les membres de la Commission de contrôle telle qu'elle est actuellement constituée, la Commission s'est prononcée en faveur de la proposition suivante:

Article premier. — Amender le paragraphe 2 de la façon suivante:

« La Commission est composée de cinq membres, dont l'un, au moins, devra être un expert financier. La Commission, dont les membres sont nommés par l'Assemblée, devra comprendre des ressortissants de pays Membres de la Société qui ne sont pas représentés au Conseil. L'Assemblée nommera deux suppléants pour remplacer éventuellement les membres titulaires se trouvant dans l'impossibilité d'assister à une séance. »

La quatrième Commission se propose que l'amendement qui précède entre en vigueur à partir du 1^{er} janvier 1929, afin de permettre au Conseil de soumettre des propositions à la prochaine session ordinaire de l'Assemblée sur la meilleure procédure à suivre pour l'élection des membres et d'examiner s'il serait possible que l'Assemblée instituât un comité restreint chargé de désigner les candidats.

5. *Projet de Convention pour l'assistance financière en cas de guerre ou de menace de guerre.*

Résolution adoptée le 15 septembre 1928.

L'Assemblée:

1^o Exprime sa satisfaction sur les travaux du Comité d'arbitrage et de sécurité et du Comité financier au sujet du plan d'assistance financière;

2^o Demande au Conseil d'inviter le Comité financier à continuer l'élaboration de ce plan sous la forme d'un projet de convention, en s'inspirant des directives fournies par le rapport présenté à l'Assemblée, lors de sa neuvième session ordinaire, au nom de sa troisième Commission;

3^o Exprime l'espoir qu'un projet de convention complet et élaboré dans tous ses détails pourra être soumis à l'Assemblée lors de sa dixième session ordinaire;

4^o Invite le Secrétaire général à faire parvenir ledit projet de convention, aussitôt qu'il sera élaboré, aux gouvernements afin que ceux-ci puissent donner leurs instructions à leurs délégués à la dixième session ordinaire de l'Assemblée.»

6. *Etablissement d'une Station de télégraphie sans fil.*

Résolution adoptée le 20 septembre 1928.

L'Assemblée,

En vue de permettre aux Membres de la Société des Nations un examen approfondi des propositions qui lui ont été soumises quant à la création d'une station de télégraphie sans fil, destinée à assurer les communications indépendantes de la Société des Nations, en temps de crise, ainsi qu'en vue de permettre les études complémentaires techniques, financières et juridiques désirables:

Décide de porter cette question à l'ordre du jour de sa dixième session;

Prie le Conseil de bien vouloir prendre les mesures nécessaires pour la poursuite de ces études.

7. *Question de la revision du Statut de la Cour permanente de Justice internationale.*

Résolution adoptée le 15 septembre 1928.

L'Assemblée,

Considérant le nombre toujours croissant des affaires portées devant la Cour permanente de Justice internationale;

Estimant utile que, avant le renouvellement du mandat des membres de la Cour en 1930, les dispositions actuelles du Statut de la Cour soient l'objet d'un examen aux fins, s'il y a lieu, d'y apporter tels amendements que l'expérience ferait juger nécessaires;

Attire l'attention du Conseil sur l'opportunité de procéder, avant le renouvellement du mandat des membres de la Cour permanente de Justice internationale, à l'examen du Statut de cette Cour en vue d'y apporter, s'il y a lieu, tels amendements jugés désirables et de présenter à la prochaine session ordinaire de l'Assemblée les propositions nécessaires.

8. *Codification progressive du droit international.*

Extrait d'une résolution adoptée le 14 septembre 1928.

II. *Travaux préparatoires en vue de conférences ultérieures.*

1. L'Assemblée,

Ayant pris connaissance du rapport adressé au Conseil de la Société des Nations, en juin 1928, par le Comité d'experts pour la codification progressive du droit international, remercie

After considering, from the constitutional point of view, the question of the appointment of the members of the Supervisory Commission, and while reiterating its full confidence in the members of the Supervisory Commission as at present constituted, the Committee pronounced in favour of the following proposal:

" *Article 1.* — That paragraph 2 be amended as follows:

" " The Commission shall be composed of five members, of whom one at least shall be a financial expert. The members shall be appointed by the Assembly, which, in selecting members, shall include among them persons belonging to countries Members of the League which are not represented on the Council. The Assembly shall also appoint two substitutes to replace, if need be, members unable to attend a meeting. " "

The Fourth Committee proposes that this amendment should come into force as from January 1st, 1929, in order to give the Council an opportunity of submitting proposals to the Assembly at its next ordinary session as to the best procedure for the election of members, and considering the possibility of a small nominating Committee being set up by the Assembly.

5. *Draft Convention on Financial Assistance in Case of War or Threat of War.*

Resolution adopted on September 15th, 1928.

The Assembly:

- (1) Expresses its satisfaction with the work of the Committee on Arbitration and Security and the Financial Committee in connection with the scheme for financial assistance;
- (2) Requests the Council to invite the Financial Committee to continue the preparation of this scheme in the form of a draft Convention, bearing in mind the directions given in the report submitted to the Assembly at its ninth ordinary session on behalf of its Third Committee;
- (3) Expresses the hope that a full draft Convention, complete in all its details, may be submitted to the Assembly at its tenth ordinary session;
- (4) Invites the Secretary-General to submit the draft Convention as soon as it is prepared to the Governments in order that they may give instruction to their delegates at the tenth ordinary session of the Assembly.

6. *Establishment of a Radio-Telegraphic Station.*

Resolution adopted on September 20th, 1928.

The Assembly:

With a view to enabling Members of the League of Nations to proceed to a full examination of the proposals submitted with regard to the creation of the wireless station for the purpose of providing the League with independent communications in time of emergency, and also with a view to allowing time for the additional technical, financial and legal studies considered desirable;
Decides to place this question on the agenda of its tenth session;
And requests the Council to take all necessary measures for a further study of these questions.

7. *Question of the Revision of the Statute of the Permanent Court of International Justice.*

Resolution adopted on September 15th, 1928.

The Assembly:

Considering the ever-growing number of matters referred to the Permanent Court of International Justice;

Deeming it advisable that, before the renewal of the terms of office of the members of the Court in 1930, the present provisions of the Statute of the Court should be examined with a view to the introduction of any amendments which experience may show to be necessary:

Draws the Council's attention to the advisability of proceeding, before the renewal of the terms of office of the members of the Permanent Court of International Justice, to the examination of the Statute of the Court with a view to the introduction of such amendments as may be judged desirable, and to submitting the necessary proposals to the next ordinary session of the Assembly.

8. *Progressive Codification of International Law.*

Extract from resolution adopted on September 14th, 1928.

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II. *Preparatory Work for Further Conferences.*

I. The Assembly,

Having considered the report addressed to the Council of the League of Nations in June 1928 by the Committee of Experts for the Progressive Codification of International Law, thanks the

les juristes qui, sous la direction éclairée de leur président, ont apporté cette nouvelle contribution à l'œuvre de codification.

Prend acte des conclusions du Comité aux termes desquelles deux questions nouvelles paraissent avoir obtenu le degré de maturité suffisant pour un règlement international, à savoir:

- a) Situation juridique et fonctions des consuls;
- b) Compétence des tribunaux à l'égard des Etats étrangers.

Elle décide de réserver ces questions en vue de conférences ultérieures.

2. L'Assemblée prend acte qu'un nouveau questionnaire a été établi par le Comité d'experts relativement à la question du domicile et qu'il a été transmis aux gouvernements par les soins du Secrétaire général;

Elle renvoie à sa session de 1929 la question de savoir s'il est nécessaire de convoquer une nouvelle fois le Comité d'experts pour l'examen des réponses des gouvernements qui seront parvenues dans l'intervalle au Secrétaire général de la Société des Nations et, le cas échéant, pour l'étude d'autres questions qui pourraient se poser en matière de codification de droit international.

L'Assemblée émet le vœu que le Comité d'experts examine dans sa prochaine session la possibilité et l'opportunité de rechercher par la procédure de codification l'établissement d'une déclaration des droits et devoirs fondamentaux des Etats.

III. *Etablissement d'un plan général de codification.*

L'Assemblée,

Ayant pris connaissance de l'avis exprimé par le Comité d'experts sur la proposition de la délégation du Paraguay,

Confirme sa décision de ne rien modifier actuellement à la méthode de codification arrêtée par elle en 1924;

Reconnaît l'utilité qu'il y aurait toutefois à indiquer toute l'étendue des matières que, sans préjuger de l'ordre à suivre, elle se propose d'englober dans son œuvre de codification;

Et, vu le caractère du travail envisagé, adresse au Conseil le vœu que l'établissement d'un aperçu systématique soit confié à un Comité de trois juristes choisis de préférence dans le Comité d'experts et que cet aperçu soit aussitôt que possible communiqué aux Membres de la Société;

Suggère que soient précisées, si possible, à cette occasion les matières qu'il faudrait réserver aux organisations techniques de la Société ou à des conférences internationales dont l'initiative a été prise déjà par certains gouvernements, et celles qui semblent pouvoir être traitées par des conférences de juristes.

L'Assemblée souligne le très grand intérêt pratique que présenterait dès à présent dans le même ordre d'idées la réunion en un code, suivant un classement méthodique, des différentes conventions internationales générales, c'est-à-dire ouvertes à l'adhésion de la généralité des Etats;

Demande en conséquence au Conseil de faire mettre à l'étude par le Comité de trois juristes visé ci-dessus la publication en marge du *Recueil des Traités*, sous forme de code réédité de temps à autre, des conventions générales du type indiqué ci-dessus et de lui adresser rapport à ce sujet à sa prochaine session.

9. *Réfugiés russes, arméniens, assyriens, assyro-chaldéens et turcs: Rapport de la Commission consultative auprès du Haut Commissaire.*

Extrait d'une résolution adoptée le 20 septembre 1928.

L'Assemblée:

Invite, conformément à la résolution du Conseil d'administration du Bureau international du Travail, le Conseil de la Société des Nations à prendre d'urgence toutes dispositions utiles pour la désignation d'une commission consultative siégeant auprès du Haut Commissaire;

Recommande au Conseil d'inviter cette commission à lui soumettre, avant la prochaine session ordinaire de l'Assemblée, un rapport d'ensemble sur les possibilités et les modalités éventuelles d'une solution définitive aussi rapide que possible.

10. *Rapport sur l'organisation du Secrétariat.*

Résolution adoptée le 25 septembre 1928.

L'Assemblée,

Considérant que le Statut du personnel a été établi peu après l'organisation du Secrétariat et qu'il conviendrait de mettre à profit l'expérience acquise depuis 1922.

Estimant que, bien que le statut se soit avéré d'une manière générale, satisfaisant, certaines modifications apparaissent comme désirables, pour porter remède à certains inconvénients qui ont été signalés,

Charge les fonctionnaires compétents des organisations autonomes de la Société, après un examen de la situation actuelle et des améliorations qui pourraient être apportées, d'étudier les mesures — notamment les amendements au Statut du personnel — qui pourraient être prises en vue de continuer d'assurer dans l'avenir le meilleur rendement possible de l'administration et de

jurists who, under the enlightened guidance of their President, have made this new contribution to the work of codification.

It notes the conclusions of the Committee, according to which two new questions appear to be sufficiently ripe for international regulation, namely:

- (1) Legal position and functions of Consuls;
- (2) Competence of the Courts in regard to foreign States.

It decides to reserve these questions with a view to subsequent conferences.

2. The Assembly notes that a new questionnaire dealing with the question of domicile has been drawn up by the Committee of Experts and transmitted to the Governments by the Secretary-General.

It adjourns to its session of 1929 the question whether it is necessary to convene the Committee of Experts again for the purpose of examining the replies from the Governments received in the interval by the Secretary-General of the League of Nations, and, eventually, of studying other questions which may arise in connection with codification of international law.

The Assembly recommends that the Committee of Experts should, when it next meets, examine whether it would be possible and desirable to endeavour, by the procedure of codification, to formulate a declaration of the fundamental rights and duties of States.

III. - *Establishment of a General Plan of Codification.*

The Assembly:

Having considered the opinion expressed by the Committee of Experts regarding the proposal of the delegation of Paraguay:

Confirms its decision to make no change at present in the method of codification adopted by it in 1924;

Recognises, however, that there would be advantages in indicating the full extent of the subjects which, without prejudging the order to be followed, the Assembly proposes to cover by the work of codification;

And, in view of the character of the contemplated task, addresses to the Council the request that the establishment of a systematic survey may be entrusted to a committee of three jurists, to be chosen preferably from the members of the Committee of Experts, and that the survey may be communicated to the Members of the League as soon as possible.

It suggests that it would be desirable at the same time to distinguish, if possible, the subjects which should be reserved for the technical organisations of the League, or the international conferences which have already been initiated by particular Governments, and the subjects which appear capable of being dealt with by conferences of jurists.

The Assembly emphasises the great immediate practical value in this connection of assembling together in the form of a code, according to a methodical classification, the various general international conventions, *i.e.*, those which are open to acceptance by States in general,

It accordingly asks the Council to submit to examination by the above-mentioned committee of three jurists the question of publishing, as an accompaniment to the *Treaty Series* and in the form of a code, of which new editions would from time to time be produced, those general conventions which have the above-mentioned character, and to report to the Assembly on the matter at its next session.

9. *Russian, Armenian, Assyrian, Assyro-Chaldean and Turkish Refugees: Report of the Advisory Commission attached to the High Commissioner.*

Extract from resolution adopted on September 20th, 1928.

The Assembly,

In conformity with the resolution of the Governing Body of the International Labour Office:

Invites the Council to take urgently all steps necessary to appoint an Advisory Commission to be attached to the High Commissioner;

Recommends the Council to invite this Advisory Commission to submit to it, before the next session of the Assembly, a general report on the possibility of reaching a final solution as soon as possible and on the means by which this object might be attained.

10. *Report on the Organisation of the Secretariat.*

Resolution adopted on September 25th, 1928.

The Assembly:

Whereas the Staff Regulations were drawn up shortly after the organisation of the Secretariat and whereas it would be advisable for the League to avail itself of the experience acquired since 1922;

Considering that, although the regulations have, on the whole, proved satisfactory, certain modifications would appear desirable to remedy certain disadvantages to which attention had been drawn;

Instructs the competent officials of the autonomous organisations, after examining the present situation and the improvements which might be made, to consider what steps—in particular, amendments to the Staff Regulations—could be taken to ensure, in the future as in the past, the best possible administrative results, and to submit the results of this enquiry to the Supervisory

soumettre les résultats de cette étude à la Commission de contrôle, afin qu'un rapport sur cette question puisse être communiqué à l'Assemblée à sa prochaine session ordinaire.

II. Rapport du Comité des Cinq sur les nouveaux immeubles.

Résolution adoptée le 22 septembre 1928.

L'Assemblée:

Approuve le rapport (document A.79.1928) du Comité spécial de cinq membres concernant les nouveaux immeubles;

Approuve le choix du parc de l'Ariana comme emplacement pour les nouveaux immeubles de la Société des Nations;

Autorise le Secrétaire général à signer toutes les pièces légales nécessaires concernant le transfert des droits d'usage des propriétés en question entre la Société des Nations et les autorités genevoises, ainsi qu'à établir et à signer le contrat nécessaire entre les architectes et la Société des Nations sur la base du rapport adressé au Conseil par le Comité spécial (document C.93(1).1928) et approuvé par le Conseil le 6 mars 1928;

Autorise le Comité spécial de cinq membres (M. ADATCI, M. OSUSKY, M. POLITIS, M. URRUTIA et Sir Edward Hilton YOUNG), dès que les formalités légales concernant le transfert des terrains auront été accomplies, à donner, après s'être entouré de toutes les lumières nécessaires au point de vue technique, son approbation définitive aux plans révisés adaptés au nouvel emplacement, cette approbation devant être soumise pour ratification au Conseil de la Société des Nations. Les plans définitifs ainsi approuvés seront alors mis à exécution sans délai par le Secrétaire général et par la Commission des constructions déjà instituée conformément à la résolution de l'Assemblée en date du 25 septembre 1924.

Annexe II.

ARTICLE 4 DU RÈGLEMENT INTÉRIEUR DE L'ASSEMBLÉE.

1. L'ordre du jour de la session est établi par le Secrétaire général de la Société, avec l'approbation du président du Conseil, et communiqué en entier aux Membres, autant que possible, quatre mois avant la date de la première séance.

2. L'ordre du jour de chaque session annuelle comprendra:

a) Un rapport sur l'œuvre du Conseil accomplie depuis la dernière session de l'Assemblée, sur le travail du Secrétariat et sur les mesures prises pour exécuter les décisions de l'Assemblée;

b) Toutes les questions dont la mise à l'ordre du jour aura été décidée par l'Assemblée au cours d'une session antérieure;

c) Les questions proposées par le Conseil;

d) Les questions proposées par un Membre de la Société;

e) Le projet de budget pour l'exercice financier suivant et le rapport sur les comptes de l'exercice précédent.

3. Tout Membre de la Société peut, un mois avant la date fixée pour la séance d'ouverture, demander l'inscription de nouvelles questions à l'ordre du jour. Ces questions figureront sur une liste supplémentaire, qui sera communiquée aux Membres de la Société des Nations trois semaines au moins avant la date fixée pour la séance d'ouverture. L'Assemblée décidera si les questions figurant sur la liste supplémentaire feront partie de l'ordre du jour de la session.

4. L'Assemblée peut, dans des circonstances exceptionnelles, inscrire de nouvelles questions à son ordre du jour, mais elle ne peut en aborder l'étude que quatre jours après leur inscription et après rapport d'une commission, à moins que l'Assemblée n'en décide autrement à la majorité des deux tiers.

5. Aucune proposition tendant à modifier la méthode de répartition des dépenses en vigueur ne sera inscrite à l'ordre du jour, si elle n'a été communiquée aux Membres de la Société quatre mois au moins avant la date fixée pour l'ouverture de la session.

Commission, in order that a report on the question may be communicated to the Assembly at its next ordinary session.

II. *Report by the Committee of Five on the New Buildings.*

Resolution adopted on September 22nd, 1928.

The Assembly,

Approves the report (document A.79.1928) of the Special Committee of Five Members in regard to the new buildings;

Approves the choice of the Ariana Park as a site for the new buildings of the League of Nations;

Authorises the Secretary-General to sign all the necessary legal documents concerning the exchange of rights on the properties in question between the League of Nations and the Genevese authorities, as well as to draw up and sign the necessary contract between the architects and the League of Nations on the basis of the Special Committee's report to the Council (document C.93 (I).1928), approved by the Council on March 6th, 1928;

Authorises the Special Committee of Five Members (M. ADATCI, M. OSUSKY, M. POITIS, M. URRUTIA and Sir Edward Hilton YOUNG) as soon as the legal formalities for the transfer of the land have been completed, and after having obtained all the expert advice necessary from the technical point of view, to give final approval to revised plans adapted to the new site, such approval to be submitted to the Council of the League of Nations for ratification. The final plans thus approved will then be carried into execution without delay by the Secretary-General and the Building Committee already appointed in accordance with the Assembly resolution of September 25th, 1924.

Annex II.

RULE 4 OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE ASSEMBLY.

1. The agenda shall be drawn up by the Secretary-General with the approval of the President of the Council. The complete agenda shall be circulated as nearly as possible four months before the date fixed for the opening of the session.

2. The agenda of a general session shall include:

- (a) A report on the work of the Council since the last session of the Assembly, on the work of the Secretariat, and on the measures taken to execute the decisions of the Assembly;
- (b) All items whose inclusion has been ordered by the Assembly at a previous session;
- (c) All items proposed by the Council;
- (d) All items proposed by a Member of the League;
- (e) The Budget for the next fiscal period, and the Report on the Accounts of the last fiscal period.

3. Any Member of the League may, at least one month before the date fixed for the opening of the session, request the inclusion of additional items in the agenda. Such items shall be placed on a supplementary list, which shall be circulated to the Members of the League at least three weeks before the date fixed for the opening of the session. The Assembly shall decide whether items on the supplementary list shall be included in the agenda of the session.

4. The Assembly may, in exceptional circumstances, place additional items on the agenda, but all consideration of such items shall, unless otherwise ordered by a two-thirds majority of the Assembly, be postponed until four days after they have been placed on the agenda and until a committee has reported upon them.

5. No proposal for a modification of the allocation of expenses for the time being in force shall be inserted in the agenda unless it has been communicated to the Members of the League at least four months before the date fixed for the opening of the session.

[Communiqué au Conseil,
aux Membres de la Société
et aux Délégués à l'Assemblée.]

N° officiel: **A. 2 (1)**. 1929.

Genève, le 2 août 1929.

Société des Nations

Ordre du Jour

②

de la

Dixième Session ordinaire
de l'Assemblée

et

LISTE SUPPLÉMENTAIRE DES QUESTIONS

League of Nations

Agenda

of the

Tenth Ordinary Session of the
Assembly

and

SUPPLEMENTARY LIST OF ITEMS

Série de Publications de la Société des Nations

QUESTIONS GÉNÉRALES ✓
1929. 1 (I).

SOCIÉTÉ DES NATIONS

ORDRE DU JOUR DE LA DIXIÈME SESSION ORDINAIRE DE L'ASSEMBLÉE

qui s'ouvrira à Genève, le lundi 2 septembre 1929, à 11 heures.

(Communiqué conformément au paragraphe I de l'article 4 du Règlement intérieur de l'Assemblée¹.)

(La liste ci-dessous ne préjuge en rien l'ordre de la discussion.)

I. Questions de procédure².

- a) Election de la Commission de vérification des pouvoirs.
- b) Election du président.
- c) Examen et adoption de l'ordre du jour.
- d) Désignation des commissions et election des présidents de ces commissions.
- e) Election de six vice-présidents.

2. RAPPORT SUR L'ŒUVRE ACCOMPLIE PAR LA SOCIÉTÉ DEPUIS LA DERNIÈRE SESSION DE L'ASSEMBLÉE³.

3. Election de trois Membres non permanents du Conseil⁴.

QUESTIONS INSCRITES PAR L'ASSEMBLÉE OU RÉSULTANT DE DÉCISIONS DE CELLE-CI.

- A.17.1929.VI. 4. Convention sur l'esclavage: Rapport annuel du Conseil⁵.
- A.7.1929.X. 5. Procédure à suivre pour l'élection des membres de la Commission de contrôle par l'Assemblée: Propositions du Conseil⁶.
- A.10.1929.II.
A.18.1929.VIII. 6. Projet de Convention pour l'assistance financière en cas de guerre ou de menace de guerre⁷.
- A.13.1929.IV. 7. Etablissement d'une station de télégraphie sans fil⁸.
- A.9.1929.V.
A.22.1929.V. 8. Question de la revision du Statut de la Cour permanente de Justice internationale: Rapport préparé par le Conseil en vertu de la résolution de l'Assemblée du 20 septembre 1928⁹.
9. Codification progressive du droit international:
- a) Travaux préparatoires pour la première Conférence de codification (rapport sur le travail du Comité préparatoire contenu dans le rapport à l'Assemblée sur l'œuvre du Conseil et le travail du Secrétariat et sur les mesures prises pour mettre en exécution les décisions de l'Assemblée).
 - b) Question de la convocation du Comité d'experts pour la codification progressive du droit international. Résolution de l'Assemblée du 24 septembre 1928 (II^e partie)¹⁰.
 - c) Travaux du Comité de trois jurisconsultes, nommé conformément à une résolution de l'Assemblée du 24 septembre 1928 (III^e partie) et chargé¹¹:
 - 1^o) D'établir un aperçu systématique des matières de droit international en vue de codification éventuelle;
 - 2^o) De publier certaines conventions générales sous forme de code.
- A.12.1929.V. 10. Réfugiés russes, arméniens, assyriens, assyro-chaldéens et turcs: Rapport de la Commission consultative auprès du Haut Commissaire¹².
11. Rapport sur l'Organisation du Secrétariat, notamment sur les amendements au Statut du personnel¹³.
12. Rapport du Comité des cinq sur les nouveaux immeubles¹⁴.

QUESTIONS PROPOSÉES PAR LE CONSEIL ET RAPPORTS PRÉSENTÉS PAR LES ORGANISATIONS TECHNIQUES DE LA SOCIÉTÉ.

- A.10.1929.II. 13. Travaux de l'Organisation économique et financière, y compris les travaux du Comité consultatif économique, et son rapport sur le progrès réalisé dans l'exécution des résolutions de la Conférence économique.

¹ Le texte de cet article est cité à l'Annexe II.

² Une note concernant l'ordre habituellement suivi par l'Assemblée pour l'étude des questions figurant sous cette rubrique est préparée, à l'intention des délégués, au début de la session.

³ La résolution de l'Assemblée est citée à l'Annexe I.

⁴ La résolution de l'Assemblée et un extrait d'une proposition du Bureau adoptée par l'Assemblée en 1927 sont cités à l'Annexe I.

⁵ La proposition de la quatrième Commission adoptée par l'Assemblée est citée à l'annexe I.

LEAGUE OF NATIONS

AGENDA OF THE TENTH ORDINARY SESSION OF THE ASSEMBLY

to be held at Geneva on Monday, September 2nd, 1929, at 11 a.m.

(Circulated in accordance with Rule 4, paragraph I, of the Rules of Procedure of the Assembly.¹)

(The following list gives no indication of the order in which the questions will be taken.)

I. Questions of Procedure:²

- (a) Election of the Credentials Committee.
- (b) Election of the President.
- (c) Examination and Adoption of the Agenda.
- (d) Nomination of Committees and Election of Chairmen of these Committees.
- (e) Election of Six Vice-Presidents.

2. REPORT ON THE WORK OF THE LEAGUE SINCE THE LAST SESSION OF THE ASSEMBLY.³

3. Election of three non-permanent Members of the Council.⁴

ITEMS INSERTED BY OR ARISING OUT OF THE DECISIONS OF THE ASSEMBLY.

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| A.17.1929.VI.
A.7.1929.X. | 4. Slavery Convention: Annual Report by the Council. ⁵
5. Procedure for the Election by the Assembly of the Members of the Supervisory Commission: Proposals by the Council. ⁶ |
| A.10.1929.II.
A.18.1929.VIII.
A.13.1929.VIII.
A.9.1929.V.
A.22.1929.V. | 6. Draft Convention on Financial Assistance in Case of War or Threat of War. ³
7. Establishment of a Radiotelegraphic Station. ³
8. Question of the Revision of the Statute of the Permanent Court of International Justice: Report made by the Council in pursuance of the Assembly's resolution of September 20th, 1928. ³ |
| A.12.1929.V. | 9. Progressive Codification of International Law:
(a) Preparatory Work for the First Codification Conference (Report on the Work of the Preparatory Committee contained in the Report to the Assembly on the Work of the Council and the Secretariat and on the Measures taken to execute the Assembly's Decisions).
(b) Question of convening the Committee of Experts for the Progressive Codification of International Law: Assembly Resolution of September 24th, 1928 (Part II). ³
(c) Work of the Committee of Three Jurists appointed in accordance with the Assembly's Resolution of September 24th, 1928 (Part III): ³
(i) To draw up a systematic survey of the subjects of international law with a view to eventual codification;
(ii) To report on the question of publishing certain general conventions in the form of a code. |
| | 10. Russian, Armenian, Assyrian, Assyro-Chaldean and Turkish Refugees: Report of the Advisory Commission attached to the High Commissioner. ³ |
| | 11. Report on the Organisation of the Secretariat, in particular on Amendments to the Staff Regulations. ³ |
| | 12. Report by the Committee of Five on the New Buildings. ³ |

ITEMS PROPOSED BY THE COUNCIL, TOGETHER WITH REPORTS FROM TECHNICAL ORGANISATIONS OF THE LEAGUE.

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| A.10.1929.II. | 13. Work of the Economic and Financial Organisation, including the work of the Economic Consultative Committee, and its Report on the Progress in the Execution of the Resolutions of the Economic Conference. |
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¹ The text of the rule is quoted in Annex II.

² A note on the order customarily followed by the Assembly in dealing with the items under this heading is prepared for the use of delegates at the beginning of the session.

³ The Assembly resolution is quoted in Annex I.

⁴ The Assembly resolution and an extract from a proposal of the Committee of the Assembly adopted by the Assembly in 1927 are quoted in Annex I.

⁵ The proposal of the Fourth Committee adopted by the Assembly is quoted in Annex I.

14. Travaux de l'Organisation des communications et du transit.
15. Travaux de l'Organisation d'hygiène de la Société.
16. Travaux de la Commission consultative du trafic de l'opium et autres drogues nuisibles.
17. Travaux de la Commission consultative pour la protection de l'enfance et de la jeunesse:
a) Rapport du Comité de la traite des femmes et des enfants.
b) Rapport du Comité de la protection de l'enfance.
18. Coopération intellectuelle:
a) Travaux de la Commission internationale de coopération intellectuelle et de l'Institut international de Coopération intellectuelle;
b) Travaux de l'Institut international du Cinématographe éducatif.
19. Budget de 1930, y compris les budgets de l'Organisation internationale du Travail et de la Cour permanente de Justice internationale: Comptes vérifiés du dixième exercice financier (1928).
Rapports de la Commission de contrôle.
- A.8.1929.III.
A.10.1929.XI
A.14.1929.IV.
A.15.1929.IV.
A.20.1929.XII.
A.4.1929.X.
A.4(a).1929.X.
A.4(b).1929.X.
A.3.1929.X.
A.1929.X.
A.5.1929.X.

AUTRES QUESTIONS.

20. Election des successeurs de feu M. Weiss et de feu Lord Finlay, Juges de la Cour permanente de Justice internationale.

LISTE SUPPLÉMENTAIRE DE QUESTIONS COMMUNIQUÉE CONFORMÉMENT AU PARAGRAPHE 3 DE L'ARTICLE 4 DU RÈGLEMENT INTÉRIEUR DE L'ASSEMBLÉE ¹.

Question proposée par le Conseil.

- A.11.1929.V. 21. Question de l'adhésion des Etats-Unis d'Amérique au Protocole de signature du Statut de la Cour permanente de Justice internationale. Rapport et projet de protocole préparé par le Comité de juristes chargé de l'étude du Statut de la Cour permanente de Justice internationale ².

Question proposée par le Gouvernement finlandais.

- A.21.1929.V. 22. Proposition du Gouvernement de la Finlande tendant à conférer à la Cour permanente de Justice internationale la qualité d'une instance de revision par rapport aux tribunaux arbitraux institués par les divers Etats.

Annexe I.

I. Nomination de trois Membres non permanents du Conseil.

a) Résolution adoptée le 15 septembre 1926.

Chaque année, au cours de sa session ordinaire, l'Assemblée procède à l'élection de trois Membres non permanents du Conseil. Ceux-ci sont élus pour une période commençant immédiatement après leur élection et se terminant le jour où l'Assemblée aura procédé aux élections, trois années après.

b) Extrait d'une proposition du Bureau de l'Assemblée, adoptée le 8 septembre 1927.

Ayant à fixer un jour où il serait procédé à ce vote et à ces élections, le Bureau a cru opportun de faire, à ce sujet, à l'Assemblée une proposition de principe, c'est-à-dire pouvant, dans une certaine mesure et jusqu'à ce que l'Assemblée en décide autrement, être considérée comme une règle à laquelle l'Assemblée se conformerait au cours de ses sessions ultérieures. Il serait admis que les élections des Membres non permanents du Conseil auraient lieu le lundi qui suivrait l'ouverture de l'Assemblée, c'est-à-dire au début de la seconde semaine de la session.

2. Convention sur l'esclavage: Rapport annuel du Conseil.

Résolution adoptée le 25 septembre 1926.

L'Assemblée désire que la Société des Nations continue à s'intéresser aux mesures destinées à assurer l'abolition progressive de l'esclavage et des conditions analogues, et elle invite, en conséquence, le Conseil à préparer et à communiquer chaque année à l'Assemblée un document indiquant les lois et règlements que les parties à la Convention de l'esclavage auront, en vertu de

¹ Le texte de cet article est cité à l'Annexe II.

² La résolution du Conseil est citée à l'Annexe III.

14. Work of the Organisation for Communications and Transit.
A.8.1929.III.
15. Work of the Health Organisation of the League.
A.16.1929.XI.
16. Work of the Advisory Committee on Traffic in Opium and other Dangerous Drugs.
17. Work of the Advisory Commission for the Protection and Welfare of Children and Young People:
A.14.1929.IV. (a) Report of the Committee on Traffic in Women and Children;
A.15.1929.IV. (b) Report of the Child Welfare Committee.
18. Intellectual Co-operation:
A.20.1929.XII. (a) Work of the International Committee on Intellectual Co-operation and of the International Institute of Intellectual Co-operation;
(b) Work of the International Educational Cinematographic Institute.
19. Budget for 1930, including the Budgets of the International Labour Organisation and of the Permanent Court of International Justice: Audited Accounts for the Tenth Financial Period (1928).
A.4.1929.X. Reports of the Supervisory Commission.
A.4(a).1929.X.
A.4(b).1929.X.
A.3.1929.X.
A.19.1929.X.
A.5.1929.X.

OTHER ITEMS.

20. - Election of Successors to the late M. Weiss and to the late Lord Finlay, Judges of the Permanent Court of International Justice.

SUPPLEMENTARY LIST OF ITEMS CIRCULATED IN ACCORDANCE WITH RULE 4, PARAGRAPH 3, OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE ASSEMBLY.¹

Item proposed by the Council.

- A.11.1929.V. 21. Question of the Accession of the United States of America to the Protocol of Signature of the Statute of the Permanent Court of International Justice: Report and Draft Protocol drawn up by the Committee of Jurists on the Statute of the Permanent Court of Justice.²

Item proposed by the Finnish Government.

- A.21.1929.V. 22. Proposal of the Government of Finland to confer on the Permanent Court of International Justice Jurisdiction as a Court of Review in Respect of Arbitral Tribunals established by States."

Annex I.

1. *Election of Three Non-Permanent Members of the Council.*

(a) Resolution adopted on September 15th, 1926.

The Assembly shall each year, in the course of its ordinary session, elect three non-permanent Members of the Council. They shall be elected for a term commencing immediately on their election and ending on the day of the elections held, three years later, by the Assembly.

(b) Extract of a proposal of the Committee of the Assembly, adopted on September 8th, 1927.

As the General Committee had to fix a date for the voting and the elections, it has thought fit to make a general proposal to the Assembly on this subject. This proposal, if adopted, would, to a certain extent, and until the Assembly decides otherwise, be regarded as a rule which the Assembly would follow at future sessions. The election of the non-permanent Members of the Council would take place on the Monday following the opening date of the Assembly—that is to say, at the beginning of the second week of the session.

2. *Slavery Convention: Annual Report by the Council.*

Resolution adopted on September 25th, 1926.

The Assembly desires that the League of Nations should continue to interest itself in securing the progressive abolition of slavery and conditions analogous thereto and therefore requests the Council to prepare and communicate to the Assembly every year a document mentioning the laws and regulations which parties to the Convention on Slavery, in accordance with

¹ The text of the Rule is quoted in Annex II.

² The Council Resolution is quoted in Annex III.

l'article 7, communiqués au Secrétaire général et à y joindre éventuellement les informations supplémentaires que les Membres de la Société seraient disposés à fournir spontanément sur les mesures prises par eux à cet effet.

3. *Rapport sur l'œuvre accomplie par la Société depuis la dernière session de l'Assemblée.*

Extrait d'une résolution adoptée le 29 septembre 1922.

L'ordre du jour de chaque session annuelle comprendra un rapport sur l'œuvre du Conseil accomplie depuis la dernière session de l'Assemblée, sur le travail du Secrétariat et sur les mesures prises pour exécuter les décisions de l'Assemblée.

4. *Procédure à suivre pour l'élection des membres de la Commission de contrôle par l'Assemblée.*

Proposition adoptée par l'Assemblée le 21 septembre 1928.

(Extrait du Rapport de la quatrième Commission)

Aux termes de l'article 51 du Règlement concernant la gestion des finances de la Société des Nations, « le droit d'apporter des amendements au présent règlement appartient exclusivement à l'Assemblée, agissant sur les avis de sa Commission des finances ».

Après un examen de la question du mode de nomination des membres de la Commission de contrôle au point de vue constitutionnel, et tout en renouvelant l'expression de son entière confiance dans les membres de la Commission de contrôle telle qu'elle est actuellement constituée, la Commission s'est prononcée en faveur de la proposition suivante:

Article premier. — Amender le paragraphe 2 de la façon suivante:

« La Commission est composée de cinq membres, dont l'un, au moins, devra être un expert financier. La Commission, dont les membres sont nommés par l'Assemblée, devra comprendre des ressortissants de pays Membres de la Société qui ne sont pas représentés au Conseil. L'Assemblée nommera deux suppléants pour remplacer éventuellement les membres titulaires se trouvant dans l'impossibilité d'assister à une séance. »

La quatrième Commission se propose que l'amendement qui précède entre en vigueur à partir du 1^{er} janvier 1929, afin de permettre au Conseil de soumettre des propositions à la prochaine session ordinaire de l'Assemblée sur la meilleure procédure à suivre pour l'élection des membres et d'examiner s'il serait possible que l'Assemblée instituât un comité restreint chargé de désigner les candidats.

5. *Projet de Convention pour l'assistance financière en cas de guerre ou de menace de guerre.*

Résolution adoptée le 15 septembre 1928.

L'Assemblée:

1^o Exprime sa satisfaction sur les travaux du Comité d'arbitrage et de sécurité et du Comité financier au sujet du plan d'assistance financière;

2^o Demande au Conseil d'inviter le Comité financier à continuer l'élaboration de ce plan sous la forme d'un projet de convention, en s'inspirant des directives fournies par le rapport présenté à l'Assemblée, lors de sa neuvième session ordinaire, au nom de sa troisième Commission;

3^o Exprime l'espoir qu'un projet de convention complet et élaboré dans tous ses détails pourra être soumis à l'Assemblée lors de sa dixième session ordinaire;

4^o Invite le Secrétaire général à faire parvenir ledit projet de convention, aussitôt qu'il sera élaboré, aux gouvernements afin que ceux-ci puissent donner leurs instructions à leurs délégués à la dixième session ordinaire de l'Assemblée. »

6. *Etablissement d'une Station de télégraphie sans fil.*

Résolution adoptée le 20 septembre 1928.

L'Assemblée,

En vue de permettre aux Membres de la Société des Nations un examen approfondi des propositions qui lui ont été soumises quant à la création d'une station de télégraphie sans fil, destinée à assurer les communications indépendantes de la Société des Nations, en temps de crise, ainsi qu'en vue de permettre les études complémentaires techniques, financières et juridiques désirables:

Décide de porter cette question à l'ordre du jour de sa dixième session;

Prie le Conseil de bien vouloir prendre les mesures nécessaires pour la poursuite de ces études.

7. *Question de la revision du Statut de la Cour permanente de Justice internationale.*

Résolution adoptée le 15 septembre 1928.

L'Assemblée,

Considérant le nombre toujours croissant des affaires portées devant la Cour permanente de Justice internationale;

Estimant utile que, avant le renouvellement du mandat des membres de la Cour en 1930, les dispositions actuelles du Statut de la Cour soient l'objet d'un examen aux fins, s'il y a lieu, d'y apporter tels amendements que l'expérience ferait juger nécessaires;

Article 7, will have communicated to the Secretary-General, and that the Council will include therein any supplementary information which the Members of the League may be disposed spontaneously to furnish with regard to the measures taken by them to this end.

3. *Report on the Work of the League since the last Session of the Assembly.*

Extract from resolution adopted on September 29th, 1922.

The agenda of a general session shall include a report on the work of the Council since the last session of the Assembly, on the work of the Secretariat, and on the measures taken to execute the decisions of the Assembly.

4. *Procedure for the Election by the Assembly of the Members of the Supervisory Commission.*

Proposal adopted by the Assembly on September 21st, 1928. (Extract from the Report of the Fourth Committee).

According to Article 51 of the Regulations for the Financial Administration of the League of Nations, "these Regulations shall not be amended except by the Assembly acting upon the advice of its Finance Committee".

After considering, from the constitutional point of view, the question of the appointment of the members of the Supervisory Commission, and while reiterating its full confidence in the members of the Supervisory Commission as at present constituted, the Committee pronounced in favour of the following proposal:

"Article 1. — That paragraph 2 be amended as follows:

"The Commission shall be composed of five members, of whom one at least shall be a financial expert. The members shall be appointed by the Assembly, which, in selecting members, shall include among them persons belonging to countries Members of the League which are not represented on the Council. The Assembly shall also appoint two substitutes to replace, if need be, members unable to attend a meeting."

The Fourth Committee proposes that this amendment should come into force as from January 1st, 1929, in order to give the Council an opportunity of submitting proposals to the Assembly at its next ordinary session as to the best procedure for the election of members, and considering the possibility of a small nominating Committee being set up by the Assembly.

5. *Draft Convention on Financial Assistance in Case of War or Threat of War.*

Resolution adopted on September 15th, 1928.

The Assembly:

- (1) Expresses its satisfaction with the work of the Committee on Arbitration and Security and the Financial Committee in connection with the scheme for financial assistance;
- (2) Requests the Council to invite the Financial Committee to continue the preparation of this scheme in the form of a draft Convention, bearing in mind the directions given in the report submitted to the Assembly at its ninth ordinary session on behalf of its Third Committee;
- (3) Expresses the hope that a full draft Convention, complete in all its details, may be submitted to the Assembly at its tenth ordinary session;
- (4) Invites the Secretary-General to submit the draft Convention as soon as it is prepared to the Governments in order that they may give instruction to their delegates at the tenth ordinary session of the Assembly.

6. *Establishment of a Radio-Telegraphic Station.*

Resolution adopted on September 20th, 1928.

The Assembly:

With a view to enabling Members of the League of Nations to proceed to a full examination of the proposals submitted with regard to the creation of the wireless station for the purpose of providing the League with independent communications in time of emergency, and also with a view to allowing time for the additional technical, financial and legal studies considered desirable;

Decides to place this question on the agenda of its tenth session;

And requests the Council to take all necessary measures for a further study of these questions.

7. *Question of the Revision of the Statute of the Permanent Court of International Justice.*

Resolution adopted on September 15th, 1928.

The Assembly:

Considering the ever-growing number of matters referred to the Permanent Court of International Justice;

Deeming it advisable that, before the renewal of the terms of office of the members of the Court in 1930, the present provisions of the Statute of the Court should be examined with a view to the introduction of any amendments which experience may show to be necessary;

Attire l'attention du Conseil sur l'opportunité de procéder, avant le renouvellement du mandat des membres de la Cour permanente de Justice internationale, à l'examen du Statut de cette Cour en vue d'y apporter, s'il y a lieu, tels amendements jugés désirables et de présenter à la prochaine session ordinaire de l'Assemblée les propositions nécessaires.

8. *Codification progressive du droit international.*

Extrait d'une résolution adoptée le 14 septembre 1928.

II. *Travaux préparatoires en vue de conférences ultérieures.*

1. L'Assemblée,

Ayant pris connaissance du rapport adressé au Conseil de la Société des Nations, en juin 1928, par le Comité d'experts pour la codification progressive du droit international, remercie les jurisconsultes qui, sous la direction éclairée de leur président, ont apporté cette nouvelle contribution à l'œuvre de codification.

Prend acte des conclusions du Comité aux termes desquelles deux questions nouvelles paraissent avoir obtenu le degré de maturité suffisant pour un règlement international, à savoir:

- a) Situation juridique et fonctions des consuls;
- b) Compétence des tribunaux à l'égard des Etats étrangers.

Elle décide de réserver ces questions en vue de conférences ultérieures.

2. L'Assemblée prend acte qu'un nouveau questionnaire a été établi par le Comité d'experts relativement à la question du domicile et qu'il a été transmis aux gouvernements par les soins du Secrétaire général;

Elle renvoie à sa session de 1929 la question de savoir s'il est nécessaire de convoquer une nouvelle fois le Comité d'experts pour l'examen des réponses des gouvernements qui seront parvenues dans l'intervalle au Secrétaire général de la Société des Nations et, le cas échéant, pour l'étude d'autres questions qui pourraient se poser en matière de codification de droit international.

L'Assemblée émet le vœu que le Comité d'experts examine dans sa prochaine session la possibilité et l'opportunité de rechercher par la procédure de codification l'établissement d'une déclaration des droits et devoirs fondamentaux des Etats.

III. *Etablissement d'un plan général de codification.*

L'Assemblée,

Ayant pris connaissance de l'avis exprimé par le Comité d'experts sur la proposition de la délégation du Paraguay,

Confirme sa décision de ne rien modifier actuellement à la méthode de codification arrêtée par elle en 1924;

Reconnaît l'utilité qu'il y aurait toutefois à indiquer toute l'étendue des matières que, sans préjuger de l'ordre à suivre, elle se propose d'englober dans son œuvre de codification;

Et, vu le caractère du travail envisagé, adresse au Conseil le vœu que l'établissement d'un aperçu systématique soit confié à un Comité de trois jurisconsultes choisis de préférence dans le Comité d'experts et que cet aperçu soit aussitôt que possible communiqué aux Membres de la Société;

Suggère que soient précisées, si possible, à cette occasion les matières qu'il faudrait réserver aux organisations techniques de la Société ou à des conférences internationales dont l'initiative a été prise déjà par certains gouvernements, et celles qui semblent pouvoir être traitées par des conférences de juristes.

L'Assemblée souligne le très grand intérêt pratique que présenterait dès à présent dans le même ordre d'idées la réunion en un code, suivant un classement méthodique, des différentes conventions internationales générales, c'est-à-dire ouvertes à l'adhésion de la généralité des Etats;

Demande en conséquence au Conseil de faire mettre à l'étude par le Comité de trois jurisconsultes visé ci-dessus la publication en marge du *Recueil des Traités*, sous forme de code réédité de temps à autre, des conventions générales du type indiqué ci-dessus et de lui adresser rapport à ce sujet à sa prochaine session.

9. *Réfugiés russes, arméniens, assyriens, assyro-chaldéens et turcs: Rapport de la Commission consultative auprès du Haut Commissaire.*

Extrait d'une résolution adoptée le 20 septembre 1928.

L'Assemblée:

Invite, conformément à la résolution du Conseil d'administration du Bureau international du Travail, le Conseil de la Société des Nations à prendre d'urgence toutes dispositions utiles pour la désignation d'une commission consultative siégeant auprès du Haut Commissaire;

Recommande au Conseil d'inviter cette commission à lui soumettre, avant la prochaine session ordinaire de l'Assemblée, un rapport d'ensemble sur les possibilités et les modalités éventuelles d'une solution définitive aussi rapide que possible.

Draws the Council's attention to the advisability of proceeding, before the renewal of the terms of office of the members of the Permanent Court of International Justice, to the examination of the Statute of the Court with a view to the introduction of such amendments as may be judged desirable, and to submitting the necessary proposals to the next ordinary session of the Assembly.

8. *Progressive Codification of International Law.*

Extract from resolution adopted on September 14th, 1928.

II. *Preparatory Work for Further Conferences.*

1. The Assembly,

Having considered the report addressed to the Council of the League of Nations in June 1928 by the Committee of Experts for the Progressive Codification of International Law, thanks the jurists who, under the enlightened guidance of their President, have made this new contribution to the work of codification.

It notes the conclusions of the Committee, according to which two new questions appear to be sufficiently ripe for international regulation, namely:

- (1) Legal position and functions of Consuls;
- (2) Competence of the Courts in regard to foreign States.

It decides to reserve these questions with a view to subsequent conferences.

2. The Assembly notes that a new questionnaire dealing with the question of domicile has been drawn up by the Committee of Experts and transmitted to the Governments by the Secretary-General.

It adjourns to its session of 1929 the question whether it is necessary to convene the Committee of Experts again for the purpose of examining the replies from the Governments received in the interval by the Secretary-General of the League of Nations, and, eventually, of studying other questions which may arise in connection with codification of international law.

The Assembly recommends that the Committee of Experts should, when it next meets, examine whether it would be possible and desirable to endeavour, by the procedure of codification, to formulate a declaration of the fundamental rights and duties of States.

III. *Establishment of a General Plan of Codification.*

The Assembly:

Having considered the opinion expressed by the Committee of Experts regarding the proposal of the delegation of Paraguay:

Confirms its decision to make no change at present in the method of codification adopted by it in 1924;

Recognises, however, that there would be advantages in indicating the full extent of the subjects which, without prejudging the order to be followed, the Assembly proposes to cover by the work of codification;

And, in view of the character of the contemplated task, addresses to the Council the request that the establishment of a systematic survey may be entrusted to a committee of three jurists, to be chosen preferably from the members of the Committee of Experts, and that the survey may be communicated to the Members of the League as soon as possible.

It suggests that it would be desirable at the same time to distinguish, if possible, the subjects which should be reserved for the technical organisations of the League, or the international conferences which have already been initiated by particular Governments, and the subjects which appear capable of being dealt with by conferences of jurists.

The Assembly emphasises the great immediate practical value in this connection of assembling together in the form of a code, according to a methodical classification, the various general international conventions, *i.e.*, those which are open to acceptance by States in general.

It accordingly asks the Council to submit to examination by the above-mentioned committee of three jurists the question of publishing, as an accompaniment to the *Treaty Series* and in the form of a code, of which new editions would from time to time be produced, those general conventions which have the above-mentioned character, and to report to the Assembly on the matter at its next session.

9. *Russian, Armenian, Assyrian, Assyro-Chaldean and Turkish Refugees: Report of the Advisory Commission attached to the High Commissioner.*

Extract from resolution adopted on September 20th, 1928.

The Assembly,

In conformity with the resolution of the Governing Body of the International Labour Office:

Invites the Council to take urgently all steps necessary to appoint an Advisory Commission to be attached to the High Commissioner;

Recommends the Council to invite this Advisory Commission to submit to it, before the next session of the Assembly, a general report on the possibility of reaching a final solution as soon as possible and on the means by which this object might be attained.

10. *Rapport sur l'organisation du Secrétariat.*

Résolution adoptée le 25 septembre 1928.

L'Assemblée,

Considérant que le Statut du personnel a été établi peu après l'organisation du Secrétariat et qu'il conviendrait de mettre à profit l'expérience acquise depuis 1922,

Estimant que, bien que le statut se soit avéré d'une manière générale, satisfaisant, certaines modifications apparaissent comme désirables, pour porter remède à certains inconvénients qui ont été signalés,

Charge les fonctionnaires compétents des organisations autonomes de la Société, après un examen de la situation actuelle et des améliorations qui pourraient être apportées, d'étudier les mesures — notamment les amendements au Statut du personnel — qui pourraient être prises en vue de continuer d'assurer dans l'avenir le meilleur rendement possible de l'administration et de soumettre les résultats de cette étude à la Commission de contrôle, afin qu'un rapport sur cette question puisse être communiqué à l'Assemblée à sa prochaine session ordinaire.

II. *Rapport du Comité des Cinq sur les nouveaux immeubles.*

Résolution adoptée le 22 septembre 1928.

L'Assemblée:

Approuve le rapport (document A.79.1928) du Comité spécial de cinq membres concernant les nouveaux immeubles;

Approuve le choix du parc de l'Ariana comme emplacement pour les nouveaux immeubles de la Société des Nations;

Autorise le Secrétaire général à signer toutes les pièces légales nécessaires concernant le transfert des droits d'usage des propriétés en question entre la Société des Nations et les autorités genevoises, ainsi qu'à établir et à signer le contrat nécessaire entre les architectes et la Société des Nations sur la base du rapport adressé au Conseil par le Comité spécial (document C.93(1).1928) et approuvé par le Conseil le 6 mars 1928;

Autorise le Comité spécial de cinq membres (M. ADATCI, M. OSUSKY, M. POLITIS, M. URRUTIA et Sir Edward Hilton YOUNG), dès que les formalités légales concernant le transfert des terrains auront été accomplies, à donner, après s'être entouré de toutes les lumières nécessaires au point de vue technique, son approbation définitive aux plans révisés adaptés au nouvel emplacement, cette approbation devant être soumise pour ratification au Conseil de la Société des Nations. Les plans définitifs ainsi approuvés seront alors mis à exécution sans délai par le Secrétaire général et par la Commission des constructions déjà instituée conformément à la résolution de l'Assemblée en date du 25 septembre 1924.

Annexe II.

ARTICLE 4 DU RÈGLEMENT INTÉRIEUR DE L'ASSEMBLÉE.

1. L'ordre du jour de la session est établi par le Secrétaire général de la Société, avec l'approbation du président du Conseil, et communiqué en entier aux Membres, autant que possible, quatre mois avant la date de la première séance.

2. L'ordre du jour de chaque session annuelle comprendra:

a) Un rapport sur l'œuvre du Conseil accomplie depuis la dernière session de l'Assemblée, sur le travail du Secrétariat et sur les mesures prises pour exécuter les décisions de l'Assemblée;

b) Toutes les questions dont la mise à l'ordre du jour aura été décidée par l'Assemblée au cours d'une session antérieure;

c) Les questions proposées par le Conseil;

d) Les questions proposées par un Membre de la Société;

e) Le projet de budget pour l'exercice financier suivant et le rapport sur les comptes de l'exercice précédent.

3. Tout Membre de la Société peut, un mois avant la date fixée pour la séance d'ouverture, demander l'inscription de nouvelles questions à l'ordre du jour. Ces questions figureront sur une liste supplémentaire, qui sera communiquée aux Membres de la Société des Nations trois semaines au moins avant la date fixée pour la séance d'ouverture. L'Assemblée décidera si les questions figurant sur la liste supplémentaire feront partie de l'ordre du jour de la session.

4. L'Assemblée peut, dans des circonstances exceptionnelles, inscrire de nouvelles questions à son ordre du jour, mais elle ne peut en aborder l'étude que quatre jours après leur inscription et après rapport d'une commission, à moins que l'Assemblée n'en décide autrement à la majorité des deux tiers.

5. Aucune proposition tendant à modifier la méthode de répartition des dépenses en vigueur ne sera inscrite à l'ordre du jour, si elle n'a été communiquée aux Membres de la Société quatre mois au moins avant la date fixée pour l'ouverture de la session.

10. *Report on the Organisation of the Secretariat.*

Resolution adopted on September 25th, 1928.

The Assembly:

Whereas the Staff Regulations were drawn up shortly after the organisation of the Secretariat and whereas it would be advisable for the League to avail itself of the experience acquired since 1922;

Considering that, although the regulations have, on the whole, proved satisfactory, certain modifications would appear desirable to remedy certain disadvantages to which attention had been drawn;

Instructs the competent officials of the autonomous organisations, after examining the present situation and the improvements which might be made, to consider what steps—in particular, amendments to the Staff Regulations—could be taken to ensure, in the future as in the past, the best possible administrative results, and to submit the results of this enquiry to the Supervisory Commission, in order that a report on the question may be communicated to the Assembly at its next ordinary session.

11. *Report by the Committee of Five on the New Buildings.*

Resolution adopted on September 22nd, 1928.

The Assembly,

Approves the report (document A.79.1928) of the Special Committee of Five Members in regard to the new buildings;

Approves the choice of the Ariana Park as a site for the new buildings of the League of Nations;

Authorises the Secretary-General to sign all the necessary legal documents concerning the exchange of rights on the properties in question between the League of Nations and the Genevese authorities, as well as to draw up and sign the necessary contract between the architects and the League of Nations on the basis of the Special Committee's report to the Council (document C.93 (1).1928), approved by the Council on March 6th, 1928;

Authorises the Special Committee of Five Members (M. ADATCI, M. OSUSKY, M. POLITIS, M. URRUTIA and Sir Edward Hilton YOUNG) as soon as the legal formalities for the transfer of the land have been completed, and after having obtained all the expert advice necessary from the technical point of view, to give final approval to revised plans adapted to the new site, such approval to be submitted to the Council of the League of Nations for ratification. The final plans thus approved will then be carried into execution without delay by the Secretary-General and the Building Committee already appointed in accordance with the Assembly resolution of September 25th, 1924.

Annex II.

RULE 4 OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE ASSEMBLY.

1. The agenda shall be drawn up by the Secretary-General with the approval of the President of the Council. The complete agenda shall be circulated as nearly as possible four months before the date fixed for the opening of the session.

2. The agenda of a general session shall include:

- (a) A report on the work of the Council since the last session of the Assembly, on the work of the Secretariat, and on the measures taken to execute the decisions of the Assembly;
- (b) All items whose inclusion has been ordered by the Assembly at a previous session;
- (c) All items proposed by the Council;
- (d) All items proposed by a Member of the League;
- (e) The Budget for the next fiscal period, and the Report on the Accounts of the last fiscal period.

3. Any Member of the League may, at least one month before the date fixed for the opening of the session, request the inclusion of additional items in the agenda. Such items shall be placed on a supplementary list, which shall be circulated to the Members of the League at least three weeks before the date fixed for the opening of the session. The Assembly shall decide whether items on the supplementary list shall be included in the agenda of the session.

4. The Assembly may, in exceptional circumstances, place additional items on the agenda, but all consideration of such items shall, unless otherwise ordered by a two-thirds majority of the Assembly, be postponed until four days after they have been placed on the agenda and until a committee has reported upon them.

5. No proposal for a modification of the allocation of expenses for the time being in force shall be inserted in the agenda unless it has been communicated to the Members of the League at least four months before the date fixed for the opening of the session.

Annexe III.

QUESTION DE L'ADHÉSION DES ETATS-UNIS D'AMÉRIQUE AU PROTOCOLE DE SIGNATURE DU STATUT
DE LA COUR PERMANENTE DE JUSTICE INTERNATIONALE.

Le Conseil adopte, en même temps que le projet de protocole qui y est annexé, le rapport que lui a présenté le Comité de juristes sur la question de l'adhésion des Etats-Unis d'Amérique au Protocole de signature du Statut de la Cour permanente de Justice internationale.

Il charge, en conséquence, le Secrétaire général:

1. De répondre à la note de M. Kellogg, du 19 février 1929, en communiquant au Gouvernement des Etats-Unis, outre la présente résolution du Conseil, le texte dudit rapport et dudit projet de protocole;

2. De faire la même communication aux Etats signataires du Protocole du 16 décembre 1920 et de transmettre également à ces Etats le texte de la résolution du Sénat des Etats-Unis du 27 janvier 1926, reproduisant les réserves de ces derniers.

L'adoption du protocole proposé par le Comité de juristes affecterait, de même que celle du Conseil, la procédure de l'Assemblée quant à la méthode à suivre en vue d'obtenir des avis consultatifs de la Cour. C'est pourquoi, pour donner à l'Assemblée l'occasion de s'exprimer à cet égard, le Conseil charge le Secrétaire général de lui transmettre le rapport du Comité, ainsi que le projet de protocole, et de placer la question à l'ordre du jour supplémentaire de la dixième session ordinaire de l'Assemblée.

Annex III.

**QUESTION OF THE ACCESSION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE PROTOCOL OF SIGNATURE
OF THE STATUTE OF THE PERMANENT COURT OF INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE.**

The Council adopts, together with the draft Protocol annexed thereto, the report submitted to it by the Committee of Jurists on the question of the accession of the United States of America to the Protocol of Signature of the Statute of the Permanent Court of International Justice.

Accordingly, it instructs the Secretary-General:

(1) To reply to Mr. Kellogg's note of February 19th, 1929, and to communicate to the United States Government, together with the present Council resolution, the text of the said report and of the said draft Protocol;

(2) To make the same communication to the States signatories of the Protocol of December 16th, 1920, and to transmit also to those States the text of the resolution of the Senate of the United States, dated January 27th, 1926, embodying the latter's reservations.

In order that the Assembly, being, like the Council, a body whose procedure in regard to the method of seeking advisory opinions from the Court would be affected by the adoption of the Protocol proposed by the Committee of Jurists, may have an opportunity of expressing its opinion thereon, the Council decides to instruct the Secretary-General to transmit to the Assembly the report of the Committee and the draft Protocol and to place the question on the supplementary agenda of the tenth ordinary session of the Assembly.

*[Distributed to the Council, the
Members of the League and the
Delegates at the Assembly.]*

Official No. : A. 6. 1929.

Geneva, June 1st, 1929.

LEAGUE OF NATIONS

3

Report on the Work of the League since the Last
Session of the Assembly.

Series of League of Nations Publications

✓ GENERAL ✓
1929. 2.

NOTE.

The present report summarises the work of the Council, of the Conferences and Committees of the League of Nations, and of the Secretariat from the date of the meeting of the ninth Assembly until about May 15th, 1929.

A supplementary report, which will be distributed on the opening day of the tenth ordinary session of the Assembly, will summarise the work of the fifty-fifth session of the Council (June 1929) and of such Conferences and Committees of the League as have met between the date of the compilation of the present report and September 1929.

In conformity with the procedure adopted for the last six years, a special annex to the supplementary report will give the situation to date in regard to the progress of international conventions and engagements, as indicated by instruments deposited with the Secretariat of the League or by treaties which particularly concern the organisations of the League.

In accordance with the recommendation made by the Fifth Assembly, a report prepared by the Registrar of the Permanent Court of International Justice on the Work of the Court, and a report by the Director of the International Labour Office on that of the International Labour Organisation, will be distributed at the same time as the supplementary report.

Geneva, June 1st, 1929.

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1.

LEGAL QUESTIONS.

I. PROGRESSIVE CODIFICATION OF INTERNATIONAL LAW.

(See agenda of the Assembly of 1929, item No. 9.)

A. PREPARATORY WORK FOR THE FIRST CODIFICATION CONFERENCE.

1. *Work of the Preparatory Committee.*

By its resolution of September 27th, 1927, the Assembly placed on the agenda of the proposed Codification Conference the three subjects of Nationality, Territorial Waters and the Responsibility of States for damage done in their territory to the person or property of foreigners.

The Preparatory Committee appointed by the Council in accordance with the Assembly's resolution completed its work during three sessions held at Geneva from February 6th to February 15th, 1928, from January 28th to February 17th, 1929, and from May 6th to May 11, 1929.

Under the procedure laid down by the Assembly, the Committee's task was to draw up bases for discussion for the Conference in the light of the replies made by the Governments to the request for information addressed to them by the Committee. This request was transmitted to the Governments by the Secretary-General on March 1st, 1928, and the Committee asked that replies might be received not later than the end of the following October. The period thus allowed for the Governments to reply proved in fact to be barely sufficient, and the majority of the replies did not reach Geneva until a considerably later date, but the Committee was eventually able to take account of information supplied by some thirty Governments. Some of the replies did not deal with all the subjects or all the points raised by the Committee.

Furthermore, the Committee, in addition to being able to consult the scientific work on the above three questions which has been done at various times by the international learned societies devoted to the study of international law, such as the Institute of International Law, was able to benefit by a valuable special enquiry into these questions organised under the auspices of the Harvard Law School in anticipation of the Conference. This enquiry resulted in the publication of a draft Convention on each subject, accompanied by a careful and exhaustive commentary.

On March 7th, 1929, the Council requested the Committee to undertake the further task of reporting as to the action which the Council might take in execution of a suggestion contained in the Assembly resolution of 1927 to the effect that, when convening the Conference, the Council should set out certain general rules intended to govern the proceedings of the Conference on a number of points specified in the resolution.

The Committee has embodied the results of its work in a report which will, for convenience of use at the Conference, be published in three volumes, one for each subject.¹ As recommended by the Assembly in 1927, the report is drawn up in the form adopted in preparing the work of the Naval Conference of London, 1908-1909. The volume on each subject contains two general reports by the Committee, the replies from Governments relating to each point submitted to them by the Committee, the observations of the Committee on these replies and the bases of discussion formulated by the Committee. These bases of discussion are not proposals of the Committee but are an attempt to formulate a statement of rules upon which agreement appears to exist or which do not give rise to divergencies of view so serious as to make it impossible to anticipate that an agreement may be reached after consideration and, if necessary, modification and amendment, of those bases by the Conference.

Certain suggestions upon which agreement appears more difficult, or on which there has not been an adequate expression of opinion on the part of the various Governments, could not be adopted as bases of discussion, but it will be open to each Government to take up any particular suggestion and make it the subject of a proposal for discussion by the Conference. For convenience of reference the full text of the Government replies is also reproduced.

The Committee's recommendations for the general rules to govern the proceedings of the Conference will be printed in a separate document².

2. *Date of the Conference.*

Under the Assembly's resolution of 1927 the Council was requested to convene the Conference as soon as the preparations were sufficiently advanced. It was contemplated at that date, and also during the Assembly's session of 1928, that the Conference might be able to meet in the present year. In a preliminary report considered by the Council at its session of March last,

¹ See documents C. 73. M. 38. 1929. V ; C. 74. M. 39. 1929. V ; C. 75. M. 69. 1929. V.

² See document C. 190. (1). M. 93. 1929. V.

the Preparatory Committee expressed the opinion that a meeting of the Conference in 1929 was for various reasons materially impossible, and recommended that a date in the spring of 1930 should be selected. It pointed out that a certain period of time would be necessary to enable Governments and learned bodies to examine the replies of each Government, the Committee's observations and the bases of discussion, and that such a study, if sufficient time were allowed for it, would make it possible for existing differences of opinion to be attenuated. A delay of a few months would not therefore be time lost.

By a resolution of March 7th, 1929, the Council accepted this recommendation of the Committee and decided, in principle, that the Codification Conference should be held in the spring of 1930.

The Supplementary Report to the Assembly will contain information as to any further decisions in regard to the Conference which may be taken by the Council after its members have had an opportunity to consider the results of the work of the Preparatory Committee.

B. WORK OF THE COMMITTEE OF THREE JURISTS APPOINTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE ASSEMBLY'S RESOLUTION OF SEPTEMBER 24TH, 1928, PART III.

This Committee was appointed by the Council by a resolution of December 14th, 1928. It consists of the following members of the Committee of Experts for the Progressive Codification of International Law : Professor DIENA, M. GUERRERO and Professor SCHÜCKING. The terms of the Assembly's resolution are as follows :

" The Assembly :

" Having considered the opinion expressed by the Committee of Experts regarding the proposal of the delegation of Paraguay ;

" Confirms its decision to make no change at present in the method of codification adopted by it in 1924.

" Recognises, however, that there would be advantages in indicating the full extent of the subjects which, without prejudging the order to be followed, the Assembly proposes to cover by the work of codification ;

" And, in view of the character of the contemplated task, addresses to the Council the request that the establishment of a systematic survey may be entrusted to a Committee of three jurists, to be chosen preferably from the members of the Committee of Experts, and that the survey may be communicated to the Members of the League as soon as possible.

" It suggests that it would be desirable at the same time to distinguish, if possible, the subjects which should be reserved for the technical organisations of the League, or the international conferences which have already been initiated by particular Governments and the subjects which appear capable of being dealt with by conferences of jurists.

" The Assembly emphasises the great immediate practical value in this connection of assembling together in the form of a code, according to a methodical classification the various general international conventions, *i.e.*, those which are open to acceptance by States in general ;

" It accordingly asks the Council to submit to examination by the above-mentioned Committee of three jurists the question of publishing, as an accompaniment to the *Treaty Series* and in the form of a Code, of which new editions would from time to time be produced, those general conventions which have the above-mentioned character, and to report to the Assembly on the matter at its next session. "

At a session held at Geneva from April 15th to 23rd, 1929, the Committee of Three Jurists presented a report to the Council on the two questions referred to it (document A.12.1929.V.). The body of the report sets out the principles adopted by the Committee in performing its task. A first annex contains, in the form of a table, the systematic survey of the subjects of international law which the Committee was asked to prepare ; the questions dealt with by technical organisations of the League or Conferences the initiative for which has been taken by particular Governments are indicated in footnotes. A second annex deals with the methods by which publication of general Conventions in the form of a Code might, in the Committee's opinion, be undertaken ; it is followed by a third annex containing an estimate of the cost of the work prepared by the Secretariat.

The Committee's report is on the agenda of the June session of the Council.

C. COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS FOR THE PROGRESSIVE CODIFICATION OF INTERNATIONAL LAW.

The decision taken by the Assembly in 1928 with regard to the work of this Committee was as follows :

" 1. The Assembly,

" Having considered the report addressed to the Council of the League of Nations in June 1928 by the Committee of Experts for the Progressive Codification of International Law, thanks the jurists who, under the enlightened guidance of their Chairman, have made this new contribution to the work of codification.

" It notes the conclusions of the Committee, according to which two new questions appear to be sufficiently ripe for international regulation, namely :

" (a) Legal position and functions of consuls ;

" (b) Competence of the courts in regard to foreign States.

" It decides to reserve these questions with a view to subsequent conferences.

" 2. The Assembly notes that a new questionnaire dealing with the question of domicile has been drawn up by the Committee of Experts and transmitted to the Governments by the Secretary-General.

" It adjourns to its session of 1929 the question whether it is necessary to convene the Committee of Experts again for the purpose of examining the replies from the Governments received in the interval by the Secretary-General of the League of Nations and, eventually, of studying other questions which may arise in connection with the codification of international law.

" The Assembly recommends that the Committee of Experts should, when it next meets, examine whether it would be possible and desirable to endeavour, by the procedure of codification, to formulate a declaration of the fundamental rights and duties of States."

In view of the above resolution, no session of the Committee was held in the year under review.

II. QUESTION OF THE REVISION OF THE STATUTE OF THE PERMANENT COURT OF INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE.

(See agenda of the Assembly of 1929, item No. 8.)

The Assembly, at its session of 1928, adopted the following resolution regarding this matter :

" The Assembly,

" Considering the ever increasing number of matters referred to the Permanent Court of International Justice ;

" Deeming it advisable that, before the renewal of the term of office of the members of the Court in 1930, the present provisions of the Statute of the Court should be examined with a view to the introduction of any amendments which experience may show to be necessary.

" Draws the Council's attention to the advisability of proceeding, before the renewal of the term of office of the members of the Permanent Court of International Justice, to the examination of the Statute of the Court with a view to the introduction of such amendments as may be judged desirable and to submitting the necessary proposals to the next ordinary session of the Assembly."

In pursuance of this resolution, the Council at its session of December 1928 appointed a Committee of Jurists with instructions " to report what amendments appear desirable in the various provisions of the Court Statute ". The original members of the Committee were M. SCIALOJA, who was selected by the Committee as its Chairman, M. VAN EYSINGA, who was appointed Vice-Chairman, and M. FROMAGEOT, M. GAUS, Sir Cecil HURST, M. ITO, M. POLITIS, M. RAESTAD, M. RUNDSTEIN, Mr. Elihu ROOT and M. URRUTIA. On March 9th, 1929, M. Pilotti, who was Rapporteur at the Conference of Signatories of the Protocol of Signature of the Court Statute held in 1926, was added to the Committee by the Council. The President and Vice-President of the Court, M. ANZILOTTI and M. HUBER, and the Chairman of the Supervisory Commission, M. OSUSKY, participated in the work of the Committee on the invitation of the Council.

At a session held at Geneva from March 11th to 19th, 1929, the Committee drew up a report to the Council¹ submitting its proposals for amendments to the Statute and proposals for the adoption by the Assembly of certain recommendations and resolutions relating to the Court.

The following quotation from the Committee's report indicates the purpose underlying the suggestions which it has made :

" In the proposals which the Committee has the honour to submit to the Council it has been in general actuated by the desire to give the States full assurance that the Permanent Court of International Justice established by the League of Nations is a real *judicial* body which is constantly at their disposal for the purpose of hearing and determining their disputes and which possesses alike the necessary juristic competence and experience of international affairs."

The Committee further decided to communicate to the Council a memorandum laid before it by one of its members, M. Rundstein, containing suggestions under which States would give the Court a certain measure of appellate jurisdiction in regard to the decisions of international arbitral or judicial tribunals other than the Permanent Court itself.² It also decided to communicate to the Council a memorandum presented to it by the International Labour Office. This memorandum raises a question as to co-ordinating the operation of Article

¹ See document C.142.M.52.1929.V (to be reprinted as document A.9.1929.V).

² See document C.142.M.52.1929.V.

14 and that of Article 223 of the Treaty of Versailles, upon which the Committee did not feel itself competent to pronounce.

The Committee's conclusions will be considered by the Council at its June session, and information as to the Council's decisions will be given in the Supplementary Report to the Assembly.

III. QUESTION OF THE ACCESSION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE PROTOCOL OF SIGNATURE OF THE STATUTE OF THE PERMANENT COURT OF INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE.

On March 9th, 1929, the Council requested the Committee which it had appointed to consider the question of the revision of the Statute of the Permanent Court of International Justice (see previous section), "to consider the present situation as regards accession of the United States of America to the Protocol of Signature of the Statute of the Permanent Court of International Justice and to make any suggestions which it feels able to offer with a view to facilitating such accession on conditions satisfactory to all the interests concerned".

It will be remembered that on January 27th, 1926, a resolution was adopted by the United States Senate specifying the conditions, reservations and understandings subject to which it approved the accession of the United States of America to the Statute of the Court. The terms of this resolution having been communicated to the Governments which had signed the Protocol of Signature, a Conference of these Governments met, on the initiative of the Council, at Geneva in September 1926, and formulated proposals for the reply to be made to the United States by the Governments. These proposals were adopted by twenty-four Governments.

The occasion for the Council's decision of March 1929 was the receipt by the Governments signatories of the Protocol of a note, dated February 19th, 1929, in which the Secretary of State of the United States of America examined the proposals formulated by the Conference of 1926 and expressed the hope that a further exchange of views, such as the Conference itself had contemplated, might lead to agreement upon some provision which in unobjectionable form would protect the rights and interests of the United States as an adherent of the Court Statute. A copy of this note had at the same time been transmitted to the Secretary-General and communicated by him to all the Members of the League. Cordial satisfaction was felt by the Council at the prospect which this note held out that a solution might be found for the difficulties which had prevented the accession of the United States to the Court Statute in 1926. It considered that advantage should be taken of the fact that the Committee of Jurists was about to meet for the purpose of a general examination of the Court Statute in order to obtain from the Committee any assistance which it might be able to offer towards the solution of the problem.

At the session which it held in March last the Committee, basing its work upon the proposals of the Conference of 1926 and examining these proposals in the light of the last note from the Secretary of State of the United States of America, reached the conclusion that the proposals of the Conference could be amended in a manner which would give satisfaction to all the interests concerned. It has accordingly presented a report to the Council to which is annexed the text of a draft Protocol which, in the Committee's opinion, may constitute a practical solution of the problem.¹

The Supplementary Report to the Assembly will contain information as to the decisions taken by the Council upon the Committee's report, which will be submitted to the Council at its June session.

IV. WORK OF THE ROME INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR THE UNIFICATION OF PRIVATE LAW.

The Governing Body of the Rome International Institute for the Unification of Private Law held its second session from February 20th to 22nd, 1929. This session was preceded by a preparatory meeting of the Standing Committee.

Under the presidency of His Excellency M. Scialoja, the Governing Body examined the report submitted by the Secretary-General of the Institute on the work accomplished during the first nine months of its existence: installation of offices, negotiations with the Italian Government concerning the diplomatic immunities of officials, relations with other leading Institutes, organisation of the library, enquiries.

1. STAFF OF THE INSTITUTE.

It was decided that the work of the Institute should be carried on by officials engaged on a temporary basis. Since the Governing Body had not sufficient information to allow it to appoint the two assistant secretaries, these appointments were adjourned.

At present the staff includes also temporary editors and clerical employees.

2. UNIFICATION OF THE LAW OF BILLS OF EXCHANGE AND CHEQUES.

At the request of the Secretariat of the League of Nations, the Rome Institute examined the proposals of the Economic Committee's experts and submitted a few observations regarding

¹ See document C.142.M.52.1929.V (to be reprinted as document A.II.1929.V.)

both the general tendencies of those proposals and the provisions contained in various articles. These observations have been communicated to the Secretariat of the League as documentation for the future International Conference on this subject.

3. UNIFICATION OF CONTRACTS OF SALE.

This undertaking, so much desired by the great economic organisations, is an extremely difficult problem owing to the wide diversity of the various national laws on the subject. The Institute has decided that no change can be made in the rules of the various national laws, which must continue to apply to sales concluded within each country. It proposes, however, to establish, parallel to these different models, a special model for international sales, *i.e.*, sales taking place between nationals of different countries. A report on this problem will be submitted at the next session of the Governing Body.

4. UNIFICATION OF THE LAW ON DEBTS IN RESPECT OF MAINTENANCE.

The differences in the laws on this subject often cause conflicts of laws that may become very difficult to settle. A study of the various legislations, however, justifies the hope that it may not be impossible to obtain uniform solutions.

The documentation on this point will be submitted to the Governing Body at its next session.

5. UNIFICATION OF ARBITRAL PROCEDURE IN PRIVATE MATTERS.

A preliminary enquiry has been commenced, the results of which will be submitted at the next session of the Governing Body, with regard to the possibility of unifying arbitration procedure in private matters.

6. PUBLICATIONS OF THE INSTITUTE.

It was decided that, for the present, the Institute would not publish any Bulletin, but would merely communicate its records to the leading international reviews, trusting that the latter will be good enough to publish them.

7. LIBRARY.

The work of constructing the library has almost been completed. The Institute's collection of books, etc., now gradually coming into being, thanks to the gifts of various countries and as a result of purchases made by the Institute, will be installed before the end of the year.

2.

FINANCES OF THE LEAGUE.

I. GENERAL FINANCIAL POSITION.

During the year 1928, 93 per cent of the amount of the contributions due for that year was received from the States Members as against 87 per cent of the budget for 1927 during that year.

The total amount received on account of arrears during 1928 was 1,729,161.12 gold francs as compared with 1,659,322.19 gold francs in 1927.

The cash surplus in respect of the three autonomous organisations of the League on December 31st, 1928, was as follows :

	Gold Francs
Secretariat	2,337,354.33
International Labour Organisation	199,914.50
Permanent Court of International Justice	180,551.93
Total surplus	<u>2,717,820.76</u>

The work of the Treasury since the last session of the Assembly may perhaps be most conveniently illustrated by reference to the reports of the Supervisory Commission, which has met on two occasions since last September.

The composition of the Commission, the members of which will in future be appointed by the Assembly, is as follows :

His Excellency M. Stefan OSUSKY, Czechoslovakia, *Chairman*.
Lord MESTON OF AGRA, India, *Vice-Chairman*.
Dr. J. A. NEDERBRAGT, Netherlands, *Rapporteur*.
M. Jean RÉVEILLAUD, France.
His Excellency M. C. PARRA-PEREZ, Venezuela.
His Excellency M. Herluf ZAHLE, Denmark } *Substitute members*.
His Excellency M. Alfred NEMOURS, Haiti }

II. ACCOUNTS FOR 1928.

The Commission examined the points raised in the report drawn up by the League's auditor, M. Ceresa, as well as certain general observations made by the Rapporteur. It considered with the Secretary-General and the responsible officials of the autonomous organisations various questions of principle and certain points of detail. It examined, in particular, a number of specific cases of transfers and agreed that the action which had been taken by the competent officials of the various organisations was in accordance with the regulations and principles to be followed in the matter.

III. DISPOSAL OF THE SURPLUS FOR 1928 AND REIMBURSEMENT TO STATES OUT OF THE BUILDING FUND.

The Commission considered that, in view of the necessity for strengthening the Building Fund to bring it up to the sum of 19,500,000 francs, approved by the Assembly during its eighth ordinary session for the cost of the new constructions, advantage should be taken of the present favourable financial position of the League to augment the sums set aside for the new buildings by appropriating that proportion of the 1928 surplus which corresponded to the payment of arrears during the year, viz., 1,729,161.12 gold francs, in the following manner: 1,479,161.12 gold francs should be added to the Building Fund proper and 250,000 gold francs to the Furnishing Fund established by the Assembly during its eighth ordinary session. It recommended that the balance of the surplus amounting to 988,659.64 gold francs should be returned to States Members by reducing their contributions for 1930.

The Commission also proposed that the reimbursements to be made in 1930 out of the Building Fund to the States which constituted the fund should amount to 700,000 gold francs.

IV. BUDGET FOR 1930.

The budget for 1930 as forwarded to the Members of the League for consideration by the Assembly amounts to 27,230,298 francs as compared with 27,026,280 francs for 1929. Although provision is made for an additional important international conference, the increase in the estimates of the Secretariat is, in point of fact, less than the sum actually required to meet the statutory salary increments.

V. MISCELLANEOUS QUESTIONS.

The Commission decided to hold an extraordinary session in June to consider the Secretary-General's proposals for the revision of the Staff Regulations, made in conformity with the resolution adopted on the subject by the Assembly during its ninth ordinary session.

3.

REDUCTION OF ARMAMENTS.

I. PREPARATORY COMMISSION FOR THE DISARMAMENT CONFERENCE.

The Preparatory Commission met at Geneva from April 15th to May 6th, 1929, with the Jonkheer Loudon in the Chair, and then, the latter having fallen ill, M. Politis (Vice-President). The other Vice-President, M. Veverka, having left the Commission, it elected M. Cobián, the Spanish delegate, to succeed him. The Governments of the following twenty-five States were represented: Belgium, British Empire, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Japan, the Netherlands, Persia, Poland, Roumania, Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes, Spain, Sweden, Turkey, Union of Socialist Soviet Republics, United States of America and Venezuela. The Argentine Republic, Bulgaria and Uruguay, Members of the Commission, did not send representatives.

At its first meeting, the Commission had no definite agenda, but had to consider its procedure in regard to the following documents: the draft Convention adopted at first reading in March-April 1927 (document C.218(1).M.112.1927.IX); the German proposal concerning the exchange of information (document C.164.M.49.1928.IX); the observations submitted by Count Bernstorff on the disarmament problem (document C.P.D./138); and the draft Convention for proportional reduction of armaments submitted in March 1928 by the Soviet delegation (document C.164.M.49.1928.IX). To these were added proposals by the Turkish delegation on criteria for the reduction of armaments (document C.P.D./142(1)) and by the Chinese delegation on the abolition of compulsory military service (document C.P.D./139).

In opening the session, the President laid before the Commission a programme which gave rise to a detailed discussion, following which the President's proposals were adopted, on the understanding that the order of the items might be changed and that the principal questions left in abeyance since 1927 should be discussed. The Commission then examined the Soviet draft, the Chinese proposal being discussed in connection with the question of effectives. The Chinese delegate reserved the right to bring the proposal again before the Disarmament Conference. At the request of the Turkish delegation, the Turkish proposals were reserved for the Conference.

The main work of the Commission concerned the draft Convention it had previously adopted. It heard an important statement by the delegate of the United States of America regarding the general principles of disarmament and the naval problem. There were long discussions on several of the essential parts of the 1927 draft (effectives, in particular, the limitation of trained reserves, limitation of land and air war material) and on several points new texts were adopted (see Annex).

The Commission finally decided to postpone to a later date the continuation of the second reading of the draft Convention in order to enable the Governments concerned to make a thorough examination of the American proposals on naval disarmament. For the same reason it refrained from drawing up a report, considering its sixth session as not yet closed. The Governments were invited to inform the President of the progress of their negotiations, so as to enable him to summon the Commission with a full knowledge of the facts.

It is virtually impossible to reproduce in the present report all the statements, reservations, amendments, counter-amendments, etc., which were discussed during the three weeks of the session. They all appear in the Minutes of the Commission, but the following analysis contains general indications regarding the principal points dealt with in the course of the debates: (1) Debate on the agenda; (2) Draft Convention and draft resolution submitted by the Soviet delegation; (3) Proposal of the Turkish delegation regarding the disarmament problem; (4) Proposal submitted by the German delegation regarding the last paragraph of Article 8 of the Covenant (Exchange of information); (5) General declarations by the delegates of Persia, the British Empire, the United States of America, Japan, Chile and Belgium; (6) Chemical warfare; (7) Air warfare and international air fleet; (8) Distinction between home and overseas armaments; (9) Question of effectives; (10) Limitation of material; (11) The naval problem; (12) Supervision; (13) Close of the first part of the session and convocation of the next meeting.

1. DEBATE ON THE AGENDA.

The President stated in his opening speech that he did not consider that the time had yet come to take a second reading of the whole of the draft Convention drawn up at the first reading and to frame a final text, marking the completion of the preparatory work. He added that as regards the negotiations between the Governments

concerned — with whom he had kept in touch — agreed solutions which would make it possible at this juncture to foresee the final success of the Commission's work had not yet been reached. As soon as agreement between the Governments had been achieved, he foresaw a further meeting of the Commission. He thought that public opinion was becoming somewhat impatient. He had indeed received a very large number of letters, mainly from labour organisations in different countries, urging the Commission to complete its work as soon as possible.

The President then submitted a programme of work, covering the Soviet draft Convention, the German proposals concerning the exchange of information, and all the articles of the draft Convention of 1927. Since that part of the draft had, during the first reading, been merely touched upon, or even not discussed at all, the President proposed that these points should be discussed first.

The German delegation having urged that the second reading should be begun forthwith and that the essential questions — effectives and material — should be dealt with, the President pointed out that the suggestions submitted only concerned the order in which this second reading might be taken.

After an exchange of views, it was decided to adopt the agenda submitted by the President, but that the order of the items might be changed, that the Soviet draft Convention should be discussed first, and that the essential questions — in particular, effectives and material — should be examined during the course of the debates.

2. DRAFT CONVENTION AND DRAFT RESOLUTION SUBMITTED BY THE SOVIET DELEGATION.

A. *Explanation and Discussion of the Draft Convention.*

Before the Commission discussed this subject, the first Soviet delegate made a statement criticising the earlier work of the Commission and urging that it should change its methods. In his opinion the fundamental defect of the Commission's method consisted in the fact that each individual country would, at the Conference, fix the amount of its own armaments, taking into account all its specific political, economic, geographical, strategic and other features, which implied that the other nations would have to discuss and accept the individual estimates of its own requirements put forward by each country. The proposal for a reduction submitted by the Soviet delegation was, on the contrary, based on an impartial criterion which would not be prejudicial to any State. During the discussion the Soviet delegate added further, that, in his opinion, the armaments of a country were based upon the armaments of its neighbours, and that any reduction in one country must and could affect the others. He added that, on the one hand, the increased menace of war and, on the other, the conclusion of the Kellogg Pact ought to stimulate efforts with a view to disarmament. In conclusion, he asked that his draft should be studied in detail and thoroughly discussed.

The Soviet delegation then explained the principal provisions of the draft. The main principle was the proportionate reduction of all elements of armaments (effectives, cadres, number of units, material, aggregate tonnage and tonnage by categories, numbers of aircraft, budgetary expenditure) based on the position on a fixed date. For each of the three important categories of armaments — military, naval and air — countries were divided into three groups according to the scale of their armaments. In each category the reduction was half for the strongest Powers, a third for medium Powers and a quarter for the weaker Powers. The States whose armaments had been fixed by the Peace Treaties formed a special group and the amount of their armaments was to be established by the Disarmament Conference. The draft also provided for the quantitative and qualitative limitation of material of all categories, whether in service or in stock, and contained stipulations for supervising the carrying-out of the Convention.

The Convention was intended to be completed by a certain number of special conventions regarding details of execution — to be ratified within six months from the coming into force of the principal Convention.

The Japanese, Chilian and French delegations gave the reasons why, in their opinion, the Commission could not take the Soviet draft as a basis for discussion. These reasons may be summarised as follows :

1. The Soviet draft does not take account of the connection, established by the League Covenant, between disarmament and security; one of the implications of the notion of security is the necessity to take into account "the geographical situation and circumstances of each State". This idea of security is therefore, to some extent, peculiar to each State. The Soviet plan starts from a mathematical and impersonal basis, which was rejected by the League organs some considerable time ago, in particular, at the time of the discussion of Lord Esher's plan.

2. The Soviet draft would lead the Commission to change its methods, and even to encroach upon the domain of the future Disarmament Conference. The Commission's instructions are merely to build up the technical framework of the Convention. It is for the Convention itself to fix figures.

3. Before the Soviet draft comes into force, fourteen special conventions must be concluded. Its application would result in anomalies. It would also involve inequality and injustice. It would allow no account whatever to be taken of the voluntary reductions effected by States in certain categories of armaments.

The German delegate expressed the hope that the fresh ideas contained in the Soviet draft would stimulate the work of the Commission. He recalled that, as stated by the German Chancellor in September 1928, the first stage of disarmament could and must involve an appreciable reduction below the present level of armaments — a reduction including all elements of military, naval and air armaments and a guarantee of full and entire publicity in respect of all classes of armaments. He noted that these basic conditions were fulfilled in the Soviet draft, which further provided a new and to some extent mechanical system designed to facilitate the fixing of figures.

The Turkish delegate observed that the Soviet draft contained very interesting and valuable principles and that it would be desirable to study it carefully before examining the draft Convention of 1927. The Turkish proposals should also be examined and discussed. It appeared to him very useful, in particular that the Commission should discuss the criteria of the reduction of armaments, a discussion of this point being necessarily one of the first things that the Conference would appoint a Commission to undertake.

B. Discussion of the Draft Resolution.

As the great majority of the Commission did not seem inclined to change its methods and take the Soviet draft as a basis of discussion, the Soviet delegate asked that it should express an opinion on the three ideas embodied in that draft, namely, the reduction of armaments, the proportional principle and numerical coefficients. To this end he proposed a draft resolution asking the Commission :

“ To prepare a draft Convention based upon the principle of the appreciable reduction of existing armed forces ;

“ To embody in the draft Convention methods of reducing armaments, based upon the proportional principle or a similar impartial criterion ;

“ To include in the draft Convention numerical coefficients for the reduction of armaments. ”

The Commission sought the opinion of its Bureau as to how far it could deal with the Soviet proposals, having regard to the instructions it had received and the scope of its work. The Bureau gave the following opinion :

“ 1. The Preparatory Commission for the Disarmament Conference has been instructed by the Council, not to effect the reduction of armaments, but to prepare a scheme for the reduction of national armaments to the lowest point consistent with national safety and the enforcement by common action of international obligations. This plan is to be submitted for the consideration and action of the Governments taking part in the Conference.

“ The Commission is preparing a scheme to enable the Conference, when it meets, to effect as substantial a reduction of national armaments as possible — on the understanding that the Convention adopted shall be subject to reconsideration and revision at least every ten years.

“ 2. The Commission has not seen its way to adhere to the method of reduction based on the proportional principle. At the same time there is nothing to prevent the Government representatives assembled at the Conference, when they finally come to draw up the Disarmament Convention, from taking account of this principle or of any other similar objective criterion in addition to those indicated in Article 8 of the Covenant.

“ 3. The numerical coefficients for the reduction of armaments constitute a method of applying the proportional principle laid down in point 2 of the Soviet draft resolution. Consequently, the arguments set forth above in connection with point 2 apply equally to point 3.

“ Having regard to the foregoing considerations, the Bureau is of opinion that the Preparatory Commission, while continuing the examination of its preliminary draft of 1927, should decide, if the Soviet delegation so desires, to append the Soviet draft convention to the report to be submitted by the Commission on the conclusion of its proceedings, and to be subsequently laid before the Disarmament Conference, without prejudice to the right shared by the Soviet delegation with all the other delegations, to bring forward amendments to the articles of the 1927 preliminary draft in the course of the discussion in the Preparatory Commission. ”

The Commission adopted this opinion, the Soviet and Chinese delegations voting against it. The Turkish delegation had announced its intention of not taking part in the vote. Several delegations made statements before voting.

The Italian delegation declared that its Government was prepared *a priori* to accept any reduction of armaments, even to the lowest figures, provided that these figures were accepted and applied by all the other Powers in the continent of Europe. As to the second point, it considered that a mathematical criterion like that submitted by the Soviet delegation was not in fact impartial but arbitrary, because impartiality required that account should be taken of the reductions already effected and of the real needs of each country. On the third point the delegation was of opinion that the numerical coefficients ought to be fixed by the Conference.

The German delegation said it would agree to the Bureau's proposals, with a view to conciliation, but that it would also be willing to accept the first two points of the Soviet resolution and to refer the third to the Conference. The text drawn up by the Bureau referred

to national security. The German delegation recalled that the Assembly had adopted in 1928 a resolution according to which the present conditions of security would allow of the conclusion at the present time of a first general Convention for the reduction and limitation of armaments. The German delegation trusted that the Soviet delegation would take advantage of the facility offered by the text drawn up by the Bureau to repeat its proposals in the course of subsequent proceedings as amendments to the points under discussion. The Chinese delegate said that, as he was in favour of the proportional principle, he could not agree to the opinion of the Bureau as a whole.

The Soviet delegate subsequently circulated to the delegations a statement criticising the methods followed by the Commission since its constitution. He stated that the Soviet delegation would be justified in withdrawing from the Preparatory Commission but that it would remain in the hope that the other Governments there represented would find themselves forced by the pressure of public opinion, and especially by the demand of workers' organisations, to agree at least to a substantial reduction of armaments and to revert to those very Soviet proposals which they had so far rejected.

3. PROPOSAL BY THE TURKISH DELEGATION REGARDING THE DISARMAMENT PROBLEM.

The Turkish delegation transmitted to the Preparatory Commission a Note (document C.P.D./142 (1)), the conclusions of which may be summarised as follows :

The origin of many cases of aggression will be found in the inequality of the existing forces and the opportunities which the maintenance of large effectives offers for rapidly carrying out attacks intended to secure certain objects and satisfy certain ambitions. The fundamental idea in the system proposed by the Turkish delegation is to provide, as far as possible, that all States should have equivalent peace effectives. An endeavour would thus be made to fix a limit for effectives and to apply this to all States without distinction. This maximum of effectives would be the armed forces required by a large country to provide for its legitimate defence against sudden aggression. The fixing of the maximum limit would not appear to present any serious difficulties, as, in this connection, experience has been gained which would be useful for the purpose. Once this limit has been fixed, States maintaining forces exceeding it would be compelled to reduce them accordingly, and those forces already below the limit would remain unchanged, without the States being authorised to increase them.

During the course of the debates the Turkish delegate became convinced that the Commission, in accordance with the system it had laid down, wished to leave to the Conference the discussion of criteria of reduction of armaments. He noted that the discussion of his proposal would be likely to increase the work of the Commission, and hence to delay the convocation of the Conference, and he reserved his draft for reduction for submission to the Conference. With this reservation the Turkish delegation took part in the examination of the Commission's draft Convention.

4. PROPOSAL SUBMITTED BY THE GERMAN DELEGATION CONCERNING THE LAST PARAGRAPH OF ARTICLE 8 OF THE COVENANT (EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION).

The German proposal (document C.164.M.49.1928.IX) had, by a resolution dated March 24th, 1928, been submitted by the Preparatory Commission to the Governments for examination. This proposal contemplated originally the possibility of completing the *Armaments Year-Book* of the League of Nations by obtaining from the Governments more detailed information on the three points enumerated in the last paragraph of Article 8 of the Covenant, namely, the scale of their armaments, their military, naval and air programmes and the condition of their industries adaptable to warlike purposes.

Certain delegates pointed out that the Preparatory Commission was not competent to modify the *Armaments Year-Book*. The German delegation explained that the object of the proposal was, in particular, to prepare the work of the Conference, which could not usefully reduce armaments if it had not as complete information as possible concerning them. The Japanese delegation pointed out that the information at present available regarding armaments was sufficient for the establishment of a first Disarmament Convention, that the search for more complete information would risk delaying the work of the Conference, and that, above all, it appeared to them difficult to have publicity before knowing what were the various elements of armaments which would be covered by the Convention.

Finally, the Commission decided to discuss the German proposal when the chapter in the draft Convention which dealt with the exchange of information came up for examination.

5. GENERAL DECLARATIONS BY THE DELEGATIONS OF PERSIA, THE BRITISH EMPIRE, THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, JAPAN, CHILE AND BELGIUM.

A. Declaration by the Persian Delegation.

On two occasions the Persian delegation drew the Commission's attention to the special situation of Persia. The delegation observed that Persian territory had been invaded during the great war, and in reply to the protests made by that country the invaders had declared that, in the absence of a national Persian army able to defend the territory, it was impossible for them to evacuate. In these circumstances, Persia, which desired to live in peace in order to be able to proceed with its economic development and to carry out social reforms without danger, found itself obliged to organise an adequate national army. At great financial sacrifice Persia

undertook this task, while, however, following an absolutely pacific policy, as was proved by the readiness with which Persia had signed neutrality and security pacts with certain of its neighbours, and had acceded to the Briand-Kellogg Pact and the Litvinoff Protocol. The Persian delegation had been anxious to explain this situation at an early stage, in order to justify the proposals which it would submit to the Conference, emphasising at the same time the fact that Persia's only desire was to maintain order in the interior of the country and to create an element for peace and stability in the Middle East.

B. Declaration by the British Delegation.

On April 19th, 1929, Lord Cushendun made a general declaration.

He reminded the Commission that outside the Preparatory Commission the leading naval Powers that signed the Washington Treaty had actually effected a large and important measure of reduction and limitation. In view of the progress made in that direction, he hoped that the Commission would go as far as it could towards limiting land and air forces. There was no reason, in his judgment, why the difficulties which prevented progress in regard to naval disarmament should prevent it from getting on with the other branches of the subject.

The British Government was keenly anxious to arrive at some definite measure of agreement which would make it possible to open the Disarmament Conference, and he was prepared to make great sacrifices in order to reach that agreement. On former occasions the British delegation had expressed strong views on many of the points in dispute. It still held to those opinions and still thought that the principles it had expressed were the most likely to lead to good results. On the other hand, while persisting in those views, it recognised that land armaments did not constitute the branch of the subject in which Great Britain was most interested. Great Britain was not and did not pretend to be a military Power in the continental sense of the term. Its military system was fundamentally different from that of most of the countries represented on the Preparatory Commission, and its land forces had already been reduced to such a point that they could not claim to rival those of continental Powers. Great Britain therefore recognised that in this sphere the lead could and should be taken by the military Powers and that the possibility of effecting limitation depended upon the reconciliation of their views and policies.

Lord Cushendun said that the British Government had no intention of adding to the difficulties in the way of agreement by insisting in every case on its own views. The all-important consideration to Great Britain was the attainment of such an agreement as would make progress possible and though its own system was so different from those of the continental Powers, his country felt confident that it would be able to accept any proposals which met with general assent.

As regards air armaments, Lord Cushendun said that they were naturally of very special importance and interest to an empire so scattered, and embracing such wide stretches of territory as the British Empire. Broadly speaking, the needs of his own country in regard to air armaments were the same as those of continental Powers, and yet its air forces were considerably smaller than those of other European countries. Lord Cushendun concluded his declaration by expressing the hope that, as in the case of land armaments, Great Britain would be able to agree to any principles in connection with the limitation of air armaments, that might secure the unanimous approval of other countries.

On another occasion the British delegate stated that, owing to the considerable reductions in land armaments which Great Britain had made since the war, it might be found when the time came to discuss figures at the Disarmament Conference, that the British land armaments had already been reduced to the level laid down in Article 8 of the Covenant.

C. Declaration by the United States Delegation.

At the Commission's meeting on April 22nd, Mr. Gibson, the delegate of the United States of America, made a declaration explaining his Government's views both on the general problem of disarmament and on the naval problem. His declaration may be summarised as follows :

The first duty of each delegation was to determine all the phases of the problem before it with a view to discovering what concessions it could offer. Agreement upon a single text could only be achieved by a maximum of such concessions. Further, the Commission would only be able to deal to the best advantage with the specific questions on its agenda if it bore clearly in mind the recent important changes in world conditions. Since the last session of the Commission the nations of the world had bound themselves by a solemn undertaking to renounce war as an instrument of national policy. The United States delegation believed that that agreement affirming humanity's will to peace would advance the cause of disarmament by removing doubts and fears which in the past had constituted its principal obstacle. It had recently been the privilege of the United States delegate to discuss the general problem of disarmament at considerable length with President Hoover, who had always been a fervent advocate of peace with understanding. Mr. Gibson was in a position to realise how deeply the President felt that the Pact for the Renunciation of War, recently signed, opened an unprecedented opportunity for advancing the cause of disarmament, an opportunity which should not be allowed to slip. If the solemn promise made in the Pact meant anything, there was no justification for the continuation of a war-taxed peace. Big armaments were the relics of another age, but they would remain a necessary relic until the present deadlock was broken, and that could only be accomplished if the Powers possessing the largest armaments decided to initiate measures of reduction.

Fundamentally, the aim of all the Powers must be to release for productive effort large numbers of men from military service, and secondly, to reduce the heavy burden of taxation.

So long as the nations were burdened with increasing taxation for the maintenance of armaments, it was idle to pretend that the world was really advancing towards the goal of disarmament. In recent years the word "limitation" had come to be used to describe agreements establishing armaments at existing levels, or at still higher levels, instead of meaning an effective reduction of armaments. It was necessary therefore to take a bold course and begin by scrapping the too timid term "limitation" in order to concentrate upon a general reduction of armaments.

As regards land armaments the United States delegation would be able, when the Commission reached that point, to defer to the countries primarily interested in land armaments with such a measure of concession as would materially facilitate agreement between them. As regards naval disarmament, the attitude of the United States was as follows :

The defence of the United States was primarily a naval problem. The United States Government had found no reason for modifying its view that the simplest, fairest and most practical method was that of limitation of tonnage by categories — a method which had been given practical and satisfactory application in the Washington Treaty. The United States delegation had urged that view throughout the first reading, but, owing to the inacceptability to some delegations of that unmodified thesis, his Government had sought, in the various methods presented, some solution which might offer the possibility of compromise and general acceptance. During the third session of the Preparatory Commission, the French delegation had brought forward a compromise which was an attempt to combine its original total tonnage proposals with the method of tonnage by categories. According to this solution, a total tonnage was assigned to each nation and this total was divided between the different categories of ships. Certain modifications were suggested in informal discussions, so as to provide that the tonnage allocated to any given category might be increased by a certain percentage to be agreed upon, such increase to be transferred from any other category or categories not already fixed by existing treaty.

In the hope of facilitating a general agreement as to naval armaments, the United States Government was disposed to accept the French proposal as a basis of discussion.

It was also disposed to give full and friendly consideration to any supplementary methods of limitation which might be calculated to make the United States proposals, the French, or any other thesis acceptable to other Powers and, if such a course appeared desirable, it would be prepared to give consideration to a method of estimating equivalent naval values which took account of other factors than displacement tonnage alone. In order to arrive at a basis for comparison in the case of categories in which there were marked variations as to unit characteristics, it might be desirable, in arriving at a formula for estimating equivalent tonnage, to consider certain factors which produced these variations, such as age, unit displacement, and calibre of guns. The United States Government was of opinion that there could only be complete and effective limitation if that limitation covered all categories of war vessels.

The United States Government was ready, even eager, to accept low levels of tonnage for it believed that naval needs were relative, that was to say, that the requirements of one Power for its defence depended chiefly upon the size of the navies maintained by others. Apart from the signatories of the Washington Treaty, there was no conceivable combination of naval power which could threaten the safety of any of the principal naval Powers. There was therefore no need to maintain large naval armaments as against the rest of the world. What justification could there be for the naval Powers which led in the respective classes of naval vessels to sanction further building programmes in those classes? The United States was ready to accept a basis that would mean a substantial reduction of its present destroyer and submarine forces. As regards cruisers, it was only possession by others of greatly superior strength in this class that had led to the adoption of the present building programme.

There was no need for an exact balance of ships and guns, which could be based only upon the idea of conflict. What was really wanted was a common-sense agreement, based on the idea that the signatories were friends. The United States Government had never believed that an effective approach to the problem of disarmament could be made by methods of reduction of armaments alone. It felt that genuine disarmament would follow only from a change of attitude towards the use of force in the settlement of international disputes. It was for that reason that the United States delegate ventured to make an appeal to the countries represented on the Commission to examine the whole problem afresh in the hope that they would find, in general world conditions and in the solemn obligation they had taken among themselves, a reassurance as to their security and that they would find in this the confidence to enable them to dispense with the armaments which hitherto had seemed so essential.

This declaration by Mr. Gibson was followed by speeches from the British, Japanese, Canadian, French, Soviet and Italian delegates. They were unanimous in their appreciation of the conciliatory and friendly spirit which had animated that declaration and in emphasising its great significance.

D. Declaration by the Japanese Delegation.

Before the Commission began its detailed discussion on the question of air and land armaments, the Japanese delegation made a declaration of which the following is a summary:

As regards naval armaments, they had already entered into the domain of practical realisation, more particularly as a result of the Washington Conference and of subsequent endeavours, for example, those of the Three-Power Naval Conference. As regards the air and land armaments, however, no practical experience existed as far as international matters were concerned. These armaments varied considerably in the different countries. In the circumstances, therefore, it seemed only logical to take into account the special situation of each country, and to do no more than lay down broad general lines which would secure the acceptance of as many States as possible. It was important to arrive at flexible formulæ and to avoid too detailed or rigid rules. Otherwise, Governments might find great difficulty in adapting the scheme to their own special conditions.

E. Declaration by the Chilean Delegation.

The delegate for Chile made a general declaration during a discussion on the meaning of the words "reduction and limitation". Briefly, he considered that the Covenant, in subordinating the reduction of armaments to the requirements of national security, the fulfilment of international engagements, geographical situation and the special conditions of each country, had in fact admitted that countries whose armaments were too small, having regard to the conditions enumerated above, were only compelled to limit them and not to reduce them. He added that, if it were desired that a large number of Latin-American delegations should be present at the Disarmament Conference, it was essential to avoid anything of a rigid nature in the general Convention. This Convention should be sufficiently elastic to be adapted to Latin-American countries whose situation was so different from that of countries in other continents.

F. Declaration by the Belgian Delegation.

The Belgian delegate declared, during the same discussion, that the very substantial reductions already made by Belgium forced that country to consider that limitation of armaments must, in her case, be interpreted as meaning the maintenance of the *status quo*, that is to say, the maintenance of reductions already made. He added that he was only too glad to contemplate, as an ideal, the possibility of going further in the future, and even of arriving at the abolition of conscription as proposed by the Chinese delegation.

6. CHEMICAL WARFARE.

On this matter the Commission adopted a text (see Annex) which gave rise to lengthy discussions.

These related, in the first place, to the following question: Should provisions relating to chemical warfare be retained in a chapter of the Convention or, since the prohibition of the use of certain weapons has no direct connection with the limitation and reduction of armaments, was it not better either entirely to suppress the chapter or to stipulate that the ratification of the Disarmament Convention automatically involved accession to the 1925 Protocol?

The Commission ended by agreeing, by a small majority, to a proposal of the Belgian delegation retaining the first two paragraphs of Chapter IV and prohibiting chemical warfare, subject to reciprocity, and bacteriological warfare absolutely. The Turkish delegation declared that this new text could not imply that the Governments which had ratified the 1925 Protocol without claiming application of the reciprocity clause had intended to renounce the clause.

On the proposal of the Soviet delegation, the Commission also adopted a resolution recommending that States which had not already ratified the 1925 Protocol should do so as soon as possible.¹

Paragraphs 3 and 4 of the 1927 Draft, which sought to prevent the preparation of chemical warfare in time of peace, also gave rise to a long discussion. The French delegation submitted an amendment explaining these paragraphs, but the discussion showed the great practical difficulty of applying such provisions. In particular, the question was raised of the possible control of manufactures. The Commission decided to suppress paragraphs 3 and 4, stating that that should not be interpreted as implying any weakening of the obligation incurred under paragraphs 1 and 2. On the proposal of the Polish delegation, the Commission further reserved the possibility of reverting to this question and submitting to the Conference proposals supplementing the Protocol in this direction.

The Commission also discussed a proposal of the Roumanian and Serb-Croat-Slovene delegations, the principle of which was supported by the Polish and Persian delegations for the organisation of a system of mutual assistance and sanctions in case any State commits a breach of the Protocol. This proposal was not put to the vote, and the authors reserved the right to submit it to the Conference. Finally, the Commission rejected a proposal by the

¹ This resolution was transmitted to the Council, which, on June 12th, 1929, decided to communicate it to all States which have not yet taken steps towards ratification.

Soviet delegation aiming, among other things, at setting up a control by workmen's organisations over activities of chemical industries.

During the discussions on "Chemical Warfare", the representatives of Germany, Canada, Great Britain, the Netherlands, Roumania, the Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes, and Turkey declared that their Governments had ratified or had decided to ratify the 1925 Protocol. Lord Cushendun added that he was empowered to make the same declaration on behalf of the Governments of South Africa, Australia, the Irish Free State and New Zealand.¹

The following States had already ratified or adhered to the Protocol of 1925: Austria, Belgium, Egypt, France, Italy, Liberia, Poland, Union of Socialist Soviet Republics, Venezuela,

7. AIR WARFARE AND THE INTERNATIONAL AIR FLEET.

A. Air Warfare.

The German delegation had deposited a proposal that aircraft should be prohibited from dropping from the air destructive weapons of all kinds. In submitting this proposal, the German delegate observed that bombardment from the air constituted one of the most effective forms of attack, a direct menace to the civilian population, and one that would only increase as time went on. He added that the prohibition of aerial bombardment would supplement the prohibition of chemical warfare; it would make it unnecessary to maintain bombing-machines, and thus the offensive side of military aeronautics would be abolished and it would be easier to arrive at a solution of the problem of the reduction of air material.

This proposal was finally rejected by the majority, five delegations voting for it. Among the latter, the Swedish and Netherlands delegations pointed out that, in their opinion, bombardment from the air was already forbidden by the Hague Convention of 1907, and that they themselves were bound by that Convention. The delegations making up the majority accompanied their vote by a declaration to the effect that the rejection of the German proposal in no way implied the sanction of air attacks upon the civilian population.

The adversaries of the German proposal pointed out, *inter alia*, that the aim the Commission should pursue was not the prohibition of any particular form of warfare but the prohibition of war itself; an endeavour, moreover, should be made to maintain the Convention within the sphere of the limitation and reduction of armaments, without attempting to codify the laws of war, which did not come within the competence of the Commission, and was even incompatible with the Pact for the Renunciation of War.

It was also observed that the general principles of international law already forbade injury being inflicted upon the civil population in time of war by any means at all, and that, if it were true that bombing aircraft might be an instrument of attack, it was also true that it could be an instrument of defence; and that, as regards measures against armed forces, there was no real difference between bombardment by cannon and bombardment from the air. The German delegation reserved the right to lay its proposal before the Disarmament Conference.

B. International Air Fleet.

The Spanish delegate declared that his Government would view with favour the creation of an international air force to be placed at the Council's disposal for the maintenance of peace. He pointed out that this organisation was not specially intended for the purpose of imposing sanctions and had only a peaceful purpose.

In his opinion, such a force might constitute the first step towards the international organisation recommended by M. Léon Bourgeois when the League of Nations first came into being.

As the Spanish delegation had submitted no formal proposal to the Commission, the latter confined itself to taking note of this declaration.

8. DISTINCTION BETWEEN HOME AND OVERSEAS ARMAMENTS.

A discussion was initiated in connection with air armaments and was resumed in connection with land armaments on the point whether a distinction should be made between armaments of the home country and the armaments of overseas territories, for the purpose of the reduction and limitation of armaments.

The Turkish and Soviet delegations considered that the reduction tables ought to mention the distribution of armaments between the different parts of the national territory. Other delegations, among them the Italian and Chinese delegations, thought it important to take into account the factor of the distance separating certain overseas territories from the mother country on the one hand and from the home territories of other countries on the other hand.

The British delegate said he was prepared to support a proposal to take a certain distance as a determining factor, or some similar suggestion.

The Italian delegation, supported by the German delegation, while accepting the texts given in the Annex, made a general reservation to the effect that a contracting party, when establishing the figures of its home forces, would be entitled to consider the overseas forces of another country as forming part of the home forces when this was justified by the geographical

¹ Later the Government of India likewise notified its decision to ratify the Protocol. The Finnish Government informed the Secretary-General of its ratification of the Protocol in a letter dated June 3rd, 1929.

situation and notably by the distance between this overseas territory and the home territories of these two countries.

Lastly, other delegations, while considering it useful to fix a limit for home armaments in order to prevent a sudden accumulation of armaments on the territory of the mother country by drafts from overseas territories, were of the opinion that the Powers having overseas responsibilities ought to be given an opportunity of stating separately their special requirements in connection with overseas armaments.

The French delegation declared, in particular, that internal police and security in overseas territories often called for larger effectives than external security and that the size of overseas forces depended on the extent to which the country concerned had command of the seas. Further, without denying that the factor of distance should be taken into consideration, it thought that this factor belonged to the general question of criteria for reduction which would be dealt with by the Conference.

Lastly, the Commission rejected the Soviet proposal for the limitation of armaments by territories of station and adopted the tables of effectives and tables of air armaments given in the Annex.

9. EFFECTIVES.

A. *Trained Reserves.*

Chapter I (Effectives — Article A) of the 1927 draft Convention contained reservations made by the British, German, and United States delegations concerning the non-inclusion in Article A of the limitation of trained reserves.

When these texts were discussed by the Commission, the United States delegate stated that, as regards the question of trained reserves, his Government would support the opinion of the majority of the countries whose land forces constituted their chief military interest. His Government maintained, however, the views it had expressed in 1927 to the effect that trained reserves should be included in peace-time armaments since they actually exist in time of peace; a nation which possesses an adequate and equipped trained reserve is in a position promptly to undertake offensive battle. The United States delegate added that he made this concession as a practical matter, and because it was necessary for concessions to be made, not only on the part of one but on the part of every delegation, if a common draft were to be drawn up. He expressed the hope that, as a corollary to this attitude, the delegations of other countries would in like manner make the maximum of such concessions as they found possible. He did this in no spirit of bargaining. There were two ways in which the Commission could proceed further: the first was for each delegation to hold up the concessions it was prepared to make until the last minute, seeking in return to obtain other advantages. This would inevitably result in months of laborious negotiations and would certainly not truly represent the spirit in which the Commission had met. The other method was for the delegations frankly to explain what concessions they were in a position to make, to lay their cards on the table, and to create a feeling of candour and harmony that would be conducive to the further success of their work. It was in this spirit that the United States delegation had made this fundamental concession and Mr. Gibson was convinced that it was the method by which the Commission could advance its work not only speedily but effectively, and offer to the Governments and peoples represented a positive accomplishment.

This statement by the United States delegate led to the following reflections on the part of certain other delegates.

The French delegate considered that Mr. Gibson's statement was of a nature to advance the Commission's work very speedily. France had always held and still held that the safeguarding of the vital principles underlying its national defence did not allow it to make any concession in regard to trained reserves, although France did not and could not cherish any aggressive intentions in maintaining her point of view. He added that the French delegation would continue more than ever to lay its cards on the table and to make every concession in its power.

The Japanese delegate was of opinion that Mr. Gibson's declaration opened an entirely new prospect to countries in which the conscript system was still in existence. All the difficulties encountered at the first reading with regard to trained reserves were now removed. The system of conscription was still in force in Japan, and the Japanese Government was not prepared to make any radical alteration in that system. For this reason it was very difficult and even impossible for his country to accept any proposal to limit or reduce trained reserves. He therefore expressed his sincere gratitude to Mr. Gibson for the very important concession he had made in order to take account of the Commission's difficulties. In conclusion, he emphasised that, in its turn, the Japanese delegation would do its utmost to make every possible concession during the forthcoming discussions.

The Italian delegate also paid a tribute to the broad spirit of conciliation displayed by Mr. Gibson and to the eminently practical sense and grasp of realities of which he had given such tangible proofs. He congratulated himself particularly on this development because his instructions would not have allowed him to abandon the principles in accordance with which he had always approached the question of trained reserves, and he concluded by assuring the Commission that the Italian delegation would begin the discussion of this very important chapter of the draft Convention in the same spirit of frankness which it had always displayed in the Commission's discussions.

The German delegate said that his country could not consider a disarmament Convention which did not provide for an appreciable reduction of armaments. Indeed, how could any

appreciable reduction of naval armaments be made at all if no change whatever were made in the sphere of land armaments? In this matter Germany, which was itself completely disarmed, had no concessions to make. The important point for his country was to know whether the other States which were interested in land armaments were prepared, in execution of the Treaties and of the Covenant, to contemplate an appreciable reduction of armaments for themselves also. Accordingly, Germany could be asked only for concessions as regards the method by which an appreciable reduction of the armaments of States which were not disarmed might be brought about. In the observations which it had made on the eve of the session, the German delegation had referred to such a concession in regard to the problem of trained reserves. This concession was entirely in conformity with the spirit of conciliation which had been referred to, and showed that the German Government was prepared to seek for a path which might lead to agreement in this field. In the German delegate's opinion it was quite possible to arrive at a method which, for purposes of comparing military effectives, would enable a smaller value to be attached to trained reserves, particularly the older classes of reserves, than to the effectives serving with the colours. The logical consequences of the German view would be to demand the entire abolition of the conscription system. In that way the problem of estimating the value of trained reserves would solve itself and the comparison between different armies would be greatly facilitated. The German Government, however, had not asked for this general abolition, which amounted to recognising the existence of trained reserves. As a second concession, it had proposed that the value of trained reserves should be estimated not by their numbers but by a scale of military values — a point on which agreement would have to be reached. The German delegate added that a disarmament Convention which neglected the question of trained reserves might be conceivable if all the signatory States had a free choice between a system of military service which enabled them to form trained reserves and some other system which did not enable them to do so. But here was a group of signatory States some of which did not possess this freedom of choice, but were obliged under the existing treaties to give up the formation of trained reserves, and a disarmament Convention which neglected so important a consideration could not be regarded as equitable. In conclusion, he urged that the delegates who had expressed their readiness to make concessions should indicate upon what these concessions would bear.

The Netherlands delegate explained why his delegation, while maintaining its views with regard to the limitation of trained reserves, had decided to make the same concession as the United States delegate. The problem before the Commission was not a technical or an arithmetical problem, but a political one. If practical results were to be obtained it was no use taking a stand on logical arguments, however irrefutable, because it would be a long time before they could prevail. If the Commission's work was to lead to any results, it was absolutely essential to renounce a certain number of proposals made at the first reading. This applied in the first place to the question of the limitation and gradual reduction of trained reserves. In conclusion, the Netherlands delegate laid stress on the extent of his concession, which implied in effect that the limitation and reduction of armaments would not affect large armies.

The Swedish delegate said that a limitation of land armaments which only extended to troops serving with the colours would press very hardly on countries which only maintained professional armies or had only very small trained reserves, and also on countries which had a conscription system with a very short period of military service, and which thus could not make any further reduction without reducing the annual contingent itself. Such a system appeared unsatisfactory. If, despite this conviction, the Swedish delegation withdrew its opposition to a decision reached by the Commission by a large majority to prepare a text on the basis of the limitation of effectives with the colours with no limitation of trained reserves, it was because it hoped that appreciable results would be obtained in other fields of disarmament.

The Soviet delegate expressed his disappointment at the concession made by the United States delegation. It was quite obvious that, unless the draft Convention provided for the reduction of trained reserves and war material, the whole work of the Disarmament Conference would only lead to a quite insignificant reduction of effectives in service. The resulting reduction of budgets would be of an extremely limited nature, inasmuch as provision for the equipment of armies and the military stocks would not be reduced. He repeated that any agreement on the reduction of all sorts of armaments of all armed forces, both effectives in service and trained reserves, would be acceptable for the Union of Socialist Soviet Republics, if the same reduction applied equally to other countries, since the Soviet delegation considered the reduction of reserves as an essential and integral part of the real reduction of armaments. To renounce the principle of the reduction of trained reserves would mean the renunciation of disarmament in general, and the ruin of any hopes for a satisfactory solution of the disarmament problem.

The Polish delegate observed that the first reading of the draft Convention afforded a striking proof of the conciliatory spirit shown by all States, including those which were now opposing the limitation of trained reserves. The draft Convention now under discussion would not exist if no concessions had been made by those States. As regards the limitation of trained reserves, the arguments submitted by certain delegations in favour of this limitation, while they were deserving of all respect, were not all entirely logical. One of two things must be done: either trained reserves in all their forms must be limited, or they could not be limited at all. It was not possible to limit athletic organisations whose members received military training. It was not even possible to control them, and everyone knew that in a large number of countries there were vast organisations which really constituted trained reserves, and to which the provisions of the Convention could never apply. The Polish delegate concluded that since it was not possible

to limit all trained reserves, the Commission should confine itself for the present to limiting them indirectly by limiting peace-time effectives. By so doing it would be taking the first step towards the goal desired by all countries.

The British delegate stated that although his Government had not changed its views as regards the advisability of limiting trained reserves, it would be ready, like the United States and other delegations, to make a concession on this point. In his opinion, it was not sufficiently realised perhaps that, to limit trained reserves was a system which could scarcely be combined with a system of conscription. The German delegate had suggested a scheme of different values for different classes of reserves, and had expressed the opinion that a solution might be found upon those lines. But it would probably be very complicated and quite unsatisfactory to make any estimate of that sort. Great Britain was naturally opposed to conscription; it had never existed in its history except during the Great War. Great Britain thought its system was the best, and considered that one could not have a really far-reaching and effective system of limitation and reduction of armaments combined with a system which enabled a country to depend on the whole of its manhood on the outbreak of war. But the British delegation realised that it would only be obstructing real progress if it insisted on its view. In conclusion, the British delegate expressed the hope that the Commission was only taking a first step in the direction of disarmament, although he thought great progress had been made, since twenty or thirty years ago no one would have believed it possible that all nations of the world could be brought together to draw up a system of disarmament.

The Chinese delegate said that China had no trained reserves and could not conceive of a draft Convention for the reduction of armaments which failed to take account of trained reserves. He added that his delegation believed that it had furnished the key to the problem in its proposal for the abolition of compulsory military service.

Following these statements, the President noted that a large majority of the Commission agreed that the Convention should not deal with the limitation of trained reserves. Certain delegations stated that they were opposed to such limitation; others, in order to facilitate the drawing-up of a first Disarmament Convention, withdrew their proposals for the limitation of trained reserves, while at the same time maintaining their views regarding the principle of such limitation.

B. *Formations organised on a Military Basis.*

During the drafting of the article concerning the limitation of effectives in the 1927 draft Convention, the United States delegation had made a general reservation with regard to the inclusion in that article of formations organised on a military basis.

On the proposal of the Czechoslovak delegate the Commission decided to give satisfaction to the United States delegation, stating that the Convention would not apply to the National Guard of the United States, which was not under the control of the Federal authorities.

C. *Compulsory Military Service.*

In submitting to the Commission his proposal for the abolition of compulsory military service, the Chinese delegate showed the advantages it presented, in his opinion, as regards the maintenance of peace. If the abolition of wars of aggression was to be the aim of the Commission's work, the most practical way to obtain it was the abolition of compulsory service, which would not only limit the possibility of aggression but would also reduce the spirit of war.

The Chinese delegate also disputed the view that conscription was a system inseparable from democracy. Conscription did not exist in the highly developed democracies of the Anglo-Saxon countries.

The German delegate observed that for his part he had withdrawn his proposal for the abolition of compulsory service because he realised that the majority would not accept it, but he entirely associated himself with the arguments which had been advanced by the Chinese delegation, and, if the matter were put to the vote, he would vote for the abolition of compulsory service.

The Canadian delegate stated that he would like to see the principle of the Chinese proposal adopted by the Conference.

The President, having recalled that the question of conscription had been discussed at length by the Commission and its Military Sub-Commission, and having asked the Chinese delegate not to insist on his proposal, the latter stated that he reserved his right to lay the question before the Conference.

The clauses relating to effectives adopted at second reading are reproduced in the Annex.

A discussion of the details of the application of the general principle of the limitation of effectives to naval effectives was postponed, as was that of the limitation of the duration of service and that of a proposal put forward by the German delegation with a view to the limitation of the annual contingent.

10. LIMITATION OF MATERIAL.

The texts adopted in 1927 on the limitation of material for land armaments took the form of two different proposals, one submitted by the German delegation aiming at direct limitation of material in service and in stock and based on tables giving a numerical list of authorised material, the other presented by the French delegation aiming at indirect limitation and based

on the limitation of budget expenditure. The United States delegation had at that time submitted a reservation of a general character on the failure to include provisions for the limitation of material (material in the hands of forces serving with the colours and reserve material of land and air forces). The Japanese and Italian delegations had made a general reservation touching the German proposal. At the sixth session the Soviet delegation submitted a proposal based to some extent on the general lines of the German proposal, but going into greater detail.

The prolonged discussion on the limitation of land and air material began with a statement of the United States delegate. After recalling that in 1927 the United States delegation had endeavoured to persuade other delegations that material in reserve could be limited, he announced that in this matter, as in that of trained reserves, the United States delegation, while maintaining its convictions, was ready to defer to the conviction of the majority of those Powers whose defence was primarily military.

The partisans of *direct limitation* pointed out that this method alone enabled States to know the armaments in respect of material possessed by other States and to restrict the possibility of aggression; it prevented the reduction of effectives, being compensated by an increase and improvement of material; this, moreover, was perfectly feasible, because it had been stipulated in the provisions of the Peace Treaties concerning disarmament.

The opponents declared that the direct method would restrict the freedom of internal organisation in regard to the armies of individual countries, that it was difficult to compare land armaments, that this method would be illusory in view of the difficulty of defining and limiting the manufacture of spare parts; that it would operate unfairly against smaller countries which were obliged to buy war material from other countries and might even compel them to set up national war industries, that this method was calculated to arouse suspicion and distrust, and, finally, that it was difficult to conceive how it could be applied without international supervision, which most countries did not seem able to accept for the moment.

The supporters of the indirect method of limitation through budgets observed that this system was extremely elastic, that it made it possible to take account of general economic conditions or any special conditions in each country, that it was easy to understand, that the progress of such limitation could be followed with the help of public documents and that there would be no difficulties as regards control. The adversaries of the system thought that this method did not cover the material in existence at the date of the coming into force of the Convention, that the information it gave was confined to the commercial value of stocks, without taking account of their military value, and that finally it did not furnish a suitable basis of comparison with a view to reduction.

The United States delegation said that it could not accept the system of budget limitation. This system would encounter insuperable obstacles in the United States, some of which were due to the United States Constitution. The United States delegate recommended a system of publicity for expenditure in the place of the suggested provisions for the limitation of budgetary expenditure. He recalled that his Government had always favoured, and still favoured, the utmost publicity in matters concerning the limitation and reduction of armaments, particularly concerning budgetary expenditure.

Following this proposal of Mr. Gibson, the French delegation said that it would not make budgetary limitation a *sine qua non* for its acceptance of the Convention and that, in a spirit of conciliation and in the hope of reaching agreement as soon as possible on the draft Convention, it would accept the United States delegate's proposal.

At the end of the debate the President noted that the Commission was unanimous in its desire that there should be a limitation and a reduction of war material; that, further, neither of the two systems proposed commanded a substantial majority; but that the United States delegation had recommended a third system, that of publicity, which might be regarded to some extent as the maximum at present possible.

Subsequently, the United States and French delegations submitted the following resolution:

- “ The Preparatory Commission for the Disarmament Conference,
- “ Having rejected the systems of direct limitation of material in service and in stock,
- “ Having noted that the system of indirect limitation (limitation of the expenditure on material) did not meet with general assent,
- “ Decides that the limitation and reduction of material must be sought by means of publicity of expenditure, which will be dealt with in examining Article DA* of the text adopted at the first reading.”

This resolution was adopted by 22 votes to 2 (those of China and the U. S. S. R.), the German delegation abstaining.

The Commission rejected a proposal by the Soviet delegation prohibiting any change in models of material existing on January 1st, 1929.

As regards air material, the Commission decided upon its direct limitation, this limitation applying both to the number of machines and the total horse-power. States possessing overseas territories would be entitled to submit separate tables for home and overseas armaments.

The Commission also adopted stipulations aiming at making civil aviation independent from the military authorities, and at preventing its being utilised for military purposes.

11. THE NAVAL QUESTION.

The delegates of Japan, Great Britain, France and Italy informed the Commission that their Governments had warmly welcomed Mr. Gibson's statement of April 22nd,¹ and that they would give careful consideration to his suggestions. They asked the Commission to allow their Governments time to study the question.

The Japanese delegate stated that his Government entirely shared the United States delegate's view that the essential aim was not only limitation but the effective reduction of naval armaments. He considered, however, that the time had not yet come to express his opinion on the problems constituting the essence of the question, such as that forming the basis of the arrangement in force in regard to certain categories of ships.

The delegate of the British Empire pointed out that it would be difficult to say exactly how long a careful examination of the United States suggestions would take, since there would have to be exchanges of views between the Governments most interested in the question.

The French delegate assured the Commission that, in examining the United States suggestions the French Government would be inspired by the desire to permit the Commission to complete its work as promptly as possible, and by the wish to accept any arrangement which might be recognised as capable of universal application while taking into account the special situations of the different countries.

The United States delegate then announced that, since his statement of April 22nd, he had learnt that several other Governments were undertaking similar investigations of the naval problem, and these investigations would naturally have to be taken into consideration in a general discussion. He recognised that in these circumstances the best method of bringing the Commission's work to a successful conclusion was to give the Powers concerned time to study the problem as a whole.

Accordingly, the Commission decided to postpone the discussion of the questions relating to naval armaments.

12. SUPERVISION.

The texts drawn up at first reading in 1927 included a series of provisions concerning the supervision of the application of the Convention, drafted by the French delegation. In 1927 these provisions had already given rise to controversy. During the recent session certain references had shown that there was still considerable divergency of opinion on this point, which led the French delegate to make a brief statement.

He announced that the French delegation had re-examined this question of supervision, which was an essential element of M. Paul-Boncour's draft. In the present state of the texts the Commission was preparing, it seemed to be possible to discover solutions which would provide the contracting States with those guarantees they were entitled to claim without provoking any such opposition as was engendered by the French draft of 1927. Accordingly, the French delegation had decided to substitute for its original proposals certain simpler and more general proposals governing the essential points for which provision must be made in the draft Convention, viz., exchange and centralisation of information, settlement of disputes concerning the interpretation and application of the Convention, steps to be taken in the case of any infringement of the Convention, having regard more particularly to the special position of States non-Members of the League — naturally without prejudice to the procedure which States Members might be bound to follow. The French delegate added that, to enable the members of the Commission to study these proposals at their leisure, the French delegation would transmit them to the President without waiting for the next meeting to be convened.

The United States delegate thanked the French delegate for this concession, saying that, at the previous sessions, it was the question of international supervision in its relation to national sovereignty in regard to which the opinions of the different delegations had been most profoundly divided.

13. CLOSE OF THE FIRST PART OF THE SESSION AND CONVOCATION OF THE NEXT MEETING.

The Commission decided to adjourn its examination of the other points on its agenda, viz., the study of Chapter III (Budgetary Expenditure) and Chapter V (Miscellaneous Provisions) of the texts drawn up in 1927. The question of the resumption of the work of the Committee on Arbitration and Security was also reserved. The Commission instructed its President to fix the date of its next meeting and asked the Naval Powers concerned to inform him of the progress of their negotiations, so as to facilitate his task and enable him to convene the Commission with a full knowledge of the facts. The Commission also decided not to draw up a report until it had concluded the second reading of the draft Convention.

Before adjourning, and in consequence of the decisions taken by the Commission with regard to effectives and material of land armaments, the German delegate made a general statement. He recognised that in regard to naval armaments the Commission had made an encouraging beginning in which the principle of the appreciable reduction of these armaments appeared to prevail, but it was quite otherwise, in his opinion, as regards land forces, the

¹ Summarised in Section I.5.C. above.

essential factors of which would escape all reduction under the proposed draft. A Convention established on this basis would only be an illusory solution, which the German Government, as the Chancellor had stated at the last session of the Assembly, would be unable to accept, since it would not bring about an appreciable reduction in the excessive armaments of the present day, and would not correspond to the principles of the Treaties and of the Covenant. He had therefore felt obliged to leave to the majority of the Commission the sole responsibility for the preparation of the Conference. He expressed the hope, however, that at the Conference the Governments would adopt a more enlightened attitude and would give their delegates instructions permitting an effective reduction of armaments to be brought about.

In reply to this statement, the President of the Commission, M. Politis, said that it was perhaps too early to pronounce upon the value of the work being done or on the degree of limitation and reduction which would be the outcome of the Conference. He emphasised that each delegate bore the responsibility for his own attitude, and that ultimately it was for public opinion to judge the views maintained by the delegations.

The Soviet delegate said that the results of this session of the Commission had been entirely negative, and he suggested that it was useless to convene the Commission again. He urged the speedy convocation of the Conference in the hope that the peoples of all countries, learning of the fruitlessness of the work of the Preparatory Commission, would so increase their pressure on their Governments that the latter would be forced to modify their attitude at the Conference. He added that the presence of the Soviet delegation in the Preparatory Commission had not been in vain, since it had put an end to the legend that the Soviet Union was an obstacle in the way of disarmament, and he concluded by stating that the Soviet delegation would come to the Disarmament Conference in the same spirit of conciliation and with the same pacific sentiments as it had always displayed.

The President said that it was not for him to judge the Soviet delegate's pessimism, but that he was glad to note the concluding passage of his statement, which justified the hope that he would make concessions in the interest of international concord and peace.

The President then summarised the work of the Commission.

In his opinion they were now much nearer a solution of the great problems on which the first International Convention for the Limitation and Reduction of Armaments depended. This was the impression immediately gathered on hearing the statements made by the delegates of the British Empire and of the United States of America. The spirit of confidence and conciliation had been increased, and the Commission had thus been able to solve a certain number of problems. To appreciate the importance of the work done their attention should not be confined to the actual texts adopted at the second reading, which would give a very inadequate idea of the value of the work accomplished. It was necessary to realise the atmosphere which the discussions had helped to create. Several of the proposals discussed were inspired by the highest ideals, but had not been accepted because most of the delegations considered that they could not be put into practice. But the discussions had served to throw light on the present possibilities of a solution, and had thus informed public opinion.

The chief impression derived from the proceedings was that the question of the limitation and reduction of armaments had ripened both in the minds of peoples and of Governments. This result might, in the first place, be attributed to the conclusion of the Pact for the renunciation of war, which had initiated a new conception of international relations in accordance with which excessive armaments could no longer be contemplated. It would soon be possible to take the first step towards disarmament. Whatever the scope of this first stage, it would assuredly constitute a very important advance, since, for the first time in the history of the world, the problem of armaments would have changed its character. It had hitherto been an essentially domestic concern; henceforth it would become an international question governed by laws which the States would have freely accepted. The most vital thing was to take the first steps; the later stages would then prove infinitely easier.

* * *

Particulars concerning the problem of *Arbitration, Security and the Pacific Settlement of International Disputes* will be given in the Supplementary Report to the Assembly.

The question of *Financial Assistance in case of War or Threat of War* is dealt with separately under this heading.

Questions concerning *Civil Aviation and Communications with the League of Nations in Times of Emergency* are dealt with in the Chapter entitled "Communications and Transit Organisation".

II. PRIVATE MANUFACTURE OF AND PUBLICITY IN REGARD TO THE MANUFACTURE OF ARMS AND AMMUNITION AND OF IMPLEMENTS OF WAR.

The Assembly at its ninth session adopted on September 20th, 1928, the following resolution:

"The Assembly:

"Having taken note of the report and preliminary draft Convention drawn up by the Special Commission appointed to prepare a draft Convention on the supervision of the private manufacture and publicity of the manufacture of arms and ammunition and of implements of war;

"Observing that the Commission has not yet found it possible to submit a single final text as desired by the Assembly, although the Commission agreed that the principle of publicity should extend to Government manufactures;

" Affirming the urgent necessity for drawing up a Convention which, while placing non-producing and producing countries on an equal footing, would facilitate the ratification of the Convention on the International Trade in Arms and Ammunition and in Implements of War signed at Geneva on June 17th, 1925 ;

" Referring to its successive resolutions passed at each of its previous ordinary sessions, beginning with the first session in 1920, in which resolutions it has constantly urged the importance of the problem of the manufacture of arms and the necessity for convening a Conference as speedily as possible ;

" Confirming the fact that a connection exists between the general question of the reduction and limitation of armaments and the question of the international trade in arms and also of that of the manufacture of arms and ammunition and of implements of war ;

" Requests the Council to make an appeal, at its present session, to the Governments represented on the Special Commission to examine carefully the differences of view revealed during the last session of the Commission, and to consider calling another meeting of the Commission before the next Council session, in order that the work of the Commission may be completed as soon as possible and submitted to a special Conference, which would meet either at the same time as the General Conference for the Reduction and Limitation of Armaments or at an earlier date. "

The Council in a resolution dated September 26th, 1928, referring to the Assembly's resolution, addressed to the Governments represented on the Special Commission the appeal recommended by the Assembly. The Special Commission met at Geneva at the beginning of December 1928. It formed a Sub-Committee which submitted a report to the Commission. The latter, without pronouncing on this report, decided to take the opinion of experts on a question which had been raised in the Sub-Committee and which related to the list of arms and implements of war to which the different stipulations of the proposed Convention would be applicable. The Committee of Experts met and made a report to the Special Commission.

A further meeting of the Special Commission, at which it will take note of the report of the Committee of Experts and will proceed to a fresh examination of the preliminary draft Convention, will be convened before the opening of the tenth ordinary session of the Assembly.

III. SUPERVISION OF THE INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN ARMS, AMMUNITION AND IMPLEMENTS OF WAR.

The Convention signed at Geneva on June 17th, 1925, concerning the supervision of the international trade in arms, ammunition and implements of war has been ratified since the ninth ordinary session of the Assembly by Egypt and the Netherlands.

IV. RIGHT OF INVESTIGATION UNDER THE TREATIES OF VERSAILLES, ST. GERMAIN, TRIANON AND NEUILLY.

At its session of December 1928 the Council made the following appointments for a period of one year renewable :

Commission of Investigation in Germany :	General BARATIER ;
Commission of Investigation in Austria :	General CALCAGNO ;
Commission of Investigation in Bulgaria :	General SCHURMAN ;
Commission of Investigation in Hungary :	General KIRWAN,
later replaced by :	General LYNDEN-BELL.

V. STATISTICAL INFORMATION ON THE TRADE IN ARMS, AMMUNITION AND IMPLEMENTS OF WAR : ARMAMENTS YEAR-BOOK.

The Secretariat continues to publish *Statistical Information on the Trade in Arms, Ammunition and Implements of War* and the *Armaments Year-Book (General and Statistical Information on Land, Naval and Air Armaments)*. The first gives particulars about fifty-six countries and the second about sixty.

The proposals made by the German delegation at the Preparatory Commission for the Disarmament Conference concerning the last paragraph of Article 8 of the Covenant (document C.164.M.49.1928.IX) have not yet been examined by this Commission (see above under No. I.4).

Annex.

TEXTS DRAWN UP AT SECOND READING.

The reservations and remarks of the delegations are not included in these texts.

CHAPTER I. — EFFECTIVES.

Article A.

The High Contracting Parties agree to limit to the effectives determined in the tables enumerated below and annexed to the present Convention the effectives (land, sea and air) in service in their armed forces, or in formations organised on a military basis.

I. *Land Armaments.*

Table I. — Maximum armed forces stationed in the home country.

Table II. — Maximum armed forces stationed overseas (optional).

Table III. — Maximum of the total armed forces of the High Contracting Parties.

Table IV. — Maximum of the forces belonging to formations organised on a military basis stationed in the home country.

Table V. — Maximum of the forces belonging to formations organised on a military basis stationed overseas.

II. *Naval Armaments.*

(Discussion of text of first reading, and the reservations relating thereto, adjourned.)

III. *Air Armaments.*

Table I (optional). — Maximum armed forces stationed in the home country.

Table II (optional). — Maximum armed forces stationed overseas.

Table III. — Maximum of the total armed forces of the High Contracting Parties.

Table IV. — Maximum of the forces belonging to formations organised on a military basis stationed in the home country.

Table V. — Maximum of the forces belonging to formations organised on a military basis stationed overseas.

Article H.

The tables relating to land armaments mentioned in Article A above shall indicate a maximum number of officers which each High Contracting Party shall undertake not to exceed.

The said tables shall further fix a maximum number of soldiers, other than officers, who may have completed more than x^1 years of actual service with the colours.

In conscript armies the number of men whose service exceeds the legal period in force in their respective countries but is less than x^1 years, shall be shown for each High Contracting Party in the annual statements for which provision is made in Article IA of Chapter V.

The tables relating to air armaments mentioned in Article A shall indicate, in the form of aggregate figures for officers, non-commissioned officers and men together, the maximum number of soldiers who may have completed more than x^1 years of actual service with the colours.

The number of men of the class mentioned in the second and fourth paragraphs of the present article who are actually with the colours shall be shown every year for each High Contracting Party in the statements for the preparation of which provision is made in Article IA of Chapter V.

Each country may, if it so desires, show for purposes of information, in a special column in Publicity Table IA of Chapter V, the number of recruits not trained as defined in the national legislation who are embodied in the effectives of its armed forces.

(To be discussed later as far as Naval Effectives are concerned.)

Article C.

By "formations organised on a military basis" shall be understood, Police forces of all kinds, gendarmerie, Customs officials, forest guards, which, whatever their legal purpose, can be used without mobilisation, by reason of their cadres, establishment, training, armament, equipment, as well as any organisation complying with the above condition.

Article D.

By "mobilisation" within the meaning of the present Convention shall be understood all the measures for the purpose of providing the whole or part of the various corps, services and units with the personnel and material required to pass from a peace-time footing to a war-time footing.

¹ This figure will be determined by the duration of the longest period of actual service with the colours which is in force in the conscript armies of the High Contracting Parties at the time of the signature of the Convention.

Article E.

When drawing up the tables mentioned in Articles A (Chapter I) and IA (Chapter V), by "effectives in service in the armed forces" and by "effectives in service in the formations organised on a military basis" shall be understood the average daily effectives reckoned by dividing the total number of days' duty by the number of days in the budgetary year.

(The discussion of this article as far as Naval and Air Effectives are concerned has been reserved.)

Article I.

(Discussion of the text adopted at first reading, and of the German proposal — document C.P.D./174 (1) — adjourned.)

CHAPTER II. — MATERIAL.

Section III. — Air Armaments.

Article AA.

Each of the High Contracting Parties undertakes to limit the air material in service in accordance with the figures laid down in the tables below. This limitation shall apply to aeroplanes and dirigibles capable of use in war employed in commission in the land, sea and air forces, or in the formations organised on a military basis.

Table A. — The maximum number and total horse-power of aeroplanes and maximum number, total horse-power and total volume of dirigibles in service in their armed forces'

Note. — Any of the High Contracting Parties who so desire may annex to Table A the following tables for limitations similar to those in Table A :

Table A (1). — Aeroplanes and dirigibles in commission in the armed forces stationed in the home country.

Table A (2). — Aeroplanes and dirigibles in commission in the armed forces stationed overseas.

Table A (3). — Aeroplanes and dirigibles in aircraft carriers.

Table B. — The maximum number and total horse-power of aeroplanes and maximum number, total horse-power and total volume of dirigibles in service in their formations organised on a military basis.

Note. — Any of the High Contracting Parties who so desire may annex to Table B the following tables for limitations similar to those in Table B :

Table B (1). — Aeroplanes and dirigibles in commission in the formations organised on a military basis stationed in the home country.

Table B (2). — Aeroplanes and dirigibles in commission in the formations organised on a military basis in overseas territories.

Article AC.

Horse-power shall be measured according to the rules . . . (to be established by the Conference).

The volume of dirigibles to be expressed in cubic metres.

Article AD.

(Reserved for discussion during the examination of Article ZD.)

Article AE.

1. The High Contracting Parties shall refrain from prescribing the embodiment of military features in the building of civil aviation material so that this material may be constructed for purely civil purposes, more particularly with a view to providing the greatest possible measure of security and the most economic return. No preparations shall be made in civil aircraft in time of peace for the installation of warlike armaments for the purpose of converting such aircraft into military aircraft.

2. The High Contracting Parties undertake not to require of civil aviation undertakings that they should employ personnel specially trained for military purposes. They undertake to authorise only as a provisional and temporary measure the seconding of personnel to, and the employment of military aviation material in, civil aviation undertakings.

3. The High Contracting Parties undertake not to subsidise, directly or indirectly, air lines principally established for military purposes, instead of being established for economic, administrative or social purposes.

4. The High Contracting Parties undertake to encourage as far as possible the conclusion of economic agreements between civil aviation undertakings in the different countries.

CHAPTER IV. — CHEMICAL ARMS.

The High Contracting Parties undertake, subject to reciprocity, to abstain from the use in war of asphyxiating, poisonous or similar gases, and of all analogous liquids, substances or processes.

They undertake unreservedly to abstain from the use of all bacteriological methods of warfare.

4.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE IN CASE OF WAR OR THREAT OF WAR.

On September 18th, 1928, the Assembly adopted a resolution requesting the Council to invite the Financial Committee to continue the preparation of the scheme for financial assistance in the form of a draft Convention, and expressed the hope that a draft Convention, complete in all its details, might be submitted to the Assembly at its tenth session. This resolution was transmitted to the Financial Committee by a decision of the Council, dated September 21st, 1928.

In accordance with this resolution, the Financial Committee has prepared a complete draft Convention, which it submitted, together with a commentary, to the March session of the Council.¹

The Council on March 8th, 1929, declared that it regarded the draft Convention as highly important and invited the various Governments to examine it with the closest attention and "to give such instructions to their delegates to the tenth ordinary session of the Assembly that an exhaustive examination of the draft Convention may be possible in the course of that session".

During the discussions in the Council, the suggestion was made and seconded by several members that at some later stage the draft Convention should be submitted to States non-Members of the League, in order that they might have an opportunity of furthering, by their approval, the resolutions to be adopted by the League.

The basic idea of the scheme, as was pointed out by the Rapporteur to the Council, is that of guaranteeing to States the possibility of securing rapid and effective financial assistance in case of war or threat of war, so as to increase materially their feeling of security, and thereby enable them to limit their armaments or even to refrain from creating war industries. Moreover, the possibility of setting in motion the machinery of financial assistance would considerably increase the choice of measures open to the Council in case of a crisis. A country meditating attack on another would more than ever hesitate to carry it out if there were a risk that this other State might receive financial assistance from Members of the League.

The principal object of the Convention is to provide machinery by which the Council of the League of Nations, seized in virtue of the Covenant and as a measure to restore or safeguard the peace of nations, may authorise financial assistance to Members of the League involved in war or threat of war. The aim of the scheme is to aid a Member in favour of whom the League has decided to enforce the Convention to reinforce its credit by the guarantee of all other Members.

The Convention contemplates that a loan would be obtained in the ordinary way in the money market and that the Government concerned should itself contract such loan on the general security of its revenues. It would be helped in so doing by the moral and material support of an international guarantee provided, under the ægis of the League, by the other signatories to the Convention. This guarantee would cover the full service of the loan.

It would be essential, in order to create confidence, that delay should not occur at the moment of crisis, that the Convention should be ratified forthwith by the signatory Governments in such a form that no further legislation of any kind would be required in connection with giving the guarantee.

Since, on the outbreak of hostilities, the credit of a belligerent country in foreign markets is likely to be low, lenders would require guarantees of a very substantial nature before they would subscribe. Moreover, a multiplicity of guarantors involves difficulties and delays in circumstances where promptness of action is the very essence of the Convention. It is therefore proposed to fortify and simplify the scheme by creating special guarantees by which

¹ For the full text of the draft Convention and the commentary, see document A.10.1929.II.

a few financially strong signatories would guarantee, *vis-à-vis* the investors, the whole service of the loan, which would, in this way, become thrice secured :

- (1) By the borrowing Government itself ;
- (2) By all the signatories to the Convention (ordinary guarantee) ;
- (3) By certain financially strong signatories (special guarantee).

The *advantages to the guaranteed Government* would be :

- (a) The moral support of the League of Nations and the consequent classification of the loan as a loan issued under the auspices of the League of Nations ;
- (b) The market value of the guarantee at a moment when, *ex hypothesi*, the borrower's credit was weak ;
- (c) The further market advantage of the special guarantee ;
- (d) The signatories' promise of access to their markets ;
- (e) The machinery (through the League Trustees, etc.) for the assured service of the loan.

The guarantors would only become liable in the contingency that the borrowing Government itself was unable to meet its loan charges. In order to limit this contingent liability, the guarantors are protected by :

- (a) A *maximum* limit on the total annual service guaranteed ;
- (b) A limit on the maximum annual liability of any individual guarantor ;
- (c) The primary responsibility of the borrowing Government ;
- (d) Provision for a reserve ;
- (e) The requirement of a unanimous decision of the Council before a guarantee is given in any individual case.

Ordinary Guarantees. — The maximum annual liability of an ordinary guarantor Government in respect of all loans contracted under the Convention, is limited to a figure bearing the same proportion to 100 million gold francs (this figure is purely illustrative)¹ as that Government's contribution to the League budget bears to the total contributions from all Members of the League. Thus, if all the Members of the League become signatories to the Convention, a maximum annual sum of 100 million gold francs can be guaranteed and a Member contributing 5 per cent of the League expenses will have a maximum contingent annual liability of 5 million gold francs. If, on the other hand, only some of the Members of the League sign the Convention, the maximum annual sum that can be guaranteed will be proportionately reduced. For example, if the signatories pay together three-fifths of the League budget, the maximum annual sum available under the Convention will be three-fifths of 100 millions, *i.e.*, 60 million gold francs.

Special Guarantees. — In addition to the above ordinary guarantees, special guarantees are created to strengthen the security on which a loan is issued by ensuring that the loan service shall be guaranteed for its full amount, not merely by all the guaranteeing Governments as ordinary guarantors, but also by a small number of financially strong Governments which, as special guarantors, will bear the risk of any delay or default by the ordinary guarantors. The amount covered by each special guarantee will include the amount of the special guarantor's liability as an ordinary guarantor together with an additional amount which is determined in such a manner that the total of the additional amounts thus guaranteed by the special guarantor Governments will equal the total amount guaranteed by the Governments which are ordinary guarantors only. In the event of default in the service of the loan, the full amount covered by a special guarantee is payable by the special guarantors, but the sum paid in excess of those Governments' liability as ordinary guarantors is reimbursable, after the service has been met, out of the balance of calls to be made immediately upon the guaranteeing Governments.

The maximum liabilities of special guarantor Governments are fixed by dividing between them the total of the maximum liabilities of the ordinary guarantors in proportion to the percentages which the special guarantors pay to the League budgets. If, for instance, as assumed above, the maximum contingent liabilities of the ordinary guarantors were a sum of 60 million gold francs, and if there were four special guarantors, who pay 6, 6, 8 and 10 per cent respectively of the League's budget (total 30 per cent), the maximum contingent liabilities of these special guarantors (including their liabilities as ordinary guarantors) would be 6/30ths, 6/30ths, 8/30ths and 10/30ths of 60 millions, *i.e.*, 12, 12, 16 and 20 million gold francs respectively.

Application to a particular case. — When, in any particular instance, the Council has decided that a certain signatory shall receive financial assistance, it will authorise such signatory to issue a loan (within the total available under the Convention) enjoying the ordinary and special guarantees. The maximum annual service of this loan will be fixed by the Council. The precise responsibility of each ordinary guarantor for each year will then be determined by dividing the service of the particular loan among all the guaranteeing Governments in the proportion of their maximum possible annual liabilities. Similarly, the amount covered by each special guarantee will be determined by dividing the said service among the special guarantor

¹ The Financial Committee has not fixed a definite figure, but it has contemplated that the scheme would cover a substantial sum.

Governments in the proportion of their maximum possible annual liabilities. The guarantors and special guarantors will then deposit in safe keeping with the National Bank of Switzerland bonds bearing a separate coupon for each payment for which they may be contingently liable, expressed in the currency in which the loan is payable. Suppose that the sum fixed by the Council as the annual service of a particular authorised loan amounts to 15 millions, and that the maximum liabilities of the four special guarantors, considered above, are 12, 12, 16 and 20 millions respectively (total 60 millions), then the annual liability of these special guarantors for the service of this specific loan would be 12/60ths of 15 ; 12/60ths of 15 ; 16/60ths of 15, and 20/60ths of 15, i.e., 3, 3, 4 and 5 millions respectively.

The Convention further provides for the appointment of *Trustees* (of Swiss nationality) and the constitution by the borrowing Government of a *reserve*, to be held by the Trustees, of an amount sufficient to pay one-half of the annual service of each specific loan.

The operation of the guarantees in the event of *default* by a borrowing Government is indicated in detail (Articles 16 to 20).

The *decision by the Council to grant assistance* must be taken by the unanimous vote of its Members. All other decisions may be taken by a simple majority.

The Council may accept an offer by a *non-member of the League* to participate in guaranteeing the annual service of a particular loan. Such participation may increase the total of the loan, but must in no way increase the liabilities of the Governments which are parties to the Convention.

The Convention will be concluded for a *period* of ten years, but may be renewed for further successive periods of five years.

5.

POLITICAL QUESTIONS.

I. REQUEST BY THE HUNGARIAN GOVERNMENT UNDER ARTICLE 239 OF THE TREATY OF TRIANON AND ARTICLE 13, PARAGRAPH 4, AND ARTICLE 14 OF THE COVENANT OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS.

At its session in June 1928¹ the Council in regard to the question appearing on its agenda under the headings :

“ Request of the Roumanian Government under paragraph 2 of Article 11 of the Covenant, regarding the agrarian questions submitted to the Mixed Roumano-Hungarian Arbitral Tribunal ”;

“ Request of the Hungarian Government for the appointment by the Council, in virtue of Article 239 of the Treaty of Trianon, of two deputy-judges for the Mixed Roumano-Hungarian Arbitral Tribunal ”;

adopted on the proposal of its Rapporteur, the representative of Great Britain, the following resolution :

“ The Council :

“ Whilst deeply regretting that the parties have hitherto failed to reach agreement on the lines of the Council's recommendations ;

“ Without desiring to exclude any other friendly arrangement, remains of opinion that this dispute ought to be settled by the parties upon the basis of the solutions which the Council has recommended to their acceptance ;

“ Maintains its resolutions of September 19th, 1927, and March 9th, 1928 ;

“ And urges the Governments of Hungary and Roumania to bring this long dispute to a close by reciprocal concessions. ”

On August 25th, 1928, the Hungarian delegation accredited to the League of Nations forwarded a new request under Article 239 of the Treaty of Trianon and Article 13, paragraph 4, and Article 14 of the Covenant of the League of Nations. In this request, which was accompanied by the notes exchanged between the Hungarian and Roumanian Governments since the June session of the Council, it was stated, among other things, that the agreement between the two States on this subject recommended by the Council on June 8th was impossible. The Hungarian Government, being forced to abandon all hope of arriving at an equitable solution by extra-judicial procedure, was faced with a new situation and for that reason communicated this fresh request to the Council.

The Hungarian Government requested the Council to appoint two substitute judges and, should Roumania continue to argue that Article 239 of the Treaty of Trianon was inapplicable, the tribunal having acted *ultra vires*, to invite that country to consent to a special agreement

¹ See Supplementary Report to the ninth session of the Assembly of the League of Nations, *Official Journal*, Special Supplement, No. 64, page 336.

with Hungary accepting the arbitration of the Permanent Court of International Justice. If Roumania refused this offer of arbitration, the Council was requested to apply Article 13, paragraph 4, of the Covenant to the twenty-two awards rendered by the Roumano-Hungarian Mixed Arbitral Tribunal on January 10th, 1927.

The Council was asked, to the same effect, to instruct the Financial Committee of the League to examine all the allegations made by Roumania in regard to financial matters.

If the Council held that, on account of any action *ultra vires*, or for any other reason, it was not bound under Article 239 of the Treaty of Trianon to make provision for the continued operation of the Mixed Arbitral Tribunal in this particular case by appointing two substitute judges, it was requested to submit this question, under Article 14 of the Covenant, to the Permanent Court of International Justice for an advisory opinion.

Lastly, the Hungarian Government requested the Council, in view of the urgency of the situation, to place this question upon the agenda of its next session (beginning of September 1928) and to deal with it at one of the earliest meetings of that session.

By a letter dated August 30th, 1928, the Roumanian representative informed the Council that, in the opinion of his Government, the placing of the Hungarian request on the agenda would imply the recognition by the Council that the door was henceforth closed to conciliation between the two Governments. This, he said, would not be true, and such a step would be all the more serious since the Council had itself recognised that the only way of settling this dispute was by direct negotiations between the parties. The Roumanian representative was of opinion that the negotiations between the two Governments were neither concluded nor broken off and that there was therefore no occasion for the Council to place the new Hungarian request on its agenda. The fact that direct negotiations were being conducted was proved by the note forwarded by the Roumanian Foreign Minister to the Hungarian Government on August 29th in reply to that Government's letter of August 23rd. The Roumanian representative subsequently stated before the Council that the Hungarian Government's reply to this note should be awaited before concluding that the negotiations were finally broken off.

At the meeting of the Council on September 1st, 1928, the President pointed out that the letter of the Roumanian delegation appeared to introduce a new factor which had not existed at the time when the Hungarian request reached the Secretariat. Whereas the Hungarian request maintained that in this matter an agreement between the two States was impossible, the Roumanian delegation's letter maintained that direct negotiations were not yet concluded; the last Roumanian note, dated August 29th, had not perhaps been fully considered by the Hungarian Government in all its aspects.

In the course of the two meetings which the Council set aside for this question and which were held on September 1st, 1928, the two parties stated their respective cases and the Council, after hearing their explanations and the statements made by various members, decided:

- (a) That the question submitted by the Hungarian Government should be placed on the Council's agenda under Article 2 of the Rules of Procedure; and
- (b) That the discussion of the Hungarian request should be postponed to the Council session following the election by the Assembly of the non-permanent Members of the Council.

During the interval between the two sessions, the Secretary-General received and duly transmitted to the Council a number of documents supplementing those sent to him by the parties immediately before the meeting of the Council's fifty-first session.

These documents showed that there was some possibility of arriving at an amicable settlement. An agreement seemed feasible in regard to the preliminary conditions for the opening of negotiations. In that hope, the President submitted for the approval of the Council the following draft resolution, which was adopted:

- " The Council,
- " Recommends that the two Governments, while reserving their points of view in regard to the principle involved and the legal situation — which points of view have already been stated before the Council — should take steps to enable their plenipotentiaries to meet as soon as possible, and to be furnished with the necessary powers to come to a practical settlement of the question;
- " Trusts that the negotiations which it recommends will lead to a satisfactory and final settlement; and
- " Decides to adjourn the question, in the stage it has now reached before the Council, to its next session."

At its December session held at Lugano the Council, on the proposal of the President, decided upon a further adjournment of the matter " in the stage in which it was at present before the Council " until the following session. On this occasion it offered to both parties its sincerest good wishes for the success of the direct negotiations which were to open very shortly.

At the opening meeting of its fifty-fourth session on March 4th, 1929, the Council was informed by its President that the Secretary-General had two days previously received a letter from the Hungarian Government stating that, in view of the fact that direct negotiations were being conducted between Hungary and Roumania, the two Governments had agreed to request the President of the Council to postpone the matter " in the stage in which it was at present before the Council " to its June session. The Roumanian Government had forwarded a letter to the Secretary-General to the same effect. Accordingly, the President of the Council proposed that the examination of the question should be deferred until the following session and he hoped that, when the time came, the matter would be found to have been settled. This proposal was adopted by the Council.

II. PRESENT STATE OF NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN POLAND AND LITHUANIA.

At its meeting on December 10th, 1927, the Council passed a resolution including the following paragraphs¹ :

• The Council of the League of Nations :

Recommends the two Governments (of Lithuania and Poland) to enter into direct negotiations as soon as possible in order to establish such relations between the two neighbouring States as will ensure the good understanding between nations upon which peace depends ;

“ Places at the disposal of the two parties the good offices of the League and of its technical organs should their assistance be desired in the negotiations which it recommends . . . ”

As a result of this resolution the two parties, with a view to entering into the direct negotiations recommended by the Council, proceeded to a preliminary exchange of views with the object of fixing the date of these negotiations, the town in which they were to take place, and the questions to be discussed. On March 30th, 1928, the parties had been able to agree upon rules of procedure for the Polish-Lithuanian Conference which was held at Koenigsberg from March 30th to April 2nd, 1928. The Conference set up a number of Committees.

At its meeting on June 6th, 1928, the Council decided, on the motion of the British representative, to place the question of the relations between Poland and Lithuania on the agenda of the next session, and requested its Rapporteur to present a report on the state of the negotiations on that date.

Accordingly, at the September session, the Rapporteur made a statement to the Council on the position of the Polish-Lithuanian negotiations.

Observing that neither the date nor the place for the meeting of the plenary Conference to discuss the Committees' reports had yet been fixed, the Rapporteur expressed his disappointment “ at learning that the negotiations had not led to such results as might reasonably have been hoped for ”.

In order to gain an idea of the action which had so far been taken and of the future prospects of the negotiations, the Council invited the parties to supplement the Rapporteur's summary by oral statements.

The Polish representative merely stated that his Government had done all in its power to carry out the Council's recommendations of December 10th, 1927.

The Lithuanian representative admitted that the negotiations had not so far proved very satisfactory, but pointed out that they were not yet over, as the plenary Conference had not been convened. He pointed out the difficulties encountered in the negotiations and asserted that, if they were too long drawn out, the fault did not lie with Lithuania. The Lithuanian Government was prepared to make concessions, and had always felt that international as well as national interests must be taken into account. While the negotiations had not yet proved successful, they had at least enabled the ground to be cleared.

After these statements the Rapporteur, the representative of the Netherlands, laid before the Council, on September 8th, a fresh report in which he recalled the undertaking given by the two parties to establish by direct negotiations and, if necessary, with the aid of the League's good offices, a *modus vivendi* compatible with a state of peace. The report stated that the parties had not so far succeeded in concluding any agreement which the Council might consider as proof that relations of good understanding between the two countries had been effectively restored.

The Rapporteur then commented upon the final paragraph of the resolution of December 10th, 1927.

“ One of the obstacles frequently invoked ”, he said, “ is the interpretation to be placed on the last paragraph of the resolution of December 10th, 1927. The Council will remember that, at the end of a report which I had the honour to submit to it on June 6th last, I observed that, when the Council was careful to state in December 1927 that ‘ the present resolution in no way affects questions on which the two Governments have differences of opinion ’ its intention was obviously not to complicate these negotiations, which were already sufficiently delicate, but rather to ensure their ultimate success. It had foreseen to a certain extent that the inclusion of questions on which the two Governments held different views would prove an impediment to negotiations, and, with the object of setting the two parties at ease, it declared that these views would not be affected by the direct negotiations on such practical matters as local traffic, transit, postal communications, etc. ”

Thereupon the Rapporteur urged the Council to give a fresh impetus to the negotiations pending.

“ It should be borne in mind ”, he said, “ that the object of the resolution of December 10th, 1927, was to re-establish relations of good understanding between the two countries and also to safeguard the general interests which peace should ensure.

¹ See Report and Supplementary Report on the Work of the Council to the ninth session of the Assembly, *Official Journal Special Supplement*, No. 64, pages 233 to 235 ; 337 and 338.

" As guardian of the general interest, the Council can hardly be content passively to await the issue of events. If these negotiations make no appreciable progress, the Council would be failing in one of its essential duties if it allowed to continue indefinitely an abnormal state of affairs which might react most unfavourably, not only on the interests of the parties concerned, but also, and above all, on those of third parties.

" In such a case, the Council might order a very careful enquiry to be made into the difficulties which, in consequence of the Polish-Lithuanian dispute, injure the rights of third parties. This enquiry would be entrusted to experts, who would endeavour, if necessary by making investigations on the spot, and duly observant of the international agreements in force, to discover what practical steps could be taken within the bounds of present circumstances.

" These experts would submit their report to the Council, which would communicate it immediately to the parties concerned."

The Polish representative raised no objection to the Netherlands representative's report.

The Lithuanian representative said that, while in principle he accepted the investigations and enquiries contemplated in the report, he regarded them as inexpedient at that juncture, since the direct negotiations were continuing. He also made a reservation with regard to the implicit recognition, in the report, of the Council's right to protect the interests of third parties. In his opinion, he said, the Covenant did not invest the Council with any such right.

In reply to the observations of the Lithuanian representative, the Rapporteur said that he had only contemplated in his report the possibility of having expert investigations made in case the negotiations should fail, and that it would rest with the Council in such a case to decide what steps should be taken. He added that the Council's right to deal with the interests of third parties was indisputable. In this connection he quoted two articles of the Covenant — Article 4, paragraph 4, whereby :

" The Council may deal at its meeting with any matter within the sphere of action of the League or affecting the peace of the world ",

and Article 23, which provides that :

" Subject to and in accordance with the provisions of international conventions existing or hereafter to be agreed upon, the Members of the League will make provision to secure and maintain freedom of communications and of transit and equitable treatment for the commerce of all Members of the League. In this connection the special necessities of the regions devastated during the war of 1914-1918 shall be borne in mind."

The French representative observed that the Lithuanian representative had not raised any fundamental objection to the Rapporteur's report. He recalled that at the Council's previous meeting, the Lithuanian representative had himself stated that the direct negotiations had cleared the ground. The French representative added that the report before the Council was in the nature of an encouragement to direct negotiation, but that the Council, which represented the League and the interests of all its Members, was bound to bear in mind the possibility of a failure and the purely technical means by which it could bring the negotiations to a successful conclusion. He ended by appealing to the spirit of co-operation of the Lithuanian representative.

Finally, the Council unanimously decided to take note of the report submitted by the Rapporteur.

At a later meeting, on September 12th, 1928, the Council appointed the Spanish representative to take the place of the representative of the Netherlands as Rapporteur on the question of Polish-Lithuanian relations, the term of the Netherlands as a Member of the Council having expired.

At its session held at Lugano, the Council on December 12th, 1928, went into the position of the negotiations between Poland and Lithuania. The representatives of the two parties made statements from which it appeared that the direct negotiations, although they had led to the conclusion of a provisional arrangement for the granting of facilities to the population on both sides of the " Polish-Lithuanian administrative line ", had not yielded such results as the parties themselves had hoped, but that, since the Council's intervention in December 1927, there had been peace between the two countries, and the two Governments were agreed as to the desirability of continuing direct negotiations with a view to concluding an agreement regulating commercial intercourse between their countries.

After taking note of a report by the Spanish representative, the Council on December 14th adopted two resolutions. In the first of these it began by recalling the solemn declarations made before it in December 1927 by Lithuania to the effect that it did not consider itself in a state of war with Poland, and by the Polish Republic to the effect that it fully recognised and respected the political independence and territorial integrity of the Lithuanian Republic.

The Council then urged the two parties to carry on their further negotiations in the letter and the spirit of the resolution of December 10th, 1927, and of the report submitted by the Netherlands representative.

Further, in order to continue the work of pacification and agreement inaugurated in December 1927, the Council, noting in its second resolution that the documents before it mentioned obstacles in the way of freedom of communications and transit, referred this question to the Communications and Transit Committee of the League for investigation.

This resolution is based on Article 23 of the Covenant and on a resolution passed by the League Assembly on December 9th, 1920, instructing the Communications and Transit Committee "to consider and propose measures calculated to ensure freedom of communications and transit at all times".

The Lithuanian representative said that he saw no reason why this resolution should not be adopted, although he was certain that the Lithuanian Government had never failed to discharge any of its international obligations. While he observed that the Council's intervention had not brought about a final settlement of the problem of Polish-Lithuanian relations, he assured the Council that its exhortations to continue the negotiations in the spirit in which they had been inaugurated would be obeyed to the letter.

The Polish representative on his part stated that, in accordance with the letter and the spirit of the resolution of December 10th, 1927, the use of the term "Polish-Lithuanian administrative line" in the Arrangement concluded between Poland and Lithuania in regard to local traffic should in no case be interpreted as implying the abandonment by Poland of her territorial rights.

III. DISPUTE BETWEEN BOLIVIA AND PARAGUAY.

At the opening of the Council session held at Lugano, in December 1928, the members of the Council learned from Press reports of the existence of a grave situation in the Chaco, a region in which the frontier between Bolivia and Paraguay had not been definitely fixed, and where vast areas were in dispute between the two countries. Sanguinary encounters had taken place between Bolivian and Paraguayan troops. According to some reports Fort Vanguardia had been taken and retaken. In consequence of these incidents the Bolivian Government had handed the Paraguayan Chargé d'Affaires his passports and had recalled its Minister at Asunción. It was further stated that Paraguay had asked for a Commission of enquiry to be appointed, basing its request on the provisions of the "Treaty for the Pacific Settlement of Conflicts between American States" (Gondra Pact) drawn up by the fifth Pan-American Conference, and that Bolivia, which had not ratified its accession to that Treaty, had declined the invitation to take part in the formation of the proposed Commission. One telegram attributed Bolivia's decision to the fact that "through the good offices of the Argentine, diplomatic proceedings had already been begun and negotiations were in progress with a view to the settlement of the incident".

On December 11th, 1928, the Secretary-General communicated for the information of the members of the Council the various Press telegrams he had received. The Council at once considered the position at a private meeting, and requested its President, the French representative, to send the two Governments telegrams expressing its full conviction that the incidents which had occurred between two Members of the League of Nations would not become more serious. The Council added that it did not doubt that the two States which, by signing the Covenant, had solemnly pledged themselves to seek by pacific means the solution of disputes arising between them, would have recourse to such methods as would be in conformity with their international obligations and would appear, in the actual circumstances, to be the most likely to ensure, together with the maintenance of peace, the settlement of their dispute.

The two Governments immediately replied to the President's communication. A telegram from Asunción, signed by M. Zubizarreta, Minister for Foreign Affairs, stated that Paraguay, strong in the justice of its case, would accept and faithfully fulfil its international obligations. For that reason it had asked for the summoning of the Commission provided for in the Gondra Pact, the purpose of which was to avoid conflicts between American States. Bolivia had refused to participate in this procedure, which would have established the truth and determined the question of responsibility, basing her refusal on a mere statement of her alleged grievances. The telegram concluded: "Paraguay does not refuse any conciliation procedure for the settlement of her disputes, still less the procedure laid down in conventions to which she has given her solemn acceptance".

The telegram from the Bolivian Government, signed by M. Alberto Palacios, Minister for Foreign Affairs, announced that the telegram from the President of the Council had been submitted to the President of the Republic for consideration, and that a reply would be given very shortly. At the same time the Bolivian Minister in Paris, in the name of his Government, telegraphed to the Secretary-General, for the information of "friendly nations", a detailed account of the antecedents of the conflict and the recent events.

On December 15th, 1928, the President of the Council received a further telegram from La Paz, signed by M. Hernando Siles, President of the Republic, and by M. Tomas Manuel Elio who had succeeded M. Alberto Palacios as Minister for Foreign Affairs. The Bolivian Government assured the Council that it would not depart from the principles and obligations contained in the Covenant of the League. It added that Paraguay had entered into agreements with Bolivia to submit their differences to arbitration, to determine the zone of arbitration, and to settle the differences in question by peaceful means. Nevertheless, by a surprise blow and in contradiction to the stipulations of Articles 10 and 13 of the Covenant, Paraguay had committed an aggression which the Bolivian Government solemnly denounced to the Council, confirming the previous denunciation, contained in the note telegraphed by the Bolivian Minister in Paris. Bolivia had no alternative but to demand the satisfaction which was due in such cases and to take military measures of a defensive character to safeguard her security. Paraguay having concentrated her forces and advanced her general staff to points very close to the lines of contact of the military posts of the two countries, it was reasonable to suppose that further encounters

would take place with which Bolivia must be prepared to deal. Moreover, until the satisfaction due by Paraguay should have been given, it did not seem possible to the Bolivian Government to allay the excitement of public opinion sufficiently to permit of the resumption of peaceful negotiations. The Bolivian Government had no doubt that the Council would recognise the justice and sincerity of these explanations and would take note of its declaration of its intention to act on the Council's recommendations and to observe the stipulations of the Covenant. Bolivia could not, however, agree that, under cover of conciliation proceedings, the agreements providing for arbitration on concrete and definite points in order to settle the substance of the dispute should be set aside, or that an attempt should be made to evade the obligation to provide the just satisfaction prescribed by international law and practice in such cases.

The Council, at its meeting on December 15th, 1928, considered this telegram from the Bolivian Government and the reply previously received from Asunción. It unanimously decided to send telegrams to the two Governments in which, after stating that it was happy to derive from their communications a conviction of their attachment to the principles and obligations of the Covenant, it observed that it hoped that the parties would carefully abstain from any act which might aggravate the situation and render a peaceful settlement more difficult. The Council added that in concluding its session that day it expressed its firm conviction that the obligations of the Covenant would be respected. It recalled that, when a dispute likely to lead to a rupture arose between two States Members of the League of Nations, they could not, without failing in their obligations, and notably those contracted under Article 12, omit to resort by some method or other to one of the procedures of pacific settlement provided for in the Covenant. The Council also thought it well to draw attention to the fact that the Covenant mentioned, among others, "disputes as to the existence of any fact which, if established, would constitute a breach of any international obligations, or as to the extent and nature of the reparation to be made for any such breach". The Council further wished to emphasise that, in its experience, it was most important to confine all military measures of a defensive character to those which could not be regarded as aggressive against the other country, and which could not involve the danger of the armed forces coming into contact, as this would lead to an aggravation of the situation, rendering more difficult the efforts being made for the maintenance of peace.

The Council further informed the two Governments that it had asked its President to follow events with a view to any action that might be necessary, consulting, if need be, his colleagues through the intermediary of the Secretary-General. In conclusion, the Council communicated, for information, the telegram received from the Paraguayan Government to the Bolivian Government and the telegram from the Bolivian Government to the Paraguayan Government.

The Council also decided, before concluding its session, to telegraph to all the Members of the League the text of its correspondence with Bolivia and Paraguay. Copies of these telegrams were also sent to the Ministers of Brazil and the United States of America at Berne and to the diplomatic representatives of Costa Rica, Ecuador and Mexico at Paris.

It was further understood that the President of the Council should follow the course of events, keeping in touch with the Secretary-General, and should, if necessary, convene the Council to meet urgently in extraordinary session.

The President of the Council explained in the letter quoted below, which he sent to his colleagues on December 21st, 1928, the steps he had thought it advisable to take in discharge of the duties entrusted to him at the meeting of December 15th :

"
" After the close of the session, I received at Lugano another telegram from the Bolivian Government. I replied by calling the attention of the two Governments to ' the urgency, to which the Council had drawn their attention, of taking measures to prevent further incidents capable of compromising the success of any peaceful procedure '.

" On my return to Paris, I received a telegram from the Bolivian Government stating, in reply to my last communication from Lugano, that, ' accepting the Council's suggestions, it had ordered the commanders of military posts to refrain from any advance and any attack, as far as they were concerned, and to confine themselves to defensive measures ' . At the same time, I received a telegram from the Paraguayan Government announcing that it had just accepted the good offices of the Pan-American Arbitration Conference with a view to a peaceful settlement.

" In these circumstances, which offered some hope that the efforts exerted to maintain peace might fairly soon prove successful, I decided — after consulting the Secretary-General and notifying my colleagues that I might have to summon them to a meeting towards the end of the week — to engage in a number of conversations in order to see how a settlement of the conflict might be facilitated.

" On December 18th, I asked the Bolivian and Paraguayan Ministers, the Argentine Chargé d'Affaires (whose Government, it was semi-officially reported, was endeavouring to induce the two parties to accept mediation), and the United States Chargé d'Affaires (whose Government's representative was President of the Pan-American Arbitration Conference) to come and see me.

" In the course of my conversations with the Argentine and United States Chargés d'Affaires, I explained the significance of the steps so far taken by the Council, and suggested

that, should the crisis be prolonged, we might try to co-ordinate the efforts which were being made from different quarters to preserve peace.¹

“ I also received the representatives in Paris of the American States Members of the Council.

“ I am happy to be able to inform my colleagues that I shall not need to summon an extraordinary session to deal with this question. On the morning of the day before yesterday, I received a telegram from Asunción stating that the calling-up of citizens between the ages of 18 and 29 was a measure ‘ of a purely defensive character ’, and that ‘ the League of Nations might be sure, moreover, that Paraguay, adhering firmly to its traditional policy of peace, would not indulge in any act that might hamper or impede that policy, and would confine itself to taking the steps necessary to safeguard its legitimate right of self-defence ’. The Bolivian Government also informed me that ‘ in accordance with the suggestions of the Council ’ it accepted, like the Paraguayan Government, the good offices of the Pan-American Arbitration Conference.

“ The Council, all of whose efforts were directed towards preventing any aggravation of the dispute and facilitating a peaceful settlement by any possible method, cannot but be gratified at the cessation of this dangerous conflict between two Members of the League united by common bonds of race and tradition, and at the favourable reception given to the generous action of the Pan-American Arbitration Conference. The Council can but trust that the procedure to which the two parties have now agreed will lead to the speediest possible settlement of their dispute and the restoration of a good understanding and of peaceful co-operation between them.

“ I therefore had no doubt that the Council would join me in congratulating the two Governments and in expressing our sincere trust that the future negotiations would be brought to a completely successful issue.

“ The entire documentation relating to this question will be transmitted to all the Members of the League as soon as possible.”

This documentation² includes a telegram dated January 7th, 1929, whereby the Bolivian Government informed the President of the Council that it had signed a Protocol providing for the setting-up of a Commission of enquiry, as suggested by the Pan-American Conference, to fix the responsibility for the recent incidents, and that it proposed to submit the substance of the dispute for arbitration to the Hague Court.

At the request of the President of the Council, this communication was brought to the notice of the Paraguayan Government, which replied that that country had never refused to accept a decision by arbitration on the substance of the dispute and on the incidents which had taken place, that the responsibility for the check to the negotiations so far undertaken did not lie with Paraguay, and that it took note of Bolivia's intention in connection with the arbitration of the Hague Court.

IV. FOURTH REPORT OF THE STRAITS COMMISSION FORWARDED TO THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS UNDER ARTICLE 15 OF THE STRAITS CONVENTION SIGNED ON JULY 24TH, 1923.

On April 9th, 1929, the Chairman of the Straits Commission sent a note to the Secretary-General of the League of Nations accompanied by a report on the Commission's work for the year 1928.

This report is divided into three parts ; the first deals with the work of the Commission during the past year ; the second contains practical information on the present conditions governing the passage of ships and aircraft through the Straits connecting the Black Sea with

¹ The President of the Council handed to the Chargés d'Affaires of the Argentine and the United States of America the following *aide-mémoire* :

“ If, in the next few days, the two Governments do not, in some form or other, accept such mediation as will afford a likelihood of the settling by pacific methods of the request for reparation submitted by the Bolivian Government — thereby excluding the possibility of further hostilities — the Council can hardly avoid holding an extraordinary session. The Council will, in such an eventuality, have to consider what measures should be taken, either because war has broken out — or because it is on the point of breaking out — between two Members of the League, neither of which appears to recognise any common contractual obligation not to resort to war other than that arising under the League Covenant, by which they are both bound.

“ The Council has reason to believe that highly influential efforts are being made in two different quarters with a view to avoiding war and settling the existing difficulties by pacific methods. This is the trend of the action now being taken by the Argentine Government and by the Pan-American Arbitration Conference, which is at present in session at Washington under the presidency of the United States Secretary of State. The Council has not, however, received any official information from either of these parties.

“ The Argentine Government and the Governments represented at the Pan-American Conference are now fully informed of the action taken by the Council and of the replies received from the Governments of the two countries. The Council thinks it essential, in the interests of peace, that the efforts of all those at present engaged in securing a settlement of this dispute by pacific means should be completely co-ordinated.

“ The President of the Council of the League of Nations, who has been instructed by the Council to follow the development of the dispute, therefore feels that it would be of the greatest importance for the maintenance of peace — the supreme object which all must have in view — that the Argentine United States Government should inform him what measures could, in its opinion, be most advantageously taken by all who are working to bring about a pacific settlement of the dispute.”

² See documents C.619.M.195.1928.VII and C.16.M.13.1929.VII.

the Aegean Sea ; the third part contains documentary annexes, such as plans of the demilitarised and prohibited zones, means of approach by air, port regulations, regulations concerning air navigation in Turkey, meteorological signs, etc.

Chapter VII (Part 1) summarises the improvements introduced into the Turkish service in 1928. The Commission points out that the general working of the service shows “unmistakable progress”.

In accordance with the resolution adopted by the Council on June 5th, 1928¹, the Secretary-General communicated the report of the Straits Commission² to the States Members of the League, to the Powers signatory to the Straits Convention and to the following technical organisations of the League :

The Health Committee of the League of Nations ;
The Permanent Committee of the *Office internationale d'hygiène publique*.
The Permanent Advisory Commission for Military, Naval and Air Questions.
The Advisory and Technical Committee for Communications and Transit.

In conformity with the above-mentioned decision of the Council, the report of the Straits Commission has not been placed on the Council agenda.

V. THE BAHREIN ISLANDS³.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PERSIAN AND BRITISH GOVERNMENTS.

On August 2nd, 1928, the Persian Government sent to the Secretary-General, with reference to its letter of November 23rd, 1927, concerning Persian rights to the Bahrein Islands⁴, a copy of its reply⁵ to the British Government's note of January 18th, 1928.⁴

The Persian Government desired by this reply to reiterate its protest against Article 6 of the Treaty of May 20th, 1927, concluded between Great Britain and the Hedjaz. In accordance with the Persian Government's request, these documents were communicated to the States Members of the League of Nations.

By a further note dated January 13th, 1929⁶, the Persian Government forwarded to the Secretary-General, for the information of States Members of the League, a copy of a letter concerning the Bahrein Islands which that Government had addressed on January 5th, 1929, to the British Minister at Teheran. At the Persian Government's request this note was transmitted for information to the States Members of the League of Nations.⁵

The Secretary-General further received a copy of the British Government's reply to the Persian Government dated February 18th, 1929⁷. This reply, like the Persian Government's note, was communicated to all the States Members of the League.⁶

VI. RUSSIAN, ARMENIAN, ASSYRIAN, ASSYRO-CHALDEAN AND TURKISH REFUGEES.

On September 25th, 1928, during its ninth ordinary session, the Assembly passed the following resolutions :

“ The Assembly :

“ 1. After examining the reports submitted by the High Commissioner for Refugees and by the Director of the International Labour Office on questions connected with Russian, Armenian, Turkish, Assyrian and Assyro-Chaldean refugees ;

“ 2. Recognises the progress achieved in the course of the year ;

“ 3. Notes that a complete solution of the problem can only be provided by the return of the refugees to their country of origin or their assimilation by the countries at present giving them shelter ;

“ 4. Earnestly invites the Governments concerned to provide the refugees with all possible facilities for acquiring the nationality of the countries in which they at present reside ;

“ 5. Whereas, however, in present circumstances, international action is still necessary for some time to come ;

“ 6. In conformity with the resolution of the Governing Body of the International Labour Office, invites the Council of the League to take urgently all necessary steps to appoint an Advisory Commission to be attached to the High Commissioner ;

¹ See *Official Journal*, July 1928, page 879.

² See document C.164.M.65.1929.VII.

³ See Report to the ninth session of the Assembly, *Official Journal*, Special Supplement, No. 64, page 235.

⁴ See *Official Journal*, May 1928, page 605.

⁵ See *Official Journal*, September 1928, page 1360.

⁶ See *Official Journal*, March 1929, page 351.

⁷ See *Official Journal*, May 1929, page 790.

“ 7. Recommends the Council to invite this Advisory Commission to submit to it, before the next session of the Assembly, a general report on the possibility of reaching a final solution at an early date and on the means by which this object might be attained ;

“ 8. Earnestly invites States Members to adopt and apply, on as wide a scale as possible, the Inter-Governmental Arrangements concluded on July 5th, 1922, May 31st, 1924, May 12th, 1926, and June 30th, 1928, which offer the refugee work the means by which it may gradually become self-supporting ;

“ 9. Points out, however, that the respective Governments must be left free to decide whether and how far they are prepared to give force of law to the recommendations adopted by the Inter-Governmental Conference of June 30th, 1928 ;

“ 10. Notes that the taxes to be levied will be fixed in consultation with the respective Governments, that only the representatives of the High Commissioner will be entitled to levy them, and that the employment of the proceeds will be subject to the control of the High Commissioner ;

“ 11. Declares that the Council's resolution of June 27th, 1921, shall be applied in regard to all categories of refugees ;

“ 12. Recalls with gratitude the endeavours of the High Commissioner and of the International Labour Office by which about 800 Russian refugees in Constantinople have been successfully evacuated during recent months ;

“ Cognisant of the very difficult situation of some 2,000 of these refugees who still remain in Turkey and who, in accordance with a Decree of the Turkish Government, must be evacuated from Turkey before February 6th, 1929 ;

“ Expresses the hope that the High Commissioner will seize every opportunity to press forward their evacuation and that the various Governments will, as an exceptional measure, and subject to the safeguarding of their own interests, authorise the issue of emergency visas to enable the refugees to leave Turkey ;

“ 13. Adopts the budget for the Refugee Services for 1929, as already approved by the Governing Body of the International Labour Office and by the Supervisory Commission, and,

“ Requests the Supervisory Commission to take into consideration the uncertainty of the position of the officials employed in that service, to which attention has been drawn by the Governing Body of the International Labour Office, and to grant them the improvements asked for on their behalf. ”

At its meeting on December 14th, 1928, the Council named the countries which should be invited to be represented on the Advisory Commission the institution of which the Assembly had proposed. These countries are the following : Bulgaria, China, Czechoslovakia, Estonia, France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Poland, Roumania, the Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes and Switzerland.

By a letter dated January 11th, 1929, the Secretary-General requested the Governments of the above-named countries to inform him whether they were prepared to send representatives to the Commission. All the countries in question replied in the affirmative except Japan and Switzerland, which stated that they did not think it opportune to send representatives.¹

The Advisory Commission thus constituted held its first session at Geneva from May 16th to 18th, under the chairmanship of M. DE NAVAILLES-LABATUT, delegate of France, and in the presence of Dr. NANSEN, High Commissioner for Refugees, the representatives of the Secretary-General and of the Director of the International Labour Office, and the technical advisers appointed by the Advisory Committee of Private Organisations for Refugees.

It made a thorough examination of the present position in regard to the refugee question in all its aspects, and finally drew up a general report which was submitted to the Council.²

In this report the Commission expressed the view that the immediate abolition of the High Commission for Refugees could not be contemplated, seeing that there was at the present juncture no possibility of completely and radically solving the refugee problem, either by mass naturalisation by the countries in which the refugees were living, or by restoration of the nationality of their respective countries of origin, or by repatriation to those countries.

As the High Commissioner had stated that it would take him ten years to wind up his organisation, to carry through the settlement scheme, and to discharge the obligations he had contracted, the Commission proposed that his appointment should be extended for a term not exceeding ten years, on the conditions specified in the report, but added that if the refugee situation should develop later on such lines as to enable this term to be reduced, such a solution could but be welcomed.

The Commission further made a number of recommendations relating to the refugee settlement scheme, the administration of relief to refugees unfit for work, the co-operation of various international organisations and private persons in the refugee work, the administration of funds by the High Commissioner, the legal status of refugees, the Nansen certificates, the administrative measures required for the continuance of the refugee work, and the budget of the refugee organisation.

¹ See document C.188.1929.VII.

² See document C.210.1929.VII.

6.

ADMINISTRATIVE QUESTIONS.

I. SAAR TERRITORY.

Since September 1928, the Council has had under consideration two questions concerning the Saar Territory, namely, the appointment of the Chairman and members of the Governing Commission, and the Governing Commission's loan.

The representative of Italy acted as Rapporteur.

The Council and Members of the League of Nations have been kept informed of the various questions concerning the Saar by the periodical reports of the Governing Commission (published in the *Official Journal*).

GOVERNING COMMISSION.

On December 13th, 1928, the Council appointed the Chairman and five members of the Governing Commission for a period of one year, as from April 1st, 1929. The Commission now consists of the following members :

- M. D'EHRNROTH (Finnish).
- M. KOSSMANN (Saar).
- M. MORIZE (French).
- M. VEZENSKY (Czechoslovak).
- Sir Ernest WILTON (British), *Chairman*.

On the same date the Council fixed the salaries of the members of the Governing Commission with retroactive effect as from July 1st, 1928, the date of the stabilisation of the French franc. Under the Treaty of Versailles the expenses of the Governing Commission are met from the revenue of the Territory.

GOVERNING COMMISSION'S LOAN.

In a letter dated December 4th, 1928, the Governing Commission informed the Council that it had decided in principle to issue a loan, the proceeds of which would be applied to the execution of certain public works. The Governing Commission added that, owing to the exceptional position of the Saar Territory, it felt it should inform the Council and explain its reasons for contracting a long-term loan. It accordingly asked the Council's permission to lay its plans before the Financial Committee.

On December 13th, 1928, the Council requested the Financial Committee to consider the scheme for the proposed loan, in conjunction with the Governing Commission.

On March 9th, 1929, the Financial Committee informed the Council that it hoped to be in a position to put forward final proposals at its June session.

DOCUMENTS PRESERVED WITH A VIEW TO THE PLEBISCITE OF 1935.

CHANGES IN THE POSITION OF PLEBISCITE RECORDS.

In his report dated October 31st, 1923, the Provisional Records Commissioner for the Saar Plebiscite made certain recommendations concerning the official notification to the Secretariat of the League of Nations and to the Saar Governing Commission of any change in the position — as indicated in the original returns prepared by him — of documents preserved with a view to the plebiscite.

In conformity with this recommendation the seven Landräte of the Territory and the Brügermeister of the Town of Saarbruck have sent quarterly reports for the period April 1st, 1928, to March 31st, 1929. The Governing Commission has also sent two half-yearly reports for 1928. The local authorities continue to send special notification of any change in the position of documents, as laid down in the above-mentioned recommendation.

GENERAL QUESTIONS.

On May 17th, 1920, the Council approved an arrangement under which the Saar Governing Commission was to provide the League with detailed information on all political, economic, financial, social and other questions connected with the Saar Basin, which might be of interest to the League of Nations, together with all the official publications of the Governing Commission.

In conformity with this arrangement the Governing Commission has sent to the League of Nations its thirty-fifth, thirty-sixth and thirty-seventh periodical reports for the third and fourth quarters of 1928 and the first quarter of 1929, respectively.

Certain questions dealt with in these reports are indicated below :

1. *Political Situation.*

At its meetings in August and December 1928, and January and March 1929, the Advisory Council and Technical Committee gave their opinion on certain draft decrees prepared by the Governing Commission. These drafts concerned various questions including : income tax, valorisation of mortgages, social insurance, prohibition of military training, commercial courts, procedure for compromises with a view to avoiding bankruptcies, retirement of officials, unemployment relief, housing Census, establishment of a Chamber of Agriculture, etc.

The term of office of the members of the Technical Committee, which expired on December 31st, 1928, was prolonged until December 31st, 1929.

2. *Economic, Social and Financial Situation of the Territory.*

During the period July 1st to December 31st, 1928, the Governing Commission took measures for the application of the Franco-German Agreement of February 23rd, 1928, concerning trade between the Saar Basin and Germany, and particularly the allotment of quotas. With a view to ensuring adequate supplies of staple articles of consumption at normal prices, the export of certain goods (meat, vegetables, etc.) had been prohibited after the war by a decree of the Governing Commission. As the import and export trade in these commodities had meanwhile become stabilised, this prohibition was cancelled in October 1928.

During the third quarter of 1928 the situation in the labour market gradually improved. In spite of favourable circumstances, however, the number of unemployed during the summer of 1928 was over two thousand — a figure that had never been reached in former years. During the last quarter of 1928 a slight improvement was noted in the mines and metallurgical undertakings, with a corresponding increase in the number of workmen employed. On the other hand, in the finishing industries men were being discharged. Owing to the cold which completely paralysed the building and allied industries, unemployment increased in January and February 1929. The number rose from 7,473 on January 2nd, 1929 to 13,237 on March 6th, 1929 a figure never previously attained.

During the period July 1st, 1928, to March 31st, 1929, the Governing Commission had to intervene on several occasions in disputes in the metallurgical and mining industries. In the metallurgical industry, the Governing Commission, to whom trade unions had appealed in their dispute with the employers concerning an increase of wages, made certain recommendations which were accepted by both parties. In June 1928, the miners' unions denounced their contracts and demanded higher wages. Negotiations between the representatives of the two parties having failed, various meetings of miners were held in the Saar and a strike seemed imminent. Called upon to intervene, the Governing Commission interviewed the representatives of the unions and the State mines, and conducted negotiations with the miners' syndicates, which refused to accept the decision of the Mines Administration. Finally, the Governing Commission decided to grant the miners, as a quite exceptional measure, compensation with retroactive effect for the number of days of unemployment since March 1927. As a result, the miners' unions issued a notice cancelling the order for a strike and calling upon the miners to continue at work. In December 1928, the miners submitted a new demand for increased wages. During the negotiations, a difference of opinion arose concerning the method of determining the proposed increase. In spite of the Governing Commission's intervention, no agreement could be reached, and on December 15th, 1928, the Mines Administration posted up a new wages regulation which did not of course constitute a contractual wage-rate. In January 1929, the miners' unions decided not to accept this new scale of payment and, without having recourse to a strike, to limit the output to the quantity of coal strictly necessary for obtaining the minimum wage only. Consequently, the production of the mines was reduced by, approximately, 20 per cent. The miners' unions submitted the dispute to the Governing Commission, which finally obtained the signature of a new wage contract on January 23rd, 1929. As a result of this new contract, the output of the Saar mines is gradually approaching its previous level.

The general budgets of the Territory for 1928 and 1929 were definitely established by the Governing Commission. The 1928 budget represents a total of 455,755,886 French francs, with a surplus of 94,500 French francs and the 1929 budget a total of 485,472,837 French francs with a surplus of 308,329 French francs.

3. *Education.*

The attendance of children at the French schools attached to the State mines, and the teaching of French in the Saar elementary schools, having been criticised in certain political circles in the Saar, the Governing Commission deals with this question in detail in its report for the first quarter of 1929. Mention is made in the report of a manifesto signed by all political

parties (except the communists), which appeared in February 1929 in the principal Saar newspapers.

The political parties recognise that it is right and proper that children belonging to all classes of the population — especially in a frontier country — should be taught French, but assert that the political circumstances at present obtaining in the Saar territory make it necessary to oppose such teaching; they further assert that the results are not very successful. The Governing Commission points out that optional teaching in the French language was organised in elementary schools as from the school year 1922 at the request of certain sections of the population. The object of these lessons is above all a practical one. In a territory in which the relations between two neighbouring peoples are so close and varied, a knowledge of both languages is economically advantageous (in trade and industry) and constitutes an intellectual asset. The lessons are given exclusively by German teachers, who use special manuals written for the requirements of the district and entirely neutral in character. The instruction is quite optional, and parents know perfectly well that they are at liberty not to enter their children at all or to withdraw them at the end of the half-year. In point of fact, a very small proportion of the children attend these classes. The Governing Commission, as a result of impartial observations, has repeatedly had occasion to note the excellent results obtained.

4. *External Relations.*

The Governing Commission decided to be represented at the Congress of the Universal Postal Union which met in London on May 10th, 1929.

In December 1928 the Governing Commission ratified a new Agreement concerning the telephone service between the Saar Territory and Switzerland. In February 1929 it also ratified an Agreement for the regulation of telephone communications between the Saar Territory and Great Britain in transit through France.

5. *Administrative Activity of the Governing Commission.*

In addition to detailed information on numerous questions in connection with the administrative activity of the Commission, the Governing Commission's reports contain chapters on the following questions: finance; mines administration; public works; railways; posts, telegraphs and telephones; justice; education; public relief and social hygiene; agriculture and forests; labour and social insurance.

II. FREE CITY OF DANZIG.

At its sessions in September and December 1928, the Council dealt with the three following questions relating to the Free City of Danzig: appointment of a new League of Nations High Commissioner in Danzig; the question of the Westerplatte and of access to and anchorage in the Port of Danzig for Polish war-vessels; the finances of the Free City (1927 Loan).

The question concerning an amendment of the Constitution of Danzig, which had been included in the agenda of the Council session held in December 1928, was withdrawn from the agenda, as neither of the proposals for the amendment of the Constitution submitted to a referendum at Danzig on December 9th, 1928, obtained the necessary number of votes for its adoption.

The representative of Chile was Rapporteur for matters relating to Danzig with the exception of the question of the finances of the Free City.

THE HIGH COMMISSION.

In a letter to the Council, Dr. VAN HAMEL, whose term of office as League of Nations High Commissioner in Danzig terminated on February 21st, 1929, stated that, taking into consideration all the interests involved, he would venture to suggest the desirability of prolonging his term of office till about the end of June 1929. On September 21st, 1928, the Council agreed that Dr. van Hamel should remain in office until June 21st, 1929, and thanked him for the services he had rendered the League during his term of office at Danzig.

On the same date, Count Manfredi GRAVINA (Italian) was appointed High Commissioner for a period of three years as from June 22nd, 1929. The expenses of this post are met in equal parts by the Danzig and Polish Governments.

TRANSPORT OF POLISH MUNITIONS AND WAR MATERIAL IN TRANSIT THROUGH DANZIG. UTILISATION OF THE WESTERPLATTE.

By a Council resolution dated March 14th, 1924, the Westerplatte peninsula in the Port of Danzig was placed at Poland's disposal for the transport of Polish war material in transit

through Danzig. The construction work on the Westerplatte basin having been terminated, the utilisation of the Westerplatte gave rise to certain difficulties which were considered by the Council at its meeting on September 27th, 1927. No final decision, however, was reached.

On March 5th, 1928, the Council was informed by the High Commissioner that the Danzig and Polish Governments had agreed to conduct friendly negotiations for the settlement of these questions.

On September 8th, 1928, the Council took note of a Provisional Agreement concluded on August 4th, 1928, on this subject. The Rapporteur stated that his report to the Council dated September 27th, 1927, had been put into effect with certain modifications. Under the agreement, the Westerplatte can also be used for commercial purposes and will therefore be placed at the disposal of the Harbour Board whenever the Basin is not required by Poland for the transport of explosives. The Polish Government, moreover, has the right not only to import but also to export war material via the Westerplatte. Both parties have reserved their own point of view in regard to the principle involved, and the agreement may be denounced at any time after due notice has been given.

ACCESS TO AND ANCHORAGE IN THE PORT OF DANZIG FOR POLISH WAR-VESSELS.

On March 5th, 1928, the Council was informed by the High Commissioner that the two Governments had decided to apply to this question the same procedure as had been adopted for the Westerplatte.

On September 8th, 1928, the Council took note of an Agreement concluded between Poland and Danzig on August 4th, 1928, under which the Provisional Agreement of October 8th, 1921, denounced by Danzig in 1927, was prolonged until July 1st, 1931. As regards this question also the parties reserved their legal standpoints. Under this arrangement, Polish war-vessels will continue to use the Port of Danzig, and the Harbour Board will provide the necessary anchorage.

RELATIONS BETWEEN DANZIG AND POLAND.

(a) *Agreements concluded between Danzig and Poland.*

According to information received from the High Commissioner, a number of agreements have been concluded between the Danzig and Polish Governments either direct, or through the intermediary of the High Commissioner. Mention may be made of the agreements reached on the following points: double taxation; levying of Customs duties; transmission of official documents intended for Danzig and forwarded through the intermediary of the Polish Government; number of Polish soldiers stationed in the Westerplatte, etc., etc. In addition the two Governments are negotiating agreements on various other subjects.

(b) *Decisions of the High Commissioner.*

Article 39 of the Paris Treaty concluded between Poland and Danzig on November 9th, 1920, lays down that any dispute arising between these two Governments should be referred for decision to the High Commissioner. Under this article, the High Commissioner has given one provisional decision concerning the organisation of the financial service of the Danzig Harbour and Waterway's Board. A number of questions have, however, been submitted to the High Commissioner, either for arbitral decision or with a view to mediation.

III. GRECO-BULGARIAN MIXED EMIGRATION COMMISSION.¹

On September 19th, 1928, the Finnish representative, Rapporteur for questions dealt with by the Financial Committee, stated before the Council that the work of the Mixed Commission had made appreciable progress. He added that the Commission had dealt with some 34,000 files out of 45,000 and expected to be able to finish its work shortly. On December 9th, 1927, an agreement had been concluded between Bulgaria and Greece regarding the procedure to be adopted for the indemnification of the exchanged populations and the adjustment of the resulting debts between the two Governments. The agreement was ratified by Bulgaria in April 1928 and by the Greek Parliament on December 17th, 1928, and came into force on March 8th, 1929, the instruments of ratification having been deposited with the Secretariat of the League by the two Governments on that date.

¹ The Mixed Commission, appointed in virtue of the Convention of November 27th, 1919, between Greece and Bulgaria, consists of one member appointed by each of the two contracting parties and two members (from among whom the Chairman must be chosen) appointed by the Council of the League of Nations. The two members appointed by the Council are at present Mr. CORZE (New Zealand), and M. DE REYNIER (Switzerland).

IV. MIXED COMMISSION FOR THE EXCHANGE OF GREEK AND TURKISH POPULATIONS. ¹

1. DEATH OF GENERAL MANRIQUE DE LARA.

On March 1st, 1929, the Council was informed by the Mixed Commission of the death of General Manrique de Lara (Spain), neutral member of the Mixed Commission. At its meeting on March 4th, 1929, the Council expressed to the Mixed Commission its deep and sincere regret.

Since General de Lara's death the remaining neutral members appointed by the Council are M. HOLSTAD (Norway), and M. RIVAS VICUNA (Chile).

2. ADVISORY OPINION OF THE PERMANENT COURT OF INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE.

At the request of the Chairman of the Mixed Commission, the Council, having obtained the assent of the Greek and Turkish Governments, requested the Permanent Court of International Justice on June 5th, 1928, to give an advisory opinion on a question concerning the interpretation of Article IV of the Final Protocol of the Greco-Turkish Agreement of December 1st, 1926.

The article reads as follows :

“ Any question of principle of importance which may arise in the Mixed Commission in connection with the new duties entrusted to it by the Agreement signed this day and which, when this Agreement was concluded, it was not already discharging in virtue of previous instruments defining its powers, shall be submitted for arbitration to the President of the Greco-Turkish Arbitral Tribunal sitting at Constantinople. The Arbitrator's awards shall be binding. ”

The Court gave its opinion on August 28th, 1928. It considered that the Chairman of the Mixed Commission had not exactly defined the points upon which its opinion was sought. In the opinion of the Court these points could in substance be expressed as follows : (1) Is it for the Mixed Commission to decide whether the conditions laid down by Article IV of the Final Protocol of the Agreement concluded at Athens on December 1st, 1926, for the submission of the questions contemplated by that article to the arbitration of the President of the Greco-Turkish Mixed Arbitral Tribunal at Constantinople, are or are not fulfilled ? Or is it for the arbitrator contemplated by that article to decide this ? (2) The conditions laid down by the said Article IV having been fulfilled, to whom does the right of referring a question to the arbitrator contemplated by that article belong ?

The Court was unanimously of opinion that the following answer should be given : (1) It is for the Mixed Commission alone to decide whether the conditions enumerated in Article IV are or are not fulfilled. (2) The conditions contemplated by the said Article IV having been fulfilled, the right to refer a question to the arbitrator contemplated by that article belongs to the Mixed Commission alone.

On September 8th, 1928, the Council noted the opinion given by the Court and decided to communicate it to the Mixed Commission.

7.

PROTECTION OF MINORITIES.

I. GENERAL QUESTIONS. ²

A. PROPOSALS OF THE REPRESENTATIVES OF CANADA AND GERMANY ON THE COUNCIL.

At the request of the Canadian representative, and of the representative of Germany, the Council, at its fifty-fourth session, dealt with the minorities question from the general point of view. At the previous session of the Council, held at Lugano in December 1928, the Canadian representative had stated that at the session of March 1929 he would raise the question of the procedure followed by the Council in the matter of complaints relating to minorities. The German representative also announced his intention of opening at the same session of the Council a discussion on the principle of the rights of minorities.

¹ The Mixed Commission, appointed in virtue of the Convention concluded between the Greek and Turkish Governments on January 30th, 1923, consists of two members representing Greece, two members representing Turkey, and three neutral members chosen by the Council of the League of Nations. The office of Chairman of the Commission is held in turn by each of the three neutral members.

² For a further account of the discussion of the general questions, see Supplementary Report to the tenth session of the Assembly.

The Canadian representative subsequently sent to the Council a memorandum on the "procedure applicable to minorities' petitions", and the German representative asked that the question of the "guarantee by the League of Nations of the provisions concerning the protection of minorities" should be placed on the Council's agenda.

The Council devoted its two meetings (morning and afternoon) of March 6th to the examination of the questions referred to above.

The Canadian representative read the memorandum he had sent to the Council, and added a brief commentary on it. The German representative then stated his views on the general principles underlying the protection of minorities as laid down in the treaties and on the League of Nations guarantee.

The representatives of Poland, Roumania, France, Great Britain and Finland also made statements. It became clear from the discussion that there was a general agreement that, in view of the importance of the questions raised, a special Committee should be appointed to make an exhaustive study of them. The Rapporteur for minorities questions, the Japanese representative, was requested to prepare a draft resolution embodying the views expressed by the various members of the Council who had spoken during the discussion.

At its meeting on March 7th, the Council adopted the draft resolution submitted to it by the Japanese representative. The resolution read as follows :

" 1. The Council instructs its Rapporteur to submit at the June session a report on the proposals of the representatives of Canada and Germany, taking into account the different points raised by various members of the Council during the discussion to which these proposals gave rise.

" 2. The Council asks the representatives of Great Britain and Spain to co-operate with the Rapporteur in drawing up this report.

" 3. The Rapporteur and his colleagues may receive any observations that the Governments of States which have accepted the provisions for the protection of minorities may desire to present. Any State Member of the League of Nations may also, if it so desires, submit observations. These various observations should reach the Secretary-General before April 15th, 1929.

" The Committee of Three thus constituted may receive such information and consult such persons as it considers advisable for the execution of its work.

" 4. The report will be examined in the first place by the Council in Committee, which will meet for that purpose in sufficient time before the date of the next session of the Council.

" 5. The Secretary-General will forward to the Governments of the States which have accepted the provisions for the protection of minorities and to the Governments of all the States Members of the League the present resolution, together with the Minutes of the Council meetings held on March 6th, 1929. "

With a view to the preparation of their report, the Rapporteur and his colleagues, the representatives of Spain and Great Britain, held a first meeting at Geneva on March 9th, 1929, and another in London on April 29th to May 4th.

B. QUESTION OF THE REPRESENTATION OF THE LITHUANIAN GOVERNMENT AT THE DISCUSSION ON THE GENERAL QUESTION OF MINORITIES.

On February 27th, 1929, the Secretary-General received from the Lithuanian Government the following telegram :

" Item 12 of the Agenda of the March Council session contains two questions of interest to Lithuania who has herself contracted minorities engagements and has minorities interests concerning Lithuanians. In conformity with Article 4 of the Covenant, Lithuania will be represented at the Council by M. Zaunius, Secretary-General of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs. — VOLDEMARAS. "

The two points referred to were the following :

" (a) Procedure applicable to minorities' petitions : Proposals of the representative of Canada (document C. 51 (1). 1929. I).

" (b) The guarantee by the League of Nations of the provisions concerning the protection of minorities. (Item inserted on the request of the representative of Germany.) "

The question raised by the Lithuanian Government was discussed at the first meeting of the fifty-fourth session of the Council on March 4th, 1929. The President stated, at that meeting, that he did not think it possible for the Council immediately to settle the question whether Lithuania had the right to sit on the Council during the examination of the question of the protection of minorities, and he proposed that a sub-committee of jurists should be appointed to examine this legal question. It seemed probable, he added, that in addition to Lithuania other countries might make a similar request to the Council, and for that reason he was of opinion that the best procedure would be for a decision to be taken which would apply in all similar cases. The President's proposal was adopted, and a Sub-Committee consisting of M. PILOTTI, M. BOTELLA, M. ITO and Sir Cecil HURST submitted a report, which was adopted by the Council on March 6th.

This report read as follows :

“ The Committee decided in the first place to examine the principles governing the question, and on this matter its findings are as follows :

“ The rules for the execution of the minorities treaties and declarations may be divided into two classes. Some are established by the Council on its own authority. Others require the concurrence of the States concerned.

“ 1. The first class includes decisions taken by the Council to determine the procedure whereby it exercises the powers conferred upon it by the treaties and declarations ; to determine the competence of the Secretary-General of the League of Nations in the question ; and to determine the conditions for the receivability of petitions.

“ These decisions are of a general character, and relate to the working of League machinery in a given sphere. They cannot therefore be regarded as raising a question ‘ specially affecting ’ a Member of the League within the meaning of Article 4, paragraph 5, of the Covenant. Hence, in so far as these decisions are concerned, the Council is under no obligation to invite States, subject to minority obligations,¹ to be represented.

“ 2. The second class of rules includes those which involve the performance by the States concerned of acts not covered by the minorities treaties and declarations and, generally speaking, all rules affecting the legal situation as sanctioned by these treaties and declarations. These rules require the agreement of the Council and of the States concerned.

“ This was the case with the Council’s resolution of June 27th, 1921, which deals with the procedure to be adopted in regard to petitions concerning the protection of minorities received ‘ from petitioners other than Members of the League of Nations ’. This resolution lays down, in particular, that these petitions shall be communicated to the States concerned and that the latter shall be bound to inform the Secretary-General within a given time whether it intends to make any observations on the subject. If so, that State is given another time-limit for submitting such observations. The resolution of June 27th, 1921, expressly states that it shall be communicated to those States which have accepted the provisions relating to the protection of minorities and that they shall be asked to say whether they wish the same procedure to be made applicable to them. In point of fact, the States concerned responded to this invitation by giving their consent.

“ On that occasion, therefore, the Council, as normally composed, gave its decision,² and, once its decision was taken, the Council submitted it for acceptance to the States bound by minority obligations. This method is in conformity with the provisions which are contained in the minorities treaties and declarations and relate to the amendment of those instruments.

“ Proceeding to the two questions on which it has been consulted, the Committee notes that the text of the proposal mentioned above under (b) is not yet known. Accordingly, the Committee can only pronounce in respect of the proposal by the representative of Canada mentioned under (a).

“ The Committee is of opinion that in some respects this proposal is not covered by the minorities treaties and declarations. It aims, for example, at compelling the Governments concerned to forward certain communications at the request of the petitioner, and establishes new rules for the examination of petitions by the Council.

“ The Committee must therefore conclude that this proposal involves rules which require agreement between the Council and the States concerned. There would be two parties to such an agreement — the Council and the State bound by minority obligations. For the purpose of reaching its own decision the Council will act without enlarging its normal composition ; the States bound by minorities obligations will not be represented. Once its decision has been taken, the Council will communicate it to these States for their acceptance.”

II. MINORITIES IN UPPER SILESIA.

1. PETITIONS ADDRESSED TO THE COUNCIL UNDER ARTICLE 147 OF THE GERMANO-POLISH CONVENTION OF MAY 15th, 1922, CONCERNING UPPER SILESIA.

A. *Petition from the “Deutscher Volksbund” of Polish Upper Silesia, relating to the Conditions of Public Security in Polish Upper Silesia.*

At its fifty-first session held in September 1928, the Council examined a petition from the “ Deutscher Volksbund ” dated May 19th, 1928, by which it was requested to consider the situation of the German minority in Polish Upper Silesia from the point of view of public security and to ensure that this minority would in fact enjoy the rights conferred on it by Article 147 of the Germano-Polish Convention of May 15th, 1922, concerning Upper Silesia.

¹ It is understood that the special interests mentioned in Article 4, paragraph 5, may be invoked when the Council is called upon to take a decision in connection with a specific petition, since in this case it is a question not of adopting rules for the execution of minorities treaties and declarations but of applying these treaties and declarations to a particular case.

² Unlike the other States concerned, Poland and Czechoslovakia were in this case represented on the Council, but only because they had submitted proposals to the Council. The latter discussed these proposals and the two States straightway expressed their agreement.

In examining this question the Council had at its disposal the observations of the Polish Government, contained in a note of August 21st, 1928. In its note, the Polish Government laid stress on the fact that the circumstances mentioned in the petition were due to a great extent to the peculiar character of Upper Silesia itself, which is a pre-eminently industrial region. For this reason, it was stated, conflicts occurred from time to time in Upper Silesia arising out of the normal relations between employers and workmen. In the view of the Polish Government these occurrences were often the result of personal questions or controversies between neighbours. But action on the part of the authorities was, according to the Polish Government, steadily improving conditions of public security in Upper Silesia.

The Council, approving the conclusions of the Rapporteur, the representative of Colombia, took note of the Polish Government's observations, and expressed its confidence that suitable measures would be taken in accordance with the enquiries instituted in every case.

B. *Petition from the "Deutscher Volksbund" of Polish Upper Silesia, relating to the Forwarding to the Council of an Appeal lodged on June 4th, 1928, under Articles 149 and 157 of the Geneva Convention.*

On September 8th, 1928, the Council examined this petition, dated August 3rd, 1928, submitted to it by the "Deutscher Volksbund" in virtue of Article 147 of the Geneva Convention and complaining that the Polish Government had not forwarded to the Council an appeal lodged by the petitioners under Articles 149 and 157 of that Convention. According to the petition, the "Deutscher Volksbund" on behalf of the "Krolewska Hucka Spółka Pieczy" ("Krolewska Huta Benevolent Society"), had lodged a petition under Article 149 of the Geneva Convention, on the ground of infringement by the Polish authorities of Articles 75, 81, and 98 of that Convention. The President of the Mixed Commission of Upper Silesia gave an opinion on the case on March 29th, 1928, and since the action taken thereupon by the administrative authorities failed to satisfy the petitioners, the latter, on June 4th, 1928, lodged an appeal with the Council of the League of Nations under Articles 149 and 157 of the Geneva Convention.

The Rapporteur, after full consideration of all the circumstances, asked the Council to adopt a resolution regarding certain general points relating to the application of the Geneva Convention. On his proposal, the Council adopted the following resolution :

" 1. The transmission provided for in Article 157 of the Geneva Convention relating to Upper Silesia of appeals lodged by the minority under Article 149 of that Convention shall be made within two months from the date on which the appeal is lodged with the Minorities Office. This period may be extended by the President of the Council at the request of the Government concerned, such extension not to exceed one month.

" 2. When a question has been the subject of an appeal under Articles 149 and 157 of the Convention, no petition on the question may be addressed direct to the Council under Article 147 unless the Government concerned has failed to settle the question in accordance with the wishes of the minority and has neglected to forward the appeal to the Council within the prescribed period of two months. In this case the petition shall be circulated to the Members of the Council and the questions placed on the agenda at the same time as the petition is communicated to the Government concerned.

" 3. Petitions addressed direct to the Council by the minority under Article 147 of the Geneva Convention shall be communicated by the Secretary-General to the Government concerned for any observations it may wish to make, as soon as they are received by the Secretariat. The Governments concerned shall be given a period of two months from the date on which the petition is transmitted to them in which to send their observations to the Secretariat. The petitions shall be communicated to the Members of the Council and the questions to which they relate shall be placed on the agenda of the Council as soon as the observations of the Government concerned are received by the Secretariat ; should these observations not be received within the period prescribed, the petition shall be communicated to the Members of the Council and the question placed on the agenda on the expiry of the time-limit. The time-limit may be extended by the Acting President of the Council at the request of the Government concerned, such extension not to exceed one month. In extremely urgent cases the Secretary-General shall communicate the petition to the Members of the Council as soon as it is received by the Secretariat, and shall arrange for the question to be placed on the agenda of the next session of the Council. At the same time he shall forward the petition to the Government concerned for its observations."

C. *Petition from the "Deutscher Volksbund" of Polish Upper Silesia, relating to the Closing of Certain Minority Schools by the Polish Authorities.*

The "Deutscher Volksbund" in a petition dated August 8th, 1928, requested the Council to consider the question connected with the closing of a certain number of minority schools at the end of the school year 1927-1928. The observations of the Polish Government were transmitted to the Secretariat in a note from the permanent Polish delegate on September 21st, 1928.

The petition was examined by the Council during its fifty-second session at a meeting held on September 26th, 1928. The Rapporteur, the representative of Japan, explained that in the short time at his disposal, he had not been able to elucidate certain points of principle

involved in this matter. He therefore asked the Council to postpone consideration of the question until its next session. During the discussion which followed, the Rapporteur said that, if the Council accepted the proposal for adjournment, he would be happy if it would appoint a Sub-Committee of two or three jurists to collaborate with him in a thorough study of all the legal and other questions involved.

On the proposal of the President, the Council decided to adjourn the question to its next session, and to instruct the Rapporteur and the President in collaboration to appoint two or three lawyers to assist the Rapporteur in a study of the legal aspects of the question. The Council agreed : (1) that it was very desirable that the President of the Mixed Commission should deal without delay with the petitions submitted to the Polish Minorities Office, and which concerned the six schools in question ; (2) to instruct the Secretary-General to send a letter in this sense to the President of the Mixed Commission.

At its meeting of December 15th, 1928, the Rapporteur informed the Council that the Polish Minorities Office and the petitioner, whilst maintaining their respective legal standpoints had seen their way to accept a suggestion which had been made by the Chairman of the Mixed Commission involving the re-opening of three of the six schools which had been closed.

D. Petition from the " Krolewska Hucka Spolka Pieczy " regarding its Property Rights over the St. Julius Hospital at Rybnik.

On July 20th, 1928, the " Krolewska Hucka Spolka Pieczy " submitted a petition concerning property rights over the St. Julius Hospital at Rybnik, Polish Upper Silesia. According to the petition, the " Krolewska Hucka Spolka Pieczy " was a philanthropic association carrying on charitable work among the inhabitants of Polish Upper Silesia belonging to the German minority. Having bought the St. Julius Hospital at Rybnik from the Association of Silesian Knights at Malta, the Spolka Pieczy stated that, when it deposited with the Rybnik Land Registry an application for the registration of its right in the land register, this application was refused. An appeal against this refusal was rejected by the Kattowitz District Court.

The observations of the Polish Government on this petition were forwarded on October 16th, 1928, and the Council came to the conclusion, at its meeting on December 15th, 1928, that the proper procedure would be to leave the legal proceedings which had already been instituted to follow their normal course. It was added that the Council relied upon the Polish Government to inform its members in due course regarding the settlement of the matter by judicial award.

E. Petitions from the " Deutscher Volksbund " of Polish Upper Silesia, concerning Entries to the Primary Minority Schools in the Voivodeship of Silesia.

At its meeting on December 15th, 1928, the Council had before it this petition dated June 1st, 1928, the examination of which had been adjourned at the June session in order to make it possible for the Polish Government to present its observations, and a supplementary petition dated August 24th, accompanied in both cases by the Polish Government's observations dated, respectively, August 17th and November 30th, 1928.

(a) The petitioners regarded it as a violation of the principle of equal treatment that the Polish authorities should have fixed, in the case of minority schools, a time-limit for entries different from that laid down for the majority schools. The Polish Government stated that this circumstance was justified, among other reasons, by the fact that, as the entrance formalities for Polish-speaking schools and minority schools were different, simultaneous entries for the two groups of schools would create great difficulties for the staff concerned. The Government, moreover, did not consider that the system of fixing different dates affected minority rights as guaranteed by the Germano-Polish Convention.

The Council agreed with the conclusions of the Rapporteur, the representative of Japan, to the effect that the Council should take no action in regard to this particular point of the petition.

(b) The second point raised by the petitioners concerned the Voivodeship regulation providing that the time-limit fixed for entries for minorities schools should be regarded as final. If the time-limit were not observed, and if the person responsible for the child's education had not given a reason which was regarded by the authorities as acceptable, the child was entered compulsorily for the Polish school. According to the petitioners, this state of affairs whereby a person belonging to the minority would lose a right guaranteed by the Convention, on account of non-observance of an administrative regulation, was untenable, and constituted a violation of Article 75 of the Convention.

The Polish Government in its observations stated that, as regards applications for entry after the prescribed period had elapsed, no distinction was made between applications for entry to Polish-speaking schools and minority schools. It further declared that it was essential to limit the period for entries, in order that the necessary steps might be taken for the proper administration of the schools.

The Council, on the proposal of the Rapporteur, confined itself to noting the observations of the Polish Government, while expressing the hope that the latter might find it possible to avoid the drawbacks referred to in the petition, either by extending the time-limit fixed for entries, or by some other means compatible with the school organisation instituted in Upper Silesia.

(c) The third point concerned the obligation imposed on the persons responsible for the education of children belonging to the minority to appear in person when entering them for the minority schools. The petitioners were of opinion that all that might be required was a

personal statement concerning the language, made either in writing or verbally. If the statement was made in writing, the appearance in person of those legally responsible for the education of the child was not necessary. The special hours for entries fixed for the different minority schools coincided with the working hours of the persons responsible for the children's education. This was said to involve a loss of wages for those of the parties concerned who belonged to the working classes.

The Polish Government was of opinion that it was not very probable that among the persons responsible for the education of the children there were any who were unable, in the course of the four days normally laid down for enrolment, to absent themselves from their work in order to comply with these formalities. When prevented from attending, such persons would always be at liberty to appoint others to represent them.

The Rapporteur thought that this question depended upon the interpretation of Article 131 of the Convention. He stated that he would be grateful if, before expressing an opinion on this question, and on the subsidiary question of hours for enrolment, he might have the benefit of the collaboration of jurists. The Council agreed to the proposal that the President should nominate jurists to collaborate with the Rapporteur as regards point (c)

(d) The petitioners also complained of the setting-up for the minority schools of special Enrolment Committees. The large majority of the members of these committees claimed to be Poles by race, and the sole purpose of the committees, it was stated, was to influence the minority and to prevent it from exercising its rights.

The Polish Government, however, was convinced that the Silesian Voivode's instructions to the Enrolment Committees, and also the composition of the latter, were not contrary to the provisions of the Geneva Convention and it contested the petitioners' statements regarding the moral pressure alleged to have been exercised by the Committees.

The Rapporteur stated that, before expressing an opinion, he would prefer to wait for the results of the legal examination to be undertaken in connection with point (c). He therefore felt obliged to propose that the Council should adjourn to its next session the examination of points (c) and (d). The Council agreed to this proposal.

(e) The fifth point raised in the petition related to the declarations concerning the language of the children, which had to be made at the time of enrolment in minority schools by the persons legally responsible for the education of the children. The form issued by the Voivodeship for the entries in May 1928 provided for the following declaration :

“ I declare, on my conscience, and on my personal responsibility, that the above child speaks only Polish/German.”

The petitioners regarded the terms of this declaration as implying an obligation to declare that the child spoke only German or only Polish, a situation which would force the parents of bi-lingual children either to make a misstatement or to renounce all hope of entering their children for minority schools. Further, the petitioners objected to the interpretation given by the Voivodeship to the phrase “ personal responsibility ”, which seemed to imply the exercise of a certain pressure on the persons making the declarations.

The Polish Government explained that the petitioners had misinterpreted the sense of the phrase quoted above. The word “ only ” referred simply to the first of the alternatives. The persons responsible for the education of the children had to choose accordingly between these two alternatives, when filling in the forms : “ speaks only Polish ”, or “ speaks German ”.

The Rapporteur expressed the conviction that the Council would note with satisfaction the new interpretation given by the Polish Government. It was hoped that the Government might take such steps as would preclude all possible doubt as to the form issued by the Voivodeship being in conformity with the Council resolution of June 9th, 1928.

The Council adopted the conclusions of the Rapporteur.

(f) The sixth point mentioned in the petition concerned a question alleged to have been put to the persons responsible for the children's education, concerning the name of their employer in connection with entries in 1927 and 1928. The members of the minority were afraid that as a result of information being obtained in this way, they might lose their employment. The petition stated that in several cases employers had discharged employés and workmen on the ground that their children attended the minority school.

The Polish Government declared that the measures in question were introduced not only for entries to the minority schools, but also for entries to the Polish schools. The object was, firstly, to establish the identity of the parents, in the case of identical names, which are frequent, and, secondly, to obtain statistics for the purposes of charitable relief for ailing children, etc. According to the Government, the asking of this question could not be used as a means of pressure, seeing that the employers were in many cases Germans, whereas the great majority of the workmen were Poles. The Rapporteur added that the representative of Poland had explained to him that refusal to answer this question on the part of the person responsible for the child's education would not in any case have the effect of invalidating the application for admission.

The Council confined itself to noting these explanations.

The petitioners, in conclusion, had referred to the general situation of the German minority in school matters. They declared that, apart from the children who were subjected to a language examination after the Council resolution of March 12th, 1927, there were 700 cases in which admission had been refused. Of these, 540 cases were said to be still awaiting settlement, and the parents of the children concerned would be obliged either to send them to the Polish school,

or to pay the penalties imposed by the Police or by the Courts, in the form of fines or imprisonment.

The Rapporteur was glad to note the declaration made by the Polish Government, to the effect that all doubtful entries had been settled in conformity with the Council's decision of March 12th, 1927, as a result of tests by the neutral expert appointed by the Council.

On March 9th, 1929, the Council considered the points which had been submitted to the examination of the jurists and which concerned, respectively, the obligation imposed on the persons responsible for the education of children to appear in person when entering them for the minority schools and the setting up for minority schools of special Enrolment Committees. The jurists nominated, namely, M. BUERO, Legal Adviser of the League of Nations Secretariat, Professor BURCKHARDT, of the University of Berne, and Mr. MALKIN of the British Foreign Office, met in Paris on February 15th and 16th, 1929. They considered that Article 131 of the Geneva Convention should be interpreted as signifying that the Polish authorities were not entitled to require that applications for admission to minority schools must be submitted in person by those legally responsible for the children's education. Nevertheless, in the jurists' view, the Polish authorities were entitled to make sure that the declaration came from the person legally responsible. The procedure in regard to such verification might be fixed by the Polish authorities within the limits of the Convention.

As regards the second point, the jurists were of opinion that the existence of special Enrolment Committees was not contrary to Article 131 of the Convention, but that the Committees should abstain from exercising any pressure on the person making the declaration, and from taking any measures of verification in regard to declarations relating to the language of the child. The jurists also found that the provisions of Article 131 of the Geneva Convention as interpreted by the Court in Judgment No. 12 of April 26th, 1928, stated that children might be entered at minority schools even in cases where declarations were made regarding language which were not in conformity with the facts and where the children were not sufficiently acquainted with the minority language to benefit by the teaching given therein. The jurists, nevertheless, pointed out that there was nothing in the Geneva Convention to prevent the two parties concerned from agreeing on a practical and equitable arrangement with a view to remedying such a state of affairs.

The Rapporteur informed the Council that the German and Polish Governments had agreed to engage in direct negotiations for the purpose of settling a certain number of points of interpretation of the Geneva Convention. The Rapporteur would preside over these negotiations with the assistance of the President of the Mixed Commission for Upper Silesia. In these circumstances, the Council, on the proposal of the Rapporteur, took note of the information furnished by the jurists.

F. Petition from the "Deutscher Volksbund" of Polish Upper Silesia, concerning the Failure to open a German Elementary Minority School at Koszecin.

According to this petition, which was dated September 28th, 1928, and examined by the Council on December 15th, 1928, applications were made on November 30th, 1927, on behalf of twenty-seven persons legally responsible for the education of fifty-one children, with a view to the establishment of an elementary German minority school in the school district of Koszecin. These persons had been summoned to the Mayor's office at Koszecin where they had been questioned with a view to obtaining the declarations concerning the children's language referred to in Article 131 of the Geneva Convention. The petitioners who had not received any written reply from the authorities were informed verbally that their request for the opening of a German minority school had been rejected because the number of children concerned possessing Polish nationality did not reach the minimum figure of forty. This statement was confirmed by the Polish Government in its observations. The Government stated that, should the supplementary declarations still pending bring the number of valid applications up to forty, orders would immediately be given to open the school for the school year 1928-1929.

The Council took note of the explanations given by the Polish Government, and expressed the hope that the Government would find it possible to inform the Rapporteur at a later date of its final decision.

G. Petition from M. Josef God relating to the Minority School at Giszowiec.

On December 15th, 1928, the Council examined this petition dated September 12th, 1928, which contained two complaints: The Polish authorities had apparently refused applications for the admission of children to the minority school and had also transferred the minority school from Giszowiec to Nikiszowiec. This transfer was very inconvenient for the children from Giszowiec, the village of Nikiszowiec being a long distance away. The petitioner requested, as regards the first point, that the children whose entries for the minority school were refused should immediately be admitted, and as regards the second point that the minority school should be reopened at Giszowiec.

The Polish Government stated that the petitioner was in no way empowered to represent the parents and that his petition should be regarded as a personal one. It added that the petitioner's son was excluded from the school by a decision of the President of the Mixed Commission for Upper Silesia as a result of the language test held by the neutral expert appointed by the Council of the League. As to the second point, that is to say, the transfer of the minority school, the Government stated that the measures which had been taken were the result of the reorganisation of the school district of Janow. This reorganisation had been carried out at the request of the

minority of Janow ; it may be pointed out that the minority of Nikiszowiec had not raised any objection.

The Rapporteur concluded that there was no need for the Council to take any action regarding the first point of the petition.

As to the second point he did not think that he could propose any action on the basis of the insufficient information at his disposal. Any decision would have to be based on a knowledge of local conditions in the Janow school district. He therefore thought that the Council should merely suggest that the petitioner might have recourse to the procedure provided for in Article 149 of the Convention.

The Council agreed with the views of the Rapporteur.

H. *Petition from the "Deutscher Volksbund" of Polish Upper Silesia, concerning the Situation of the German Minority School at Brzezinka in the District of Kattowitz.*

On September 28th, 1928, the "Deutscher Volksbund" of Polish Upper Silesia submitted a petition concerning the German minority school at Brzezinka. The Polish Government forwarded its observations on September 5th, 1928. The Council examined the question on December 15th, 1928.

At its meeting on June 8th, 1928, the Council had expressed its desire that the Polish Government would find it possible to reopen at Brzezinka the minority school which had been transferred to Morgi. This transfer had given rise to complaints on the part of the families living at Brzezinka on account of the long distance separating the two places. The Council intended that the reopening of the school at Brzezinka should take place under conditions that would avoid any fear of the drawbacks which had previously given rise to complaint and, at the same time, in no way interfere with the normal operation of the Polish school.

In its new petition the Volksbund complained that the Polish authorities who had reopened the German minority school at Morgi in September 1928 and had published a list of persons to whom authorisation was granted to send their children to this school had paid no attention either to the Council's recommendation, or to the opinion of the President of the Mixed Commission or to the claims of the members of the German minority legally responsible for the children. The petitioners were, moreover, of opinion that in drawing up such a list the Silesian Voivodeship had restricted the right of the members of the German minority concerned to send their children to the minority school. The Volksbund therefore asked the Council to decide (1) that the German minority school should be transferred from Morgi to Brzezinka and (2) that all children in respect of whom a declaration regarding language had been made either orally or in writing, by the persons legally responsible, should be admitted forthwith to the minority school.

The Polish Government stated that, on a written request from the Volksbund, the Silesian Voivodeship had informed the inhabitants of Brzezinka that entries for the minority school would be received anew. As regards the question of the transfer of the Morgi school to Brzezinka, the petitioners had interpreted the Council resolution of June 8th, 1928, in a tendentious manner. If conditions had subsequently changed, the Polish authorities, taking into special consideration the desire expressed by the Council, would have acceded to the Volksbund's request. The technical conditions, however, still being the same, the transfer could not, at that time, be carried out, as it would hinder the normal operation of the Polish school, which would be contrary to the Council's recommendation.

On the suggestion of the Rapporteur, the Council took note of the fact that, as far as the question of entries was concerned, the competent Polish authorities had satisfied the petitioner's requests. As regards the transfer of the minority school, the Council could not modify the point of view expressed at its meeting on June 8th, 1928. It took note of the statement made by the Polish Government, interpreting it as meaning that the competent authorities would not fail to consider favourably the Volksbund's request as soon as technical conditions would permit.

I. *Petition from M. Norbert Lubos relating to his Position as an Employee of the "Spolka Bracka" at Tarnowskie Gory, in Polish Upper Silesia.*

The Council, on March 9th, 1929, examined a petition from M. Norbert Lubos in which he complained that pressure had been brought to bear on him by the "Spolka Bracka" to force him to remove his child from the German minority school. Having later, as an employee of the "Spolka Bracka", refused to accept his transfer to the settlement at Rudahannen, he was dismissed, and even deprived of his right to a pension.

The Polish Government in its observations pointed out that M. Lubos had never regarded himself as a member of the minority and that this reason was in itself sufficient to make his petition inadmissible. In the view of the Polish Government the "Spolka Bracka" was a private institution, independent of the Government. No employee had been dismissed for sending his children to the minority school. The final dismissal of M. Lubos was due solely to the breach of contract of which he was guilty in refusing to accept his transfer. According to the Government, the attendance of M. Lubos' child at the minority school had no connection with his dismissal, and the courts alone were competent to decide on the question which had arisen between M. Lubos and the "Spolka Bracka."

The Rapporteur recommended the Council simply to take note of the information furnished by the Polish Government. It would be very difficult for the Council to hold the Government responsible for the disciplinary measures taken by the directors of the organisation in question in regard to their employees. As to the alleged pressure exercised with a view to withdrawing,

in certain cases, children from the German minority school, the Rapporteur stated that the Polish Government intended to make an enquiry into the matter, the results of which would be communicated to the Council.

The Council accepted the views of the Rapporteur.

J. Petition from the "Association of Poles in Germany" concerning the use of the Polish language by Members of the Polish Minority in their Relations with Public Officials in German Upper Silesia.

This petition, dated October 20th, 1928, was examined by the Council on March 9th, together with the German Government's observations thereon.

The petitioners complain that German officials acquainted with the Polish language do not comply with the provisions of paragraph 2 of Article 139 of the Geneva Convention on Upper Silesia. This paragraph provides that: "In direct relations with the public, and particularly at railway ticket offices and post offices, the convenience of the population shall, as far possible, be considered so far as the minority language is understood by the employees." In support of this allegation, the "Association of Poles" quotes certain facts which, in its opinion, constitute an infringement not only of the article quoted above but also of paragraph 3 of Article 67 and of Articles 75 and 135 of the same Convention. It specially complains of the attitude of a certain railway official.

The German Government states that the rule in question is observed by the officials in so far as they understand the Polish dialect spoken in Upper Silesia. The Government points out that the petitioners themselves admitted that the railway administration at Oppeln had issued an order enjoining upon railway officials to treat passengers belonging to the Polish minority with courtesy and with due consideration for their linguistic needs. The German Government thinks that the official in question cannot be blamed in any way. He was nevertheless transferred elsewhere. In conclusion, the Government observes that the incidents described in the petition from the "Association of Poles" had been brought before the Mixed Commission under the terms of Article 585 of the Geneva Convention.

On the proposal of the Rapporteur, the Council took note of the information supplied by the German Government, which gives a satisfactory explanation of the incidents described in the petition, and added that it would be highly desirable that cases of this kind should not be brought before it before recourse had been had to all other legal remedies.

K. Petition from the "Association of Poles in Germany" concerning the Use of the Polish Language by Children belonging to the Polish Minority and frequenting the Primary Schools in German Upper Silesia.

This petition was addressed to the Council on October 22nd, 1928. The Council examined it, together with the German Government's observations, on March 9th, 1929. The question concerned the case of certain teachers who were said to have forbidden the children to speak Polish in school, and in one instance to have struck and abused children who did not comply with this order.

The German Government in its observations recognised the correctness of certain of the allegations brought forward in the petition: two of the teachers had subsequently been reprimanded, one of them even being transferred to another post. Other allegations did not appear, as a result of enquiries made, to be well founded. The German Government, therefore, repudiated the general charges brought against it. It also communicated to the Council the text of a notice addressed to all teachers in Upper Silesia drawing their attention to the special obligations devolving upon them in regard to the preservation of minority rights, particularly in the matter of language.

The Council thought that the measures taken by the competent German authorities should allay the minorities' apprehensions. It noted with satisfaction the information submitted by the German Government, and expressed the hope that the steps taken would prevent a recurrence of similar incidents.

L. Petition from the "Association of Poles in Germany" concerning the Facilities to be given to the Polish Minority in German Upper Silesia for attending Religious Ceremonies.

This petition, dated October 23rd, 1928, together with the German Government's observations was examined by the Council on March 9th, 1929. The matter related to the German authorities' refusal to grant a collective passport to a large group of persons who proposed to take part in a pilgrimage to Czestochowa, on Polish territory. The pilgrims were forced to obtain individual passports and the procedure involved being expensive and lengthy, the number of pilgrims was considerably reduced. The petition also stated that a German official reproached the person applying for the passport for incurring the expense of a pilgrimage. The official was also said to have used language which the petitioner regarded as disparaging to the religious sentiments of the minority.

The German Government recalled the fact that in July 1928 members of the German minority who wished to make a pilgrimage on German territory had applied for a collective passport, which had been refused by the Voivodeship. The pilgrimage had thus had to be abandoned. When the "Association of Poles" in Germany, in its turn, asked the Oppeln authorities for a collective passport for the pilgrimage to Czestochowa, it was told that the Prussian Government regretted that in that instance it could not show its usual goodwill, on account of the above-

mentioned facts. On receiving this reply, the Secretary of the "Association of Poles" suggested that the German and Polish administrations should arrange for the mutual issue of passports at reduced rates, and was told that this suggestion was entirely in accordance with the desires of the German authorities. As regards the difficulties, which, according to the petitioners, were encountered in certain cases by persons applying for individual passports, the German Government stated that the officials concerned did not treat the members of the Polish minority any differently from those of the majority. As to the official whose words gave rise to the petitioners' complaint, he had been told to exercise the utmost discretion in future in any observations he would have to make to members of the minority.

In conformity with the proposal of the Rapporteur, the Council took note of the German Government's explanations and recommended that the German and Polish Governments should try to conclude reciprocal arrangements regarding the issue of passports which would avoid the recurrence of difficulties.

M. Telegram from the "Deutscher Volksbund" of Polish Upper Silesia concerning the Arrest of M. Ulitz.

By a telegram dated February 13th, 1929, the "Deutscher Volksbund" of Polish Upper Silesia drew the Council's attention to the case of the arrest by the Polish authorities of the "Volksbund's" Secretary-General, M. Ulitz. According to the petition, M. Ulitz, a deputy of the Upper Silesian Sejm, was arrested at the moment of the dissolution of the Sejm, on a charge brought against him in 1926 of complicity in a case of evasion of military service. The petitioner claimed that the arrest was without justification in fact, and added that the conditions of form laid down by the rules of criminal procedure had not been complied with. The arrest of M. Ulitz was intended as an attack upon the minority through the organisation entrusted with the duty of safeguarding its intellectual and moral wellbeing. This application of the law constituted differential treatment in violation of Article 75 of the Geneva Convention. The Council was requested to take the necessary steps to have M. Ulitz released, to appoint a Commissioner to enquire into the further proceedings and, finally, to take measures to protect M. Ulitz against the proceedings which had been instituted against him.

The Polish Government pointed out that M. Ulitz was charged, under the provisions of Article 49 of the Penal Code, with complicity in the offence of failure to comply with the military laws of the country. His imprisonment and the opening of a regular judicial enquiry concerning him, were, in that Government's opinion, fully justified. As long as this case was in the hands of the judicial authorities, there could be no possibility of intervening in the course of justice. Still less would there be any question of interference in this matter by international organs.

The Council examined this matter on March 9th, 1929. It took note of the information furnished by the Polish Government and expressed its conviction that the judicial authorities would do all in their power to hasten proceedings, and would avoid giving the minority the impression that the measures in question were in any way directed against it.

2. APPEALS ADDRESSED TO THE COUNCIL UNDER ARTICLES 149 AND 157 OF THE GERMANO-POLISH CONVENTION OF MAY 15TH, 1922.

The Council at its meeting on December 15th, 1928, examined three appeals emanating from the "Deutscher Volksbund" of Polish Upper Silesia relating to certain school questions :

A. Appeal from the "Deutscher Volksbund" of Polish Upper Silesia relating to the Situation of the Minority School at Janow.

The object of this appeal being the same as that of the petition addressed to the Council by M. Josef God, which figured on the agenda of the same session of the Council, the Volksbund announced that it withdrew its notice of appeal of June 18th, 1928.

On the proposal of the Rapporteur, the Council took note of this communication while laying down the rule that, in future, communications of this kind should be sent to the Minorities Office of the country concerned in order that they might be forwarded as expeditiously as possible to the Council through the Government concerned, as in the case of the appeals themselves.

B. Appeal from the "Deutscher Volksbund" of Polish Upper Silesia relating to the Situation of the Minority School at Nowa-Wies.

This petition, dated November 3rd, 1924, was submitted by the "Deutscher Volksbund" to the Polish Minorities Office at Kattowitz in conformity with Articles 149 *et seq.* of the Germano-Polish Convention of May 15th, 1922. The President of the Mixed Commission gave an opinion on February 20th, 1928, in accordance with the terms of Article 153 of the Convention. The petitioners not being satisfied with the action taken by the competent authorities, they exercised their right of appeal under Article 149. The appeal, the Polish Government's observations (contained in a note of October 6th, 1928), and the opinion of the President of the Mixed Commission (dated February 20th, 1928) were examined by the Council on December 15th, 1928. According to the opinion of the President of the Mixed Commission and the Polish Government's observations, the "Volksbund" in its petition submitted the following requests :

(a) That all children attending the minority school at Nowa-Wies should be concentrated in the school situated in the former locality of Wirek ;

- (b) That the teaching staff should be increased in proportion to the number of pupils;
- (c) That special premises should be provided to enable instruction to be given to the minority pupils in the morning also;
- (d) That the direction of the school should be entrusted to a teacher belonging to the minority.

The first request in the petition, point (a), was disposed of while the proceedings before the President of the Mixed Commission were still in progress.

As regards point (b), the President of the Mixed Commission quoted a Voivodeship order of July 30th, 1925, providing that there must be one teacher for every fifty-five pupils in schools of more than 275 children, and concluded that since the school at Nowa-Wies was attended by 330 pupils, the request of the minority for additional staff was legitimate.

As to point (c), the President of the Mixed Commission affirmed that the classrooms were only available in the afternoons for the minority school. In his opinion, it was contrary to the principle of equality of treatment that the minority school alone should be given instruction for a shortened period and in the afternoon.

Commenting upon points (b) and (c), the Polish Government stated that the minority school at Nowa-Wies was on the same footing as the Polish school with regard both to the teaching staff and the allocation and number of lessons. The Polish school suffered from the same lack of suitable buildings as the minority school; some of the lessons also had to be held in the afternoon.

The minority having received satisfaction in the matter of points (a) and (d), the appellant withdrew his appeal in regard to this latter point, and the Council had to decide only on the two remaining points. As to point (b), the Council noted that, according to the Polish communication of October 6th, 1928, the staff of the minority school at Nowa-Wies had been increased from four to five. With regard to point (c), the Council expressed its conviction that an equitable interpretation of the Geneva Convention demanded that such restrictions in the normal operation of the schools as might be necessitated in certain cases owing to local conditions should be borne in an equal measure by the majority and minority schools.

C. *Appeal from the "Deutscher Volksbund" of Polish Upper Silesia relating to the Admission of Children to the Private Minority Schools at Swierklaniec, Nowa-Wies and Lipiny.*

This appeal was examined by the Council at its meeting on December 15th, 1928. According to the opinion given by the President of the Mixed Commission, the Polish educational authorities had excluded at the beginning of the school year 1927-1928 a certain number of children from the German private schools at Swierklaniec, Nowa-Wies and Lipiny. The President of the Mixed Commission was of opinion that, provided the conditions relating to the language of the children laid down in the Council resolution of March 12th, 1927, and in the judgment of the Permanent Court of International Justice dated April 26th, 1928, were fulfilled, these children should be admitted to the schools from which they had been excluded. The competent authorities subsequently complied with this part of the opinion of the President of the Mixed Commission. The petitioners, however, considered that a fundamental legal question was at issue which they requested the Council to settle. For this reason they had maintained their appeal to the Council.

The Council merely took note of the fact that the practical aspect of the case regarding the children excluded from the three schools in question had been settled by the Polish authorities to the satisfaction of the minority, and was of opinion that it was unnecessary for it to consider the general legal question raised by the petitioners. The Council further noted that the Voivode had instructed the district educational authorities to deal as quickly as possible with applications for exemption from compulsory public education submitted by persons legally responsible for the education of children who desired to send the latter to private minority schools, and not to refuse exemptions in any case where the children undoubtedly belonged to the German-speaking minority.

III. RECEIVABILITY OF MINORITIES' PETITIONS : QUESTIONS RAISED BY THE LITHUANIAN GOVERNMENT. ¹

At the request of the Lithuanian Government the Council, at its session in June 1928, dealt with "the question of the receivability of petitions concerning persons resident in a State but not belonging to a minority of race, language or religion". At its meeting on June 9th, 1928, the Council decided to appoint a Committee of Jurists to examine the concrete points of procedure raised by the Lithuanian Government. This Committee, which consisted of M. DJUVARA (Roumania), M. FRANÇOIS (Netherlands), M. FROMAGEOR (France), M. GAUS (Germany) and M. PILOTTI (Italy), submitted to the Council a report, of which the latter took note at its meeting on September 8th, 1928. The report was as follows :

"In judging of the receivability of a petition which requests the League of Nations for protection against the Government of a State bound by the special obligations of a minorities treaty, it is not the truth or falsehood of the allegations contained in the petition

¹ See Supplementary Report to the ninth session of the Assembly on the Work of the Council, on the Work of the Secretariat, and on the Measures taken to execute the Decisions of the Assembly, *Official Journal*, Special Supplement, No. 64, page 347.

which should be examined, but only the manner of their presentation and their pertinence in the light of the conditions laid down in the resolution of September 5th, 1923.

“ In the case of the petition which was the subject of the Council's decision of June 6th and 9th, 1928, it does not appear that, from the point of view of receivability, the objections raised by the Lithuanian Government, including those concerning the truth of the allegations, were such as to require that this petition should not be received. ”

8.

MANDATES.

I. DISCUSSION IN THE COUNCIL WITH REGARD TO THE WORK OF THE THIRTEENTH SESSION OF THE PERMANENT MANDATES COMMISSION.

The documents connected with the work of the thirteenth session of the Permanent Mandates Commission,¹ together with a report and a draft resolution on the subject submitted by the Netherlands representative, were examined by the Council on September 1st, 1928. M. Mélot, representative of Belgium, and Baron Lehmann, representative of Liberia, were present.

OBSERVATIONS ON THE ADMINISTRATION OF VARIOUS TERRITORIES UNDER MANDATE.

As regards the observations of the Mandates Commission on the administration of the seven territories with which it dealt at its thirteenth session, the Council decided to instruct the Secretary-General to forward them in each case to the Government of the mandatory Power concerned, and to request the latter to take the requisite action.

The Council likewise approved the Commission's observations concerning the events which occurred in Western Samoa in 1926-1927, and requested the Secretary-General to communicate them to the mandatory Power concerned.

PETITIONS.

The conclusions of the Mandates Commission on the petitions which it examined were approved by the Council, and the Secretary-General was instructed to bring them to the notice of the mandatory Power and the petitioner concerned in each case.

LIQUOR TRAFFIC.

The Council decided to communicate to the mandatory Powers the conclusions contained in the Commission's report, which recommended that the Powers responsible for the administration of B and C mandated territories should be requested to revise the memorandum framed by the Secretariat, and containing statistics of liquor imports, and to furnish all relevant information. The Powers holding African mandates were also requested to state to which parts of the territories under their mandate Article 4, paragraph 2, of the Convention of St. Germain relating to the liquor traffic in Africa had been applied.

ECONOMIC EQUALITY.

The Council decided to request the mandatory Powers entrusted with A and B Mandates to furnish the information desired by the Permanent Mandates Commission in regard to the regulations adopted or followed by them when supplies are purchased by the public authorities of the mandated territories.

TREATMENT EXTENDED IN COUNTRIES MEMBERS OF THE LEAGUE TO PERSONS BELONGING TO TERRITORIES UNDER MANDATE AND TO PRODUCTS AND GOODS COMING THEREFROM.

The Council decided to recall to the notice of States Members of the League of Nations the resolution which it adopted on September 15th, 1925,² trusting that they would take the necessary action, and to request the Permanent Mandates Commission to make a comprehensive study of the question and to communicate the results to the Council.

¹ See Supplementary Report to the ninth session of the Assembly on the Work of the Council, pages 30 to 35.

² See *Official Journal*, October 1925, page 1363.

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In his report, which was adopted by the Council, the Netherlands representative observed that the Commission had examined the Agreement between Great Britain and Transjordan defining and limiting the powers of an independent Government in Transjordan. In the Commission's opinion the Agreement appeared to modify the terms of the mandate. The British representative made a declaration stating that the British Government considered itself responsible to the Council for the proper application in Transjordan of all the provisions of the mandate for Palestine with the exception of those excluded under Article 25. In view of this declaration, the Council decided, on the Rapporteur's proposal, that the Agreement was in conformity with the principles of the mandate, which remains fully in force.

As regards the events which occurred in Western Samoa in 1926-1927 the Rapporteur observed that the Permanent Mandates Commission had made a most careful examination of the relevant documentation, especially the report of the Royal Commission set up by the New Zealand Government to conduct a thorough enquiry into the situation in the mandated territory. The Mandates Commission gave due consideration to the probability of the unrest in Samoa continuing until the League of Nations had declared its opinion, and the Rapporteur agreed with the Commission that it should be clearly understood that, in conformity with the mandate, the mandatory Power remained alone responsible for maintaining law and order.

The representative of France informed the Council that the French Government had taken due note of the observations formulated by the Permanent Mandates Commission at the close of its thirteenth session on the framing of the Organic Law for Syria and the Lebanon, and more particularly the view expressed by the Commission that the mandatory Power should retain, until such time as those countries were ripe for self-government, the full authority necessary to direct and superintend their evolution and to fulfil all its obligations to the League of Nations. He further explained how the French Government construed its duty as a Mandatory, and showed that it was its intention to pursue the spirit of the mandate by co-operating with the Governments of the mandated territories.

* * *

II. WORK OF THE FOURTEENTH SESSION OF THE PERMANENT MANDATES COMMISSION.

A. WORK OF THE COMMISSION.

At its fourteenth session, which lasted from October 26th to November 13th, 1928, the Permanent Mandates Commission examined, in the presence of the accredited representatives of the mandatory Powers, the following annual reports : Togoland under British mandate (1927), Western Samoa (1927-1928), South-West Africa (1927), Ruanda-Urundi (1927), Camerouns under British mandate (1927), Iraq (1927), and the Pacific Islands under Japanese mandate (1927). Administrators or high officials of the mandated territories took part as representatives of the mandatory Powers in the discussion on the reports on the following territories : Camerouns and Togoland under British mandate, Iraq, Western Samoa and South-West Africa.

The Commission also dealt with various questions of a more general character, in particular, that of the Liquor Traffic.

Liquor Traffic.

(a) In view of the Council resolution of December 6th, 1927, pursuant to a resolution of the Assembly dated September 22nd, 1927,¹ concerning the increased importation of spirits (spirituous liquors) into certain territories under B mandate the Mandates Commission devoted special attention to this question when examining the annual reports of the mandatory Powers. As regards the measures to remedy this situation, it examined various methods of restriction in the hope that each mandatory Power might adopt such of these as it might consider suitable in the territory under its mandate.

As regards the increase and equalisation of duties on spirits, the Commission expressed a desire to know whether any agreement had been reached in accordance with the Council's recommendation of December 12th, 1923, inviting the British and French Governments to discuss the question with a view to the equalisation of duties.²

In connection with the prohibition of the sale of spirits, except under licence, the Commission suggested that these licences should be more sparingly issued, that the licence fees should be increased, and that the hours during which sale is allowed should be curtailed.

Regarding the strict observance of the absolute prohibition of the manufacture, sale or possession of spirits by natives in the zones of prohibition laid down by the Convention of St. Germain-en-Laye of September 10th, 1919, the Commission proposed that the limits of the zones should be indicated on a map of the territories under mandate.

For the carriage of spirits, the Commission suggested the introduction of railway rates on a sharply ascending scale and, if possible, an extension of this measure to the conveyance of spirits by motor transport.

¹ See Report to the ninth session of the Assembly on the Work of the Council, page 51.

² See Report to the fifth session of the Assembly on the Work of the Council : *Official Journal*, Special Supplement, No. 23, page 282.

The Permanent Mandates Commission had been instructed by the Council, at its meeting on June 9th, 1926, to examine the opinions expressed by the mandatory Powers on the definition of the terms relating to the liquor traffic, and to inform the Council of its conclusions. At its tenth session, the Mandates Commission placed before the Council a definition specifying, among other things, that the alcoholic content of a liquor described as spirituous must be not less than 20°. In response to the Council's request, the mandatory Powers signified their acceptance of this definition. As regards the alcoholic content, however, France and Belgium asked that liquors containing less than 22° of pure alcohol should not be considered spirits, as it seemed to them hardly fair to include in this category wines fortified by the addition of spirits bringing the alcoholic content up to 22°. ¹

* * *

(b) As regards the common nomenclature of spirituous liquors, the Mandates Commission recommended that the Council should request the mandatory Powers to employ only terms which have been specially defined, and to indicate in statistical tables supplied the alcoholic content of the spirits imported in terms of the amount of pure alcohol by weight and not by volume, and also of any wines or other beverages fortified by the addition of spirits.

* * *

The Commission also made a preliminary study of two other general questions ; public health in the mandated territories, and the treatment extended in countries Members of the League to persons belonging to mandated territories.

* * *

Observations concerning Certain Territories under A, B and C Mandates.

The Commission's observations concerning the reports which it examined may be summarised as follows :

Territories under A Mandate.

Iraq.

The Commission noted that the Treaty signed at London on December 14th, 1927, between Great Britain and Iraq, would not be put into force before the Council had approved it. As the treaty had been communicated to it, the Commission had duly taken cognisance of the document, refraining, however, from formulating observations or recommendations until expressly invited to do so by the Council.

The Commission noted with satisfaction the progress made with regard to the settlement of the nomadic tribes. It also noted that the recommendation made in 1925 by the Mosul Commission in favour of the Assyrian communities had become inoperative so far as Iraq was concerned, as the district in which the homelands of the Assyrians were situated had been allotted to Turkey by the Council resolution of December 16th, 1925, and the Assyrian refugees in Iraq were not prepared to enter Turkey. The Commission also noted with interest the measures taken with a view to the final settlement of the refugees on the lands which the Iraq Government would place at their disposal.

As regards foreign relations, the Commission, after noting the difficulties which still appeared to exist in the relations between Iraq and Persia, and which were a subject of discussion at the ninth session of the Assembly, again expressed the hope that satisfactory relations might be established between the two countries.

The Commission was informed by the accredited representative that the defining of the boundary between Iraq and Syria would probably be postponed until an agreement had been reached between the French and Turkish Governments with regard to the Turco-Syrian frontier. It noted the intention of the mandatory Power to insert in the next annual report a complete statement with regard to the trouble in 1928 on the Nejd frontier and the actual relations with that country. The Commission expressed the hope that the measures taken to improve the health services of the territory might be actively pursued.

In the matter of education, the Commission expressed its confidence that every effort would be made in schools and training colleges to promote religious and political toleration.

The Commission recommended that future annual reports should contain a statement of the financial position of the country at the end of the year (assets and liabilities) and further expressed a desire to be kept informed of progress in the matter of the creation of a national currency for the territory.

The mandatory Power furnished the Commission, which took due note thereof, with documents concerning the extension in 1926 of the Anglo-Persian Oil Company's concession for a period of thirty-five years.² The Commission, while expressing no opinion as to the advantages of an immediate or deferred renewal declared that in its view the Iraq Government, in adopting the course it selected, had acted within the terms of Article 11 of the Treaty of October 10th, 1922, concerning economic equality, and that it relied upon the Government to make use of its rights under the concession in the best interests of the territory.

¹ See Report to the eighth session of the Assembly on the Work of the Council : *Official Journal*, Special Supplement No. 54, pages 268 and 269.

² See Minutes of the fourteenth session of the Permanent Mandates Commission, pages 247 to 249.

The Commission took note of the regulation of labour conditions and expressed the opinion that, in view of industrial developments, much advantage might be gained if the experience of the mandatory Power in the matter could be made more fully available to the Iraq Government.

Lastly, the Commission expressed the hope that it might be possible to improve the administration of Waqf property and the conditions relating to the disposal of the revenue from this property.

Territories under B Mandate.

Cameroons under British Mandate.

The Commission noted that the situation in regard to the liquor traffic was not so disquieting as in Togoland under British mandate, and invited the attention of the Council to the discussion on the subject which took place with the accredited representative.

The Commission dealt more particularly with the detailed information supplied concerning labour conditions in the territory, and expressed a desire that particulars might be given in the next report as to the procedure followed with regard to compensation for accidents occurring in the course of employment.

Togoland under British Mandate.

The Commission expressed its satisfaction that in defining the boundary between Togoland under British mandate and Togoland under French mandate the tribal frontiers had been taken into account. It also requested the mandatory Power to attach the report of the Mixed Franco-British Boundary Commission¹ to the next annual report.

The Commission noted with interest the full statistical tables concerning public finance in the territory which were contained in the report and was gratified to find that Togoland had been relieved of that portion of the Gold Coast loans which had been charged to the territory under mandate; it noted also that a due proportion of the profits made by the West Africa Currency Board was being credited retrospectively to Togoland.

The Commission expressed a desire, to be kept informed as to the results of the recent establishment of native treasuries, and noted that it was the intention of the mandatory Power to include in the next annual report detailed information regarding the tributes levied by the native chiefs.

The Commission asked for a clear explanation of the difference which exists, in the view of the Administration, between "forced" and "compulsory" labour, and pointed out the drawbacks inherent in the system of remunerating native labour through the chiefs.

The Commission noted with regret the considerable increase, notwithstanding the efforts made by the Administration, in the quantities of spirits imported, and took the opportunity of once again urging the mandatory Power to consider the possibility of introducing preventive measures which would prove more effective.²

Ruanda-Urundi.

The attention of the Commission was specially drawn to a passage in the report describing a proposal for the transfer of inhabitants of the territory under mandate to neighbouring areas in the Belgian Congo. Despite the explanations given by the accredited representative, it did not appear to be clearly demonstrated that this proposal would bring about the result aimed at by the mandatory Power. Accordingly, the Commission wondered whether a better solution of the economic and social problems arising from the fact that the territory is over-populated would not be found in another direction and declared that it would attach special interest to information concerning the results of the examination of this proposal, which was then being undertaken.

The Commission noted the accredited representative's statement that consideration was being given to the percentage of the profits derived from the circulation of notes of the Belgian Congo Bank which should be assigned to the Treasury of Ruanda-Urundi.

In connection with applications for land concessions on the part of European enterprises, which the accredited representative said would always be carefully examined, the Commission expressed anxiety as to the unfortunate consequences to the prosperity and development of the natives which must inevitably follow upon the attribution to Europeans of vast areas of land in an over-populated country. This anxiety would be removed if cessions for long periods or cessions of land in full ownership to Europeans were granted only as an exceptional measure and in the interest of the natives.

The Commission noted that the recruiting of workers for the Katanga mines had again been authorised, and expressed its appreciation of the measures taken by the mandatory Administration to facilitate the adaptation of the workers to their new circumstances and to improve

¹ In his comments on the Commission's observations (see Minutes of the fourteenth session of the Permanent Mandates Commission, page 279), the accredited representative stated that, as the delimitation work was not quite terminated, it would probably not be possible to annex the Commissioners' report to the next annual report, but that it might perhaps be annexed to the report for 1929.

² In a communication dated December 24th, 1928, the accredited representative stated that new regulations were under consideration, with a view to reducing the imports of spirits (see Minutes of the fourteenth session of the Commission, page 280).

the conditions of their transport. It expressed its confidence that the mandatory Power would continue to exercise proper supervision over this recruiting.

The Commission asked to be informed of the amount expended in 1927 for the construction of roads, the average cost of construction per kilometer, and the proportion of this cost expended on the wages of native workers. It also expressed a desire to know how workers are recruited for this work, and the daily wages of workers employed in road-making and road-mending.

Territories under C Mandate.

Islands under Japanese Mandate.

The Commission stated that it would be glad to receive information as to the use which the mandatory Power proposed to make of the capital reserve represented by the surplus revenue obtained in recent financial years.

As regards the proportion of children attending school, the Commission hoped that the mandatory Power would endeavour by every possible means to increase school attendance.¹

The Commission noted with satisfaction the importance attached by the mandatory Power to the strict observance of the prohibition of the consumption of alcohol by natives, and it appreciated the information furnished with regard to the quantity and alcoholic content of the liquor imported.

The Commission was concerned at the considerable decrease in the population of the island of Yap, and stated that it would be glad to receive any information with reference to this phenomenon and to the excessive mortality, principally among women.

Western Samoa.

In the observations concerning the disturbances in Western Samoa, inserted in the report on the work of its thirteenth session,² the Commission expressed the hope that the mandatory Power would soon "be able to re-establish peace and prosperity in Western Samoa by a policy both firm and liberal". The mandatory Power communicated to the Commission, together with the annual report, a "Statement by the New Zealand Government on Political Agitation". The Commission noted from this statement that the passive resistance organised by the "Mau" was acting as an obstacle to the Administration and that the continuation of this unrest was resulting in a very serious check to the prosperity of the country. The Commission hoped that, when examining the next annual report, it would find that the Administration had regained complete control of the situation and that a normal condition of affairs had been re-established.

As regards ex-enemy property, the report stated that no decision regarding the valuation of this property had yet been taken, and the Commission hoped that a final settlement of this matter would soon be made.

Notwithstanding the mandatory Power's statement, the Commission was unable to get a clear idea of all the details of the present financial situation regarding the loan accounts. It noted the accredited representative's promise to furnish the necessary explanations later.

South-West Africa.

The Commission went very fully into the question of the status of the inhabitants of this territory, and asked the mandatory Power to give definite replies to certain questions.

With reference to the new frontier between Angola and South-West Africa, the Commission expressed the hope that, if the boundary-line divided lands cultivated or used for grazing by natives domiciled on the other side of the frontier, their customary usages would be taken into consideration in connection with the use of such lands.

The Commission noted that the actual receipts from the diamond tax, which constituted the principal revenue of the territory, had considerably decreased, and expressed the hope that the Administration would succeed in obtaining a satisfactory arrangement to improve the situation.

As regards the measures taken by the Administration and by the mining companies to safeguard the health of natives employed in the mines, the Commission noted with regret that these measures did not appear to have been completely successful, and asked how the Administration intended to deal with the situation.

The Commission noted the statement of the Administrator that the Colour-Bar Act of the Union of South Africa was applied in the mandated territory of South-West Africa in so far as employment under the Administration and on the railways was concerned, and considered that this Act, the effect of which was to limit the occupations open to native workers and thus place them at a disadvantage with white workers, was based upon considerations which were not compatible with the principles laid down in the mandate.³

¹ In his comments on the Commission's observations with regard to education (see Minutes of the fourteenth session of the Commission, page 278), the accredited representative stated that native education was receiving the attention of the Japanese Government, which was endeavouring to improve it as far as possible.

² See Supplementary Report to the ninth session of the Assembly, pages 33 and 34.

³ In his comments on the Commission's observations the accredited representative stated that the Colour-Bar Act of the Union was not in force in the mandated territory. A certain colour bar was, however, being observed in practice, but it was based on no statutory enactments and was purely temporary (see Minutes of the fourteenth session of the Commission, page 278).

The Commission hoped that the Administration would develop the system of native education, and that it would consider the question whether larger financial support should not be given to the educational work of the Missions.

The question of the settlement of the "Angola Boers" in the mandated territory was dealt with by the Commission, which hoped to find in the next report a more complete account of the measures taken in this connection and the results of this experiment.

As regards the legal and financial status of the railways and harbours of the territory — a question which had frequently engaged the Commission's attention — and also their working and economic importance, the Commission noted the detailed information given by the accredited representative. It expressed the desire that the mandatory Power would now find it possible to amend the South-West Africa Railways and Harbours Act (No. 20) of 1922, in order to bring the legal regime of the railways and harbours into conformity with the principles of the mandate and of the Treaty of Versailles and the decision adopted by the Council on June 9th, 1926.¹ The Commission also asked that future annual reports should always contain a special statement concerning the working of the railways in the territory and its financial results.

Observations on Petitions.

The Commission's conclusions regarding the various petitions examined may be summarised as follows :

1. Iraq.

The Commission examined a petition from Mr. B. S. Nicolas, dated January 3rd, 1928, requesting it to be good enough to establish his nationality and stating that he had been successively refused Iraq and Turkish nationalities and that he was not entitled to claim French nationality. The Commission noted that the various documents in its possession showed that the petitioner was not born in Iraq and that on August 6th, 1924, he did not have his habitual residence there. In these circumstances, the mandatory Power and the Government of Iraq did not consider that the provisions of Article 30 of the Treaty of Lausanne and Article 3 of the Nationality Law of Iraq were applicable to his case. The Commission, not being responsible for settling individual questions of nationality, considered that it was not its duty to ascertain whether Mr. B. S. Nicolas had or had not remained a Turkish subject, or whether he could or could not acquire Iraq nationality.

The Commission drew the Council's attention to the conclusions suggested to it by an examination of the petition of the Bahai Spiritual Assembly of Baghdad, protesting against the seizure of property belonging to the sect, and recommended that the British Government should be asked to make representations to the Iraq Government with a view to the immediate redress of the denial of justice from which the petitioners had in its opinion suffered.

2. Palestine.

As regards the telegram from the Arab Congress of Palestine dated June 20th, 1928, requesting the Commission to establish a democratic parliamentary system of government, the Commission observed that it was not called upon to recommend any particular form of government in the territories under mandate. It was for the mandatory Power alone to determine the regime applicable, in accordance with Article 22 of the Covenant.

As regards the petitions submitted by the Zionist Organisation and by the Chief Rabbis Kook and Meir concerning incidents which occurred at the Wailing Wall in Jerusalem on September 24th, 1928, the Commission, while regretting these incidents, noted with satisfaction that the Palestine Government had already approached both parties with a view to facilitating an agreement. It hoped that the mandatory Power would thus succeed in allaying public feeling, and that neither party would, through unreasonable demands or refusals, assume the responsibility of provoking public disturbances.

3. Syria and Lebanon.

The Commission considered that the petitions of March 8th and June 8th, 1928, from the Emir Chékib Arslan and M. Riad el Souh, regarding various aspects of the policy pursued by the mandatory Power in Syria, called for no observations.

4. Togoland under French Mandate.

The Commission was of opinion that the petitions from Mr. Casely Hayford of November 4th, 1926, December 1st, 1927, June 18th and September 6th, 1928, called for no action.²

5. Western Samoa.

The Commission examined a petition dated June 8th, 1928, from the Anti-Slavery and Aborigines Protection Society concerning a circular (catechism), the purpose of which was to inform the Samoan natives as to the status of the League of Nations, more especially in its relations

¹ See Minutes of the fourteenth session of the Commission, pages 71 to 79.

² See Minutes of the fourteenth session of the Commission, pages 211 and 212.

with the territory. It noted that the New Zealand Government proposed to take steps to make the relations between the League and the natives as clear as possible in the territory.¹

6. *South-West Africa.*

As regards the petition from certain members of the Rehoboth Community dated November 26th, 1926,² the Commission was of opinion that the petitioners should be informed that the Commission understood that their grievances had been fully investigated and considered that they had now lost their relevance.

The Commission also examined a petition dated March 5th, 1926, from the "Kaoko Land- und Minengesellschaft", concerning the cancellation of its rights of ownership and mining rights by the Union of South Africa, and considered that a reply should be sent to the petitioning Company to the effect that its claim did not come within the Commission's competence. Nevertheless, the Commission was of opinion that the attention of the Council should be drawn to the existence of considerable landed estates in South-West Africa which had constituted ex-enemy property and hoped that the Council would request the mandatory Power to explain its declaration of February 19th, 1926, which appeared to be inconsistent with the statements previously made with reference to the status of the said properties and their disposal.

B. PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNCIL.

On March 4th, 1929, the Council, in the presence of Baron Moncheur, representative of Belgium and of the Marquis Theodoli, Chairman of the Permanent Mandates Commission, adopted the Finnish representative's report on the work of the fourteenth session of the Permanent Mandates Commission.

The Council noted the Rapporteur's observations on the general questions examined by the Mandates Commission during that session.

The Rapporteur also drew attention to the Mandates Commission's observations on the Treaty between Great Britain and Iraq, the agitation which had continued in Western Samoa since 1926, the status of the railways and harbours of South-West Africa, and also the reference made in the Commission's report to the application of the Colour-Bar Act to South-West Africa and the observations of the accredited representative. The Council noted that the Act in question was not in force in the mandated territory.

It also noted the conclusions of the Mandates Commission on the petitions examined by it, especially those relating to the National Spiritual Assembly of the Bahai of Iraq and the Jerusalem Wailing Wall incident.

The Council was also informed by the British representative that the new Treaty of Alliance concluded in 1927 between the British Government and the Government of Iraq had not been ratified because ratification was subject to the conclusion of financial and military agreements regarding which negotiations were still in progress. The Council, on the Rapporteur's proposal, decided to adjourn consideration of this question until the British Government was in a position to lay the text of the Treaty and supplementary agreements before it, and to reassure it in regard to any matters which might have given rise to misgivings.

OBSERVATIONS ON THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE VARIOUS TERRITORIES UNDER MANDATE.

As regards the special observations on the administration of the seven territories under mandate dealt with by the Commission at its fourteenth session, the Council decided to communicate those observations to the Governments of the mandatory Powers respectively concerned, and to request them to take such action as was required.

PETITIONS.

The Commission's conclusions regarding the petitions examined were approved by the Council, and the Secretary-General was instructed to bring them to the notice of the respective mandatory Powers and the petitioners concerned.

LIQUOR TRAFFIC.

The Belgian Government, in a letter concerning the definition of alcoholic liquor, pointed out that the difference between the maximum alcoholic content recommended by the Permanent Mandates Commission and that accepted by Belgium was merely due to a difference in the method employed for determining the alcoholic content. Moreover, the French representative on the Council stated that his Government's views were identical with those of the Belgian Government. As the reservation formulated by those two Powers was no longer relevant, the Council, on the Rapporteur's proposal, decided to take note of the views expressed by the mandatory Powers

¹ See Minutes of the fourteenth session of the Commission, pages 264 and 265.

² See Minutes of the fourteenth session of the Commission, pages 243 and 244.

as to the definition of certain terms relating to spirituous liquors proposed by the Mandates Commission, in accordance with which only liquors containing a minimum of 20° pure alcohol by weight were to be regarded as spirituous liquors, it having been shown that 20° of alcohol by weight represented 25° by volume at a temperature of 15° Centigrade, and decided to request the Powers to conform to that definition.

III. NEW MEMBER OF THE PERMANENT MANDATES COMMISSION.

The Council was informed on December 13th, 1928, at its fifty-third session that, for reasons of health, General Freire d'Andrade had tendered his resignation as a member of the Permanent Mandates Commission.

The Council associated itself with the Finnish representative, who expressed regret at the loss of General Freire d'Andrade's valuable services.

The vacancy thus created was then filled by the Council, which appointed Count DE PENHA GARCIA, former Portuguese Minister of Finance and Vice-President of the International Colonial Institute at Brussels, as member of the Permanent Mandates Commission.

IV. SYSTEM OF JUSTICE IN IRAQ.

At its meeting on March 9th, 1929, the Council approved the report of the Finnish representative and agreed in principle to the British Government's proposal to replace the judicial agreement concluded on March 25th, 1924, between Great Britain and Iraq by a uniform system of justice in Iraq. The Finnish representative pointed out, however, that this change would constitute an amendment to the texts on which the Council took decisions concerning the application in Iraq of the principles of Article 22 of the Covenant, but added that the Council had no reason to refuse the British Government the general authorisation for which it had asked, because it would be understood that this new regime would be submitted for final approval to the Council. Moreover, it would be for the mandatory Power to induce States which enjoyed privileges under the agreement in force to consent to renounce those privileges.

The Persian representative said that he was extremely glad that the British Government had taken this step, and expressed his gratitude to it.

The British representative pointed out the importance of the reform which was contemplated, and assured the Council that his Government would take steps to ensure that the interests of the Powers concerned would be properly protected.

9.

SLAVERY.

On September 22nd, 1927, the Assembly, at its eighth session, adopted a resolution expressing the hope that the States which had signed the Slavery Convention of September 25th, 1926, would ratify it as soon as possible. In pursuance of this resolution, the Secretary-General sent a letter on November 8th, 1927, to all States Members of the League, reminding them of this recommendation. On March 12th, 1929, the German Government deposited with the Secretariat Germany's instrument of ratification of this Convention.

The Iraq Government, in a letter dated December 9th, 1928, and the Government of the United States of America, in a letter dated March 21st, 1929, have also notified their accession to the Convention. The latter's accession was accompanied by the following reservation concerning Article 5 of the Convention :

“ That the Government of the United States of America, adhering to its policy of opposition to forced or compulsory labour except as a punishment for crime of which the person concerned has been duly convicted, adheres to the Convention except as to the first subdivision of the second paragraph of Article 5, which reads as follows :

“ (1) Subject to the transitional provisions laid down in paragraph 2 below, compulsory or forced labour may only be exacted for public purposes. ”

10.

WORK OF THE TECHNICAL ORGANISATIONS.

I. ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL ORGANISATION.

A. WORK OF THE ECONOMIC COMMITTEE.

1. COMMERCIAL POLICY : MOST-FAVOURED-NATION CLAUSE.

In June 1927, the Council instructed the Economic Committee to follow up the application of the resolutions of the International Economic Conference held in May 1927, concerning Customs tariffs and commercial treaties. These instructions were subsequently confirmed by the resolution adopted by the Assembly in 1927.

After carefully investigating all the factors connected with tariff and treaty-making policies, the Committee agreed upon a common doctrine concerning tariff systems and contractual methods, including the principle of most-favoured-nation treatment. This doctrine was set forth in detail in the report of the Economic and Financial Organisation to the last session of the Assembly.

The Committee has since turned its attention to the question of the drafting of the most-favoured-nation clause, the interpretation and application of which frequently gave rise to controversies or disputes. On the basis of the report submitted by three of its members, the Committee laid down its doctrine as regards the essential principles implicitly contained in the actual conception of most-favoured-nation treatment, the field of application of this clause in Customs matters, the methods of its application and the exception of which the clause normally admits. The Committee also agreed upon a standard formula suitable for adoption by States in their bilateral conventions. The Committee's findings, which are set out in detail in its report on its session of January 1929, may be summarised as follows :

(a) Though the Economic Conference expressed itself in favour of the widest possible application of the most-favoured-nation treatment, it recognised that every country must judge for itself in what cases and to what extent this fundamental guarantee should be embodied in any particular treaty.

Subject to this reservation, the Committee concluded that " the granting of most-favoured-nation treatment should be the rule, and that the refusal to grant this guarantee or the corresponding institution of a differential regime can only be justified in the case of States which refuse to follow an equitable tariff policy or which resort to discriminatory practices ".

(b) The clause must be unconditional and unrestricted ; only then does it represent in Customs matters the maximum of advantages and guarantees ; only then can it be recommended as the fundamental stipulation on which international economic relations should be based.

(c) In other domains — as, for instance, the treatment of foreigners, internal taxes on consumption and distribution, etc. — the clause, even though unconditional and unrestricted, only represents a minimum of the advantages and guarantees that two countries may grant one another, treatment on the same footing as nationals being the most equitable solution of all in such matters.

(d) The main field of application of the clause is " Customs matters ". The Committee is of opinion that Customs matters include Customs rates and the manner of applying Customs duties, *i. e.*, import and export duties, coefficients of increase, if any, and subsidiary duties of every kind levied on imports or exports ; the expression also includes all rules, formalities and charges connected with Customs operations of every kind.

(e) As regards import and export prohibitions and restrictions, the Committee felt that, in view of the uncertainty caused by the noticeable differences in post-war treaties on this subject, an express stipulation was necessary to make the clause apply to this question also.

(f) As regards temporary imports and exports properly so called, the clause should apply to all concessions which, being designed solely to facilitate international trade, relate only to goods not intended to undergo any further transformation.

(g) As regards temporary imports and exports included under the heading " finishing trade ", the Committee draws a distinction between the *active* finishing trade and the *passive* finishing trade. The clause should in every case apply to the former, whereas the varying conditions in different countries render its application to the latter difficult and unpractical.

(h) In order to benefit by the clause, goods must " have their origin in " the country which enjoys most-favoured-nation treatment and must be " like products ", in the sense that they must possess the characteristics which entitle certain goods to a given Customs treatment. Without attempting to define the two terms, the Committee states that, whatever standards

may be adopted in the various countries, the clause certainly means that these standards must be applied in exactly the same manner to the products of all countries.

(i) The Committee, in its report, then considers the exceptions admitted by tradition, such as Customs unions, frontier traffic, special historical, ethnical, geographical ties between certain countries and, finally, submits a *model formula* for the most-favoured-nation clause.

At its session in March 1929, the Council decided to communicate to the various States all the conclusions of the Committee concerning tariff and treaty-making policies and the most-favoured-nation clause, recommending them to take as a basis, when formulating their commercial policy and drafting bilateral treaties, the principles laid down by the Committee. It further requested them to forward to the Secretary-General any observations they might wish to make concerning the principles contained in the Committee's conclusions.

The question of the connection between plurilateral agreements and bilateral conventions based on most-favoured-nation treatment, a question of particular interest now that the Economic Committee is engaged in preparing such agreements, was examined at length by the Committee, which submitted the following report to the Council on the results of these investigations and proposed that it should be communicated to the States as part of the results of the work done in regard to tariffs and treaty-making policy.

* * *

“ During the Diplomatic Conference held at Geneva to draw up an International Convention on the Abolition of Import and Export Prohibitions and Restrictions, the question arose whether States not parties to that Convention could, by virtue of bilateral agreements based on the most-favoured-nation clause, claim the benefit of any advantages mutually conceded by the signatories of the International Convention.

“ In deference to this consideration, it was even proposed to include a clause to that effect in the Convention. It was soon realised, however, that this question could not be answered in the Convention, which could not affect the contents of bilateral agreements based on the most-favoured-nation clause. The Conference realised the great importance of the problem, both for the general economic work of the League and for the conclusion of future economic agreements under the League's auspices, and the nature and field of application of such agreements. It was urged at the Conference that the conclusion of plurilateral conventions would be hindered if countries, while not acceding to such agreements, could still, without giving any counter-engagement, avail themselves of the engagements undertaken by the States signatory to such conventions.

“ The Economic Committee of the League was asked to make an exhaustive study of the most-favoured-nation clause in commercial treaties and to put forward proposals regulating it in as comprehensive and as uniform a manner as possible, and it has carefully considered the question, which is the subject of the present report. It took the view that the World Economic Conference of Geneva, when it recommended the conclusion of plurilateral economic conventions with the object of improving the world economic situation and the application of the most-favoured-nation clause in the widest and most unconditional form, probably did not quite realise that—up to a point—these two recommendations might clash. One argument—and a very sound one—brought up in the Economic Committee was that, in certain cases, countries would have little or no interest in acceding to a plurilateral economic convention or in undertaking the commitments it entailed if, by invoking the most-favoured-nation clause, as embodied in bilateral agreements, they could claim as of right, and without incurring corresponding obligations, that the obligations contracted by the signatory States of the plurilateral convention should apply to themselves. It was strongly urged, indeed, that such a possibility might seriously impair the whole future economic work of the League, and that the only means of averting the danger would be to adopt a provision whereby the most-favoured-nation clause embodied in bilateral commercial treaties would not, as a rule, affect plurilateral economic conventions.

“ It was objected, however, that a clause of this kind, instead of leading, as the World Economic Conference recommended, to the unlimited application of the most-favoured-nation clause, would actually check it, and that, more especially in countries where the unlimited application of this clause is the basis of commercial relations with foreign countries, such a reservation would probably be misunderstood and might give rise to a hostile attitude towards the League's economic work. It was further argued that a State might quite conceivably, on wholly serious and genuine grounds, be unable to undertake the commitments involved by an international economic convention; that the final decision whether it could do so or not would lie with the State itself; and that it could hardly be asked, as a result of a most-favoured-nation clause drafted *ad hoc* in bilateral commercial treaties, to give up the right in cases of this kind to refuse to accept differential treatment on the part of one or more other States.

“ The arguments advanced on both sides are so cogent that the Economic Committee has not found it possible at this moment to find a general and final solution for this difficult problem. It is unanimously of opinion, however, that, although this reservation in plurilateral conventions may appear in some cases legitimate, it can only be justified in the case of plurilateral conventions of a general character and aiming at the improvement of economic relations between peoples, and not in the case of conventions concluded by certain countries to attain particular ends the benefits of which those countries would, by such a procedure, be refusing to other States when the latter might, by invoking most-favoured-nation treatment, derive legitimate advantages.

“ The said reservation should also be expressly stipulated and should not deprive a State not a party to the plurilateral convention of advantages it enjoys either under the national laws of the participating State or under a bilateral agreement concluded by the latter with a third State, itself not a party to the said plurilateral Convention.

“ Finally, this reservation should not be admitted in cases in which the State claiming the advantages arising under the plurilateral convention, though not acceding to it, would be prepared to grant full reciprocity in the matter.

“ The Economic Committee expresses the view that countries which, with reference to the terms of plurilateral economic conventions, agreed to embody in their bilateral agreements based on the most-favoured-nation clause a reservation defined in accordance with the principles set forth above would not be acting contrary to the recommendations of the World Economic Conference of Geneva, and consequently will not be acting in a manner inconsistent with the objects which the League has set itself to attain. ”

2. COLLECTIVE AGREEMENTS IN RESPECT OF CERTAIN GROUPS OF GOODS.

The Economic Consultative Committee and the 1928 Assembly having unanimously approved the methods recommended by the Economic Committee for collective action by States with a view to the reduction of tariffs, the latter proceeded to investigate the possibilities of various means of abolishing or reducing tariffs on certain products mentioned in the last report to the Assembly.

Aluminium.

A proposal for collective action was made by the German Government. Crude aluminium is subject in Germany to an import prohibition which the Government will be obliged to abolish under the Convention of November 8th, 1927, on Prohibitions. Before introducing duties on crude aluminium, the German Government asked the Governments of the principal producing countries whether they would be prepared to consider concerted action to abolish or reduce the duties on this product. With the consent of the German Government, this question was referred to the Economic Committee, which has examined it on the basis of reports submitted by two of its members.

This enquiry convinced the Committee that, although certain countries were in favour of the German Government's proposal, others showed little inclination to consider it, and others again did not regard it as a matter of urgency, coming so soon after the renewal of an industrial agreement on this subject between all the European producers. In view of this situation, the Committee was forced to conclude that present circumstances are not favourable to the continuation of this enquiry.

Cement.

On the basis of a report submitted to it by one of its members, the Committee held that concerted action regarding cement would be of great value, owing to the disparity between rates, and that such action would have some prospect of success. It has therefore conducted a semi-official enquiry among the Governments of the interested countries with a view to ascertaining whether they would be prepared to take part in a preliminary meeting at which the representatives of these countries would examine in common the ways and means of taking concerted action in respect of cement tariffs.

As a result of this enquiry the Committee has ascertained that a large number of countries concerned in the production of, and trade in, cement would be willing to take part in a meeting to examine the Customs regime applicable to cement. In view, however, of the absence of any information as to the attitude of certain Latin-American countries which play an important part in the international trade in this product, the Committee, before taking a decision in regard to the meeting in question, thought it preferable to organise a consultation of cement experts for the purpose of completing the preparatory enquiries. This consultation will take place in the early autumn.

As regards the *other products* in respect of which collective action is contemplated in its programme, the Committee is continuing its investigations. It has received reports drawn up by some of its members with regard to the *de facto* situation concerning these products. The exchange of views to which these reports gave rise has shown that it is necessary to supplement the preliminary enquiries. The examination of the question will be resumed at the Committee's next session.

3. COAL.

At its first session held at Geneva in May 1928 the Economic Consultative Committee came to the conclusion that a study of the problems presented by the coal industry might usefully be undertaken, and it recommended, in the interest of consumers and producers alike, that the Council should invite the Economic Organisation of the League to take up the enquiries that have been started in relation to the coal problem and to supplement them as soon as possible by obtaining such advice as it might deem appropriate, in the manner suggested by the Economic Conference. A report should be submitted to the Council in order that the latter might be able to judge whether concerted international action could further the solution of the coal problem.

On June 9th, 1928, the Council referred the recommendation of the Economic Consultative Committee to the Economic Committee and by its resolution of September 21st, 1928, the Assembly of the League at its ninth session expressed "its confidence that the Economic Committee, to which the investigation of the problems relating to coal and sugar were submitted at the instance of the Consultative Committee, will carry through its work with all desirable energy, while not neglecting any of the interests involved, whether of producers or consumers — countries or persons — or the workers".

The Economic Committee has begun the study of the various international aspects of the problem. It first requested its members, the Secretariat of the League and the International Labour Office, to collect information and statistics which might be of assistance to it. After having surveyed the problem as a whole with the aid of this preparatory material, the Committee appointed a delegation¹ to consult experts familiar with the coal question in all its aspects.

Eleven experts selected from eminent technicians belonging both to consuming and producing countries held a meeting at Geneva from January 8th to 12th, 1929, in the presence of a delegation of the Economic Committee, assisted by the services of the Secretariat, to which were attached officials delegated by the International Labour Office.

As a result of this meeting the Economic Committee decided to continue the enquiry by having recourse to labour experts, but without departing from the technical boundaries which it had assigned for itself. It requested the International Labour Office to suggest the names of these experts; nine of these experts met at Geneva from February 27th to March 2nd, 1929. The same documentation as was submitted to the first experts was laid before them, and they were asked to reply to the same questions.

In the course of these two meetings, the documentation already collected by the Economic Committee was supplemented and brought up to date by means of detailed discussions. These contributed to put the coal problem in its true perspective by bringing out the difficulties which characterise it in a manner often varying in the different countries.

The Economic Committee has not yet completed its work, and it has been recognised that additional consultations are advisable to enable it to carry its enquiries still further, and to arrive at conclusions and formulate recommendations in regard to the possibility and expediency of concerted international action.

Without waiting for the end of its enquiry, the Economic Committee thought it advisable to submit to the Council a preliminary report on the international aspects of the coal problem.² This report, a brief summary of which is given below, outlines the situation as it appears from the information so far obtained by the Committee.

During the last decade very rapid progress has been made in the scientific conservation of heat and in the extraction of the maximum of energy from coal burnt. The competition which coal has to face from liquid fuel and hydraulic power has rapidly increased. Owing to this industrial evolution the world consumption of coal has grown to a slight extent only.

On the other hand, the capacity of production of coal has greatly increased. Having been cut off from their normal sources of supply during the war, many States were driven to open up their own deposits. The capacity of production has also increased as a result of the normal progress of the industry and owing to the special incentive which the depression of recent years has given to more scientific and economical methods of production.

The disequilibrium between capacity of production and consumption led naturally to a struggle between the exporting countries to secure new markets or to maintain old ones, and to an endeavour by others to ward off the attacks of foreign competition by entrenching themselves behind protective barriers or to surmount barriers erected elsewhere by employing commercial methods anti-economic in character.

These protective measures have gradually accumulated over a series of years, because each temporary accentuation of the depression has led to the construction of new dikes — and it has proved easier to construct than to dismantle. The general effect of most of these local and national measures has been to shift the incidence, while on balance increasing the extent, of the depression of the coal industry as a whole.

In face of these difficulties nearly all the experts agree that the coal problem, as it affects Europe, has elements which are international in character.

¹ This delegation consisted of: Dr. TRENDLENBURG (Chairman), Sir Sydney CHAPMAN, M. DOLEZAL, M. DI NOLA and M. SERRUYS.

² "The Problem of the Coal Industry. Interim Report on its International Aspects by the Economic Committee of the League of Nations". Geneva, 1929. Document C. 150. M. 58. 1929. 11.

It was suggested :

- (a) That international agreements between producers should be arranged concerning output, markets and prices ;
- (b) That a special international committee representative of all interests — Governments, employers, miners, merchants and consumers — should be set up ;
- (c) That measures should be taken for assimilating, if not equalising, wages, hours and the social conditions of labour ;
- (d) That the existing artificial restrictions to trade in coal and artificial stimuli to production should be abolished.

In its preliminary report, the Economic Committee confines itself to recording the views expressed, without making any pronouncement upon their respective merits. It is fully conscious of the necessity of taking into account, in any discussion of the measures necessary to remedy the situation, not only the interests of producers, but those of consumers.

4. SUGAR.

At its last session before the ninth session of the Assembly (July 1928) the Economic Committee had decided that it was, in the first place, necessary to collect sufficient data with regard to the sugar question to make a worldwide orientation possible. It therefore asked its members, as well as a number of Governments, and also the International Institute of Agriculture, to assist it by collecting information and statistics on a number of detailed questions.

In this manner a most valuable collection of material was received which was reviewed by the Economic Committee at its October session.

The Committee thought it desirable to have this material completed by asking a few experts of world reputation in sugar circles to prepare memoranda on certain subjects. As a result, the following three memoranda were prepared, which together present a comprehensive picture of the world situation¹ :

Dr. PRINSEN GEERLIGS, of Amsterdam : " The Production of Cane Sugar ".

Messrs. F. O. LICHT, of Magdeburg : " The Production of Beet Sugar ".

Dr. MIKUSCH, of Vienna : " The Influence of Legislation on the Production, Consumption, Export and Import of Sugar, and the Development of Consumption and the Possible Means of increasing it ".

These memoranda were considered by the Economic Committee in January, 1929.

As the Committee stated in its January report :

" Taken together, these papers reveal the fundamental idea that the present situation of the sugar industry throughout the world is essentially due to lack of equilibrium between production and consumption. Hence, the natural conclusion is that, to re-establish equilibrium, either an attempt must be made to increase consumption or production must be reduced or both solutions must be sought.

" It is questionable whether it would be consistent with the rôle of the League of Nations to take any action with the object of checking the natural development of production, *i.e.*, of preventing expansion resulting from the free play of economic forces.

" The development of world production, however, is partly the result of artificial measures of various kinds for which States are mainly responsible.

" An examination of the problem from this point of view would certainly be of great value, as would also a study of the possibilities of increased consumption ".

The documentation now being sufficient, the Economic Committee therefore decided to proceed to a consultation of experts of various aspects of the sugar problem. The Committee has chosen a delegation consisting of the officers of the Committee, Dr. TRENDELENBURG and Sir Sydney CHAPMAN, and, further, of M. BARBOZA-CARNEIRO, M. BRUNET (to be replaced in case of absence by Dr. NEDERBRAGT), M. DVOŘÁČEK and M. STUCKI, to meet these experts.

The first consultation was a meeting with experts of the sugar industry. This took place at Geneva from April 4th to 6th, 1929. Experts from fifteen different countries, all of recognised standing and occupying prominent positions in the industry, took part in the consultation.

The consultation fully achieved its purpose by providing the delegates of the Economic Committee with the data essential to obtain an insight into the position of the sugar industry, the extent of the present crisis and the possible remedies.

¹ Published as document C.148.M.57.1929.II.

During the discussion, which embraced every aspect of the problem, the experts' attention was focused chiefly on two main points, namely, the possibility of stabilising production for a number of years and various measures which might be employed jointly to increase consumption.

The experts having expressed the opinion that an agreement between producers must be concluded before these measures could be put into practice, the delegates of the Economic Committee pointed out that, as regards its attitude towards the conclusion of such agreements, the Economic Organisation of the League must adhere to the principles laid down by the International Economic Conference.

Consequently, it could not assume any responsibility or take any initiative in the matter, but must confine itself to keeping closely in touch with the development and progress of these agreements; it would bear this factor in mind in its final report to the Council on the position of the sugar industry.

In view of the connections that exist between sugar-beet growing and rural economy as a whole, particularly as regards the rotation of crops, the Committee decided to hold also a consultation of experts with regard to beet production. The details of this meeting, which took place on May 13th, were fixed in agreement with the Secretary-General of the International Institute of Agriculture in Rome, who took part in the Committee's discussions.

The Economic Committee hopes, as a result of this second consultation, to be able to submit to the Council a detailed report on the sugar question as a whole.

5. UNIFICATION OF CUSTOMS NOMENCLATURE.

Following a decision by the Council, the Secretary-General in September 1928 communicated to the Governments the draft framework prepared by the experts in its new form, with an indication of the lines along which the experts had worked. At the same time, the Secretary-General informed the Governments that the Sub-Committee of Experts was now dealing with the second part of the work entrusted to it, namely, the preparation of a detailed standard nomenclature.

The experts have already prepared the first twenty-five chapters of this draft. In addition to these chapters which, without break in continuity, follow the order of the framework drawn up by them, the experts have prepared, in order to assist the Economic Committee in its work on the reduction of Customs tariffs, a few important chapters belonging to later sections.

It is evident, however, that several sessions of the Sub-Committee will still be necessary before the proposed draft can be completed.

It must be remembered, too, that the experts have not yet touched the most difficult portion of their work. The sections prepared up to the present relate to products of the animal kingdom and of the vegetable kingdom, fatty substances and products of the food-preparing industries and are by no means those which present the greatest difficulties.

The experts will encounter still greater difficulties when they undertake the preparation of the nomenclature, for instance, of the chemical industries, the textile industry and the metal and mechanical industries.

The cognate questions concerning rules for the clearing of goods through the Customs, including in the first place the clearing of composite goods and goods consisting of separate parts, have for long been under consideration by the experts, since a uniform body of rules is needed. The experts have studied the methods followed in a large number of countries, but have not yet been able to agree on any common principles to supplement the classification of these goods and govern its application.

In view of the difficulties experienced, the experts have thought out partial solutions under the various headings. They suggest that they might, before the final detailed nomenclature is prepared, embody these solutions in uniform rules.

The Economic Committee at its April session 1929, also considered the methods which the Sub-Committee of Experts ought to follow in order to complete its task, particularly with regard to the co-operation of interested economic circles, as recommended by the International Economic Conference. The Committee fully realises the need to ascertain the reasoned opinion of the circles interested in this question and, accordingly, to provide them with an opportunity and sufficient time to study any proposals which the Sub-Committee of Experts may submit.

At the present stage of the work, however, the Committee fears that it would be difficult to arrange for such co-operation without the risk of giving rise to vacillation and uncertainty, and so possibly hindering the progress of the already very arduous and complex work which lies before the experts. It would therefore seem desirable to wait until this work has reached a more advanced stage before submitting the results for consideration to the circles interested.

6. INDIRECT PROTECTIONISM.

The Economic Consultative Committee drew the Council's attention to the question of "administrative protectionism", and recommended that steps should be taken as soon as possible to put an end to this disguised protectionism, which takes very varied forms.

This question was referred by the Council to the Economic Committee, which examined the possible scope of this enquiry, and questions coming under the term "administrative protectionism". The Committee found that the enquiry should cover all measures — apart from tariffs and prohibitions — which, on whatever grounds they were based, might strengthen protection or hinder the trade of other countries. The Committee thought that the term "administrative protectionism" hitherto used was too narrow to comprise the measures referred to above, and accordingly decided to substitute for it in future the wider term "indirect protectionism". The Committee decided in the first place to prepare as complete a list as possible of the facts which might come within the scope of this definition, it being understood that the inclusion of any fact would not imply the expression of an opinion on the part of the Committee as to whether the fact in question was or was not in accordance with the principles of the equitable treatment of commerce.

The Committee will consider later whether and in what cases suitable measures might usefully be contemplated.

Meanwhile, the Committee has decided to consider forthwith in greater detail the question of provisions which prescribe the affixing of an indication to show the origin of foreign goods. The Committee decided to begin this enquiry, by supplementing the documentation submitted on this subject to the Economic Conference held in 1927.

7. ASSIMILATION OF LEGISLATION ON BILLS OF EXCHANGE AND CHEQUES.

In July 1928 the Secretary-General of the League, in pursuance of a Council resolution, communicated to all Members and to States non-Members of the League, the report and draft Conventions drawn up by the legal experts convened by the Economic Committee to examine the question of bills of exchange, promissory notes and cheques.¹ The object of this communication was to invite Governments to submit before the end of the year their observations and proposals, if any, concerning these drafts and also to ascertain whether, in their opinion, the drafts could be taken as a basis of discussion for an international conference which it was then proposed to hold some time in 1929.

The experts' proposals are designed to unify as far as possible the various laws of the so-called "Continental" type. This term also includes the laws of a number of Latin-American countries, but does not cover legislation based on the Anglo-Saxon system. The only undertaking which States taking part in the future Conference will be invited to assume is to submit to the approval of their Parliaments within a definite period a draft law embodying, as provisions of their national laws, the solutions jointly accepted by the Conference in respect of the various problems connected with bills of exchange, promissory notes and cheques.

Two further draft Conventions have been drawn up proposing common solutions for settling conflicts of laws arising out of points not covered by these common solutions.

Doubtless the delay on the part of the Governments in sending in their observations is due to the complicated nature and multiplicity of the problems raised. Owing to this delay, the Economic Committee has been obliged to give up its intention of summoning the Conference during the present year.

At its session in April 1929, the Economic Committee examined the replies received by the Secretariat from twenty-seven countries. The great majority of these replies are in favour of convening a Conference to discuss the drafts communicated. The Committee already feels that the Conference, if convened, would have every chance of success. It has accordingly requested the Secretariat to draw up, in conjunction with the Chairman of the Committee of Experts, for examination at its next session, a preliminary draft of the preparatory documents to be transmitted to the Governments, together with the invitation to attend the Conference. The Committee has already requested the Council to authorise the Secretary-General, after consulting the Committee, to convene and to fix a date for the Conference.

8. TREATMENT OF FOREIGNERS.

In May 1928 the Secretary-General communicated to the Members of the League the text of a draft international Convention prepared by the Economic Committee and destined to replace bilateral treaties, with their inadequacies and uncertainties, by a plurilateral Convention establishing a positive and liberal system.

The draft was accompanied by an explanatory note referring both to the draft as a whole and to the details of each of the provisions of the Convention (document C.174.M.53.1928.II).

The replies received from the Governments of some thirty countries show with what care the draft has been studied by the competent departments and the great importance attached thereto.

The Secretary-General's letter invited the Governments to inform him whether they considered that the draft constituted an adequate basis for an international Convention and whether they

¹ Document C.175.M.54.1928.II.

would be prepared to participate in an international Conference convened to conclude such a Convention. The replies received were practically all in the affirmative.

At its session held in January 1929, the Economic Committee examined the results of the enquiry made by its Rapporteurs into the observations received to date. After discussing the advisability of convening the Conference forthwith and the principles and framework of the proposed Convention, it decided not to modify the original draft Convention and to ask the Secretary-General of the League to use the right conferred upon him by the Council to convene the Conference. At its March session, the Council fixed the date of the Conference for November 5th, 1929.

Accordingly, invitations were sent out on April 10th, 1929, to all the Members of the League and to the principal States non-Members. These invitations were accompanied by a preparatory document including, apart from the draft already communicated, the replies and observations of the various Governments, the general comments of the Economic Committee on these replies, and its comments on each of the articles of the draft Convention, concerning which Governments have submitted observations (document C. I. T. E. 1 / C. 36. M. 21. 1929. II).

9. EXPLOITATION OF THE RICHES OF THE SEA.

The Economic Committee, through its Rapporteurs and the Secretariat, has continued to keep in touch with the Permanent International Board for the Exploration of the Sea at Copenhagen — mainly with the qualified representatives of that organisation — and the co-operation agreed upon between the Permanent Board and the Economic Committee has thus been maintained.

These exchanges of views have already enabled the Committee to realise that it is only in regard to balænoptera in general and to certain varieties in particular that it might be called upon to recommend international measures for the direct or indirect protection of this class of marine fauna, with a view to avoiding any considerable reduction in these natural riches, the exploitation of which has greatly increased of recent years. Nevertheless, the Committee's investigations are not yet sufficiently advanced to enable it to make any concrete proposals in this connection at the moment. It intends first of all to summon a meeting of experts, nationals of countries particularly interested in the question, and specially qualified to give their opinion on a matter which involves numerous delicate and complicated problems.

10. PREVENTION OF SMUGGLING IN GENERAL AND THAT OF ALCOHOL IN PARTICULAR.

On September 24th, 1928, the Assembly, on the proposal of the Finnish, Polish and Swedish delegations, adopted a resolution requesting the Council to invite the Economic Committee to examine the terms in which Conventions might be drawn up for the prevention of smuggling in general, and that of alcohol in particular, and to submit any proposals to the Council.

On September 26th, 1928, the Council instructed the Economic Committee to carry out this investigation, and the question was considered at the October session of that Committee. After collecting preliminary documentation concerning the most recent and most typical Conventions in force for the prevention of smuggling in general, and that of alcoholic beverages in particular, the Committee requested one of its Rapporteurs on this question to get into touch with the experts appointed by the Finnish Government for the purpose of obtaining special information as to the actual conditions under which smuggling is being carried on in the riparian Baltic States, notwithstanding the existence and entry into force of the Helsingfors Convention concluded on August 19th, 1925, between those States.

This consultation has taken place and the Committee has been informed of certain proposals made by the Finnish experts. These proposals are being investigated. The Committee has also requested the Secretariat to ask the Polish and Swedish Governments unofficially for particulars of the scope of the proposal submitted by them, in conjunction with the Finnish Government, to the ninth session of the Assembly. Finally, and at the latter's request, it has decided to consult other experts concerning certain particularly delicate problems raised by this question. It thus hopes to be in a position to submit very shortly to the Council a detailed report and the conclusions reached.

11. COMMERCIAL ARBITRATION.

The Protocol concerning Arbitration Clauses,¹ opened for signature to all States Members and non-Members of the League of Nations on September 24th, 1923, has been ratified, during the period covered by this report, by France, Japan and Switzerland. In the same period, it has been signed on behalf of Estonia and Nicaragua.

¹ See document A.83.1923.II. — Annex.

This agreement, therefore, has now been signed on behalf of thirty countries and put into force as between eighteen countries¹ without counting the numerous British colonies, protectorates or mandated territories.

The Convention on the Execution of Foreign Arbitral Awards, opened on September 26th, 1927,² for signature by all countries signatory to the 1923 Protocol has been signed by twelve countries and has been ratified on behalf of Belgium, Denmark and New Zealand.

Article 8 provides that the Convention will come into force three months after ratification by two of the High Contracting Parties. This time-limit has not yet expired.

The delay on the part of States in making use of the possibility afforded them under this Convention of ensuring, on behalf of their nationals, the execution of foreign arbitral awards is probably due, in the case of several States, to the necessity for making certain changes in their laws. In other cases, the delay may be due to the difficulty of including in the agenda of their Parliaments the Bill required for ratification.

12. INTERNATIONAL INDUSTRIAL UNDERSTANDINGS.

As regards international industrial understandings, on which the Economic Conference of 1927 and the Economic Consultative Committee in 1928 had drawn up detailed recommendations, the Assembly during its session held in 1928, adopted the following resolution :

“ The Assembly hopes that the Economic Organisation will be able to expedite, along the lines of the recommendations of the World Economic Conference and the Consultative Committee, the study of various aspects of the problem of international industrial understandings — in particular, the status of such understandings, their juridical forms, the legislation controlling them and the publicity concerning them. ”

In the opinion of the Consultative Committee, as stated in its report on the session of May 1928, the best way of approaching the general question of industrial agreements was to study the development of the forms of organisation and the legal framework within which that development is taking place.

In the economic history of the last fifty years, the growth of the various forms of economic association and the development of the rules of law which govern them have been proceeding on parallel lines and now tend to converge. Even where the letter of the law has remained unchanged, a more or less satisfactory adjustment is taking place owing to the development of case law and the introduction of administrative practices.

A comparative study of these succeeding changes reveals the nature of the relations between economic associations and public authorities, in their capacity as guardians of the interests of the public. These rules constitute, often for different and entirely opposite reasons, the main problem in all quarters, whether among producers or consumers.

With the gradual increase in the number and importance of agreements covering several countries, the problem is transferred from the national to the international field. But here again it seemed necessary, before attempting to frame policy, to make a legal and economic enquiry with a view to determining how far and in what form—whether by legislation, judicial or administrative measures, or by the growth of common law—the countries in which agreements play an important part are carrying out the two fundamental principles : namely (1) free development of agreements as an essential factor in economic progress and (2) the possibility of intervention to safeguard the interests of the public where the economic power of the combination is being misused.

For this reason and other reasons which follow, the Economic Committee decided to begin with the legal questions.

Taking as a starting-point an interesting paper submitted to the Economic Conference—which the Secretariat supplemented by a series of communications from members of the Economic Committee and the most important recent publications—the Committee instructed the Secretariat to investigate the legal aspect of cartels and, for this purpose, sought the assistance of three legal experts from Germany, France and the United States of America. This selection was made with the object of bringing together exponents of the three most characteristic and important legal systems.

With the help of these experts, the Secretariat is to undertake preliminary work for the Economic Committee by verifying and completing the material already collected and by drawing up “ a preliminary statement on the character and development of the principles on which the laws in force in the different countries are based, and in particular on the standpoint at present adopted, as expressed not only in the legislative texts, but by jurisprudence and administrative practice ”.

¹ *i.e.*, Albania, Austria, Belgium, British Empire (for Great Britain and Northern Ireland), Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Japan, Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Roumania, Spain, Switzerland.

² See document C.659.M.220.1927.II.

Meanwhile, the Economic Committee has not lost sight of the other enquiry recommended by the Consultative Committee in regard to the form, subject-matter and economic rôle of industrial agreements.

Under its direction, the Secretariat has made the most extensive investigations possible, but it has, of course, only been able to use information which is public property, such as that contained in published articles of association, in *communiqués* and in technical and other reviews.

The difficulties encountered in the course of these enquiries have made it clear that, with few exceptions, the information thus obtainable does not enable any conclusions to be drawn which would really be based on the essential features of the various agreements and on the part they play in economic life.

It would seem, therefore, that in the future, whilst the enquiries already started would be continued and extended, it would be necessary to select a few characteristic examples from among the most important industrial agreements and to see what means can be devised of making a thorough analysis of their form and economic rôle.

13. CAMPAIGN AGAINST THE DISEASES OF ANIMALS AND PLANTS.

(a) *Diseases affecting Animals.*

The result of the first part of the experts' work is embodied in a preliminary report (document C.525.M.155.1928.II), the chief conclusion of which is that considerable progress towards the re-establishment of mutual confidence regarding the sanitary situation would be made if all the States interested would agree to organise their veterinary services and publish their sanitary bulletins in accordance with the rules laid down by the experts and with due regard to the work of the International Office for Epizootic Diseases. The Sub-Committee thinks that these common rules might perhaps furnish the basis for an international agreement.

The experts fully understood that it was their duty, not merely to lay down the guarantees which countries exporting live-stock could give, but also to investigate the facilities which, on the basis of such guarantees, importing countries could grant.

A second enquiry was accordingly decided upon, this time into the measures in force in the different countries for the import, transit and export of animals and raw products of animal origin, and a new questionnaire was drawn up for this purpose.

At the request of the Economic Committee, the Council sent the experts' first report to the Governments for their opinion, at the same time asking them to reply to the questionnaire mentioned above. A large number of countries have already sent replies, which show that their Governments are favourable to the experts' conclusions regarding the organisation of veterinary and information services; the experts will therefore shortly be able to resume their work.

They then propose to study the very important problem of the inspection of meat intended for export—for which they have secured the assistance of qualified technical experts belonging to some of the large meat-exporting countries. Three specialists—one each from the Argentine, Uruguay and New Zealand—have been invited to take part in those meetings of the Sub-Committee at which this particular question will be discussed.

(b) *Diseases affecting Plants.*

The Economic Committee is also anxious to take up as soon as possible the study of the economic aspects of the campaign against epiphytes, in particular of the possibility of reconciling the requirements of this campaign with the legitimate demands of the export trade.

It had, however, been informed that the International Institute of Agriculture was planning an international conference at Rome for the purpose of drawing up a new convention on the protection of plants, to replace that of 1914, which could not be put into force. The Committee therefore thought it wiser to await the results of this conference in order to ascertain its views on the protection required by plants against disease. The Conference was held from April 10th to 16th, 1929.

The results of this conference will at the same time furnish the scientific and technical data required for the further work of the Economic Committee, which will consist in reducing, on the basis of the guarantees recommended by the Conference, the difficulties sometimes caused to the development of international trade in plants by the application of phytopathological measures, which are perhaps too strict.

14. ECONOMIC TENDENCIES AFFECTING THE PEACE OF THE WORLD.

On June 9th, 1928, the Council decided to refer to the Economic Committee and the Financial Committee the question of economic tendencies affecting the peace of the world. It accordingly adopted the following resolution:

“ The Council,

“ Instructs the Economic and Financial Committees to undertake, as soon as circumstances allow, and on the lines suggested by the Consultative Committee, the study which that

Committee demands ' of some of the more important principles and tendencies in financial and economic policy and practice which tend to create or to destroy conditions favourable to peace ' . ”

In pursuance of this resolution, the Economic Committee carried out a preliminary examination of the question, with a view to determining more particularly in what manner and by what methods it could ensure that the study thus requested should be of the comprehensive character demanded.

The Economic Committee felt that this attempt to determine the influence which certain economic tendencies may have on world peace would usefully supplement the studies undertaken by it from the standpoint more particularly of general prosperity.

The Economic Committee considered, however, like the Economic Consultative Committee, that the subject was not at the present stage suitable for the treatment pursued in other cases, namely, an expert enquiry leading immediately to international conferences and conventions. It thought that, before such a procedure could be adopted with success, much preliminary study was desirable, in addition to unofficial discussions with a view to awakening public interest and educating public opinion.

With these various objects in view, it suggested that it would be well to get into touch both with universities and with other institutions which encourage and direct research into questions of international interest.

As a first step in this direction, the Committee requested two distinguished economists, Professors Bonn and Siegfried, to undertake a preliminary study of the question. It proposes subsequently to consult other economists in order to ascertain the points of view of other parts of the world.

After these consultations it will determine its further procedure, which will include placing itself in contact with the appropriate institutions, and the publication of a suitable general statement.

B. WORK OF THE ECONOMIC CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE.

The Economic Consultative Committee held its second session at Geneva from May 6th to 11th, 1929. As a result of this session it submitted to the Council the following report which summarises the work done during the past year :

1. SURVEY OF THE YEAR'S ECONOMIC POLICY.

The policy of the World Economic Conference, which in 1927 was approved by a large number of nations in declarations made either before their respective Parliaments or at the Assembly of the League, and was strongly supported by a number of international organisations, has continued during 1928 to receive fresh support from international bodies, which have passed resolutions in support of its proposals:

While the resolutions adopted by the Conference have thus secured, in principle, prompt and general acceptance, it is inevitable that the putting into effect, whether by national or by international action, of a policy covering so wide a field should take considerable time. As regards tariff policy, the Consultative Committee was able to report a year ago that the upward movement of tariffs had been checked by the mobilising of opinion at the Economic Conference, and that a beginning had been made with stabilising the situation by means of commercial treaties. During 1928, the check to the forces which are continuously being exerted in every country in favour of greater protection has persisted, but it cannot be said that there is as yet " a move in the opposite direction ". The tariff changes during the year include a number of increases in rates of duty, notably in the case of sugar, as a result of the over-production of that commodity. On the other hand, a few more prohibitions have been removed—for example, by Germany and Sweden—and a certain number of duties have been lowered. In Germany, where, as the Committee reported last year, the Economic Committee of the Reich had proposed methods of carrying out the World Economic Conference policy, a certain number of duties which had been imposed in recent years either for currency or other reasons, or as fighting duties, will be wholly or partially eliminated from the tariff. Persia and China, which have both acquired Customs autonomy during the year, have introduced new tariffs, while Spain, Peru and Chile have made a general revision; the only clear conclusion which can at the moment be drawn from these modifications is that the Peruvian tariff has been somewhat reduced.

This situation has not been appreciably modified by bilateral negotiations during the year. The making of commercial treaties has proceeded actively, the total for the year being forty-two as against thirty a year ago.

With one exception, these treaties, following the precedent of 1927, all embody the most-favoured-nation clause—in most cases in an unlimited form. These agreements, however, have not appreciably modified the tariff situation owing to the fact that few of them contain actual tariff provisions. Indeed, a number of agreements have been made during the year to abolish the existing consolidations of duties, thus giving the nation concerned the right subsequently to raise the tariff if it thinks fit. Another feature of the year, moreover, is that these treaties are still for very short periods only—indeed, in most cases for not longer than a single year. This means that the situation remains open, for the short currency of existing treaties affords frequent opportunity of revision. The treaty system has been revived, but it is felt that the question of the future level of tariffs is still unsettled. In this connection, the uncertainty regarding the direction of fiscal policy in Great Britain, whose market is of great importance to Europe as well as overseas, is at the moment a factor tending to create apprehension.

There is also a factor in Central Europe to be borne in mind. The network of commercial tariff treaties has been largely re-established in Europe, but there remain important gaps.

It has sometimes been suggested that the formation of industrial ententes might have considerable influence upon commercial policy. It is safe to say, however, that in 1928 no cartels of fundamental importance in regard to certain raw materials or necessities of general consumption were formed. Efforts were primarily directed towards improving existing treaties, consolidating the position of cartelised industries, and finding means to settle difficulties due to a number of internal obstacles which are inherent in the nature of most cartels. For these and the other reasons described in the following chapter, cartels have on the whole tended to stabilise rather than to modify the tariff position.

Again, the World Economic Conference contemplated that a recognition of the interdependence of industry and agriculture might lead to a modification of industrial protection. This has happened in Sweden, for the Committee was informed that the influence of agricultural interest had been instrumental in preventing a proposal to increase protection for the Swedish iron and steel industry. In some other countries, however, where agriculture has received additional protection, the pressure of agricultural interests to reduce the high level of industrial protection has been weakened.

To sum up, the net result of all these influences has been to leave the tariff situation on the whole very much where it was a year ago, though there are signs in certain countries of a tendency not to reduce but to raise the level of protection. Much depends, however, on the character of the new tariffs which will be adopted in Brazil, Egypt, Finland, Mexico, Portugal, Roumania, Spain, Turkey and the United States of America, where tariffs are now under consideration. The Commission which has been sitting on this question in Roumania has recommended an almost general reduction of duties. It is not yet known what attitude the Government will take on this scheme. The direction of the changes to be made in most other cases is also not yet known, but there must be offset against any downward movement that might take place in smaller countries the prospect of still higher duties in the United States. Details of the United States proposals are not at present available, but reports indicate that they will involve a number of substantial increases. It is noteworthy that the proposals for the most sweeping increases of tariffs should come from those nations whose tariff indices are already among the highest in the world. Among other countries the protectionist pressure is not at present taking the form of a demand for general upward revision, but for changes here and there. The effect of this is not as yet sufficient to upset what appears to be (apart from the important exceptions already mentioned) a temporary condition of equilibrium. But if the pressure continues, these converging movements may have a cumulative effect and make the position of low-tariff countries difficult. Indeed, if the tendency is not checked, it must sooner or later lead to the position which prevailed before the Conference of 1927; the world would then be faced with another period of tariff competition instead of a steady reduction towards a state of equilibrium at a lower level.

In this connection, it may be useful to draw attention to the fact that the tariff measures adopted by the big producing States exercise a far greater influence on the average level of world tariffs than any protection established by smaller States, and that even uncertainty regarding the intentions of countries which dominate international production or trade is likely to retard the tariff reductions hitherto contemplated by other States.

On the other hand, the Committee gratefully recognises the further progress that has been made towards peace in the political field, which should remove one important cause of the existence of trade barriers, namely, the desire of countries to use protection for the purpose of fostering industries which are deemed necessary in the interests of national defence.

As for collective and concerted action, it is a matter within the competence of the Economic Organisation of the League, which has actively endeavoured to carry out the great programme of work which was detailed in our report of last year. In this task, the Economic Organisation

has achieved a considerable number of definite and important concrete results, which, if adequately supported by the various nations, will contribute substantially to the improvement of international economic relations and of world trade. A detailed statement on this subject as well as on the other numerous activities of the Economic Organisation will be found in the following chapters.

Before proceeding to make its own observations on these and other questions which have come under its purview, the Consultative Committee desires to put on record its appreciation, not only of the heavy responsibility, but also of the heavy tax on their time and energy which this extensive programme of work has imposed and will continue to impose upon the members of the Economic Committee, and to acknowledge with gratitude the great progress which — with the help of the various experts whom they have called into council — they have made in so many fields of international activity.

The Committee again expresses the hope that the execution of this programme will not at any time be hampered or delayed by inadequate means or for budgetary reasons.

2. COMMERCE.

The Economic Consultative Committee took note in the first place of the stage reached in regard to the various problems raised by the 1927 Conference, in connection with some of which the Economic Committee has carried out technical work of high importance. The Consultative Committee made various proposals regarding the best way of continuing and developing these investigations, and accepted certain new suggestions submitted during the session.

1. *Treatment of Foreigners.*

The Consultative Committee notes that a Conference for the conclusion of an International Convention on the Treatment of Foreigners is shortly to be convened, and desires to state that it approves the draft that has been prepared for that Conference as a basis for discussion. It is convinced that most beneficial results will accrue from the solution of a problem which is at the present time one of the vital factors in the restoration of international economic relations.

Noting the inadequacy of certain bilateral negotiations which in this matter have only resulted in precarious compromises, and also the perplexing diversity of the doctrines on the basis of which other bilateral agreements are at present being prepared, the Consultative Committee wishes to declare its opinion that nothing short of the general adoption of a principle of law on a basis acceptable to all countries, whatever their juridical outlook or economic situation, will guarantee that improvement of conditions which has repeatedly been demanded since the war and which was the object of recommendations by the League itself in 1923 and 1925.

It feels confident that Governments, in endorsing such a judiciously limited charter on the subject of establishment as that now submitted to them, will endeavour to prepare the way for a return to the freedom of circulation and establishment which, generally speaking, formed the basis of their laws before the war.

2. *Import and Export Prohibitions and Agreements relating to the Exportation of Hides, Skins and Bones.*

The Consultative Committee, having noted the Supplementary Agreement concluded in July 1928, is gratified to find that, thanks to the goodwill displayed by the Governments represented on that occasion, most of the reservations previously submitted have been withdrawn and that the few minor reservations now added are not such as to detract from the practical value of the 1927 Convention.

That Convention embodies the first collective agreement directly affecting the commercial interests of a large number of States. As soon as it is ratified, it will put an end to a series of abnormal practices which developed particularly after the war and constitute a serious obstacle to international trade. This will represent a decisive step towards the re-establishment of freedom of trade which was the rule before the war, and which the Economic Conference explicitly indicated as a preliminary condition of any effective action for the reduction of economic barriers.

The Consultative Committee trusts that States will consider it their duty to apply the provisions of the Convention in a conscientious manner and that they will refrain more particularly from establishing import monopolies and from other similar measures calculated to weaken in any way the normal working of the agreement.

The Convention will also have the effect of preventing the use of prohibition as a weapon in economic negotiations.

The Convention requires ratification by eighteen States before September 30th next in order to bring it into force. It has only received actual ratification so far by two States, although information before the Committee justifies the hope that the deposit of ratifications from a number of other States will shortly be received. The Committee feels bound, therefore, to address an urgent appeal to all the Governments concerned to give actual effect to the adhesion implied by their signature.

The Consultative Committee does not doubt that the Governments are fully alive to the responsibility they have thus assumed, and accordingly trusts that the League's work on this question will have a successful outcome.

It desires to point out on this occasion that the fate of the two international Agreements designed to ensure the free exportation of hides, skins and bones is bound up with the fate of the main Convention.

After having thus recorded the promising results of these two international Conferences, the Consultative Committee desires to emphasise that it would be regrettable for the application of these Agreements, which represent the first attempt at collective action in the matter of commerce, to be deferred solely on account of local and transitory circumstances. A failure in this direction would inevitably have an unfavourable influence on the progress of opinion in regard to international commercial policy.

The Consultative Committee desires accordingly to stress the fact that the appeal which it now addresses to the Governments, in the present report, to ratify without delay the Convention relating to prohibitions applies also to the two Agreements relating to the free exportation of hides, skins and bones ; such ratification, if it is to ensure their entry into force, must be effected before July 1st of this year.

3. *Autonomous Action on the Part of Governments in Tariff Matters.*

The introduction to the present report contains a statement of the present situation in tariff matters as well as the lessons that may be drawn from it. It will therefore suffice for the moment to examine — exclusively from the point of view of the measures to be taken to encourage a policy of tariff reduction — the various suggestions submitted to the Committee which it has thought especially worth retaining.

The Consultative Committee recognises that the recommendations of the World Economic Conference in favour of individual action by States, as a means of securing the reduction of tariffs, are as yet far from being completely applied, notwithstanding the declared acceptance of the principles laid down by that Conference by the great majority of the countries of the world. It accordingly desires to call attention to the steps which have been taken by certain countries to conduct an examination of their general economic position, including necessarily that of their commercial policy.

It believes that there exist trade barriers which on examination will prove to constitute in fact such heavy and permanent burdens upon the general industrial and agricultural productivity of the country which imposes them as to call for immediate revision in the domestic interests of that country alone.

It also notes that some countries have found it advantageous to abolish duties that had ceased to serve any purpose, either from the protective or from the fiscal point of view.

The Committee would accordingly suggest that other countries should consider the desirability of instituting enquiries similar to those referred to above as a first step in the direction of autonomous action for a general reduction of agricultural and industrial tariffs when such is found to be possible.

The Consultative Committee would further recommend to the attention of Governments the desirability of conforming as far as possible to the doctrines of the World Economic Conference when submitting tariff Bills to their Parliaments. If Governments would adopt such methods and if they would consider how far they were able to include in the presentation of tariff Bills to Parliament some reference to the international effect of such Bills, the result might be expected to have an important effect in preventing one country from misinterpreting action taken by another.

The Committee's attention has also been drawn to the necessity of examining problems of production in combination with problems of commercial policy whenever occasion arises. The chief points brought out in the discussion were as follows :

Every State, when asked to give tariff protection to a particular branch of production, should take into account, in accordance with the principle of the 1927 Conference, the normal possibilities of existence and development of that branch, not excluding from consideration the exigencies of its own demographic structure, the conditions of employment and, generally speaking, all the elements of a sound economic position.

Taking into account these factors, it can be stated that it is dangerous to establish branches of industrial or agricultural production when the necessary conditions for their maintenance are lacking, and this argument is strengthened if we consider the large-scale production necessary under modern methods of manufacture.

Excessive protection may run counter to the interests of the industry it seeks to protect, since it may lead foreign producers to come and settle in the country itself, thus transporting within the country the competition which they had previously conducted abroad only (though it should be added that the view was also expressed that there are advantages in such development).

The same conditions cause wastage of capital and, consequently, a rise in the rate of interest on the international market.

In interpreting the arguments in the preceding paragraphs, account should, of course, always be taken of the provisos and reservations necessary to meet the just demands of States which are still at an early stage of their industrial evolution and do not wish their free development to be hampered.

Finally, the Consultative Committee considered the relations between tariff policy and the existence of international organisations such as combines and cartels intended to rationalise production or distribute products. It was suggested that these combines do not as a rule make for tariff reduction unless the parties they bring together are of approximately equivalent strength

and are anxious to develop their strength by means of technical improvements rather than by Customs protection.

Experience has shown, it was argued, that the regulation of competition which results from industrial agreements does not invariably lead the parties to consent to tariff reductions, since combines are often concluded on the basis of the commercial possibilities resulting from the protection afforded by the existing tariffs, and a change of tariffs modifying these possibilities would be regarded as jeopardising the combine itself.

Moreover, if the combine brings together parties of unequal competitive powers, they will consider themselves justified in claiming different protective rates to preserve their home markets.

It was represented that combines, when intended mainly to stabilise the existing output, would preclude the process of natural selection which should follow from the open competition promoted by the reduction of tariffs.

4. *Collective Action regarding Certain Groups of Commodities.*

The Consultative Committee is following with the keenest interest the Economic Committee's efforts to bring about collective action on the part of the various Governments for the reduction of Customs tariffs on certain specific groups of commodities.

The Economic Committee has already placed to its credit two practical successes of considerable importance in connection with export duties on bones and on raw hides and skins. This is an excellent start, though it may be pointed out that the problem of export duties is certainly less complicated than that of import duties, especially where the latter are protective in their purpose, and that, in the two cases mentioned, the ground had already been to some slight extent cleared by the international Agreement sanctioning the abolition of import and export prohibitions.

These remarks are not made in any critical spirit; on the contrary, the Consultative Committee has nothing but praise for the Economic Committee's success in profiting by the connection between the two regimes to push it to its logical conclusion, to take a by-no-means negligible step towards alleviating tariff burdens, and to demonstrate by example that collective action is possible even in the highly controversial sphere of duties.

It appeared that, by extending its study to other groups of commodities, the Economic Committee has encountered considerable obstacles, among which must be mentioned as a special sign of the times the existence of certain international combines. These, of course, could only be established on the basis of existing Customs regimes.

Criticism has been made from different quarters as regards the practical value of the method of what is termed "collective action by groups of commodities". The three chief objections advanced against this method are the following:

(a) In each country the tariff is drawn up on a general plan which has to be adapted to the economic structure of that country. Any action arbitrarily restricted to one particular group of commodities, and aiming at reducing protection given to them, will upset the balance of the whole and give rise, so far as concerns the degree of protection granted, to arbitrary discrimination in favour of some and against others.

(b) Secondly, the Economic Committee's efforts will naturally be directed, by preference, to simple commodities which have undergone very little transformation, and in particular to semi-finished goods. These in their turn, however, are raw materials for the various groups of finishers who make use of them. If we reduce the protection granted to these semi-finished goods without at the same time reducing the protection granted to the finished goods made from them, we shall be to that extent increasing the degree of protection granted to the latter. We are thus faced with a dilemma: either we cannot carry out the reduction on the basic category, or else we shall be led on to apply it to all the subsequent stages of the finishing process.

Moreover, if the consuming industries do not take part in the discussion on the duties on commodities which, from their point of view, are raw materials, then we are depriving ourselves of the support of those who are most closely interested in our success.

(c) Having regard to the differences in the economic structure of the various countries, the essential function of international trade consists in the exchange of different categories of commodities. It is this fundamental fact that makes possible the conclusion between different countries of commercial treaties on the basis of mutual concessions. It is not too much to say that this simple fact is an inestimable force for good, thanks to which protracted interruption of commercial relations between two countries is impossible, since within either country the classes which represent interchangeable categories of commodities exert pressure for the conclusion of agreements.

At first sight, therefore, it seems far from easy — though by no means impossible — to find within a single group of commodities that compensatory factor which ultimately underlies every commercial agreement.

These criticisms are to a great extent justified and merit the Committee's full attention, but they can in the last resort be reduced to a single principle: that it is not possible to examine the treatment given to a certain class of commodities without being, sooner or later, carried on to examine the treatment of other categories, especially those akin to the first category.

This principle is perfectly correct, but we should hardly be doing justice to the experience and capacity of the members of the Economic Committee if we imagined that this idea was not present in their minds when they decided to undertake the experiments in question.

On the contrary, we are bound to agree that these localised explorations, dealing, one by one, with commodities of very great importance in the general volume of international production and trade, seem to represent at the present time the best method of obtaining a reliable idea of the existing possibilities of reducing tariff barriers by means of multilateral agreements. They have also the great advantage of causing the leaders in the principal industries to take an interest in the work of the Economic Organisation of the League.

In this highly complicated matter, it is important that the Economic Committee should be left the greatest possible freedom of action, and should not be hampered in its work by reason of any illusory idea that every exploration undertaken will promptly lead to a reduction of the tariffs in question. On the contrary, it is essential to realise the extreme difficulty of the problem and the necessity of proceeding with a certain degree of caution.

In any case, nothing that the Committee may do in this direction should interfere in any way with the bilateral or autonomous action of the various countries, which has so far been found to be a most serviceable instrument for reducing Customs duties.

The Consultative Committee is confident that the Economic Committee, in the course of its future work, will bear in mind the inter-relations to which allusion has been made. It trusts that, instead of strictly confining its enquiry to one particular section of production, the Economic Committee will welcome any information, even outside the field it is considering, which may seem to offer possibilities of success and, more especially, to introduce that element of compensation between the divergent agricultural and industrial interests of different countries of which it is essential to take the fullest advantage.

The Consultative Committee meanwhile recommends that business conferences representative directly of the producers, traders and consumers of somewhat more comprehensive groups of articles should be arranged. While leaving the choice of such groups of commodities and the details of the procedure to the Economic Committee, the Consultative Committee suggests that, as the first commodity group, there should, if possible, be selected one of substantial importance not only to industry but also to agriculture, such, for instance, as agricultural implements and machinery.

5. *Tariff Systems, Treaty-making Methods and the Most-favoured-nation Clause.*

The World Economic Conference recommended, in regard to commercial policy, reforms which aimed at granting greater facilities to international commerce. The Economic Committee, upon which fell the difficult duty of preparing for the carrying-out of these reforms, is pursuing this task — as the Consultative Committee notes with satisfaction — in the true spirit of the Conference's recommendations.

The Consultative Committee at its first session approved the Economic Committee's conclusions regarding tariff systems and contractual methods.

The principles of commercial policy thus proclaimed by the Economic Committee are in perfect harmony with the spirit of the resolutions of the Economic Conference and, if they were applied by States, they would furnish international commerce with that minimum of security which it requires for its normal development. The Economic Committee's work in this sphere has received the seal of the approval expressed by the Council of the League of Nations since the last session of the Consultative Committee.

Accordingly, the Consultative Committee strongly urges the Governments to adopt the principles enunciated by the Economic Committee.

Further, in order to satisfy the legitimate requirements of international commerce, the autonomous tariff policy of Governments, adapted to the principles laid down by the Economic Committee, should in the contractual sphere be accompanied by a policy based on the Committee's conclusions in regard to most-favoured-nation treatment.

The Consultative Committee fully concurs in the Economic Committee's opinion that the *unconditional and unrestricted* clause alone affords the maximum of benefits and guarantees in Customs matters, and that it should be recommended as a fundamental stipulation destined to form the basis of international economic relations.

It notes that the Economic Committee has prepared a body of doctrine containing the principles which should be followed with regard to the field of application of the clause in Customs matters, the methods of its application and the exceptions that can be admitted. It considers the model formula proposed by the Economic Committee to be calculated to dispose of many of the disputes to which the application of the clause has hitherto given rise.

The different Governments have now been asked to pronounce upon these proposals embodied by the Economic Committee in its report, as approved by the Council. The Consultative Economic Committee hopes that the opinions sought will be furnished without delay and thinks, further, that the States should be invited to say at the same time whether they would be prepared to conclude an international agreement on the subject which would convert the Committee's recommendations into binding obligations. It is noted that the Economic Committee is now engaged in perfecting its work and is further examining certain aspects of the clause in connection with various practices which have been brought to its notice as possibly not consistent with the idea of the clause and its loyal application.

The Consultative Committee is of opinion that the application by States of the doctrine enunciated by the Economic Committee with regard to most-favoured-nation treatment would help to improve the economic relations between peoples.

The high tariffs of countries which, while not prepared to effect any reduction in their

own duties, claim the unconditional application of the most-favoured-nation clause, tend to make other countries hesitate to include important reductions of duties in bilateral treaties concluded by them.

6. *Stability of Customs Tariffs.*

The World Economic Conference recommended that States should refrain: (1) from making frequent or sudden changes in their Customs duties; (2) make as wide a use as possible in their commercial treaties of the guarantees of stability afforded by the consolidation of duties; (3) conclude these treaties for as long a period as possible.

The Economic Consultative Committee notes that these resolutions have not as yet passed beyond the stage of recommendations and have not been followed up by a thorough study or by the establishment of a method likely to facilitate their serious examination by Governments. Now that the problem of the stability of Customs tariffs has in nearly all countries been set free of the complications caused by fluctuating exchanges, we may contemplate solutions of a permanent nature capable of restoring conditions similar to those enjoyed by international commerce before the war, and accordingly the time would seem ripe to attempt to give effect to the resolutions of the Conference on this matter.

The Economic Consultative Committee therefore recommends that the Economic Organisation of the League of Nations should make a study of the methods, autonomous or contractual, according to circumstances, best suited to ensure greater stability of Customs tariffs, it being understood that the search for formulæ would be supplemented by the establishment of some procedure which would facilitate the use of these formulæ by States.

7. *Customs Formalities.*

The Economic Consultative Committee attaches the greatest importance to the ratification of the International Convention relating to the Simplification of Customs Formalities, signed at Geneva on November 3rd, 1923, and to the effective application of the recommendations adopted by the Conference.

Not only is the simplification of Customs formalities a prerequisite for the development of international exchanges, but there is the danger that efforts designed to promote the stability or reduction of Customs tariffs may not prove entirely effectual unless parallel measures are taken to facilitate those efforts and to ensure the strict and loyal enforcement of the Conventions and agreements concluded.

The Consultative Committee desires in this connection to formulate the following recommendations:

1. That those States which have not yet ratified the Convention should consider the possibility of doing so as soon as possible.
2. That the Contracting States, in conformity with the provisions of Article 9 of the Convention, should furnish within the time-limits laid down the triennial summary of the steps which they have taken to ensure the enforcement of the Convention.
3. That steps should be taken to enable a comprehensive survey of the position to date in the various countries in consequence of the application of the Convention to be submitted at the next meeting of the Economic Consultative Committee.
4. That the Economic Organisation should consider whether certain of the recommendations contained in the Final Act of the Conference might not now be converted into specific provisions, in such a way as to confer on the texts in question the sanction of a formal undertaking by States.

8. *Indirect Protectionism.*

The value of the Convention on Customs Formalities just referred to has been still further proved since the Economic Committee undertook its enquiries concerning indirect protectionism.

Further, advantage may be taken of the necessary delay in the evolution of tariffs proper to pursue the study of indirect forms of protection, and the fact that practices of the kind generally depend upon the internal legislation of States is a favourable factor. These practices have not been consolidated by means of commercial treaties, and an end can therefore be put to them at any time.

The Consultative Committee therefore urgently requests that enquiries into the matter of indirect protectionism should be pursued with all diligence, so that the conclusions and the measures which they prompt may be adopted without delay.

9. *Unification of Customs Nomenclature.*

The Consultative Committee would again stress the great importance which it attaches to this branch of the Economic Committee's work both for its immediate value and for the assistance that it will afford to the Committee in connection with its other activities, especially those relating to tariffs.

It accordingly recommends that the Economic Committee's work on Customs nomenclature should be pushed with vigour.

It is sure that, in pursuing this task, the experts will bear in mind the great desirability of establishing as simple a nomenclature as the growing multiplicity of industrial products and the technical requirements for the application of such a nomenclature allow.

The Committee feels obliged, moreover, to stress the necessity of avoiding an excessive number of specifications, for the further reason that it might weaken the value of the most-favoured-nation clause, which, as already stated, the Committee is anxious to see applied in all its amplitude.

10. *Commercial Arbitration.*

In the matter of commercial arbitration, the Consultative Committee notes that the instruments for the ratification of the Convention of 1927 for the Execution of Foreign Arbitral Awards have been deposited by three countries: Belgium, Denmark and New Zealand.

This Convention will therefore come into force very soon.

The Consultative Committee—following the footsteps of the Council—avails itself of this opportunity to remind the various countries that this Convention is only the complement of the 1923 Protocol on Arbitration Clauses, that it is only open to countries signatories of that Protocol, that its usefulness will increase in proportion to the number of countries that apply it, and that all the contracting parties to the Protocol will only enjoy the full benefit of the provisions of the latter when they have acceded to the Convention.

11. *Bills of Exchange and Cheques.*

Twenty-seven States have informed the Secretariat that they consider that the proposals submitted by the Economic Committee for the purpose of establishing a form of model law with regard to bills of exchange, promissory notes and cheques, and for the solution of the conflict of laws which the disparity of national laws might engender, may be taken as a basis for the discussions of an international Conference.

It is therefore hoped that the Economic Committee will be able, at its next session, to draw up the preparatory documents to be submitted to the Conference, and that it may be possible to convene the latter at the beginning of next year.

The Consultative Committee welcomes these fresh efforts to solve a problem that has long been a source of anxiety to the business world, and hopes that the future Conference will attain a large measure of success in dealing with this difficult task. It desires to state its opinion that even the partial unification of the rules of law on so complicated a subject, the practical results of which would be to group into not more than two unified systems the widely dissimilar national laws at present in force, would constitute very important progress, the full extent of which would speedily be realised by the business world.

3. **INDUSTRY.**

1. *Statistics. — Industrial Information.*

The Consultative Committee notes with satisfaction that, by means of the Statistical Convention signed by twenty-five States in December last, an important step has been taken towards the improvement of industrial statistics, the necessity of which was so strongly urged by the Economic Conference.

It hopes that all States which have not already signed the Convention will do so within the period prescribed and that those which have signed will ratify it at the earliest possible date.

It trusts, moreover, that the improvement in national statistics resulting from this Convention may enable the Economic Organisation of the League to compile and publish in the near future the precise and up-to-date information concerning raw material supplies, production, prices, stocks, etc., of which the importance was emphasised by the Economic Conference.

It desires to thank the International Chamber of Commerce, which has organised meetings of experts for the basic industries and thus provided very useful guidance for the determination of the methods and forms to be employed in industrial statistics; and trusts that the Chamber will continue its fruitful collaboration.

In its previous report, the Consultative Committee drew attention to the resolution of the Economic Conference to the effect that the League of Nations should arrange for compilation of reports on the general conditions obtaining in the different branches of production, and observed in this connection that the ready and wholehearted assistance of the various industrial associations was an obvious prerequisite to the efficient accomplishment of this task. A number of reports prepared by national industrial associations have been placed before the Consultative Committee at its present session and the Committee desires to express its thanks to these bodies for the readiness with which they have complied with the request for information made to them. The Committee has been impressed by the value of these reports, which at once furnish a survey of the activities of the leading industries in a number of countries and afford in many cases an extremely interesting indication of national industrial policy. It is felt, however, that a further step should now be taken with a view to co-ordinating the work, rendering the reports more comparable with one another and assuring their provision. The Committee suggests, therefore, that the Economic Section should get into touch with the

competent organisations with a view to agreeing upon a procedure by which these results may be attained. For their part, the members of the Consultative Committee undertake to approach their own national industrial associations with a view to obtaining their agreement to a policy of full and liberal co-operation.

The Committee notes with satisfaction that the Economic Organisation has been able to prepare a further edition of the *Memorandum on Production and Trade* in which new indices for 1927 and provisional figures for 1928 are incorporated, and has published at the same time a further edition of the *Statistical Year-Book*, containing, amongst others, tables showing the production of a large number of raw materials and semi-finished products in accordance with the recommendation of the Economic Conference. It suggests that the time may now have come for the Economic Organisation to consider whether it is possible, in the light of the reports furnished by the national industrial associations and of other published sources of information, to add a chapter to the *Memorandum on Production and Trade* concerning the progress of industry.

Further, the Committee, having considered the whole documentation issued by the Economic Organisation, desires to place on record its appreciation of the work already accomplished in regard to economic information.

It recognises the value of sound comparable information to Governments as well as to producers, consumers and to traders, and the beneficial influence which the adequate provision of such information would exercise upon world trade. It desires accordingly to emphasise the importance of the resolutions of the World Economic Conference on industrial information in order that the Economic Organisation of the League may, in collaboration with the appropriate national authorities, further assist in the provision of comparable information and industrial statistics.

2. Rationalisation.

The Consultative Committee emphasises once more the great importance which the World Economic Conference of 1927 attached to the question of rationalisation. It notes that the International Labour Office, in accordance with the invitation made to it last year, has undertaken a series of enquiries into the effects of rationalisation on labour conditions, and that it has furnished it with seven provisional reports on this question. The Committee invites the International Labour Office to continue these enquiries.

Two reports have been submitted to the Committee by the International Management Institute, one of a general character and the other dealing with the four specific questions to which the Committee suggested last year that the Institute might with advantage devote its attention.

The Committee considers it desirable that : (a) as suggested in the report of the Institute, the preliminary measures already taken in the matter of terminology should be advanced as rapidly as possible towards practical conclusions, and it hopes that the Economic Organisation will lend the Institute full support in this matter ; and that (b) the Institute should continue its work in connection with national economic enquiries, in collaboration with the Economic Organisation and should submit to the Committee a scheme which would secure uniformity of method in the future and enquiries in so far as they concern the advance made in rationalisation.

The Committee has noted the report of the Institute on the questions both of simplification and of standardisation, and recognises that the realisation of practical results definitely assisting the growth of international trade must necessarily be a long and arduous task. It welcomes the important work already accomplished by the various Standards Associations and hopes that the Institute will follow the work of these Associations by the interchange of documents and personal contact.

The Committee notes with satisfaction that the International Management Institute, which unites official and private initiative, is continuing to act as a clearing-house for the dissemination of information, and as a focus of activity in the complex subject of rationalisation.

The Consultative Committee hopes that the International Management Institute will continue to follow closely all the facts relating to the rationalisation movement and submit to the next meeting of the Committee a survey of the events and tendencies most worthy of the Committee's attention.

The Consultative Committee trusts that all the bodies concerned with this problem of rationalisation will establish a suitable measure of co-operation.

3. International Industrial Agreements.

(a) *Statute and Legal Form of Agreements and Cartels and Legislation applicable thereto.*
— The Consultative Committee notes that, in conformity with its recommendation of last year, the Economic Committee has first concentrated its attention on the development of the various forms of organisation and the legal provisions governing that development.

It considers that this is the best method of determining the attitude adopted towards these agreements by the public authorities representing the general interests of the community.

In view of the fact that the number of agreements with an international bearing is steadily increasing, the problem is assuming a very marked international aspect. In order to examine it, it is essential to analyse the principles on which the various national laws are based.

The Consultative Committee is accordingly glad to note that, after collecting a series of legal texts, a work for which it owes a special debt of gratitude to M. Lammers, the Economic Committee, with the assistance of competent experts, has proceeded to analyse the principles underlying the national legislations. This work is already sufficiently advanced to permit of a classification under a few main groups of the principal types of legislation. This

preliminary analysis will no doubt serve as a basis for a study of the different types of legislation, and more particularly as a comparison of the laws in the different countries.

(b) *Application of Legislation in the Different Countries.* — The Consultative Committee was interested to learn further that the persons entrusted with the examination of the legal problems are extending their study to the application of the laws and the administrative measures taken by the Governments in the different countries. These researches will undoubtedly bring out the trend of the economic policy followed by the public authorities in the application of the existing laws. A knowledge of these tendencies is necessary to supplement the study of the actual legislations.

The Committee hopes that a report setting forth the results of the work on points (a) and (b) will be submitted to it at its next session.

(c) *Subject and Character of International Agreements and Cartels.* — The development of international agreements and their present economic importance formed the subject of keen discussion in the Consultative Committee. The increasing importance of these agreements in their various forms cannot escape attention. It was not suggested that they were in themselves necessarily detrimental to economic life in general, but emphasis was again placed on certain dangers which consumers — individuals or countries — consider possible if industries grouped together in cartels follow a policy defined as unsound by the recommendations of the World Economic Conference.

Certain members held that it would be difficult to secure a reduction of tariffs unless private international agreements were first made reconciling the conflicting interests of the different countries. In order to obviate certain suggested dangers, they considered that consumers and workers should be enabled to exercise a suitable influence in addition to a supervision by the public authority.

The great majority of the Members of the Consultative Committee, on the other hand, basing their point of view upon the resolutions of the Economic Conference of 1927, were of the opinion that *ententes* were only one of many factors which had to be taken into consideration in connection with tariff policy.

The Consultative Committee is glad to note the impetus which has been given to studies of cartels in relation to international Customs and commercial policy, the inter-relation between the two having been emphasised in the course of the discussion. It would like these studies to be linked up with the enquiries into special branches of industry, in addition to any study that may be made of the problem as a whole.

The Economic Conference also recommended that the League should study the practical development and effects of international industrial agreements and the Consultative Committee was therefore interested to learn that the Economic Committee is taking steps to collect the fullest possible information regarding such existing agreements, their object, scope and organisation, and the part they play in the economic system as a whole.

The Consultative Committee is aware of the difficulty of bringing together all the information available in this field. Nevertheless, it requests the Economic Committee to consider whether a special annual report could not be issued containing the most important information published on international cartels. As far as possible, this publication should also note the effects which might be attributed to international industrial agreements on technical progress, development of output, labour conditions and prices.

The Consultative Committee notes that the Economic Committee, in its general work on this subject, and in the studies it is now making on the subjects of coal and sugar, is following the principles laid down by the Economic Conference, which considers that the League should closely follow the course of events, collect information and publish all that is of general interest.

The Consultative Committee feels sure that the Economic Committee will continue its work in this field, as in the others, in the most judicious manner; it would perhaps be desirable to secure the collaboration of experts for the study of these complex problems.

The Economic Committee has already conducted a special enquiry regarding certain branches of industry such as coal and sugar. The consideration of the existing agreements and their possibilities of action in connection with these special studies has an important bearing on the study of the cartel problem as a whole.

4. Coal.

The Consultative Committee has noted with special interest the report of the Economic Committee on the problem of the coal industry.¹ It appreciates the consistent care and thoroughness with which this difficult and serious problem is being considered.

It is glad to note that, in the enquiry, consideration has been given to the general principles laid down in the World Economic Conference report both as regards commercial policy and as regards international industrial agreements, and that the questions of wages and conditions of labour, although these are primarily matters for the International Labour Office, have not been left out of account.

The procedure which has been adopted appears to be well advised, and the Committee expresses the hope that the enquiry may continue on the widest possible basis in the form of joint or separate consultations, as the Economic Committee may at each stage judge to be desirable.

¹ "The Problem of the Coal Industry": Interim Report on its International Aspects, by the Economic Committee of the League of Nations. Geneva, 1929 (document C.150.M.58.1929.II).

The interim report which has now been presented, the general picture which it affords of the main features of the world coal industry and the discussions to which it is giving rise in a number of countries will doubtless be of very valuable assistance to the future work on the problem. In particular, the views expressed by different members during the course of this meeting will doubtless be taken into careful account. In view, however, of the fact that the Economic Committee has not yet concluded its consultations, the Consultative Committee thinks that it would be unwise itself to express at this time a collective opinion on the matters under consideration beyond emphasising the importance it attaches to the continuation of the enquiry now being undertaken.

While reserving for discussion at a later meeting the suggestions furnished by the experts already consulted, the Committee hopes that in the meantime the Economic Organisation will periodically continue to collect and revise statistical and other information bearing upon the coal problem.

5. *Sugar.*

The Consultative Committee has received the excellent reports by M. Prinsen Geerligs, M. Licht and M. Mikusch, the three experts invited to write on the principal features of the sugar industry. It notes that the Economic Committee has had consultations with persons representing the sugar industry, and is proposing to have further consultations with beetroot-growers. As no special memorandum has yet been received from the Economic Committee, the Consultative Committee will content itself with expressing the hope that it may have a report on the whole of the problem at its next session.

4. AGRICULTURE.

1. *Appointment of Agricultural Experts.*

The difficulties and the special point of view of agriculture have again taken a considerable place in the discussion of the Committee. The importance of bringing them within the scope of the general economic activities of the League was strongly emphasised, and the principle of the interdependence of the industrial, commercial and agricultural factors was reaffirmed. The Committee felt that, in view of these considerations, the time had arrived for the association of agricultural experts with the current work of the League. The League is already in collaboration with the Institute of Agriculture in accordance with arrangements made last July. This, however, is not a complete solution of the problem of securing that due account is taken of the point of view of agricultural interests in the work done by the Economic Organisation. The problem is a much wider one than that of deciding how to deal with questions that are primarily agricultural. The policy, as applying, for example, to general tariffs as well as to agricultural tariffs, is one in the formation of which it is necessary to take account of agricultural interests; while it is equally important that agricultural representatives should feel that they are assuming a part of the collective responsibility for the general policy adopted. In addition, there are many questions which touch agriculture at one point or another and on which, therefore, it is necessary to have recourse to expert agricultural advice.

In these circumstances, the Committee suggests¹ that the League should appoint a small number of qualified agricultural experts who would be associated with the Economic Organisation in such a way as to make their assistance most practical and effective. Such experts would doubtless include, with others, some persons already in close contact with the work of the League and others connected with the International Institute of Agriculture. It is not, however, suggested that the latter persons should represent the Institute, which is an independent organisation, but that they should sit as technical advisers in the same way as the other members of this committee of experts.

In this way, the Committee trusts that the Economic Organisation of the League would always be kept in touch both with the questions and with the points of view of special interest to agriculture.

2. *Campaign against Diseases of Animals.*

The Consultative Committee has been informed of the progress made up to the present by the Sub-Committee of Veterinary Experts working under the Economic Committee's direction. On this matter, it has also heard the observations and declarations of certain of its members who are specially interested in this question.

Convinced that the international trade in animals and animal products is of great importance in the commerce between nations, the Consultative Committee is inspired by the same principle that guided the delegates of many countries who, when accepting in Article 4 of the Prohibition Convention the maintenance of prohibitions intended to protect the health of animals, made it an express condition that these prohibitions "are not applied in such a manner as to constitute . . . a disguised restriction on international trade".

The Economic Committee has rightly based its action on the principle that a prerequisite of any agreement concerning veterinary questions is that each country shall take effective measures against diseases.

¹ Certain members were opposed to the creation of a special Committee of agricultural experts. M. BREBBIA, replacing M. de Michelis, President of the International Institute of Agriculture, also made a reservation on this question on behalf of that Institute.

The Consultative Committee is informed that, after a very full preliminary enquiry, it was found possible to agree unanimously on common principles with regard to the necessary conditions for a sound organisation of veterinary services and with regard to the preparation of veterinary bulletins and their exchange between one country and another.

The principles thus fixed by the experts have been almost unanimously approved by a large number of countries, whose organisation, moreover, appears to be mainly in conformity with those principles.

The Consultative Committee trusts that all the countries here represented will, without exception, consider it a duty freely to exchange information and thus contribute, each for its part, towards the advancement of science.

It notes that the principles relating to the preparation and exchange of veterinary bulletins have been drawn up in close collaboration with the International Institute of Epizootics and that the Committee of Experts will proceed to an exhaustive examination of all the measures applied by the different States to the transit, exportation and importation of animals and animal products. The Consultative Committee awaits the results of these enquiries with confidence and expresses the hope that the work now being done in this important matter will be energetically pursued so as to arrive at concrete results as soon as possible.

3. *Diseases of Plants.*

The Consultative Committee notes that the Economic Committee intends to devote its attention at the earliest possible moment to studying the economic aspects of the campaign against the diseases of plants, with special reference to the possibility of reconciling the necessities of this campaign with the legitimate requirements of export trade.

The Economic Committee will shortly be in possession of the Convention for the Protection of Plants against Disease, which is the outcome of the International Conference convened in April last at the instance of the International Institute of Agriculture at Rome.

This Convention will furnish the Economic Committee with the scientific and technical data necessary for its future work, which should be directed, on the basis of the guarantees recognised as necessary, towards alleviating the difficulties which a too-rigid application of phytopathological measures may from time to time put in the way of the development of the international trade in plants.

4. *Investigation of Agricultural Depression.*

The Consultative Committee invites the Economic Committee during the coming year to consider whether it is desirable to organise an investigation of the present serious depression of agriculture in many countries, taking into account the special difficulties both of exporting and importing countries.

The Consultative Committee has been informed that the results of an enquiry by the International Institute of Agriculture are available for this purpose.

5. *Information on the State of Agriculture.*

In view of the special difficulties with which agriculture is faced, the Consultative Committee urgently recommends that the Economic Organisation of the League should continue and expand its studies concerning the comparative prices of agricultural and industrial products: and further invites the Economic Organisation of the League to study to what extent, with the aid of the International Institute of Agriculture, comparable statistical series and indices of the state of agriculture may be formulated.

The Economic Consultative Committee recommends that all States should collaborate in the world agricultural Census which is being undertaken in 1929 and 1930 by the International Institute of Agriculture.

6. *Co-operation between Agricultural and Consumers' Co-operative Societies.*

The value of direct relations between agricultural and consumers' co-operative societies was stressed by the World Economic Conference in the following terms:

“Agricultural co-operative societies will contribute to a still greater rationalisation of economic life in proportion as they develop their relations with the consumer's co-operative societies.

“Direct commercial relations between producers and consumers and between associations of producers and of consumers eliminate superfluous intermediaries and, when they are sufficiently widespread, result in the establishment of prices which are advantageous for both parties.

“These efforts of agricultural and consumers' co-operative organisations should be encouraged and furthered by the creation of a committee representing national and international co-operative organisations of agriculturists and of consumers—a committee which should be entrusted with the establishment of a programme of research and documentation, as well as with the task of elucidating the lessons taught by past experience, with a view to bringing about new achievements.”

While the Economic Consultative Committee encourages these and other methods of effecting economies, it nevertheless wishes to express its belief that the function of the wholesaler and retailer is and will continue to be useful and important.

The representatives of consumers' co-operative organisations, in agreement with the representatives of agricultural organisations, express once more the desire that the Economic Organisation should consider as soon as possible the best method of bringing together agricultural organisations and consumers' co-operative societies.

5. ECONOMIC TENDENCIES AFFECTING THE PEACE OF THE WORLD.

In its last report, the Consultative Committee recommended that the Economic Organisation should undertake a preliminary study of some of the more important principles and tendencies in financial and economic policy and practice which tend to create or to destroy conditions favourable to peace. The Committee also expressed the hope that the attention both of Governments and the public could be secured for this most important aspect of economic problems.

During the past year, the Economic Committee has decided upon its procedure and has begun to apply it. It has consulted several economists and is consulting others. It will get into touch with universities and other institutions which encourage and direct research and discussion on economic and other international questions; to this end it will submit to the Council of the League a general statement intended for publication.

The Consultative Committee hopes that the work undertaken will be pursued as rapidly as possible and that, at its next session, it will be asked to consider a report which will enable the Committee itself to embark upon a study of the results that may be achieved during the ensuing year. The Consultative Committee is of opinion that the interdependence of the political and economic factors which tend to create or destroy the conditions favourable to peace is becoming more and more evident and that it is desirable to interest both institutions and individuals in the study of the mutual reactions of these factors. The Committee is sure that the publication of these enquiries will exercise a useful influence on public opinion and on policy.

6. PURCHASING POWER OF GOLD.

The Economic Consultative Committee has learnt with great satisfaction that the Financial Committee has proposed and that the Council has approved the constitution of a special Committee "to examine into and report upon the causes of fluctuations in the purchasing power of gold and their effects on the economic life of nations". It is also pleased to hear that the Secretariat is making good progress in the collection of data and that this work is being actively continued.

The Consultative Committee desires to take this opportunity of stressing once more the extreme importance of this question and to express the hope that the special Committee which is to examine it will be constituted at the June sessions of the Financial Committee and the Council, and will be able to begin its work without delay.

7. DOUBLE TAXATION AND FISCAL EVASION.

The Consultative Committee has noted with interest the progress achieved during 1928 in the work undertaken under the auspices of the League of Nations in regard to double taxation and fiscal evasion.

It further hopes that the draft conventions set out in the report of the Government experts (document C.562.M.178.1928.II) will provide an effective instrument for avoiding, or at any rate greatly diminishing, the evils resulting from double taxation and tax evasion.

In these circumstances, it sincerely hopes that these drafts will be applied on as extensive a scale as possible and welcomes the Council resolution of December 14th, 1928, recommending Governments "to begin negotiations for the conclusion of conventions for the avoidance of double taxation and fiscal evasion" and expressing the hope "that the texts adopted for the avoidance of double taxation and fiscal evasion will depart as little as possible from the draft Conventions recommended by the Government experts".

The Consultative Committee hopes that past and future efforts in this direction will lead to the establishment of a whole network of conventions for the avoidance of double taxation and tax evasion, without hampering the free movement of capital by fiscal measures. It feels that the work of the experts in the domain of double taxation forms an indispensable counterpart to the Economic Committee's endeavours to ensure freedom of circulation for persons and goods.

For all these reasons, the Consultative Committee welcomes the creation of the Fiscal Committee, whose essential task will be to promote the opening of negotiations for the avoidance of double taxation and tax evasion. The Fiscal Committee will also be of invaluable assistance to the Council in all matters connected with taxation.

8. WORK OF VARIOUS INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS.

The Committee has noted the statement as to action taken by various non-official international organisations—the International Chamber of Commerce, the International Union of League

of Nations Societies —and certain specialised conferences, such as the Baltic and White Sea Conference, the International Agriculture Commission, the International Shipping Conference, the International Parliamentary Conference on Commerce and the International Peace Congress at Berne.

These reports are valuable both for the information they contain and because they indicate that public opinion is alive to the issues which are being discussed and decided under the auspices of the League, that knowledge of the concrete problems is being acquired and disseminated and that there is in existence a strong body of opinion which desires and actively promotes the application of the principles laid down by the World Economic Conference which it is the duty of the Economic Consultative Committee to follow. Accordingly, the Committee warmly welcomes all such manifestations.

The International Chamber of Commerce has continued to place at the disposal of the Committee the results of its consistent and careful work upon a number of questions which come within the scope of the present report. It has afforded direct assistance to the Committee both through the report it has submitted and through the valuable help of its representatives upon the Committee, and the influence of its members in their several countries is, of course, an important factor in securing the adoption and application of the policies of the Economic Conference.

A less direct but valuable contribution has been brought this year by the International Union of League of Nations Societies, and in particular by the International Economic Conference, at Prague organised by that body and attended by representatives of twenty international organisations of an economic and social character. The Consultative Committee has taken note of the resolutions of this Conference which both gave general support to the economic work of the League and made specific suggestions which will doubtless be examined by the Economic Organisation. One particular suggestion was the creation of an auxiliary international economic committee attached to the International Union of League of Nations Societies.¹

C. WORK OF THE FINANCIAL COMMITTEE.

INTRODUCTION.

The outstanding events during the period under review with regard to the work of the League in the financial field were the issue of the Bulgarian Stabilisation Loan, the request for a loan by the Saar Governing Commission, the preparation of the draft Convention for Financial Assistance, the adoption of a Convention for the Suppression of Counterfeiting Currency, the general meeting of Government Experts on Double Taxation and Tax Evasion, the decisions to create a special Committee to examine the problem of the purchasing power of gold and a special Committee for taxation questions (Fiscal Committee).

Moreover a great deal of detailed work was accomplished by the Financial Committee concerning monetary stabilisation in Greece, the monetary and banking reform in Estonia, the settlement of refugees in Greece and Bulgaria, the financial consequences of the Greco-Bulgarian emigration, the balances of the Austrian and Hungarian Reconstruction Loans, etc.

Most of these activities are dealt with in the following pages.² The draft Convention on Financial Assistance is discussed in a separate section of the present report (see p. 28).

1. PURCHASING POWER OF GOLD.

The Council in 1928 invited the Financial Committee to consider to what extent and in what way the League of Nations could most usefully assist in the study and solution of the problem of undue fluctuations in the purchasing power of gold. The Committee held a first exchange of views during its session in September 1928. It discussed the best method of arranging for a study of the various questions involved, and asked the Secretariat to compile certain information.

The Committee again considered the question during its session in December 1928. It came to the conclusion that there was considerable disagreement, and often lack of knowledge, as to the basic facts. It accordingly recommended that a systematic international study should be made and suggested the appointment of a special committee to "examine into and report on the causes of fluctuations in the purchasing power of gold and their effect on the economic life of the nations". This proposal was approved by the Council during its session in December 1928.

In its report on its March session the Financial Committee stated that it hoped to be in a position to submit to the Council in June a complete list of names of all the members of the

¹ The Report of the Economic Consultative Committee on the Work of its Second Session contains also a very interesting general statement on world economic conditions in 1928.

² For further information, see chiefly the printed reports of the Financial Committee to the Council and the Council Minutes.

Special Committee. Good progress is meanwhile being made in the collection of data which the Secretariat is compiling with regard to the whole question.

The Economic Consultative Committee which met in May 1929 took the opportunity of stressing once more the importance of the question of the purchasing power of gold and of expressing the hope that the Special Committee would be constituted at the June sessions of the Financial Committee and of the Council and would be able to begin its work without delay.

2. BULGARIA.

A. *Stabilisation Scheme.*

During September 1928, the negotiations for the preparation of the Bulgarian Stabilisation Scheme¹ were brought to a satisfactory conclusion and the Assembly during its ninth session expressed the hope that the issue of the loan necessary for the execution of the scheme would meet with complete success.

Stabilisation Loan.

Immediately after the session of the Assembly, the Bulgarian Finance Minister got into touch with the principal foreign money markets, and towards the end of October his efforts led to the conclusion of a loan contract, which was ratified by Parliament on November 15th, 1928.

The loan was issued in three blocks :

1. A block of £1,800,000 issued in London on November 23rd, 1928, of which £100,000 was taken up by a syndicate of Czechoslovak banks and £200,000 by the Amsterdam market ;

2. A block of \$13,000,000 issued in New York on December 3rd, 1928, of which \$1,000,000 were placed in Belgium, \$1,500,000 in Italy and \$1,500,000 in Switzerland ;

3. A block of 130,000,000 francs issued in Paris on November 21st, 1928.

The issue yielded just over £5,000,000 which, in accordance with the Protocol, is being allotted as follows :

	£
National Bank	1,500,000
Agricultural Bank	500,000
Central Co-operative Bank	150,000
Budget arrears	1,100,000
Means of communication	1,250,000
Earthquake expenditure	500,000

The successful issue of the loan has made it possible to put the stabilisation scheme into execution.

Stabilisation Law.

By a special Law of November 22nd, 1928², a new currency — the gold lev — has been introduced, which is in a fixed relation to gold — 92 gold leva being equivalent to 1 gramme of fine gold.

Central Bank.

The position of the Bulgarian National Bank has been greatly strengthened. Not only have the new Statutes come into force, but as a result of the loan the Bank's holdings of gold and gold exchange have approximately doubled. Also more than one milliard of the Bank's locked-up assets, including some 640 million leva of State debt, were realised. Since the end of 1928 the proportion of cover has been at a level between 45 and 51 per cent.

Budget.

The Bulgarian Government, on the signature of the Protocol of 1928 for the Stabilisation Loan, at once applied its provisions with regard to the budget and began to publish monthly budgets and closed accounts and further monthly information on the situation of the public finances which, in the opinion of the Financial Committee, should prove most useful to the governmental machinery and to the credit of the country, both at home and abroad.

The budget for the financial year 1928-29 fulfilled the conditions of the Protocol of March 1928. The Bulgarian Government was required by the Protocol to keep the ordinary and extraordinary budget for that year within the limit of 6,750 million leva. The budget for 1928-29 shows receipts amounting to 6,787.7 million leva as compared with an expenditure of 6,750 million leva. Moreover, the estimates show a surplus from special funds of 49 million leva leaving a total surplus of 87 millions. The closed accounts for the first nine

¹ For documents regarding the Bulgarian Stabilisation Scheme, see document C.338.1928.

² For the complete text of the Stabilisation Law, see the ninth quarterly report of the League Commissioner in Bulgaria (document C.570.1928, p. 12).

months of the financial year 1928-29 show an excess of 84 million leva above the estimates. This satisfactory result is due to the system of monthly budgets, now in application, and to large increases in the revenue collections.

Several reforms are yet to be effected in the administration of the public finances, such as the actual incorporation in the budget of all special funds, the reform of the public accountancy system, the introduction of a complete and permanent system of treasury control and a reduction in the number of Government officials. This work as well as the reform of the railway administration is being continued.

B. *Settlement of Refugees.*

The settlement of the Bulgarian refugees is making satisfactory progress. It is now practically certain that the Refugee Settlement Loan of 1926 will be sufficient for the completion of the work of settlement as projected.

Before the winter of 1928-1929, land had been definitely allocated to nearly 80 per cent of the refugees, while 5,000 allotments had already been surveyed and were available for distribution before agricultural work was resumed in the spring of 1929. Further progress is being made with the distribution of seed, live-stock and agricultural material. In 1928 the number of buildings completed was from four to five times greater than in 1927. The work of ploughing and clearing the land, the draining of marshes and the construction of the Rakovsky-Mastanla Railway is being actively continued. The railway is now working for a length of forty-one kilometres from Rakovsky.

In the beginning of November 1928, out-of-door work for the settlement of the refugees was necessarily suspended, and could not be actively resumed until May 1929. Good use, however, was made of the winter season for the preparation of new contracts for the construction of houses.

The Commissioner of the League hopes that the rate of progress of the work of house construction will increase during the present year.

3. GREECE.

A. *Public Finances.*

The Financial Committee has been continually kept informed of the development of the financial situation in Greece as a result of the monetary stabilisation which was effected in the beginning of 1928. In accordance with the Protocol of September 1927 the Greek Government has been submitting reports every three months on its budget situation. The Committee has also had repeatedly the advantage of exchanges of views with representatives of the Treasury and of the Bank of Greece.

The current budget position is generally satisfactory, although the Financial Committee has pointed out that equilibrium tends to be secured at a slightly higher figure than had been contemplated and prudent management will continue to be necessary.

The agreement for a loan of \$12,167,000 on favourable terms from the United States Government was ratified by Congress early this year. This loan, which forms a part of the Stabilisation Loan of 1928 will be spent on refugee settlement and is a valuable contribution to the completion of this work.

The situation of the Bank of Greece has developed most satisfactorily during its first year. The proportion of cover amounts to about 53 per cent.

B. *Settlement of Refugees.*

During the period under review the work for agricultural settlement consisted chiefly in consolidating the settlements made in previous years and it is now entering upon its last stage. With regard to urban settlement, good progress was made in the carrying-out of the building programme of 10,000 houses which is to be completed by the end of 1929. (For details, see quarterly reports of Greek Refugee Settlement Commission.)

The Financial Committee discussed in March, with the representatives of the Greek Refugee Settlement Commission, the general programme of the work remaining to be done. It arranged to discuss the matter further with the Commission at its next session and will report to the Council in due course.

4. SAAR BASIN : PROPOSED LOAN OF THE GOVERNING COMMISSION.

The Chairman of the Saar Basin Governing Commission informed the Secretary-General of the League, in a letter dated December 4th, 1928, that the Governing Commission desired to issue a loan, the proceeds of which would be applied to the execution of certain necessary public works, and asked the permission of the Council to develop its plans before the Financial Committee.

The Chairman of the Governing Commission submitted a list of the public works to be executed with the borrowed funds. These included certain improvements to be introduced on the railways and in the postal, telegraph and telephone service, together with various public constructions and public works. It was shown that the interest and redemption charges

in respect of the loan were well within the resources of the Territory. The proposed loan would be somewhere in the neighbourhood of 250 million francs, and it would be necessary to allow for an annuity of, roughly, 20 million francs. This annuity could, in the opinion of the Governing Commission, be met without having to increase existing taxation, which is not in any case unduly burdensome.

The Council referred this proposal to the Financial Committee during its session in December, 1928. The Financial Committee considered the project in March, 1929, when statements were made before the Committee by the President of the Governing Commission and by the members in charge of the Departments of Finance and of Public Works.

Certain technical problems arose which appeared to the Committee to need further consideration, and the Committee hopes to be able to offer final suggestions on these points during the session to be held in June 1929.

5. GRECO-BULGARIAN EMIGRATION.

The agreement concluded between the Greek and Bulgarian Governments in December 1927, with the assistance of the Financial Committee, regarding certain financial obligations resulting from the emigration between Greece and Bulgaria, has been ratified by both countries, and the instruments of ratification were deposited in Geneva by both Governments in March 1929.

The Chairman of the Mixed Greco-Bulgarian Emigration Commission has on several occasions consulted the members of the Financial Committee on financial questions.

D. INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES AND CONVENTIONS THE PREPARATIONS FOR WHICH HAVE BEEN MADE BY THE ECONOMIC COMMITTEE.

1. INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION FOR THE ABOLITION OF IMPORT AND EXPORT PROHIBITIONS AND RESTRICTIONS, SIGNED ON NOVEMBER 8TH, 1927, AND SUPPLEMENTARY AGREEMENT THERETO, SIGNED ON JULY 11TH, 1928. — INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS CONCERNING THE EXPORT OF HIDES AND SKINS AND OF BONES, SIGNED ON JULY 11TH, 1928.

The results of the two International Conferences held in July 1928, which led to the conclusion of the four economic agreements mentioned above, were given in the report to the last ordinary session of the Assembly.

The entry into force of the Convention on Prohibitions and the Supplementary Agreement thereto, which have been signed by twenty-nine countries, is conditional upon their being ratified by eighteen countries before September 30th, 1929. The two Agreements concerning the Export of Hides and Skins and of Bones cannot come into force unless they are ratified before July 1st, 1929, by all the signatory States, *i.e.*, by twenty countries.

The four agreements have so far been ratified by one country only, namely, Great Britain. The Secretariat has been officially informed that a draft law providing for ratification has been approved by the Parliaments of two other countries, Belgium and Sweden. Draft laws providing for ratification are now before the Austrian, German and Netherlands Parliaments. In several other countries (Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Hungary, Italy, Japan, Luxemburg, Norway, Roumania, Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes) similar draft laws are in course of preparation.

The question of the ratification of these international agreements, and in particular of the Convention on Prohibitions, is receiving the constant attention of the Economic Committee and of the Council.

In its report on the work of its session held in October 1928 the Committee thought well to draw the Council's attention to the urgency of obtaining the ratification of this Convention, stating that :

“ The Committee has already more than once impressed on the Council the great importance of the Convention on Prohibitions as a guarantee of greater liberty of commerce. In this case the delay in ratifications may be specially detrimental to the interests of international trade, in that the coming into force of the Convention is conditional on its being ratified within a given time by fourteen specifically named countries. If the ratifications are not received by the expiration of that period, the results gained will have to be reconsidered. At the same time, the application of the two international agreements relating to the exportation of hides and skins and of bones, to which the Economic Committee attaches particular importance as being a first step in the direction of the collective agreements on Customs matters recommended by the Economic Conference, would be compromised. ”

At its meeting on December 13th, 1928, the Council, after taking note of the Committee's report, adopted the following resolution :

“ Requests the Secretary-General to remind the Governments of States that signed the Convention for the Abolition of Import and Export Prohibitions and Restrictions of November 8th, 1927, the Supplementary Agreement of July 11th, 1928, and the two

Agreements concerning the Export of Hides and Skins and of Bones dated July 11th, 1928, of the importance which the Council and the Economic Committee attach to the entry into force of these agreements as soon as possible ;

“ Without prejudice to the decision of the States concerned, the Secretary-General will intimate to the Governments which have signed these instruments the Council's desire that they should begin to take the necessary steps for ratification, regard being had to the fact that a considerable part of the time-limit laid down in these agreements has already elapsed. ”

In March 1929 the Council again examined the question, and, in view of the early dates fixed by the agreements for the deposit of ratifications, instructed the Secretary-General “ to draw the attention of Governments once more to the urgency of ratification, and to inform them that the Council would greatly regret if these agreements could not be put into force for lack of a sufficient number of ratifications ”.

2. INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE RELATING TO ECONOMIC STATISTICS.

The International Conference relating to Economic Statistics, which was called in pursuance of a resolution adopted by the Council at its forty-ninth session in March 1928, met at Geneva from November 26th to December 14th, 1928, under the presidency of Professor RAPPARD, member of the Permanent Mandates Commission of the League of Nations, late Rector of the University of Geneva. The following States were represented at the Conference : Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Danzig, Denmark, Ecuador, Egypt, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Greece, Hungary, India, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Luxemburg, Mexico, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Norway, Paraguay, Poland, Portugal, Roumania, Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes, Siam, South Africa, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Union of Socialist Soviet Republics, United States of America, Uruguay, and Venezuela.

The Economic Committee of the League of Nations, the Committee of Experts for the Unification of Customs Nomenclature and the Special Committee on Communications and Transit were also represented, and delegations of the International Chamber of Commerce and the International Institute of Agriculture attended in an advisory capacity.

The Conference was the outcome of protracted preparatory work initiated in 1922 by the Economic Committee on the instructions of the Council. This work was conducted throughout in close co-operation with the International Institute of Statistics. At later stages, the help of the International Institute of Agriculture and the International Chamber of Commerce also contributed largely to its success.

A Convention and Protocol were adopted at the close of the Conference and have so far been signed by twenty-six States, namely : Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Danzig, Denmark, Egypt, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Luxemburg, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Roumania, Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes, and Switzerland.

A Final Act was also adopted containing a number of recommendations and resolutions relating to further work to be undertaken for the assimilation and development of economic statistics.

The Convention covers a very wide field. It involves definite obligations in respect of both the scope of national economic statistics and the methods to be applied in the compilation of statistics of international trade. It provides further for the adoption of certain guiding principles in the compilation of statistics of fisheries, of mineral and metallurgical output, of indices of industrial activity and of censuses of industrial and agricultural production.

The minimum programme of economic statistics which the signatory States undertake to publish embraces the occupied population, the land on which, or the establishment in which, that population is occupied, the products of their industry, the international exchange of those products and the variations in their prices.

With regard to the methods to be applied in the compilation of statistics of international trade, not only was agreement reached on the vexed question of the definition of the terms of general, special and transit trade, but systems of valuation, generally uniform in nature, will in future be applied, and the statistics themselves will relate to the whole political territory of the several States (*i.e.*, including free ports, free zones, etc.) and not merely the Customs area. When the Convention comes into force, these provisions will go far to remedy the present lack of comparability between the national statistics of external trade.

It was not possible to secure, in respect of industrial statistics, an agreement relating to method as comprehensive in scope or as binding in character as that achieved in respect of statistics of international trade. But the principles laid down will none the less serve a useful purpose in directing future development along common channels.

The Convention was so drafted as to apply with a degree of obligation which varies according both to the class of statistics and to the economic or statistical development of each country. The obligation assumed by the most advanced countries is wider than that assumed by those for whom the adoption of the minimum programme will in itself constitute a definite advance. It was possible by this means to reduce the number of reservations to a minimum.

The Convention provides that as soon as it has come into force a Committee of Technical Experts shall be appointed to further the work which the Conference began. This Committee

will, in the first place, study certain problems which are not ripe for international agreement, and, in the second place, make suggestions for the improvement or amplification of the Convention or for the promotion of international uniformity in respect of classes of economic statistics not dealt with in the Convention. It will also have to examine any suggestions towards these ends which may be submitted to it by the Governments of the High Contracting Parties.

At its fifty-fifth session in March 1929, the Council referred to the Economic Committee for consideration the questions of the composition of this Committee of Experts and its relation to the Economic Organisation of the League. It was also seized of a certain number of resolutions and recommendations, contained in the Final Act of the Conference which called for action on its part. At the request of the Council the Secretary-General has taken the necessary steps to put into effect Recommendations 2 and 3 (relating to possible agreements between States with highly-developed statistical systems, with regard to statistics not dealt with in the Convention) and Recommendation 11 (relating to the preparation of a complete list of ports open to international trade). Other recommendations and resolutions were submitted to the Economic Committee for examination (for action taken by the Economic Committee, see the chapter of this report entitled "Work of the Economic Committee").

The Convention will come into force on the ninetieth day following the receipt by the Secretary-General of ratifications or accessions on behalf of not less than ten Members of the League or non-Member States. Instruments of ratification have already been deposited on behalf of Norway.

E. INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES ORGANISED BY THE FINANCIAL COMMITTEE.

1. DOUBLE TAXATION AND TAX EVASION.

The year 1928 marked an important stage in the progress of the work undertaken under the auspices of the League of Nations in regard to double taxation and tax evasion.

The investigations, which were begun as far back as 1921 on the recommendation of the International Financial Conference of Brussels, led to the drafting of four model Conventions in 1927 to serve as a basis for the negotiation of bilateral agreements between States. These four drafts, accompanied by a detailed commentary (document C.216.M.85.1927.II), were submitted to Governments for their opinion and discussed at the general meeting of Government Experts, which met at Geneva from October 22nd to 31st, 1928.

This meeting was attended by the representatives of twenty-seven countries. It approved the drafts submitted to it, modifying them slightly, and added two draft bilateral conventions for the prevention of double taxation in the special matter of direct taxes, these being intended more particularly for the use of countries whose fiscal systems do not distinguish between impersonal and personal taxes or countries whose fiscal systems differ appreciably from each other (document C.562.M.178.1928.II).

A series of drafts therefore exists which have been discussed and approved by the representatives of twenty-seven Governments and which, if applied, would greatly reduce the evils caused by double taxation and tax evasion. In order to bring out the full importance of this fact, it will be enough to point out that, with the tariffs at present in force, the possibility of double taxation constitutes a grave obstacle to the international circulation of capital. In endeavouring to remove this obstacle, a further contribution, which is greatly needed, is being made to the work of the Economic Organisation of the League; the same is being done for capital as the draft Convention on the Treatment of Foreigners attempts to do for individuals, and as the policy propounded by the World Economic Conference has initiated in the case of commodities.

The prevention of double taxation has, indeed, long since ceased to be a matter for mere theoretical discussion. The Secretariat has collected the existing international Conventions and the provisions of internal law designed to prevent double taxation and tax evasion (document C.345.M.102.1928.II). In this manner there have been collected no fewer than 128 Conventions or texts of laws, all of which are actually in force.

This result is sufficient to show that the problem is undoubtedly a practical one. It emphasises the importance of measures to promote greater uniformity in Conventions applicable in similar cases or to provide a basis for negotiations between countries which have not hitherto been able to negotiate because their respective fiscal systems were too dissimilar. There can be no doubt that a worldwide network of Conventions such as those which the experts recommend would largely mitigate the evils at present caused by double taxation and tax evasion.

Draft Conventions are, however, inadequate for the prevention of double taxation. It is necessary, above all to guard against any relaxation of effort. It is necessary to follow up all progress achieved, to give such progress publicity, and constantly to call attention to what has still to be done. This was realised by the Government experts, who adopted the views already expressed by the technical experts and recommended, by a unanimous decision of the twenty-seven States represented, the creation, within the framework of the League organisation, of a Committee to study taxation questions. This Committee, whose work covers a wide field, was constituted by the Council at its session in December 1928.

The Committee will consist of about twelve members; but, following the plan adopted in the case of the Economic Committee, the Council may appoint, in countries which have no titular member on the Fiscal Committee, a corresponding member who will follow the Committee's work, be able to participate therein when called upon to do so, and receive all the Committee's

documents. As the corresponding members will be kept constantly informed of the work of the Fiscal Committee, they will be able to give the administrations of their respective countries the benefit of this work, and they will thus be the natural leaders in their countries of the movement against double taxation.

These corresponding members will probably be chosen at the Council session in June 1929, at the same time as the titular members of the Committee. The Committee will thus be able to hold its first session before the end of the present year.

2. COUNTERFEITING CURRENCY.

At the beginning of 1928 the draft Convention for the suppression of counterfeiting currency which had been prepared by the Mixed Committee was communicated to all States Members and non-Members of the League of Nations for their opinion.

By December 1928 observations on the draft Convention had been received from thirty-one Governments, and, in accordance with the decisions of the Council, a diplomatic Conference for the adoption of a Convention for the suppression of counterfeiting currency was convened by the Secretary-General under the auspices of the League of Nations, to meet at Geneva on April 9th, 1929.

The Conference was attended by delegations from thirty-five States. It drew up a Convention with a Protocol and Final Act¹, which was signed by the following countries: Albania, Austria, Belgium, China, Colombia, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Danzig, Denmark, France, Germany, Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Greece, Hungary, India, Italy, Japan, Luxemburg, Monaco, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Roumania, Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes, Switzerland, and the Union of Socialist Soviet Republics.

The object of the Convention is to render more effective the prevention and punishment of counterfeiting currency. To this end the Convention provides rules for unifying, to a certain extent, the penal laws of the signatory Powers and for the centralisation and co-ordination of police action in the various countries. With regard to this latter point the Convention provides that a Central Office shall be established in each country to investigate cases of counterfeit currency. There are stipulations regarding the organisation and working of these offices and the institution of a Central International Office with which the national offices will correspond.

The Convention is open to all States Members of the League and to all non-Member States invited to accede, and it will come into force when five ratifications or accessions have been deposited.

The Protocol annexed to the Convention contains indications for the interpretation of certain articles, as well as reservations and declarations made at the moment of signature.

By the terms of the Final Act adopted by the Conference, Governments are invited to take as far as possible, even before ratification, the administrative measures appropriate for the organisation of the services provided for in the Convention, and they are also requested to notify the League of the existence of a Central Office for the prevention of counterfeiting currency. It is provided that, as soon as fifteen Central Offices have been created, the first Conference of the representatives of these Offices may be summoned by the Council. It is suggested that, pending the creation of an International Central Office, Governments should continue to make use of the Office established by the International Criminal Police Commission at Vienna. It is further recommended that the League should consider the desirability of preparing an international convention for the prevention of counterfeiting other securities (share and debenture certificates, cheques, bills of exchange, etc.). It is also suggested that rules for the extradition of accused or convicted persons should be unified on an international basis with a view to obtaining a really effective suppression of crime, and that the despatch and execution of letters of request should be regulated by international convention with a view to establishing a uniform system of rules.

* * *

An optional Protocol was prepared and signed by certain delegates to the Conference, under which Contracting Parties may undertake, in their mutual relations, to consider the acts referred to in the Convention as ordinary offences for purposes of extradition.

The optional Protocol has so far been acceded to by Austria, Colombia, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Greece, Portugal, Roumania and the Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes.

¹ For the full text of these documents, see document C.153.1929.

F. PUBLICATIONS OF THE ECONOMIC INTELLIGENCE SERVICE.

Since the last session of the Assembly the following publications have been prepared and issued by the Economic Intelligence Service of the Economic and Financial Section of the Secretariat :

- (a) *Memorandum on International Trade and Balance of Payments, 1912-1927* (Vol. I.
— Review of World Trade and Balances of Payments, Vol. II (ready beginning of June 1929)
— Trade Statistics of 64 countries.
- (b) *Memorandum on Production and Trade, 1913 and 1923-1927.*
- (c) *International Statistical Year-Book, 1928.*
- (d) *Monthly Bulletins of Statistics.*
- (e) A *Memorandum on Commercial Banks, 1913-1927*, is in preparation.

* * *

A. MEMORANDUM ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND BALANCES OF PAYMENTS, 1912-1927 (two volumes).

In accordance with the resolution adopted by the Assembly during its third session, the *Memorandum on International Trade and Balances of Payments* has been prepared year by year and has now become a standard work of reference.

The scope of the present edition may be summarised as follows :

Volume I contains a general survey of world trade during the years 1926 and 1927, summary tables giving separately the total imports and exports of sixty-four countries and general tables for all countries of the world, showing trade by value and by weight, trade at 1913 prices and by countries of origin and destination. It contains, in addition, estimates of the balance of international payments of twenty-five States in recent years. These statements have, in the majority of cases, been specially prepared for the League of Nations in a uniform manner.

Volume II contains detailed trade statistics of sixty-four countries for the years 1925, 1926 and 1927 and provisional summary figures for 1928. This volume is a supplement to that published last year in which figures for 1913 and 1922-1925 and notes explaining the manner in which the statistics are compiled, the extent of their comparability, etc., are given.

B. MEMORANDUM ON PRODUCTION AND TRADE, 1913 and 1923-1927.

This memorandum contains a world index of the production of a large selection of raw materials and foodstuffs, a summary survey of the growth of world population and trade and an analysis of the relative movements of the prices of raw materials of mineral and agricultural origin and of manufactured commodities. Complete data are given for 1927 and earlier years, but provisional estimates carry the general survey of production up to the end of 1928 and indicate that the output of raw materials and foodstuffs in that year was over one-quarter greater than in 1913.

C. INTERNATIONAL STATISTICAL YEAR-BOOK, 1928.

This reference handbook was first published at the time of the Economic Conference. The edition was rapidly exhausted and a reprint was necessary. The two subsequent editions have also enjoyed a wide sale. The present volume brings the statistics up to the end of the year 1927 or 1928. It gives in a concise form the more important categories of statistics concerning area and population, including migration movements, production of cereals, textiles, ores and minerals, artificial fertilisers, oil-seeds, etc. ; international trade by value and weight, shipping, maritime freights, railways and motor vehicles, public finance (summary of budget accounts, analysis of revenue and expenditure, public debt, etc.), monetary statistics (note circulation, gold and foreign assets reserves, commercial bank deposits, etc.), rates of exchange, wholesale and retail prices, etc.

D. MONTHLY BULLETIN OF STATISTICS.

A considerable number of the more important tables contained in the *International Statistical Year-Book* are kept regularly up to date in this *Bulletin*, and the more important monthly economic statistics of the world are given. In the course of the past year a table of indices of industrial production has been added.

Changes in the scope or method of preparing the published statistics are noted and explained in the introductions.

E. MEMORANDUM ON COMMERCIAL BANKS.

The publication of this Memorandum has been delayed owing to the large amount of work which has fallen on the members of the Economic Intelligence Service in connection with the International Conference on Economic Statistics.

II. ORGANISATION FOR COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSIT.¹

The Advisory and Technical Committee met at Geneva from March 15th to 23rd, 1929, to consider the work of the various permanent and technical committees dependent upon it. It also indicated the general lines of future work and began to examine the new questions submitted to it by the Council. The position at the end of the Committee's session may be summarised as follows in the various spheres covered by its terms of reference :

A. TRANSPORT BY RAIL.

The Permanent Committee for Transport by Rail met immediately before the Advisory and Technical Committee. It took note of the progress achieved by the International Union of Railway Administrations in respect of the standardisation of railway tariff nomenclature, a question to which it had long ago drawn the Union's attention. The Committee was anxious that the work undertaken by the Union with a view to facilitating the conclusion of agreements for the application of international railway tariffs should be planned in such a way as to render the greatest possible service not only to railway administrations but to business circles both in and outside Europe. It therefore decided to appoint a Committee of Experts to examine the results so far obtained, bearing in mind the efforts now being made to standardise Customs nomenclature and transport statistics and the general importance of the question as it affects European and extra-European countries. The International Railway Union and the International Chamber of Commerce will be invited to send representatives to this Committee.

The Permanent Committee for Transport by Rail also noted the progress being made in connection with the unification of transport statistics, as summarised below. It also recognised that, in addition to the statistics of an administrative and technical character, which are being successfully prepared by the International Union of Railway Administrations, it would be desirable to establish, on a uniform basis, railway transport statistics for various categories of goods, thus making it possible to compare railway transport statistics for the various countries *inter se*, as well as with the statistics for other means of transport. The Committee is of opinion that the Committee for the Unification of Transport Statistics, with the assistance of specially qualified experts in railway questions, might usefully consider the question of unifying railway transport statistics.

The Committee also submitted various proposals to the Advisory and Technical Committee on the following questions : negotiability of railway transport documents, measures to be taken in case of grave occurrences of a general character affecting routes of communication, and the railway questions raised in the resolutions of the Conference of Press Experts, held at Geneva in August 1927.

On the basis of the proposals put forward by the Permanent Committee on Transport by Rail, and taking into account the recommendations made by the International Chamber of Commerce, the Advisory and Technical Committee has paid particular attention to the question of the negotiability of railway transport documents. Such documents are not generally regarded as negotiable in the various countries of continental Europe. The situation in this respect, however, is different in America. The negotiability of railway transport documents would seem to be a matter of real interest from an economic and financial point of view and likely — if introduced into countries where the system is at present unknown — to be of great assistance, in certain cases at least, in solving the problem of combined transport by rail and water, with a single transport document.

The Committee adopted the following resolution on this subject :

- “ The Advisory and Technical Committee for Communications and Transit ;
- “ Recognising the importance attaching to the study of the question of the negotiability of railway transport documents ;
- “ Noting that the Committee on Negotiable Railway Transport Documents of the International Chamber of Commerce has recognised the economic and financial utility of such documents :
- “ Invites its Chairman, in accordance with the request submitted by the Permanent Committee on Transport by Rail, to appoint a special Committee of Enquiry, the composition of which will be determined in agreement with the Chairman of the Permanent Committee on Transport by Rail. The report of this special committee will be addressed

¹ This chapter reproduces the Report of the Advisory and Technical Committee for Communications and Transit on the work of the Communications and Transit Organisation between the ninth and tenth ordinary sessions of the Assembly.

to the Advisory and Technical Committee, it being understood, however, that it will first be examined by the Permanent Committee on Transport by Rail.

“The International Railway Union and the International Chamber of Commerce will be invited to send a representative to this Committee.”

B. INLAND NAVIGATION.

On the proposal of the Permanent Committee for Inland Navigation, which met during the session of the Advisory and Technical Committee, the Advisory Committee examined the question of the unification of river law. Work on this subject was begun some years ago, and reports have from time to time been submitted to the Assembly.

A special Committee was first appointed to prepare a draft Convention for the unification of river law applicable to navigation on the great waterway systems of continental Europe. This seemed to be an important step in view of the great number of countries at present bordering on international waterways and the work now being undertaken to connect the international Rhine system with the Danube system. The unification of river law would greatly facilitate international inland navigation and would make it possible to place credits for shipping enterprises on a firmer basis, by means of a unified system of river mortgages.

This special Committee has now almost finished its work, and has prepared a draft Convention dealing with the registration of vessels employed in inland navigation, the regime of privileges and mortgages, the consequences of collisions, and the nationality of vessels employed in inland navigation. These texts will be put into final form in June 1929.

Under these circumstances, the Advisory and Technical Committee decided to ask the Council to convene, in the spring of 1930, a Conference of the States interested in the unification of river law applicable to navigation on the great navigable waterway systems of continental Europe. The countries held to be interested are those which were invited to the Conference on measurement of vessels employed in inland navigation held in November 1925 at Paris.

The Permanent Committee for Inland Navigation and the Advisory and Technical Committee also considered the reply of the Central Commission for Rhine Navigation to the request for an opinion on the observations in Mr. Hines's report concerning the application of the French warehousing supertax in so far as it concerns Rhine navigation.

The Advisory Committee noted that on this delicate point the Central Commission has made great efforts to obtain a solution which will put an end to the existing difficulties, that it has already obtained some results, and that there are now grounds for hoping that the matter will be definitely settled in a manner satisfactory to all concerned.

Under these circumstances, it decided not to take any further action in connection with Mr. Hines's observations on this subject.

C. MARITIME NAVIGATION.

The Permanent Committee on Ports and Maritime Navigation met in London from February 25th to 27th. It took note of the reports of the Technical Committee for Maritime Tonnage Measurement and the Technical Committee for Buoyage and Lighting of Coasts, and submitted to the Advisory and Technical Committee various proposals concerning the penal consequences of collisions at sea, and the international settlement of the question of territorial waters.

1. *Unification of Maritime Tonnage Measurement.*

The Advisory and Technical Committee approved the resolution adopted on this subject by the Permanent Committee for Ports and Maritime Navigation. This Committee has taken steps, on the basis of the Technical Committee's proposals, to have instructions prepared for tonnage surveyors such as will ensure the application of the recommendations contained in the Technical Committee's report, a draft standard model of the tonnage papers indicated in the report, and also rules concerning the measures to be adopted in the meantime. It is hoped that these draft instructions, tonnage papers and provisions for transitory measures will be approved by the Technical Committee towards the end of 1930 or the beginning of 1931. They will then be submitted to the Advisory and Technical Committee as embodying the steps that should be taken to secure equality for ships under all flags, on the basis of the system most generally applied in maritime tonnage measurement. These proposals will then be submitted to the Governments of maritime countries in order to determine what action will be necessary to put them into effect.

It is quite possible, therefore, that the work concerning the unification of tonnage measurement for seagoing vessels may be completed in the near future, resulting in the abolition of any indirect discrimination between vessels flying different flags, as is liable to happen in present circumstances. Provision has also been made to ensure that in future, when the proposed unification has taken place, any difficulty concerning the application of a new rule may be solved with the assistance of the Organisation for Communications and Transit, and, in particular, its Permanent Committee on Ports and Maritime Navigation.

2. *Buoyage and Lighting of Coasts.*

The preparatory work for the unification of buoyage and the lighting of coasts, the object of which is to increase the margin of safety at sea, and which has been in progress for several years, is now completed.

The Technical Committee which met at Genoa in February 1929, has submitted a unanimous report, based on the report prepared by its Rapporteurs on their mission to the United States of America and Canada in the spring of 1928.

It will be remembered that a preliminary report of the Technical Committee had already been submitted to the Governments of the various maritime countries, and that the latter had sent in their observations. As a result of these observations, it was obvious that the basis of the unification proposed — though it would certainly represent a considerable advance in continental Europe — could not be universally applied.

At its Genoa meeting, the Committee succeeded in modifying the basis proposed, and submitted unanimous suggestions concerning buoyage, the characteristics of lighthouses, various coastal and port signals, wireless lighthouses, etc. In these circumstances, and on the proposal of its Permanent Committee on Ports and Maritime Navigation, the Advisory and Technical Committee adopted the following resolution :

“ The Advisory and Technical Committee for Communications and Transit associates itself with the congratulations offered by the Permanent Committee on Ports and Maritime Navigation to the Technical Committee on Buoyage and Lighting of Coasts on the open mind with which it has carried out its work and on the results which it has achieved.

“ The Committee approves the report submitted and proposes that the Council should present it for examination to an International Conference of Maritime Countries.

“ The Committee is of opinion that such a Conference should not meet before the second half of 1930, so as to give all Governments the time necessary for examining the report.

“ In its opinion, invitations to the Conference should be worded in such a manner as to make it possible for Governments which might desire to do so to provide, in whatever manner they think most suitable, for the representation at the Conference of autonomous organisations responsible for buoyage and lighting of coasts. ”

3. *Penal Consequences of Collisions at Sea.*

On the proposal of the Permanent Committee on Ports and Maritime Navigation, the Committee adopted the following resolution on the question of the penal consequences of collisions at sea, which some time ago gave rise to certain incidents.

“ The Advisory and Technical Committee for Communications and Transit has considered, at the request of the International Association of Merchant Marine Officers, whether it would be advisable to study the question of the penal consequences of collisions at sea, with a view to the preparation of an international agreement. The Committee does not think it should undertake the examination of this question of international criminal law.

“ Nevertheless, in its desire to defend the interests of the free exercise of navigation, the Committee is of opinion that the following points might with advantage be brought to the attention of the Governments without touching on the legal questions at issue :

“ 1. Strict observance of the International Regulations for the Prevention of Collisions is of the utmost importance to the safety of life and property at sea.

“ 2. Such observance can be best attained without recourse to criminal law by :

“ (a) Establishing and maintaining a high standard of professional skill and conduct among those entrusted with the duties of navigation ;

“ (b) Within the limits recognised by international maritime law, holding the owners of a vessel responsible to other vessels met with in the course of the voyage for loss resulting from the breach of such regulations by those in their employment.

“ 3. It is the duty of each nation to establish and maintain such standards of professional skill and conduct among those it entrusts with the navigation of vessels under its own flag. Apart from the question as to what, if any, may be the conditions under which the criminal jurisdiction of a country may be exercised over the crew of a vessel under another flag, it is desirable that, under the comity of nations and in accordance with the rules of international courtesy, there should be left exclusively in the hands of the nation whose flag the vessel flies the enforcement of disciplinary measures for the purpose of establishing and maintaining such standards of professional skill and conduct, such as suspension of the national certificate of competency given to an officer, or other disciplinary action.

“ 4. International maritime law already provides means by which the owners of vessels may be made responsible to other vessels met with in the course of the voyage for loss resulting from a breach of the collision regulations by those in their employ.

“ The above considerations and recommendations in no way affect the question of collisions due to criminal intention or criminal neglect ; and the Committee is fully aware that the distinction between cases of a disciplinary character and those of a criminal nature

may sometimes be difficult to make and, in the rare cases when this question arises, it could only be settled after criminal proceedings had been set on foot. It is nevertheless expedient, even in such cases, that all efforts should be made by the States concerned to avoid any measures which might be liable either to infringe the principle of the disciplinary responsibility of the State whose flag the ship flies or which might involve difficulties or delays affecting the carrying on of navigation."

4. *Territorial Waters.*

Having noted that the question of territorial waters had been included in the draft agenda of the first Conference on the Progressive Codification of International Law, and regarding the question purely from the point of view of communications and transit, the Advisory and Technical Committee has drawn the attention of the Conference to a number of points which it felt should be taken into consideration in the codification of international law.

D. ROAD TRAFFIC.

The Permanent Committee on Road Traffic met at Paris from November 13th to 17th, 1928. Representatives of the International Chamber of Commerce, the International Association of Recognised Automobile Clubs, the "Alliance internationale du tourisme" and the International Federation of Transport Workers, were present at these meetings in an advisory capacity.

1. *Road Signalling.*

The Permanent Committee examined in detail the Government replies in connection with its previous proposals for the unification of road signals, and noted the favourable reception accorded to its suggestions.

Nevertheless, in the light of certain observations, it made a few changes in points of detail. These changes were included in the Committee's final proposals. The Committee is certainly entitled to be satisfied with the results obtained, since its proposals have, in a number of cases, not only been approved in principle, but immediately put into practice.

2. *Taxes on Foreign Motor Vehicles.*

The Permanent Committee requested the Advisory Committee, which subsequently agreed, to take steps by whatever procedure might be the most appropriate, and with the assistance of fiscal experts, to enquire into the possibility of a general agreement between States, with a view to the introduction of a system of taxes on foreign motor vehicles entering their respective territories, a system which, by its nature and its method of enforcement, would not constitute a hindrance to international motor touring. It recommended that this question should be studied, taking into account the following recommendations :

1. That no taxes on foreign motor vehicles should be levied during the first two months, at least, of their stay in the country ;
2. That the method of collecting such taxes should be simplified to the utmost possible extent, in particular, by making it the general rule to levy the daily licence fees at the time of leaving the country ;
3. That the tax on foreign motor vehicles should not be leviable when the motorist merely comes to the Customs frontier office, for instance, to have his triptych endorsed, without proceeding further into the country.

The Advisory and Technical Committee has arranged for this question to be considered jointly by the Permanent Committee on Road Traffic and the Fiscal Committee recently established by the League as a result of the Conference on Double Taxation.

3. *Generalisation and Simplification of the System of Triptychs.*

The Permanent Committee considered the question of the generalisation and simplification of the triptych system for touring cars and adopted a number of recommendations with a view to facilitating the application of this system both as regards the formalities to be complied with and the categories of motorists entitled to benefit thereunder. These matters being mainly Customs questions, the Chairman of the Advisory and Technical Committee submitted them to a Committee of Experts representing the various Customs administrations. Before coming to a final conclusion, the experts proposed that a questionnaire should be sent to the various Governments, and the Advisory and Technical Committee has accepted this proposal.

One of the questions dealt with is that of the issue of triptychs to motorists proceeding to a country with a view to a temporary residence therein or to undertaking work of an intermittent character.

4. *International Regulation of Commercial Motor Traffic.*

The Permanent Committee on Road Traffic came to the conclusion that whereas tourist traffic has long been regulated internationally it was necessary, as already explained to the Assembly, to undertake a new task, namely, the regulation of commercial motor traffic. This new mode of transport, which is daily gaining in commercial importance, has not, up to the

present, been dealt with under any provision of international law. The principle of freedom of communications and transit as laid down in Article 23 (e) of the Covenant does not yet appear to have been given legal sanction as regards this matter.

After a preliminary discussion the Permanent Committee on Road Traffic adopted the following resolution :

“ The Committee took note of a memorandum by the Secretary-General of the Advisory and Technical Committee and after a discussion adopted the following resolution :

“ ‘Whereas the Committee considers that the best method for encouraging and ensuring the development of the commercial transportation of passengers and goods by motor vehicle would be to grant such transportation a definite international status ;

“ ‘And whereas international transportation effected by other means, such as railways, inland navigation, maritime navigation and air transport, in most cases enjoys such a status, which provides, generally speaking, for freedom of communications and freedom of trade by these means of transport, without any obligation of transshipment at the frontiers ;

“ ‘And whereas the principles of freedom of communications and transport is laid down in Article 23 (e) of the Covenant of the League of Nations ;

“ ‘The Committee requests the Secretary-General of the Advisory Committee to furnish it as soon as possible with the preliminary draft of an international convention based upon the following principles, merely as a basis of discussion, to be considered by the Committee at its next session :

“ ‘(a) Freedom of circulation for commercial motor vehicles and of the carriage of passengers or goods in such vehicles in international traffic, when entering, leaving or passing through a country in transit, without prejudice to questions of public transportation services, such questions being excluded from the general agreement, and being left for settlement by special arrangement between countries ;

“ ‘(b) The right of countries to reserve inland transportation for motor vehicles registered in their own territories ;

“ ‘(c) The right of countries to impose a tax, if they think fit, on foreign commercial motor vehicles engaged in transportation in their respective territories, in order that such vehicles may contribute a fair share of the cost of road making and repair.

“ ‘The Secretary-General of the Advisory Committee is also requested to collect material regarding the present state of legislation and regulations bearing on questions arising in the draft Convention, and to invite the International Chamber of Commerce (which may be able to communicate the opinions of the commercial circles concerned), the International Association of Recognised Automobile Clubs, the “Alliance internationale du Tourisme” (which bodies have already succeeded, to the great satisfaction of the Committee, in facilitating the solution of certain problems raised by the extension of the triptych system to commercial vehicles) to transmit to the Committee any comments they may desire to make on the preliminary draft Convention, or on the above-mentioned principles. ’ ”

E. AIR NAVIGATION.

With a view to considering the questions of international organisation in connection with air navigation raised at the Third General Conference on Communications and Transit, and the steps to be taken to facilitate international co-operation between civil aviation undertakings in conformity with the request submitted by the Committee of Experts on Civil Aviation of the Preparatory Commission for the Disarmament Conference, the Advisory and Technical Committee decided at its twelfth session to convene, in 1928, a special Committee of Enquiry. This Committee has not yet met ; it was thought preferable to await the results of the negotiations now being conducted between certain countries not parties to the 1919 Convention relating to air navigation and the States parties to this Convention. As the situation will be clarified at a forthcoming meeting of the International Commission for Air Navigation, set up under the 1919 Convention, the Advisory and Technical Committee decided to convene the above Committee of Enquiry for the autumn of 1929.

F. BROADCASTING QUESTIONS.

The Assembly, at its last session, drew the attention of the Advisory and Technical Committee to the question of the distribution of wireless wave-lengths, and reference was made in the discussions of that Assembly to the general difficulties of an international nature connected with broadcasting and its problems. The Committee has begun to study this question. It sent a representative to a Radio-Electric Conference convened at Prague under the auspices of the International Telegraphic Union and adopted the following resolution :

“ The Advisory and Technical Committee for Communications and Transit has noted the report adopted by the Assembly at its last ordinary session concerning the study of the distribution of broadcasting wave-lengths and also the statements submitted to

it by the Director of the International Bureau of the Telegraphic Union and by the representative of the International Broadcasting Union.

“ The Committee feels that it would be difficult for it to intervene in the examination of a specific broadcasting question without having a general view of the problems raised by the international organisation of broadcasting.

“ It reaffirms its anxiety not to interfere with the international organisations established by international conventions in the exercise of the functions provided for in these conventions.

“ It requests the Secretary-General of the Committee to prepare for a future session a report on the international problems connected with the organisation of broadcasting, obtaining, if necessary, the assistance of experts appointed at his request by the Chairman of the Committee.

“ The Committee regards it as essential, in order to ensure the necessary co-ordination between the various organisations interested in broadcasting, that the Advisory and Technical Committee should be kept in constant touch with these organisations and should be represented in an advisory capacity at the conferences held under their auspices, it being understood that these organisations will also be invited to send representatives to the Advisory and Technical Committee when the latter discusses questions relating to broadcasting.”

G. GENERAL QUESTIONS CONNECTED WITH VARIOUS MEANS OF COMMUNICATION.

1. *Passports and Identity Documents.*

The Advisory Committee has conducted an enquiry into the steps taken to give effect to the recommendations of the 1926 Second Conference on the International Regime of Passports and the recommendations of the Third General Conference on Communications and Transit regarding identity and travelling documents for persons without nationality or of doubtful nationality. Some of the results have already been published, while others are in course of publication. It would seem that most States have taken very satisfactory action on the recommendations of these Conferences. Almost all the interested States have applied the recommendations concerning identity or travelling documents for persons without nationality or of doubtful nationality.

Moreover, on the proposal of the Advisory and Technical Committee, the Council has convened for June 10th, 1929, a Conference to prepare an international agreement on cards for emigrants in transit in order to spare the latter passport visa formalities. A Committee of Experts has drawn up a preliminary draft agreement.

2. *Unification of Transport Statistics.*

The Committee for the Unification of Transport Statistics has continued its enquiries. A draft has now been prepared providing the general framework for the statistics and the nomenclature applicable to statistics for inland and maritime navigation, respectively. As explained in the paragraph on railway questions, the reorganised Committee will continue its enquiry, taking railway transport statistics into account.

The Committee first of all endeavoured to make its nomenclature conform with the nomenclature established by the Committee of Experts for the Unification of Customs Nomenclature, but as the latter had to take into consideration special circumstances connected with Customs tariffs, it has so far been impossible to avoid a certain divergence between the two nomenclatures.

3. *Competition between Railways and Waterways.*

Mr. Hines's reports on his investigations into Rhine and Danube navigation contained references to complaints made in shipping circles about action taken by the railway undertakings. The Advisory and Technical Committee therefore instructed the Committee of Experts to report on this subject. After lengthy enquiries, the Committee, with Professor HECKSCHER, Professor of Political Economy at the University of Stockholm, as its Chairman, submitted a report which will shortly be published and will be considered by the Advisory and Technical Committee at its next session.

4. *Collection of Information.*

The Advisory and Technical Committee has issued definite instructions to the information service now being organised.

The Secretariat has already been authorised to collect the documentation required for conducting the enquiry into combined transport, by ascertaining all the precedents for such transport existing in the various countries and the legislation applicable thereto.

The collection of documentary material in connection with the international regulation of commercial motor transport has already been mentioned.

5. *Reform of the Calendar.*

The Advisory and Technical Committee has noted the progress achieved in constituting national associations for the study of the reform of the calendar as proposed in the Committee's resolution and approved by the Assembly.

The Committee has been informed of the formation of the National Committee for the United States of America, which is representative of every aspect of American economic life. This Committee is already at work. National Committees are also being formed in Germany and the Netherlands. The French Government has stated officially that the question has been submitted to the French National Economic Council.

H. COMMUNICATIONS OF IMPORTANCE TO THE LEAGUE AT TIMES OF EMERGENCY.

Apart from certain questions of detail concerning motor transport, the only matters outstanding are those connected with air and wireless communications.

As it is expected that fresh proposals will be made in connection with facilities for aircraft effecting transport for the League — a question now being studied by the International Air Navigation Commission — progress will be reported in the supplementary report to the Assembly.

The same applies to the question of establishing an aerodrome in the neighbourhood of the seat of the League. It will be easier to give further information on this subject in the supplementary report.

The new provisions adopted by the Advisory and Technical Committee with regard to the establishment of a wireless station, which will be embodied in a special report to the Assembly, will be included in the supplementary report.

I. ACTION TAKEN ON THE RESOLUTIONS OF THE CONFERENCE OF PRESS EXPERTS.

The Advisory and Technical Committee has prepared a report containing a series of resolutions submitted to the Council at its June session concerning the action to be taken on the resolutions of the Conference of Press Experts. The whole work of the Committee on this subject, and the decisions of the Council, will be set out in the supplementary report to the Assembly.

J. JURISDICTION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION OF THE DANUBE.

The negotiations, conducted under the auspices of the Advisory and Technical Committee with the assistance of the special Committee for the settlement of difficulties between France, Great Britain, Italy and Roumania concerning the jurisdiction of the European Commission of the Danube, have led to the drafting of an agreement unanimously approved by the delegates of these States on the European Commission of the Danube and initialled by them.

The Advisory Committee, which was informed of this result at its last session, adopted the following resolution :

“ The Advisory and Technical Committee expresses its satisfaction at the successful conclusion of the negotiations undertaken under its auspices for the settlement of the difficulties between France, Great Britain, Italy and Roumania with regard to the jurisdiction of the European Commission of the Danube, and congratulates the Special Committee appointed by it and the delegates to the European Commission of the Danube on the success of their efforts at conciliation.

“ It trusts that the agreement reached may soon be put into force.”

K. QUESTION CONCERNING FREEDOM OF COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSIT RAISED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS WHEN CONSIDERING THE STATE OF THE POLISH-LITHUANIAN NEGOTIATIONS.

When the Council during its fifty-third session came to consider the item in its agenda entitled “ State of the Negotiations between Poland and Lithuania ”, it decided on December 14th, 1928, to refer certain questions concerning the freedom of communications and transit to the Advisory and Technical Committee.

The Council noted that there was no documentation to show what obstacles had been placed in the way of freedom of communications and transit, invited the Advisory and Technical Committee to submit to it a report on the practical measures which might be adopted, account being taken of the international agreements in force, in order to remedy the above situation, or to lessen its international repercussions.

The Advisory Committee, after a preliminary examination of the documents available, fixed the procedure to be followed and appointed a Sub-Committee to submit proposals. This Sub-Committee has instructed certain of its members or experts of the Transit Organisation to collect data regarding facts which, if proved, would indicate the obstacles to freedom of communications and transit, to which reference was made in the Council resolution. These members or experts have also been instructed to estimate the economic consequences of such obstacles.

Other members or experts have been instructed to consider what are the existing international agreements to which the Council resolution refers, and what might be their scope as regards the obstacles to freedom of communications and transit.

III. THE HEALTH ORGANISATION.

The Assembly during its ninth ordinary session, on the report of the Second Committee, adopted a resolution¹ approving the work of the Health Organisation. Reference was made to its increasing utility as an agency for the promotion of international collaboration in matters affecting the public health. The Assembly recorded its gratitude for the services rendered by the members and experts of all the commissions and conferences of the Health Organisation, as well as by the specialists and experts who had carried out individual missions. Appreciation was expressed to the health administrations of the various Governments for their generous co-operation with the Health Organisation in the different branches of its work.

The Assembly also adopted, on the report of its Second Committee, a resolution relating to the question of alcoholism. This resolution which referred to the draft resolution submitted to the Assembly by the Finnish, Swedish and Polish delegations, requested the Council to ask the Health Organisation to collect full statistical information regarding alcoholism, considered as a consequence of the abuse of alcohol, paying particular attention to the deleterious effects of the bad quality of the alcohols consumed. Wine, beer and cider were excluded from the provisions of the resolution.

After a study of the question, the Health Committee adopted a resolution asking the Medical Director to apply to the Health Administrations of Finland, Poland and Sweden for suggestions concerning the special lines of international enquiry best adapted to supply the information of which these administrations were especially in need.

At its fourteen session in May, 1929, the Health Committee adopted the following resolution :

“ The Health Committee,

“ Having taken note of the budget proposals of the Health Organisation for the year 1930 :

“ Submits to the Council the desirability of drawing the attention of the Assembly to the fact that normal increases in the salaries of the staff should be taken into consideration in determining the total of the budget, as was the case in the 1929 budget ;

“ In this connection desires to point out that the stabilisation of the budget of the Health Organisation would otherwise involve a progressive diminution in the credits available for technical studies ; thus, in the budget proposals for 1930, these credits do not amount to more than 62.8 per cent of the total budgetary provision, whereas for the year 1927 they amounted to 67.5 per cent, though there has been no increase in the personnel employed. ”

The Council, when approving the report of the Health Committee, decided, on the recommendation of its Rapporteur, to refer this resolution to the Budget Commission of the Assembly.

SUMMARY OF THE WORK OF THE HEALTH ORGANISATION SINCE THE NINTH ORDINARY SESSION OF THE ASSEMBLY.

The work of the Health Organisation continued to develop within the limits imposed by its budget and the international character of its activities. The Greek Government has requested its assistance in the sanitary reorganisation of Greece. Useful contact was established with the health administrations of a number of Latin-American countries in the fields of leprosy and infant mortality. The Second International Conference on Sleeping-Sickness proposed that the Health Organisation should study the importance of sleeping-sickness in Africa in relation to other causes of morbidity, and arrangements have been made to keep African laboratories and research centres in touch with each other through the Health Section. The system of interchanges continues to serve as a means of liaison between the health administrations of the different countries and between their sanitary services and the Health Organisation. The Eastern Bureau at Singapore is perfecting its system of epidemiological intelligence, co-ordinating the work of Far-Eastern research centres in the field of hygiene, and acting as a link between Far-Eastern health administrations. A study of health conditions in the Pacific Islands, carried out at the request of the International Pacific Health Conference, has just been completed.

The infant mortality enquiry in selected districts of seven European countries has terminated, yielding results which should be useful to health administrations. An international conference has set out a plan of study which should ultimately throw light on the value of BCG as a means of preventing tuberculosis. An enquiry into the value of the treatment of syphilis is proceeding in selected clinics of five countries to determine whether modern methods of treatment serve to curtail the period during which the patient is a menace to others, and whether such treatment adequately protects the patient from the late severe effects of the disease.

The Health Organisation has begun the study of the survey method employed in the United States of America to stimulate public health work. This, together with the studies on the cost of medical care reported to the Health Committee by its North American members, has served a useful purpose in connection with current activities, such as the co-operation established with the Greek Government in the sanitary reorganisation of Greece, the work of the joint commission on public health and health insurance, and the study made by the President of the Health Council

¹ *Official Journal*, Special Supplement, No. 63, Resolution IV, No. 1, page 12.

of Uruguay, which is attempting to find a solution for its problem of providing medical treatment for its population.

The work of the Commissions of the Health Committee has continued to develop along lines already described in previous reports.

COLLABORATION WITH GOVERNMENTS IN HEALTH MATTERS.

1. *The Greek Government.*

On the invitation of the Greek Health Services, a member of the Health Section of the Secretariat was despatched to Greece to assist the local authorities in dealing with an unusual epidemic of dengue which started mildly in March 1928, but which later spread rapidly, until by October 15th more than 850,940 cases and 1,378 deaths had occurred.

Fruitful collaboration with the Greek Health Services had already been established by the Health Organisation in the campaign against tuberculosis amongst the refugees, on the suggestion put forward by the Financial Committee and approved by the Council of the League. This problem was discussed by the Health Committee during its twelfth session, with the assistance of the Director of the Greek Health service. The Health Committee, after deciding to place at the disposal of the Greek Administration the services of the Health Organisation in order that an efficient campaign against tuberculosis might be carried out, asked the Medical Director, together with the Director of the Greek Health Service, to draw up a detailed plan of action, in which the Greek Refugee Settlement Commission could assist, especially in setting up villages for the tuberculous and their families along the lines of analogous villages in other countries.

As a consequence of the contact already established between the Greek Health Services and the Health Organisation of the League, the Greek Under-Secretary of State for Health addressed a letter to the Medical Director on October 20th, 1928, requesting the assistance of the Health Organisation in the sanitary reorganisation of Greece.

During its thirteenth session held in Geneva (October 25th to 30th, 1928) the Health Committee declared its readiness to accede to this request, and proposed that its President and four of its members should place themselves at the disposal of the Council of the League and of the Greek authorities for such enquiries and advice as the situation demanded.

On December 13th, 1928, in the presence of the Greek Under-Secretary of State for Health, the Council adopted a resolution approving the proposal of the Health Committee, and inviting that Committee to place at the disposal of the Greek Government its various technical resources, in order to ensure complete co-operation in the preparation as well as in the subsequent development of the plan of reorganisation. The Council expressed its satisfaction that the Greek Government, in its desire to increase the value of its contribution to the general improvement of health conditions, had invoked the assistance of the Health Organisation of the League.

The five members of the Health Committee who had been selected for this purpose, after studying the data collected as a result of surveys by the members of the Health Section and by the experts appointed by the Section, submitted to the Greek Government a series of recommendations embodying the suggestions and advice they had been invited to give.

These recommendations, elaborated after close study of the sanitary situation in areas selected by the Greek Health Authorities, proposed the creation of a School of Hygiene, new technical services and ultimately of a Permanent Hellenic Health Service. The school will train the staff necessary for the Permanent Hellenic Health Service, and a number of districts have been selected in which practical instruction may be given and the new system applied from the beginning. These districts include the refugee settlements in Macedonia, where a number of dispensaries established principally for anti-malaria work will be transformed into modern health centres.

The new plan will extend gradually over the whole country as trained personnel becomes available, so that in five or six years Greece should have an adequately trained and equipped public health service, reaching into every commune by means of modern health centres, and capable of dealing effectively with the public-health problems peculiar to a country which, after many years of difficulty, is struggling successfully with the task of economic and social reconstruction.

The plan was presented to the Greek Government and fully accepted by the Prime Minister, who proceeded immediately to prepare the legislation required to give it effect, asking the Health Organisation at the same time to continue its co-operation.

As a first step in this co-operation, the Health Organisation has undertaken to give supplementary training abroad to six Greek medical officers who have been selected by the Government to occupy, for the time being, important posts in the Health Service.

During the fourteenth session of the Health Committee, and in the presence of a representative of the Greek Government, the delegation described the steps it had taken to fulfil its mandate. A resolution was adopted approving the action taken by the delegation, accepting the conclusions of its report, and thanking the Greek authorities for the assistance they had given to the delegation.

2. Latin-American Countries.

(a) *The Enquiry into Infant Mortality.* — Reference was made in preceding reports to the enquiry into the causes of infant mortality which is being carried out in selected areas of seven European and four Latin-American countries. The enquiries in the Argentine, Brazil, Chile and Uruguay, which were begun somewhat later than the European enquiry, are now nearing completion and a conference of the experts in charge of the work will be held in 1929 in order that a final general report, dealing with the enquiry in Latin America as a whole, may be prepared. In certain directions the enquiries in Latin America were more complete than those in Europe, particularly with respect to post mortem confirmation of clinical diagnoses and serological examinations for the detection of syphilis. Thus the enquiry in these countries will supplement usefully the experience acquired in Europe, by bringing to light the importance of certain causes of infant deaths which the enquiry in Europe did not elucidate. The Health Section has acted as the agent of liaison between the European and Latin-American experts so that the enquiry on both continents might be carried on along similar lines. It is expected that similar enquiries may be started later in Bolivia, Paraguay and Peru.

(b) *Leprosy.* — The Leprosy Commission of the Health Committee held a meeting in Paris on May 14th, 1928, when the general lines of the international enquiry on this subject were decided. The Chairman, Professor Chagas, Director of the Oswaldo Cruz Institute at Rio de Janeiro, informed the Health Committee that a National Research Centre for Leprosy had been formed in Brazil under the direction of M. Guinle, who is contributing \$10,000 yearly for investigations into this disease. The Health Committee has promised to send a European expert to undertake research at this institute into the more important problems of leprosy which possess international interest.

Dr. Etienne Burnet, of the Pasteur Institute at Paris, acting for the Health Section as the technical secretary of the Leprosy Commission, left for Latin America early in 1929 to visit countries whose assistance in carrying out the enquiries is indispensable. The interest of the Argentine and Brazil in leprosy is shared by other Latin-American countries, notably Colombia, Peru and Venezuela.

Advantage will be taken of Dr. Burnet's presence in Latin America to consider the possibility of extending to these countries the Health Organisation's enquiries into the sero-diagnosis of syphilis and subsequently into the treatment of syphilis now being carried on in other countries.

(c) *Miscellaneous.* — In addition to the infant mortality and leprosy enquiries, the Health Organisation has established useful technical contact with the Health Administrations of Latin-American countries by means of the system of interchanges of public health personnel and in other branches of its work.

INTERNATIONAL HEALTH CONFERENCES.

1. *Technical Conference for the Study of Vaccination against Tuberculosis by means of BCG (Bacillus Calmette-Guérin).*

During its twelfth session the Health Committee accepted a proposal made by Professor Calmette of the Pasteur Institute, Paris, that it should examine the results of vaccination against tuberculosis by BCG. Accordingly, a number of bacteriologists, physicians and veterinary surgeons were convened at the Pasteur Institute, Paris, from October 15th to 18th, 1928, with the object of selecting the best methods of appraising the immediate and more remote effects of BCG in laboratory animals, cattle and man. The Conference was divided into three Commissions which dealt, respectively, with bacteriological, clinical and veterinary considerations.

A number of resolutions were adopted, dealing with the immediate effects of BCG on animals and human beings, and detailed proposals were made for future investigations. These proposals for further study were accepted by the Health Committee at its thirteenth session, after certain statistical considerations had been referred to the Committee's expert statisticians for advice.

As a result of this Conference, future work carried on along approved lines by workers in various countries should yield results capable of demonstrating the true value of this means of preventing tuberculosis.

2. *The Second International Conference on Sleeping-Sickness.*

This Conference took place in Paris from November 5th to 7th, 1928. The report (document C.H.743) containing the resolutions and recommendations adopted, was considered and approved by the Council at its fifty-third session on December 11th, 1928, and, together with the Council resolution, was officially communicated to the Governments of the six countries participating therein, asking for their co-operation in giving effect to the recommendations contained therein.

The Conference adopted a resolution expressing its appreciation of the utility and interest attaching to international meetings of this kind and expressed the hope that the Health Organisation would recommend the convocation of a third International Conference on trypanosomiasis at some future date. In view of the economic and public health importance of animal trypanosomiasis in Africa, it was recommended that any future international conference should consider human and animal trypanosomiasis as a whole and not confine its attention to sleeping-sickness.

The Health Committee, at its thirteenth session, had suggested that the Conference might, with advantage, devote attention to the general health conditions of the native population in Africa. The Conference appreciated the desirability of enlarging the scope of the enquiry in this way and recommended that the Health Organisation should collect and analyse data concerning the prevalence and importance of sleeping-sickness in relation to other causes of morbidity. A study of relevant documentation received in the Health Section is being undertaken.

The Conference made no recommendations for any further scientific mission but it put forward detailed proposals regarding numerous questions of scientific and practical importance that call for study in the different national laboratories and research centres. It further made suggestions concerning the manner in which the Health Organisation might assist workers in different national laboratories in keeping in touch with one another. The first suggestion relates to the setting-up of a small expert committee to which all laboratories and research centres in Africa should communicate periodically an account of the work done, together with their publications. The committee would in its turn transmit the collected papers, with a short survey of the progress made in trypanosomiasis research and prevention, to the institutes and centres referred to, as well as to the interested administrations. To encourage the co-operation of the institutes in this scheme, it was suggested that this committee might recommend to the Health Committee the periodic award to one or other of these institutes of an "individual fellowship" which would enable a member of its staff to visit some other country or countries where work of special interest to the laboratory selected was being carried out.

The Conference also recommended individual interchanges which would enable research workers in African laboratories to become acquainted with trypanosomiasis investigations carried out in laboratories in other territories.

During its fourteenth session the Health Committee adopted a resolution emphasising the importance of the recommendation of the Conference that the Health Organisation should collect and analyse the facts available in regard to the importance of human trypanosomiasis in relation to other causes of morbidity. The Committee recommended that the services of the Health Organisation be placed at the disposal of the administrations of those territories, and that its usual methods of enquiry and work should be so employed as to comply to the fullest practicable extent with this recommendation of the Conference.

An expert committee of six members was appointed to assist in co-ordinating trypanosomiasis investigations, and the proposal regarding interchanges was endorsed (document C.175.1929.III, Resolution 7).

WORK OF THE COMMISSIONS AND EXPERT BODIES OF THE HEALTH ORGANISATION.

1. *Infant Mortality Enquiry.*

The infant mortality enquiry, set up on the proposal of the delegation of the Netherlands to the sixth session of the Assembly, and extending to twenty-nine urban and rural districts of seven European countries, has now been completed.¹ Over a period of twelve months, the deaths of 7,503 infants have been subjected to the closest scrutiny, and as a result certain general conclusions have been drawn which should be of help in adopting measures of prevention in these and other countries.

During the last Conference of the health experts on infant welfare, held at Rome in March 1929, a report was prepared embodying a summary of the general principles which emerged from the enquiry in the several countries (document C.H.779).

The twenty-nine districts were divided into four groups according to their rates of infant mortality. In the group with the lowest infant mortality, the principal causes of death are those associated with the pre-natal period and with confinement. There are a few deaths due to respiratory infections and a still smaller number due to digestive disturbances. In the second group, with higher infant mortality rates, the increase is due largely to digestive disturbances and to acute infectious diseases. Group three, with still higher mortality, is characterised by the increase in the number of deaths from digestive disturbances and from the acute specific infections. The fourth group with the highest infant mortality suffers still more heavily from digestive disturbances, specific and non-specific infections, prematurity and conditions associated with labour.

The experts were impressed with the large number of infants in all the districts who died before, during or immediately after birth, and considered that further study was required to elucidate the factors responsible for these deaths.

In their detailed recommendations the experts emphasised the need for improved supervision of pregnant women, especially by means of maternal welfare centres and adequately trained physicians, nurses and midwives. The value of financial and other forms of assistance to pregnant women, and of legislative measures such as health insurance, which permit women to rest during

¹ Elsewhere in this report are described the similar enquiries being carried on in selected districts of four Latin-American countries.

the latter months of pregnancy, was pointed out with reference particularly to the prevention of still-birth and prematurity.

Detailed national reports on these enquiries have been prepared and will be published. A general international report covering the enquiry in Europe is being prepared by the Health Section, and the second volume of this report will deal with the enquiry in four Latin-American countries.

2. *Enquiry into Syphilis.*

In view of the fact that the results of the campaign against syphilis have not been so good as the progress in the treatment of syphilis would have led medical officers to expect, the President of the Health Committee suggested to his colleagues that a small group of experts should be consulted. The Health Committee approved this suggestion (document C.579.M.205. 1927, page 177, Resolution 1) and the consultation took place at Geneva from October 8th to 10th, 1928; experts from Denmark, France, Germany, Great Britain and the United States of America participating.

The explanation suggested by the experts to account for the lack of better results in the prevention of syphilis was that the progress in the diagnosis and treatment of syphilis has not been exploited everywhere so rapidly and effectively as would have been desirable, and that a generally recognised uniform method of treatment does not exist. In order more exactly to determine the causes of the present apparently mediocre results, a retrospective enquiry was recommended to appraise the results obtained in a large number of cases treated in various clinics of different countries. The records of some ten thousand cases in each of five countries will be examined according to a method elaborated by the experts so that a large amount of comparable material will be placed at the disposal of the Health Organisation, by means of which it should be possible to decide whether present methods of treatment are effective in preventing the spread of the disease and in protecting the patient from the late severe effects of syphilis.

This proposal was approved by the Health Committee in due course and the investigations have begun in selected clinics of the five countries — Denmark, France, Germany, Great Britain and the United States of America. In each country the expert concerned is in charge of the investigation, which is being co-ordinated by a member of the Health Section.

3. *Joint Committee of Statisticians set up by the Health Organisation and the International Institute of Statistics.*

The Health Organisation and the International Institute of Statistics have been engaged in preparing for the International Conference, convened by the French Government, to revise the International List of Causes of Death in October 1929. On the suggestion of the French Government these two organisations have set up a joint committee which met at Paris in April 1929, and prepared a detailed report which will be the basis for discussion at the Conference. This report, containing proposals for several lists of causes of death for different purposes, takes into account the experience acquired since the last revision of the International List, and the views of the competent authorities of the Governments. There is reason to hope that, on the basis of this report, the forthcoming Conference will prepare lists which will be adopted by a sufficient number of countries to enhance considerably the international comparability of vital statistics.

4. *Cancer Commission.*

The Cancer Commission has dealt recently with occupational cancer and with the treatment of cancer by radiological methods. In view of the good results secured in the treatment of cancer by radium, information on methods of treatment by this means is in great demand. Only a few clinics have had such an extensive experience with this method as to justify the publication of their experience. After studying this problem in common, the directors of three of the most important clinics, at Paris, Munich and Stockholm, have described for the Cancer Commission the work done in these clinics and the results obtained. They have agreed on recommendations which should be adopted by clinics treating uterine cancer by these methods, and they have described the methods used in their own clinics which have been adopted after long experience and a scientific study of their results. This report which has been printed should be of value to the different countries in which so much interest in the radiological treatment of cancer exists.

5. *Relationship between Health Insurance and Public Health in the Field of Preventive Medicine.*

A Sub-Committee of the Joint Commission of Experts for the Study of the Relationship between Public Health Services and Health Insurance Organisations, known as the Commission on Preventive Medicine, has been set up. Its membership consists of medical advisers of health insurance organisations, named by the International Labour Office, and public health experts appointed by the Health Organisation. This Commission has met twice since the ninth session of the Assembly, first at Geneva in December 1928, and second in various cities of Germany and Austria, where a field study was made of the preventive methods employed jointly by Health Administrations and health insurance organisations. While the parent Committee deals with the principles involved in the relations between health agencies and health insurance institutions, the

Sub-Committee is concerned with the methods, and its reports deal with such fundamental considerations as the organisation and operation of various types of clinics and health centres, the training required by the staff of such institutions, the methods of compiling statistics of sickness, etc.

6. *Malaria Commission.*

Since the Conference on Malaria held in June 1928, when agreement was secured on the principles and methods of the campaign against malaria, and when a number of subjects for international study were proposed, the work of this Commission has been mainly to continue its co-ordinated investigations into the alkaloids of quinine, and to carry out the proposals of the June Conference. Malaria courses have been organised in Hamburg, London, Paris and Rome, and scholarships to these courses have been offered to a number of medical officers proposed by their Health Administrations.

On the invitation of the Government, a delegation of the Malaria Commission will visit India, beginning in September 1929.

7. *The Opium Commission.*

During its thirteenth session the Health Committee recommended that Article 10 of the International Opium Convention should apply to benzoylmorphine and all morphine esters without exception. A second resolution on this subject, reaffirming the previous decision, was adopted by the Health Committee at its fourteenth session, as a question had been raised regarding the interpretation of the first resolution. The Health Committee reserved the possibility of exempting, in conformity with Article 8 of the Convention, those esters, the innocuous character of which might be clearly demonstrated hereafter.

The Health Committee also decided that dilaudide should come under the provisions of the International Opium Convention.

With regard to Article 8 of the Convention, which deals with preparations containing narcotics which would not come under the Convention, the Health Committee adopted the report of its Opium Commission containing the views of that Commission on lists of preparations which various Governments had proposed for exemption.

SYSTEM OF LIAISON WITH THE HEALTH ADMINISTRATIONS OF THE DIFFERENT COUNTRIES.

1. *Collective Interchanges.*

A general interchange of medical officers of health began in Italy at Turin on September 16th, 1928, and terminated on November 8th and 9th with a final conference at Geneva. A programme designed to show the health problems and the methods of solution employed by the competent authorities in Sicily and Sardinia as well as in the Peninsula was prepared by the Italian Health Administration. The participants were enabled to obtain a clear picture of the varying social and economic conditions in Italy on which the Italian sanitary policy is based. A booklet containing the text of forty-eight lectures on health work in Italy was presented to each participant. There were twenty-one participants from sixteen countries.

An interchange for the study of medical factory inspection began at Lyons on April 3rd, 1929, and terminated at Lucerne on May 10th after visiting important industrial centres in Northern Italy, Bavaria and Switzerland. There were ten participants from ten countries. This interchange was organised jointly by the competent services of the International Labour Office and the Health Organisation of the League.

A second interchange for the study of problems of rural hygiene (the first was held in June-July 1928) began at Copenhagen on June 4th, 1929, and terminated at The Hague on July 9th, 1929. There were thirteen participants from eleven countries. In Denmark the group was given an opportunity to study, in addition to rural hygiene proper, the influence of the Folk High Schools, of the co-operative movement, and of the increase of small holdings on the development of rural hygiene. In the Netherlands, emphasis was laid on collective water supplies, the prevention of typhoid fever in rural districts, rural housing and the work of voluntary health agencies such as the Green Cross.

2. *Individual Fellowships.*

As usual a certain number of individual fellowships were given, mainly in connection with schemes of co-operation established between the Health Organisation and the Health Administrations of certain countries such as Greece, Japan and various countries of Latin America. These fellowships are intended to afford selected health officers an opportunity of extending their knowledge of the subjects with which they deal officially.

SERVICE OF EPIDEMIOLOGICAL INTELLIGENCE.

The Service of Epidemiological Intelligence has continued to develop, both as regards the rapidity and extent of its information. Health Administrations are adopting increasingly the telegraph and cable in submitting their reports. In addition to the transmission of messages by wireless, the Health Section distributes a multigraphed bulletin several times a week.

The printed *Weekly Record* contains, in addition to information received at Geneva, the official communiqué of the Office international d'Hygiène publique, as well as bulletins from the Eastern Bureau at Singapore and the regional Bureau at Alexandria.

THE EASTERN BUREAU AT SINGAPORE.

Three new ports were added in 1928 to the list of those in weekly telegraphic communication with the Bureau, so that all important ports (143) in the Eastern area (with the exception of Chinese ports) are now in regular contact. Some progress was made in securing information from Chinese ports, particularly Amoy, Swatow and Tientsin. An increasing number of port health officers are now reporting the presence of plague-infected rats. Five countries were added to the list of those sending in regularly information by post to confirm and supplement telegraphic returns.

While the number of wireless stations broadcasting the weekly bulletin remained unchanged during 1928, the number of health administrations receiving the message increased from 25 during 1927 to 29 in 1928, thus reducing the cost of cabling. The average length of the weekly wireless message was increased by 25 per cent, owing to the larger number of ports included and the more complete information concerning quarantine measures and other information of interest. Four wireless stations now broadcast a summary of the weekly message in clear (the message itself is in a special code) for the benefit of shipping, and two stations formerly broadcasting the coded message have, at the request of the shipping companies, consented to broadcast in clear. It is expected that two more stations will begin broadcasting the message in 1929.

During 1928 the Eastern Bureau received and transmitted information concerning 160 ships having on board patients suffering from infectious diseases. Information concerning the movement of pilgrims and the occurrence of epidemic disease among them, as well as precautionary measures taken before their departure, is exchanged between the regional Bureau at Alexandria and the Eastern Bureau which is thus in a position to give prompt advice to the Health Administrations concerned.

The Bureau has developed its work of co-ordinating the medical research work carried out in the Far East with reference particularly to the study of oral vaccination against cholera and plague. The Bureau also acts as an agent of liaison between the hygiene laboratories and institutes of the Far East. An enquiry into the value of Far-Eastern quarantine stations proposed by the Advisory Council at its third session is being carried out.

II.

HUMANITARIAN QUESTIONS.

I. PROTECTION AND WELFARE OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE.

A. TRAFFIC IN WOMEN AND CHILDREN.

The eighth session of the Traffic in Women and Children Committee took place at Geneva from April 19th to 26th, 1929.

In adopting its agenda the Committee postponed to its next session the consideration of the following questions :

1. Protection of young female artistes touring abroad in music-halls and similar places of amusement ;
2. Supplementary information from Governments on the suppression of the traffic in obscene publications ;
3. Measures to be taken to assist women on leaving prison ;
4. Repatriation of foreign prostitutes ;
5. Employment of women police.

1. ANNUAL REPORTS FROM GOVERNMENTS FOR THE YEAR 1927.

The Committee observed that of the twenty-nine States Members of the League which had not yet sent in their reports for 1927, the majority habitually failed to carry out the recommendations contained in the Final Act of the Conference of 1921. Moreover, some of the States which send regular reports often gave vague replies owing to a misinterpretation of the questions asked, while some continued to reply to the old questionnaire instead of the new one, which was introduced some years ago. In order to avoid further misunderstandings and to increase the number of replies, the Committee requested the Council to send a letter to the Governments containing such explanations as were necessary.

After hearing statements from the representatives of various Governments the Committee decided, on the proposal of the Belgian representative, to amend the eighth question for the

annual reports, which asks for information as to the exploitation of children for immoral purposes, especially where there exists any system of pawning or bartering of children, which must not be confused with adoption.

The following text was adopted :

“ In addition to any information given in reply to previous questions, please state whether any other measures have been taken to prevent children from exploitation for immoral purposes, especially by the system of pawning or bartering children, or by abuses in connection with adoption.”

2. REPORTS FROM VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS.

The delegates of the various voluntary organisations represented on the Committee described the work done by their associations. The members of the Committee and the assessors pointed out that it would be desirable to publish a summary of the experts' enquiry in the form of a popular pamphlet.

3. REPORTS FROM LIAISON OFFICERS.

At the Chairman's request, the liaison officer with the International Labour Office undertook in future to make an annual report to the Committee on the work of the International Labour Office so far as it affected that of the Committee.

4. EXPERTS' ENQUIRY.

(a) *Further Information.*

The Committee noted information received from Greece and Latvia supplementing that given in the experts' report.

(b) *Extension of the Enquiry.*

The Committee recommended that, provided the necessary funds were available, the enquiry of the Special Body of Experts should be extended, more particularly to the eastern countries (Near, Middle and Far East). Realising that conditions in those countries were widely different from those in Europe or America, the Committee felt that the character of the investigation, as well as the composition of the Body of Experts, would have to be considered in the light of the altered circumstances.

5. ABOLITION OF THE SYSTEM OF LICENSED HOUSES.

The Secretariat has endeavoured to obtain from countries which have abolished the system of regulation some account of the methods adopted for dealing with prostitution and its evils.

Only one or two countries replied. It was agreed that steps should be taken to obtain information from other Governments, this information to be classified under four headings — the prevention of disease ; the steps taken against the exploitation of women ; the reduction of prostitution ; and the preservation of public order — and to be embodied in a special document.

After the representatives of various Governments had made statements to the Committee regarding the situation in their respective countries, the Committee unanimously adopted the following resolutions :

“ The Committee notes that only one or two Governments have replied to the application sent to them last year asking for information as to the laws and regulations in force in those countries where the system has been abolished. This lack of information may probably be attributed to the fact that the nature of the request was not made sufficiently clear.”

“ The Committee desires to study as closely as possible the various means employed in place of regulation with a view to protecting public order and health against the dangers arising out of prostitution.”

“ The Committee recommends that the Council should cause a further communication to be sent to Governments and to charitable associations asking them to be good enough to give all the information possible so as to enable the further study of the question by the Committee to continue.”

At the end of the discussion the Secretary laid before the Committee her correspondence with the International Labour Office with reference to a recommendation by the Sub-Committee of the Joint Maritime Commission concerning the strict medical supervision of prostitutes in ports. The Committee, having heard the Secretary's statements, endorsed her action and authorised her to take further steps if necessary.

6. PENALTIES TO BE IMPOSED UPON PERSONS LIVING ON THE IMMORAL EARNINGS OF WOMEN.

The Committee considered various matters arising out of the study of the laws relating to *souteneurs*, and in particular the definition of the offence, and the difficulties attendant upon the arrest of the offender. Attention was drawn to the bad record of many *souteneurs* who had committed offences in different countries, and it was felt that the record should be taken into account when sentence was being passed.

The Committee considered that the Secretariat's report should be communicated to the Governments, and the following recommendation was made :

" The Committee, having considered the very complete report prepared by the Secretariat on certain legislation dealing with the *souleneur*, requests the Council to bring this study to the special notice of Governments, drawing their attention to the importance of ensuring that legislation and its application is effective in bringing the *souleneur* to justice.

" The Committee draws special attention to the necessity of granting powers for the prompt arrest of such persons ; of inflicting penalties suited to the dangerous character of their national and international activities ; and of applying special repressive measures in the case of repeated offences. "

7. ELIMINATION OF THE AGE-LIMIT IN THE CONVENTIONS.

One of the assessors pointed out in his report that the abolition of the age-limit in the Conventions would enable offences connected with the traffic to be punished more effectively, as, through false documents, victims of the traffic were often stated to have passed the age of twenty-one laid down in the Conventions. The representatives of various Governments expressed themselves in favour of the abolition of the age-limit, and the Committee passed the following resolution :

" The Traffic in Women and Children Committee, having considered the views expressed on the question of eliminating the age of twenty-one in the Convention of 1921, is of opinion that the time has now arrived for a further reconsideration of this matter, and requests the Council to authorise the Secretariat to obtain the views of all Governments as to the proposed change, and to submit a report at the next session of the Committee. "

8. SUPPRESSION OF THE TRAFFIC IN OBSCENE PUBLICATIONS : QUESTION OF HOLDING A FURTHER CONFERENCE.

The Committee discussed the present situation in connection with the desirability of summoning a Conference to revise the Convention of 1923, but thought that the time had not yet come for such a revision. The Committee hopes that those Governments which have not yet ratified the Convention of 1923 will do so as early as possible. The Committee proposes that the Governments should be requested, if and when occasion arises, to furnish further information as to the extent of the traffic and the measures taken to deal with it.

9. COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE.

The Committee considered the Council's resolution of December 13th, 1928, regarding the adoption of a new procedure for the participation of the assessors in the Committee's work. It was agreed that a distinction ought to be drawn between the assessors of the Child Welfare Committee and those of the Traffic in Women and Children Committee, who had been appointed as the outcome of a recommendation of the 1921 Conference.

At the same time, the Traffic in Women and Children Committee felt that it must take account of the discussions in the Child Welfare Committee, and it adopted conclusions similar to those of the latter Committee. It requested the Council to consult it in future before any steps were taken to add to the number of assessors.

It laid down certain desirable conditions for limiting the number of assessors and the length of their term of office, and stated that it was advisable that it should reconsider its rules of procedure, including the question of the appointment and re-election of assessors.

10. COLLECTION OF LAWS AND REGULATIONS PREPARED BY THE AMERICAN SOCIAL HYGIENE ASSOCIATION.

The Committee instructed the Secretariat to classify the laws and regulations collected by the American Social Hygiene Association and completed by the Secretariat in accordance with the system proposed by the Sub-Committee appointed for that purpose. When this classification is complete, the Secretariat will, in accordance with the resolution approved by the Council in 1927, submit to each Government that part of the collection which particularly concerns it, in order that the Governments may review and, if necessary, complete the texts. The collection of laws when complete will be issued in both the official languages of the League.

* * *

The report of the Committee was placed on the agenda of the June session of the Council. The resolutions adopted by the Council as a result of the examination of this report will be summarised in the Supplementary Report to the Assembly.

B. CHILD WELFARE.

The Child Welfare Committee held its fifth session at Geneva from April 12th to 18th, 1929

1. BLIND CHILDREN.

The Child Welfare Committee, having taken note of the Danish representative's report on the question of blind children, requested her to continue to keep in touch with the enquiries into this problem now being conducted by the other organisations of the League of Nations, and empowered her to establish contact with these bodies for this purpose. It requested her to make a fresh report to the Committee at its next session on the state of the question.

2. PRELIMINARY ENQUIRY CONCERNING CHILDREN IN MORAL AND SOCIAL DANGER.

It will be remembered that the Child Welfare Committee decided at its session held in 1928 to utilise the gift of \$5,000 made in 1925 by the American Social Hygiene Association for an enquiry into the problem of the child whose environment is bad and who is exposed to moral and social danger. The Council, having approved this suggestion, decided on August 31st, 1928, to appoint Mlle. Chaptal to conduct the enquiry. At the recent session of the Committee Mlle. Chaptal gave an account of the preliminary steps she had taken. The enquiry will be continued by various means, including visits to certain countries.

3. ILLEGITIMATE CHILDREN.

The Committee, having examined the report prepared by the Secretariat on the position of the illegitimate child, expressed the hope that Governments would continue to send information as to any changes in their laws.

The Committee considered, from an examination of the reports received, that more effective protection should be ensured to illegitimate children; it decided to keep the question on its agenda, and expressed the opinion that in all questions of protection and assistance the illegitimate child should be as well treated as the legitimate child, due respect being paid to the rights of the family.

The Committee requested its Legal Sub-Committee to examine the report and decide what questions should be studied, and in what order.

4. PROVISIONAL DRAFT AGREEMENT REGARDING THE RETURN TO THEIR HOMES OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE.

The Committee carefully examined the provisional draft agreement laid before it by its Legal Sub-Committee.

It thought it necessary that the provisional draft should state clearly :

1. That the interests of the minor must be given first consideration, both by the authority making the application for the return home and by the authority to whom it is addressed ;

2. That the contemplated agreement does not affect the right of persons invested with paternal power or with the right of custody to have recourse to the courts, since the aim of the provisional agreement is to enable minors to be returned to their homes more rapidly and at less expense than by judicial means, and not to abolish or restrict the right to apply to the courts in accordance with the laws of the respective countries.

The Committee approved the provisional draft agreement in its final form and resolved that the Council of the League of Nations should be asked to communicate it to all Governments for their observations.

5. PROVISIONAL DRAFT CONVENTION ON ASSISTANCE TO MINORS OF FOREIGN NATIONALITY.

The Child Welfare Committee discussed a provisional draft Convention on assistance to minors of foreign nationality, which had been drawn up by its Legal Sub-Committee. The Committee thought it desirable and possible to find a solution for the particularly serious problem of assistance for indigent foreign minors, pending the settlement of the whole question of assistance and protection for indigent foreigners.

The Committee adopted the draft and recommended that it should be communicated by the Council of the League of Nations to all Governments for their observations.

6. CINEMATOGRAPH.

The Director of the International Educational Cinematographic Institute made a statement to the Committee on the programme he proposed to carry out. He emphasised the necessity of close co-operation between the Child Welfare Committee and the Rome Institute.

The Committee thanked the Director of the International Educational Cinematographic Institute and expressed the desire that he should be present at future sessions of the Child Welfare Committee.

Further, the Committee reiterated the recommendations it had made in previous years regarding measures of safety and hygiene in cinema halls, and in particular the recommendation concerning non-inflammable films.

It requested its representative at the International Educational Cinematographic Institute to direct the attention of the latter to a study of the means for promoting and encouraging the production, exchange and representation of films of a recreational and instructive character intended specially for children.

7. COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE.

At the request of the Council, the Committee considered the question of its own composition and the suggestion that the assessors should be invited to attend the meetings only when subjects are under discussion which are of particular concern to the organisations they represent.

After a prolonged discussion, the Committee decided to suggest respectfully to the Council that it should consult the Committee before any steps were taken in future to add to the number of assessors.

It laid down certain desirable conditions for limiting the number of assessors and the length of their term of office, and stated that it was advisable that it should reconsider its rules of procedure, including the question of the appointment and re-election of assessors.

8. JUVENILE COURTS.

The Committee approved the questionnaire drawn up by the three Rapporteurs whom it had appointed at its fourth session. It expressed the desire that the questionnaire should be sent out to all Governments, including those which are not Members of the League of Nations. It decided to keep on its agenda the study of the question of juvenile courts, and it proposes at a future session to undertake, in agreement with the International Prison Commission, a study of the institutions which enforce the decisions of the juvenile courts.

* * *

The Committee's report was placed on the agenda of the June session of the Council. The resolutions adopted by the Council as a result of the examination of this report will be summarised in the Supplementary Report to the Assembly.

II. TRAFFIC IN OPIUM AND OTHER DANGEROUS DRUGS.

A. WORK OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE DURING ITS TWELFTH SESSION.

The twelfth session of the Advisory Committee on the Traffic in Opium and Other Dangerous Drugs was held at Geneva from January 17th to February 2nd, 1929.

RATIFICATION OF THE GENEVA CONVENTION.

The Committee noted with great satisfaction that the Geneva Convention came into force on September 25th, 1928. Despite this encouraging progress there still remained half the number of States Members of the League which had not ratified the Convention. In view of this fact, the Committee decided to request the Council to send a letter on the subject to the Members in question. It passed, further, a resolution emphasising the great importance to the work of the League of the ratification of the Geneva Convention by all States, and pointing out that the control of the international trade in opium and drugs, and the suppression of the illicit traffic by the League could not operate effectively so long as a large number of States were unwilling to undertake the obligations of the Convention.

IMPORT CERTIFICATE SYSTEM.

In order to facilitate the application of the import certificate system established by Chapter V of the Geneva Opium Convention, the Committee decided that steps should be taken to clear up the present state of uncertainty as to the exact nature of the system for the control of exports and imports of narcotic drugs in operation in the various countries which have adopted the import certificate system in any form. The Committee proposed that the Secretary-General should make the necessary enquiries regarding this matter in such countries.

The Committee proposed, further, that the Governments which had adopted the import certificate system should authorise the competent services in the different countries to exchange the certificates direct without employing the ordinary diplomatic channels.

METHYLECGONINE AND BENZOYLECGONINE.

The Committee was informed of the fact that two new drugs had been placed on the market and found in the illicit traffic under the name of methylecgonine and benzoylecgonine. The Committee has drawn attention to the fact that the composition of these two drugs makes them subject to the provisions of the Geneva Convention, and it requested the Council to communicate this information to the Governments.

ANNUAL REPORTS FROM GOVERNMENTS.

The Committee examined the list of Governments which had forwarded annual reports to the Secretariat and noted that a number of States, including certain Members of the Council, had never furnished reports despite repeated requests. The Committee pointed out that among the States which sent in no reports were two of considerable importance from the point of view of the production and distribution of opium. These States were Persia and Turkey, whose production of opium, so far as the Committee had been able to ascertain, amounted to over one million kilograms per annum. The Committee, having no direct sources of information concerning this huge quantity, pointed out that it was unable to follow in a satisfactory manner the distribution of the drug.

The Committee stated also that it had received very little information from South and Central American States. It, therefore, expressed the hope that the Council would use its influence with the States Members of the League, urging them to forward their annual reports yearly and in the form laid down by the League. As regards Turkey and the Union of Socialist Soviet Republics which are not Members of the League, the Committee expressed the desire that the Secretary-General should continue his efforts to obtain information on the traffic in opium and other dangerous drugs in those countries.

The Committee stated, moreover, that it had been seriously hampered in the preparation of its annual statistics by the fact that a number of important Governments had failed to send in their reports until many months after the date laid down by the Council, and the Committee asked the Council to impress, in the strongest possible manner, on the States Members of the League that the annual reports should be despatched not later than July 1st, in the case of European countries, and October 1st in the case of non-European countries.

In connection with the examination of the annual reports received from Governments, the Committee drew attention to certain passages in the reports published by the Persian Administrator-General of Finance and the Administration of the Persian Customs. The Committee noted that the export figures given by the Persian authorities did not correspond with the import statistics of Persian opium sent in to the League by other Governments. The Committee expressed a wish that the Council should ask the Persian Government for detailed information on this point.

The Committee, learning that a new drug factory had been established in Hungary, the raw materials for which appeared to be of Hungarian origin, suggested that the Council should ask the Hungarian Government to send to the next session of the Committee a representative who could give it further information as to the working of this factory and the general position in Hungary as regards the traffic in opium and other dangerous drugs.

ILLICIT TRAFFIC.

As regards the illicit traffic, the Committee noted, in particular, a memorandum submitted by the Netherlands Government on the transactions of a Dutch firm. This document was referred to by the Committee as the most important and the most detailed document with which it had ever had to deal regarding the ways and manner in which the drugs were supplied to the international illicit traffic.

In discussing the means of combating the illicit traffic, the Committee emphasised the fact that the use of serial numbers on every package leaving the factory had facilitated investigation in some of the cases reported. It desired to urge upon Governments the great value of such a system of numbering which had already been recommended in the Administrative Code drawn up by the Committee at its eleventh session, and which, in the Committee's opinion, might with advantage be made compulsory not only upon manufacturers but also upon wholesale dealers in drugs.

The Committee insisted once more on the necessity of Governments making special enquiries before granting licences to applicant firms in order to satisfy themselves that these firms enjoyed a good reputation, and it urged that the Governments should immediately withdraw licences which had already been granted for manufacturing or dealing in drugs where it was amply shown that the firm which had obtained the licence was engaging in illicit traffic or supplying drugs for such traffic.

The Committee desired to emphasise the great importance of the method of investigation into cases of illicit traffic recommended by it in a resolution adopted at its ninth session, namely, that a thorough examination should be made of the books, registers of purchases and sales of the drugs, and other records of the manufacturers or importers of the drugs and of all persons dealing in the drugs on a considerable scale, so as to track down the drugs to the point at which they entered the illicit traffic.

The Committee noted with satisfaction the exemplary sentences imposed upon traffickers in the United States of America, and drew attention once more to the importance of the provision in the laws of all countries of adequate penalties in connection with illicit traffic. The Committee felt it necessary to point out very strongly that it was desirable that Governments which furnish reports to the League should mention in their reports all seizures, on however small a scale, that throw light on the methods employed by illicit traffickers.

In connection with the resolution passed at the eleventh session of the Committee, in which it urged that the Governments of countries in which seizures have been made should be enabled to obtain facsimiles of telegrams sent in connection with smuggling transactions, the replies received from Governments indicated the existence of certain legal difficulties. In particular, the question was raised whether the International Telegraphic Convention of St. Petersburg, guaranteeing telegraphic secrecy, did not prohibit such interchange. The Committee asked the Council to request the Governments to study the question and to inform it of the results of their investigation.

In the course of the discussion on the reports on seizures submitted by the Netherlands Government and the United States Government, the Committee learned that large quantities of drugs manufactured or sold by the four firms mentioned below had been found in the illicit traffic : Chemische Fabriek Naarden, Bussum ; Fabrique de Produits chimiques ci-devant Sandoz, Basle ; C. H. Boehringer Sohn, Hamburg ; and the Société industrielle de Chimie organique, Sainte Geneviève.

With regard to the smuggling of drugs through the post, the Committee decided to request the London Conference of the Universal Postal Union, of 1929, to examine the possibility of introducing into the Convention a provision authorising the administrations, both in the countries of consignment and in the countries of destination, to subject to Customs supervision correspondence, letters, business papers and samples which they had reason to suspect contained drugs.

In order to facilitate the application of such a provision, the Committee put forward a number of further suggestions and proposed to the Council to invite the British Government to lay these recommendations before the Postal Conference.

RELATIONS BETWEEN THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE AND THE PERMANENT CENTRAL OPIUM BOARD.

The Advisory Committee, at previous sessions, had already examined the question of its relations with the Permanent Central Opium Board, provided for under the Geneva Convention. In accordance with the provisions of that Convention the Council, in December last, set up the Permanent Central Opium Board. This Board held its first session at Geneva during the twelfth session of the Committee.

The Advisory Committee thought it desirable to take advantage of this opportunity in order to study, with a delegation from the Central Board, the future relationship of the two bodies. Before this discussion an exchange of views took place between the members of the Committee in regard to the question whether the work and powers of the Advisory Committee would be affected in any way by the creation of the Permanent Central Opium Board.

After an exhaustive discussion, the Committee noted that its rights and duties would in no way be restricted by the creation of the Central Board. Nevertheless, by the fact of the new body having entered upon its duties, the Committee would be relieved of a large part of its technical work, more particularly, the detailed examination of the different statistics. The Committee intends to continue to examine those statistics, though their preparation and full technical analysis should, in the future, be left to the Central Board. Thus, in the opinion of the Committee, it would be possible to avoid any overlapping between the work of the two bodies.

The Chairman of the Central Board informed the Committee that the members of the Board realised the necessity of co-operating as closely as possible with the Committee, but that it did not desire for the time being to give an opinion as to the details of such co-operation. The Central Board decided, before expressing an opinion on this question, to study the Advisory Committee's work rather more closely and to acquire a practical experience of its own duties.

With a view to ensuring friendly and useful co-operation between the two bodies, the Committee requested its Chairman to keep in close touch with the Chairman of the Central Board.

OTHER QUESTIONS DISCUSSED BY THE COMMITTEE.

The Committee discussed the desirability of requesting the Secretariat to bring to the attention of States Members of the League which had not yet ratified the Geneva Opium Convention the recommendations adopted by the Health Committee under Article 10 of the Convention. The Committee considered that it would be useful if the Secretary-General would also send these recommendations for information to States non-Members of the League.

The Committee also examined a table prepared by the Secretariat showing the factories authorised to manufacture the drugs which are subject to the provisions of the Geneva Convention. It decided to request the Council to submit the table to the States Members of the League of Nations and Governments parties to the Hague and Geneva Conventions, requesting them to be good enough to verify and complete it. The Committee considered that it would be useful if the Secretary-General would also communicate, for information, the list of factories to all the Governments of the States non-Members of the League.

Finally, the Committee considered a letter from the President of the International Criminal Police Commission, in which this Commission asked to be allowed to take part in the work of certain Committees of the League of Nations that might concern the various fields of the activity of the police. The Committee noted that its constitution did not permit it to invite a representative of that Commission to sit as an active member of the Advisory Committee. It added, however, that it would be glad if a member of the Criminal Police Commission could attend when subjects which the Committee feels would be of special interest to it are under discussion.

ACTION TAKEN BY THE COUNCIL.

The report of the Advisory Committee was examined by the Council at its fifty-fourth session held in March 1929. The Council took note of the report and resolutions of the Advisory Committee and instructed the Secretary-General to take the necessary action to give effect to them.

With regard to the study of the International Telegraphic Convention of St. Petersburg, the Council referred the problem to the Legal Advisor of the Secretariat with a view to its examination, if this should prove necessary, at a subsequent session of the Council by a Committee of jurists or otherwise.

During the discussion which took place, the representative of Persia made a statement explaining the situation in his country and pointing out that the Persian Government had studied very carefully the means of exercising effective control over the cultivation of the poppy and opium trade, both in the interior and abroad. In the end it had been found that the best, and perhaps the only, means of exercising such control was to make the cultivation of, and commerce in, opium a State monopoly. As soon as the Persian Government had come to this decision, it had begun to take practical measures. It had passed through its Parliament the Monopoly Law which it had now begun to put into practice. The Persian representative assured the Council, on behalf of his Government, that his country had resolutely entered upon the path of progress, that it was discharging its duties so far as lay in its power, and that it would keep the Council informed of any results achieved.

At its meeting on March 7th, 1929, the Council reappointed M. Henri BRENIER and Mr. L. A. LYALL, assessors on the Advisory Committee, and appointed as new member Mr. A. H. SIRKS, Chief of the Rotterdam Police, as successor to Colonel Woods who, to the regret of the Council, had resigned.

B. PERMANENT CENTRAL OPIUM BOARD.

On December 14th, 1928, at its fifty-third session, the Council constituted the Permanent Central Opium Board according to Article 19 of the Geneva Opium Convention, and appointed the following eight members:

Dr. O. ANSELMINO (German).
M. C. E. BONIN (French).
Professor Giuseppe GALLAVRESI (Italian).
Mr. L. A. LYALL (British).
Mr. H. L. MAY (American).
M. M. MIYAJIMA (Japanese).
Sir B. K. MULLICK (Indian).
M. Henrik RAMSAY (Finnish).

The Central Board held its first session at Geneva from January 15th to 19th, 1929, and met again from April 25th to May 4th, 1929.

In examining the Geneva Convention, the Board came to the conclusion that it had the right to correspond direct with the contracting parties and that unless this right were granted to it the independence of the Board would not be assured.

With regard to its Secretary, the Board was of opinion that its Secretariat should form an integral part of the Secretariat of the League of Nations, but that it must have its own confidential record office. The Secretary of the Central Board would be responsible to the Board for the performance of the duties attaching to the post. As regards all administrative matters concerning pay, promotion, leave, discipline, etc., the Secretariat of the Board should be governed by the Staff Regulations of the Secretariat of the League.

The Board then made proposals to the Secretary-General for the appointment of members of its staff, in conformity with Article 20 of the Geneva Convention.

The Board considered further the form in which the statistics required under Article 22 of the Geneva Convention should be drawn up. After careful consideration, it approved a scheme submitted to it by a Sub-Committee of Experts. The Board considered also the question whether the form for quarterly statistics should be forwarded only to the States that had ratified or acceded to the Geneva Convention or whether it should be sent to other States also. The Board recognised that it was only entitled to require that these statistics should be forwarded to it by the States that had ratified or acceded to the Geneva Convention. Nevertheless, it was unanimously of the opinion that it would not be possible for it effectively to watch the course of the international trade in opium and other dangerous drugs unless statistics of the trade in these substances were forwarded to the Board also by States that had not subscribed to the Geneva Convention. The Board, therefore, decided to forward the forms it had drawn up for quarterly statistics of imports and exports also to the States which had

signed but not ratified the Geneva Convention, to the States that were parties to the Hague Convention of 1912, and to other Governments not included in the above categories ; it expressed the hope that these States would, in the general interest of humanity, forward these quarterly statistics to the Board though they might be under no legal obligation to do so.

* * *

The report of the Permanent Central Opium Board will be considered by the Council at its fifty-fifth session in June 1929.

C. CONTROL IN THE FAR EAST OF OPIUM PREPARED FOR SMOKING.

COMMISSION OF ENQUIRY IN THE FAR EAST.

A proposal put forward by the British Government for the appointment of a Commission of Enquiry to consider the present situation as regards the control in the Far East of opium prepared for smoking, was discussed by the Council at its fifty-first session in September 1928. It was then decided to refer the proposal to the Assembly for its consideration. The proposal received the support of all countries with territories in the Far East, but the representative of China stated that the Chinese Government could only support the proposal if the field of investigation of the Commission were not restricted to the Far East but extended, without exception, to all countries which produce or manufacture opium, its derivatives and other drugs. The Chinese Government also desired that China should be represented on the Commission.

The Assembly during its ninth session decided to recommend to the Council the appointment of a Commission of three persons to enquire into and report upon the situation in the Far-Eastern territories of the Governments which agree to such an enquiry. The enquiry will deal with the use of opium prepared for smoking ; the measures taken by the Governments concerned to give effect to the obligations undertaken in Chapter II of the Hague Opium Convention of 1912 and in the Geneva Opium Agreement of February 1925 ; the nature and extent of the illicit traffic in opium in the Far East and the difficulties which it causes to the fulfilment of those obligations ; the Commission will also suggest what action should in the circumstances be taken by the Governments concerned and by the League of Nations.

The Assembly also expressed the hope that the Government of the United States of America would permit the Commission to visit the Philippines and inform itself of the experience of the system of prohibition in operation there.

A credit of 100,000 Swiss francs was inserted in the League's budget for 1929 towards the expenses of the Commission. The representative of Great Britain undertook that the British Government would consult with the other Governments concerned as to the arrangements for the enquiry, and would present a report at the fifty-third session of the Council.

At its fifty-third session, held in December 1928, the Council decided to postpone to its next session further consideration of the British proposal in order that it might have a complete report from the British Government and in order to give the Supervisory Commission time to consider the necessary financial arrangements. The Council decided, however, that the Commissioners should leave on their mission in September 1929. In this connection, reference was made to the desirability of postponing to 1930 the new Opium Conference which, according to Article 12 of the Geneva Opium Agreement, was to be held at the latest in 1929. The Council was also informed that the Government of the United States of America had agreed to receive the Commission in the Philippine Islands and that the Governor-General there would render all possible assistance.

At the fifty-fourth session of the Council in March 1929 the three members of the Commission were appointed :

M. EKSTRAND, Swedish Minister at Buenos Aires, *Chairman*,

M. Max Léo GÉRARD, directeur général du Fonds d'amortissement de la dette publique belge, and President of the Société d'Economie Politique of Belgium,

Dr. Jean HAVLASA, late Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Czechoslovakia at Rio de Janeiro.

As regards financial arrangements for the expenses of the enquiry, the Council was informed that, in addition to the League contribution of 100,000 Swiss francs, the following amounts had been subscribed : by Great Britain 70,000 francs, by France 31,000 francs, by the Netherlands 35,000 francs and by Siam 10,000 francs. The Council decided to approve the estimates of the expenditure of the Commission submitted by the Supervisory Commission and amounting to a total of 249,360 Swiss francs. The Council noted that the sum of 4,000 francs was still required to bring the funds available for the Commission of Enquiry up to 250,000 Swiss francs — the total amount required to meet the estimated expenditure. The representative of Great Britain then gave the assurance that the Council might safely proceed without waiting for the small balance which still remained to be subscribed. The Government he represented, which was already responsible for a contribution of 70,000 Swiss francs, would, if necessary, make up the balance. Information has since reached the Secretariat to the effect that the Government of Siam has decided to increase its contribution from 10,000 to 14,000 Swiss francs. The total amount of 250,000 francs will therefore be available when the Commission leaves at the end of August 1929, on its mission to the Far East.

12.

INTERNATIONAL RELIEF UNION.

The Permanent Committee, set up by the Preparatory Committee of the International Relief Union in accordance with a resolution adopted by the Council on December 6th, 1927, met in June 1928.

Its duties are in particular " to take or recommend measures to facilitate the coming into operation of the International Relief Union ", and " if necessary, to convene a meeting of the Preparatory Committee, particularly in order to approve draft regulations to be submitted to the General Council of the Union ".

The Permanent Committee devoted the major part of its meetings to the preparation of these regulations. Before asking one of the members of the Preparatory Committee to draw up a preliminary draft of the regulations, it wished to obtain the opinion of those members of the Preparatory Committee who were the best qualified and the most closely concerned in the question. The discussions held on this subject have made it possible for the Permanent Committee to give the necessary directions for this work.

The terms of the regulations were bound, to a large extent, to be dependent upon such concrete proposals as the International Committee of the Red Cross and the League of Red Cross Societies might put forward in regard to the assistance to be given by them to ensure, as the Committee had invited them to do, the central and permanent services of the Union. Their joint proposals have since reached the Permanent Committee which now has them under examination.

Up to May 1st, 1929, the Convention of July 12th, 1927, setting up the International Relief Union had been signed by thirty countries. It has received the ratification or accession of thirteen countries. The list is as follows :

Signatures :

Albania	Finland	Nicaragua
Belgium	France	Peru
Brazil	Germany	Poland
Bulgaria	Greece	Portugal
Colombia	Guatemala	Roumania
Cuba	Hungary	San Marino
Czechoslovakia	India	Spain
Danzig	Italy	Turkey
Egypt	Latvia	Uruguay
Ecuador	Monaco	Venezuela

Ratifications or accessions :

Belgium	Finland	New Zealand
Great Britain and Northern Ireland	Hungary	Roumania
Egypt	India	Sudan
Ecuador	Italy	Venezuela
	Monaco	

13.

INTELLECTUAL CO-OPERATION.

On September 24th, 1928, the Assembly, at its ninth session, took cognisance of the reports submitted by the International Committee on Intellectual Co-operation and by the Governing Body of the Institute, and noted that its recommendations in preceding years in regard to contributions from other States to the budget of the International Institute on Intellectual Co-operation had been acted on, and that more countries had granted subsidies, while France itself had increased its contribution by 500,000 French francs, so that the budget of the Institute for the year 1929 now amounted to 2,896,000 French francs.

The Assembly took note of the progress made in regard to certain questions, such as co-ordination of bibliography for several sciences, co-ordination of higher political and social studies ; of the part played by the representatives of the Committee and of the Institute at the recent Rome Conference for the revision of the Berne Copyright Conventions ; and the action taken by several States in pursuance of the recommendations of the Sub-Committee of Experts for the Instruction of Young People in the Aims of the League.

In view of the general identity of principles between the Convention of Berne, as revised first at Berlin and then at Rome, and the Copyright Convention signed in 1910 at Buenos Aires by the American States and revised at Havana in 1928, the Assembly, on the proposal of the Spanish delegate, requested the Council to instruct its competent organs to make all the necessary investigations regarding the desirability of a general agreement having for its object the unification, on an international basis and in full conformity with the wish expressed at the Rome Conference for the revision of the Berne Copyright Conventions, of all laws and measures for the protection of intellectual property.

The Assembly requested the States Members to take into consideration the need for the systematic organisation of the exchange of children in secondary schools during the summer holidays with a view to establishing the spirit of peace and international co-operation, for which purpose the existing University offices should be utilised or special organisations created.

Convinced that this international exchange of school-children would greatly promote mutual understanding among peoples, the Assembly recommended that arrangements should be made between different countries on that subject, and begged the Committee on Intellectual Co-operation to instruct the International Institute of Intellectual Co-operation and the Secretariat of the League to facilitate the execution of such arrangements.

Lastly, the Assembly drew the special notice of Governments and requested them to give the greatest possible effect to the resolutions of the Committee on Intellectual Co-operation in regard to :

1. The creation of an information bureau in the national or central library of every State ;
2. The preservation of prints and manuscripts ;
3. The suppression of Customs duties on prints sent to libraries and recognised institutes ;
4. The adoption of the necessary measures for the preservation and study of primitive languages which are dying out.

As the next session of the Committee on Intellectual Co-operation does not take place until July 1929, the report on its proceedings will be summarised in the Supplementary Report on the work of the League. It is possible, nevertheless, to summarise briefly the activities of the International Institute of Intellectual Co-operation, and to refer to certain measures, which have been taken in the sphere of intellectual co-operation since the last session of the Assembly.

1. INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE OF INTELLECTUAL CO-OPERATION.

The Institute has kept in touch with the thirty-four National Committees of Intellectual Co-operation, with the International and National Associations, with the Academies, Universities and Secondary Schools and, finally, with the delegates of the States accredited to the Institute (the number of these delegates has increased from forty-one to forty-three and they have held three meetings). The work has been chiefly entrusted to a group of national services which are still imperfectly organised and to the Information Section of the Institute.

Since January 1929, the Institute has published a monthly review entitled *La Coopération intellectuelle*. This review has been well received, but it has not been possible to publish it in more than one language. The publication of the list of remarkable works is still being continued and the collection of the Ibero-American classics has been prepared with the help of subsidies received from Brazil and Chile. The first volumes will shortly appear.

The Section on University Relations has published a list of the holiday courses held in Europe in 1929, and a new edition of *University Interchanges in Europe*. It has compiled information regarding the Institutes of Scientific Studies on International Relations.

The two Sections on Scientific Relations have continued the negotiations for the enquiry into languages in danger of extinction, the unification of linguistic phraseology, the co-ordination of linguistic sciences, the reproduction of documentary publications and the study of micro-photography.

The Section on Artistic Relations was responsible for the International Congress on Popular Arts held at Prague in October 1928. It provided the Secretariat for the International Committee on Popular Arts, set up as a result of the Congress. It has prepared for the first exhibition of casts which will be held at Cologne in August 1929. The publication of the review *Museion* is being continued and a list of the museums of France has been prepared.

The Section on Literary Relations has continued its enquiry into the question of translations, and has conducted negotiations for a resumption of the International Congresses of Publishers.

The Legal Service has continued its researches and negotiations in connection with standard publication contracts and legal deposit, documents on the law relating to authors' rights, scientific property and the legal and social position of intellectual workers.

The centre of school information, with the staff of the Secretariat which is working at the same task along parallel lines, has continued the compilation of a methodical collection of documents on the preparation of peace by education in the various countries, and has entered into informal negotiations with the institutions concerned. A tour undertaken for this purpose by the Deputy-Director of the Institute in Central and Northern Europe has led to useful developments.

The various Sections of the Institute have been, respectively, responsible for the meetings of experts and have taken part in international congresses within their competence. The Institute has afforded hospitality to several international meetings such as the Congress of Women Doctors.

The number of States contributing an annual subsidy to the International Institute on Intellectual Co-operation has increased from twelve to nineteen, owing to favourable decisions taken by the Governments of the following countries : Belgium, Brazil, Colombia, the Dominican Republic, Egypt, Roumania, Venezuela.

2. MEETINGS OF VARIOUS COMMITTEES OF EXPERTS AND REPRESENTATIVES.

In pursuance of the resolutions adopted by the Committee on Intellectual Co-operation at its session in July 1928 and approved by the Council and the Assembly, the following Committees of experts and representatives have met at the International Institute of Intellectual Co-operation at Paris :

- (a) Meeting of representatives of museums concerned in questions relating to casts (January 14th, 1929) ;
- (b) Meeting of the Consultative Committee of Experts of the International Museums Office (February 8th, 1929) ;
- (c) Meeting of library experts (February 11th-13th, 1929) ;
- (d) Meeting of the Bureau of the International Museums Office (March 6th-8th, 1929) ;
- (e) Meeting of experts on Romance Philology (March 21st-22nd, 1929) ;
- (f) Fourth meeting of Directors of National University Offices (April 11th-12th, 1929) ;
- (g) Fourth session of the Committee of Representatives of International Students' Organisations (April 25th-27th, 1929) ;
- (h) Meeting of experts on Inter-scholastic Correspondence (May 27th-28th, 1929) ;
- (i) Meeting of the Bureau of the International Museums Office (May 29th, 1929).

In addition, a meeting of experts for the co-ordination of advanced international studies was held in London, March 11th-14th, 1929.

The reports on the work of these various Committees will be submitted to the Committee on Intellectual Co-operation at its next session in July, and will be referred to in the Supplementary Report to the Assembly.

3. APPOINTMENT OF A NEW MEMBER TO THE COMMITTEE ON INTELLECTUAL CO-OPERATION.

On March 9th, 1929, the Council, having accepted the resignation of M. Leopoldo Lugones on December 14th, 1928, appointed M. Mariano H. CORNEJO (Peru) to be a member of the Committee until the end of M. Lugones' term of office (June 1931).

4. FORMATION OF NEW NATIONAL COMMITTEES.

Since the Committee's last session two important National Committees on Intellectual Co-operation have been set up — in Great Britain and Italy, respectively, and the Roumanian Committee has been reorganised.

5. INTELLECTUAL STATISTICS.

The International Statistical Congress at Cairo passed resolutions emphasising the practical value of co-ordinated intellectual statistics, which would serve as a reference inventory and would afford a survey of the intellectual resources of each country. These resolutions were considered by the Joint Committee on Intellectual Statistics and communicated to the Committee on Intellectual Co-operation. On the latter's proposal, the Council, at its meeting on September 1st, 1928, passed a resolution inviting the Governments of the States Members of the League to place at the disposal of the competent departments of their administrations the means required to give the fullest possible effect to these recommendations. In a letter dated September 27th, 1928, the Secretary-General communicated this resolution to the States Members of the League.

Replies have been received from the Governments of Latvia (February 1st, 1929) and Estonia (February 12th, 1929). The Latvian Government has transmitted all the relevant documentation to the Latvian Statistical Office, which, after careful consideration of the suggestions it contains, has pronounced in favour of the carrying-out of the programme drawn up by the Joint Committee on Intellectual Statistics.

In Estonia, the competent authorities agree, in principle, as to the necessity of carrying out the measures proposed by the International Statistical Institute.

6. INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE OF PUBLICATIONS.

In a letter dated October 24th, 1927, the Secretary-General asked the views of Governments regarding the possibility of improving the exchange of official publications.

Two replies have been received since the last session of the Assembly. The first is from the Government of India, which informs the Secretary-General that it is at all times willing to supply foreign Governments free of cost with copies of any official publications for which

they may ask, but that it does not propose to adhere to the Convention of 1886, nor does it see any necessity for concluding a separate Convention on the matter.

The second reply is from the Czechoslovak Government, which is prepared to associate itself with any arrangement which would be likely to effect an improvement in the exchange of official publications.

7. INTERNATIONAL EDUCATIONAL CINEMATOGRAPHIC INSTITUTE.

In accordance with the resolution adopted by the Assembly on September 20th, 1927, and in view of the Council's acceptance on September 28th of the same year of the Italian Government's offer to found and maintain an International Educational Cinematographic Institute at Rome, the Italian Government has established the Institute in question and placed it at the disposal and under the control of the League.

The International Educational Cinematographic Institute was inaugurated on November 5th, 1928, and immediately after the opening ceremony the Governing Body held its first session, the chair being taken by M. Alfredo Rocco, Italian member of the Committee on Intellectual Co-operation.

The members of the Governing Body of the Institute, who have been appointed by the Council of the League, are :

Dr. CÜRLIS (German), President of the German Educational Film-Producers' Association.

Professor Henri FOCILLON (French), Member of the Sub-Committee for Arts and Letters.

Mr. G. T. HANKIN (British), Inspector of Schools, Board of Education.

Dr. Vernon KELLOGG (United States of America), General Secretary of the United States National Research Council, Member of the Sub-Committee on University Relations.

Professor Ragnar KNOPH (Norwegian), Member of the Sub-Committee on Intellectual Rights.

Dr. Hugo KRÜSS (German), Director of the Prussian State Library, Member of the Sub-Committee on Science and Bibliography.

M. Louis LUMIÈRE (French), Member of the Institut de France.

Mr. Carl E. MILLIKEN (United States of America), General Secretary of the American Cinema Film-Producers and Distributors, Governor of the State of Maine.

Mlle. Gabriela MISTRAL (Chilian), late Headmistress of a Girl's Secondary School, authoress.

Professor Gilbert MURRAY (British), Chairman of the Committee on Intellectual Co-operation.

Professor Inazo NITOBÉ (Japanese), late Under-Secretary-General of the League of Nations, Member of the Imperial Japanese Academy.

Dr. R. P. PARANJPYE (Indian), late Minister of Education, Bombay, Member of the Council of the Secretary of State for India, London.

Professor GONZAGUE DE REYNOLD (Swiss), Member of the Committee on Intellectual Co-operation.

Professor Alfredo ROCCO (Italian), *President*, Member of the Committee on Intellectual Co-operation.

Don Pedro SANGRO Y ROS DE OLANO (Spanish), Member of the Child Welfare Committee.

The first work of the Governing Body was to draw up the general and administrative regulations of the Institute on the basis of the Organic Statute. It sought in particular to indicate and define the object, spirit and methods of the new Institute. Its object is declared to be to encourage the production and promote the dissemination of educational films. Its spirit is the spirit of the League of Nations, and the Institute must accordingly work to promote mutual international understanding. The methods employed will be practical and scientific, and will be those that have already been proved to be satisfactory — the co-ordination of effort, and national and international co-operation.

The internal organisation will be determined by actual experience and by the results of the work accomplished. The regulations provide, however, for five sections, apart from certain supplementary services. This arrangement represents the main branches of the educational cinematograph — agricultural and vocational training, health propaganda and social prophylaxis, and school teaching, including cinematography as an aid to science, literature and art. Provision is also made for a technical section and an information section, with a film library. The Governing Body has been careful, however, not to frame the Institute on a fixed pattern, but first to explore the ground, collect the necessary information and take the first steps in co-operation.

This work of co-operation constitutes one of the reasons, perhaps the main reason, for the Institute's existence, since its method is that of co-ordination. The Governing Body accordingly instructed it, before undertaking any other work, to get immediately into touch with official and private bodies dealing with the educational cinematograph. The official bodies in question are the International Labour Office, the Child Welfare Committee, the International Institute of Intellectual Co-operation, the Health Organisation and the International Institute of

Agriculture at Rome. As regards the private organisations, the Governing Body laid down the principle that the Institute should be prepared to co-operate with all bodies working in a serious and disinterested spirit. The Institute will therefore prepare as full a list as possible of organisations dealing with the educational cinema; it will then ask them what form of cooperation they desire to maintain with it.

The Governing Body then dealt with the question of staff. As it has adopted the principle of gradual development, the Institute will begin its work with a small staff, appointed provisionally.

The Governing Body unanimously selected as Director of the Institute, M. Luciano DE FEO, former Director of the *Unione Cinematografica educativa*. The Governing Body further drew up and adopted financial regulations. It then dealt with the budget. This was considered in two aspects — a provisional budget for the period to the end of 1928, and the 1929 budget.

The Italian Government generously raised the original annual grant of 600,000 lire to 800,000 for 1929, provided a further 90,000 lire yearly for entertainment expenses, and endowed the Institute with magnificent quarters in the Villa Falconieri at Frascati, where the Director's office and the technical services will be installed, and the Villa Torlonia in Rome, for the administrative services.

It should also be mentioned that the Governing Body had occasion during its discussions to consider the future growth of the educational cinematograph as a result of recent inventions and of teleprojection. It is of opinion that the Institute will be compelled to extend its activities to the sphere of television and also, very probably, to deal with broadcasting as an aid to the educational cinema, since broadcasting also is a powerful instrument of popular information, educational diffusion and instruction.

Lastly, the Governing Body proceeded on November 9th to appoint the Permanent Executive Committee as provided in Article 8 of the Organic Statute. It consists of the following members :

Professor FOCILLON.

Dr. KRÜSS.

Dr. PARANJPYE.

Don Pedro SANGRO Y ROS DE OLANO.

In conformity with the Statute (Article 8), the President of the Permanent Executive Committee is the President of the Governing Body, M. Alfredo Rocco.

The Executive Committee first met on November 10th, 1928. In the exercise of powers delegated to it by the Governing Body, it nominated the officials necessary at the outset. It also heard and discussed a report by M. de Feo on the work of the Institute.

The Executive Committee held a second session on March 25th-26th, 1929, when it examined a report by the Director of the Institute on certain journeys undertaken with the object of establishing contact with the organisations named in the earlier resolutions and with America. The Committee also appointed certain officials of the Institute and proposed to the Governing Body that Mr. Milliken should be appointed to fill the vacant place on the Permanent Executive Committee.

8. INSTRUCTION OF YOUNG PEOPLE IN THE AIMS OF THE LEAGUE.

I. *Handbooks for Teachers.*

At its eighth ordinary session the Assembly approved a recommendation made by the Sub-Committee of Experts appointed in 1926 to study methods of introducing knowledge of the League into schools.

The Assembly asked that a special reference book, giving an account of the aims and machinery of the League, the International Labour Organisation and the Permanent Court of International Justice, should be prepared. The Secretary-General of the League was to be asked to undertake, in co-operation with experts of his own choice, the preparation of that part of the reference book which would deal with the organisation and aims of the League.

The Secretariat prepared this booklet and published it early in 1929. It aims solely at presenting a nucleus of basic facts intended for the use of teachers: no discussion of teaching methods has been included, nor is the book a history of League activity. The experts recognised that, in regard to these matters, it was impossible to produce a single text which would be equally satisfactory for all the Members of the League.

As is pointed out in the introduction, the teacher will wish to study and teach in greater detail those questions which particularly affect his own people, or to whose solution his own countrymen have specially contributed. The experts considered, however, that certain fundamental facts regarding the organisation and aims of the League should be drawn from the same central source of information. They therefore suggested that the booklet should be studied by the competent educational authorities in all countries Members of the League, translated where necessary, and, if thought desirable, embodied in a reference book containing a fuller explanation, by the country concerned, of the League's activity.

By a letter dated March 13th, 1929, the Secretary-General sent this booklet, which is entitled *The Aims and Organisation of the League of Nations*, to the Governments of the States Members

of the League, asking them to inform him of any measures which they might take to introduce it into the schools in one or other of the languages of the original publication, or in a translation.

At the same time, he said that he would be glad to be informed of any steps which might be taken for the preparation in each country of a reference book on the League containing, as suggested by the Assembly, the text of the booklet.

Replies have so far been received from the Governments of Belgium, the Free City of Danzig, Estonia, France, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania and Spain.

II. *Periodical Summaries of the Work of the League for Educational Reviews.*

Since the last session of the Assembly and the September sessions of the Council, the Information Section of the Secretariat has prepared periodical summaries of the work of the League for educational reviews. This work was undertaken at the request of the International Committee on Intellectual Co-operation. The periodical summaries have been sent to some 150 reviews, at least one-third of which, to the Secretariat's knowledge, have published the articles written for their use.

III. *Question of the Establishment of a League of Nations Educational Survey.*

The Sub-Committee appointed to consider the possibility of publishing a League of Nations educational survey decided that it would be desirable to publish all the relevant information relating to the instruction of young people in the aims of the League. The first issue of this survey will be published in July 1929. Correspondents have been appointed in various countries, and material is now being collected. The Committee of Management consists of M. CASARES, representing the International Committee on Intellectual Co-operation, Professor A. ZIMMERN, representing the International Institute of Intellectual Co-operation and a representative of the Secretariat of the League.

9. INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF POPULAR ART.

The International Committee on Intellectual Co-operation had put forward the idea of an international congress of popular art, and its proposals were sanctioned by the Assembly of the League in September 1926. The Congress was held at Prague from October 7th to 14th, 1928.

The organisation of the Congress was entrusted to the International Institute of Intellectual Co-operation, assisted by the Secretariat of the League. The Czechoslovak Government granted a subsidy to cover the cost of staff and equipment, and the Committee on Intellectual Co-operation and the International Institute provided funds from their budgets to meet the expenses for which they were responsible.

Nearly 300 persons, representing 31 nationalities, met at Prague for the Congress.

The formal opening meeting took place on Sunday, October 7th, at the City Hall. The proceedings continued in the Karl University building from October 8th to 13th. Five Committees were formed: (1) historical studies, method, museology, and general questions; (2) woodwork and metalwork, architecture, interior decoration, furniture; (3) weaving, costumes, embroideries, lace, net, carpets, peasant drawings and paintings; (4) instrumental music and song; (5) the dance, the stage and popular artistic performances.

The resolutions and recommendations adopted by the Congress had as their principal object the establishment of an International Popular Art Committee which will keep in touch with the Committee on Intellectual Co-operation and with the International Institute on Intellectual Co-operation.

The Congress recommended that its proceedings should be published by a Committee of Experts, and that a general list of museums of popular art should be drawn up; that international exhibitions of folk dances should be held; that folk dances and costumes should be recorded by the cinema; that an international wireless concert of folk-songs should be organised; that the existing movements for the scientific study of folk-songs should be co-ordinated; that open-air museums of popular art should be established; that popular art films should be exchanged; that an international popular art documentation centre should be organised in connection with the International Popular Art Committee; that a study should be made of popular art in relation to workers' leisure; that national popular art societies should be formed in countries where they do not yet exist; that an exhibition of popular art should be held at Berne in 1934; that the societies for the protection of village arts should extend their activities; and that folk-songs should be recorded for the gramophone.

The closing meeting took place on October 13th.

14.

INTERNATIONAL BUREAUX.

(ARTICLE 24 OF THE COVENANT.)

I. CO-OPERATION WITH INTERNATIONAL BUREAUX.

Co-operation with the international bureaux placed under the authority of the League of Nations has been continued regularly.

1. INTERNATIONAL HYDROGRAPHIC BUREAU.

Co-operation between the Bureau and the League Secretariat has been further extended during the past year. The Bureau continues to send to the Secretariat its publications, reports and circular letters addressed to its members. The Secretariat regularly audits the Bureau's accounts. The Bureau sent a representative to be present at the proceedings of the Committee on Buoyage and Lighting of Coasts, which met at Genoa. The League Secretariat, in response to the Bureau's invitation, sent a representative in an advisory capacity to the First Extraordinary International Hydrographic Conference, which was held at Monaco from April 9th to 20th, 1929. The Secretariat was also represented at the laying of the foundation-stone of the Bureau's new building, a ceremony which took place on April 20th.

2. CENTRAL INTERNATIONAL OFFICE FOR THE CONTROL OF LIQUOR TRAFFIC IN AFRICA.

This Bureau sends to the Secretariat all the information forwarded to it by the parties to the Convention of St. Germain-en-Laye relating to the Liquor Traffic in Africa. It also furnishes the Permanent Mandates Commission, by request, with statistical data on the liquor traffic in the mandated territories in Africa and the adjacent areas.

3. INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR AIR NAVIGATION.

During the past year closer contact and co-operation have been developed between the International Commission for Air Navigation and the League of Nations. All the publications of the International Commission for Air Navigation are now sent to the Secretariat. The Secretary-General of the Commission attended the meetings of the Advisory and Technical Committee for Communications and Transit, and the Secretary-General of the League of Nations was represented at the meetings of the International Commission for Air Navigation.

The International Commission held a session at Brussels in March 1929. At this session it continued its examination of two questions submitted to it by the League: the identification of aircraft engaged in the service of the League; and the guarantee to be afforded in times of emergency to aircraft engaged in such service.

4. INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF CONGRESSES FOR PUBLIC RELIEF.

The International Congress for Public Relief was held in Paris from July 5th to 8th, 1928, in connection with the "Quinzaine sociale internationale".

II. PUBLICATIONS RELATING TO INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS.

The publication of the *Quarterly Bulletin of Information on the Work of International Organisations* has been continued. During the past year the number of conferences mentioned has almost doubled; information has been published concerning one hundred and eighty-two conferences.

A new English edition of the *Handbook of International Organisations* has appeared during the year.

15.

CONSTRUCTION OF AN ASSEMBLY HALL, OF A NEW BUILDING FOR
THE SECRETARIAT AND OF A LIBRARY.

The Assembly during its ninth ordinary session adopted on September 25th, 1928, the following resolution :

“ The Assembly,

“ Approves the report (document A.79.1928) of the Special Committee of Five Members in regard to the new buildings;

“ Approves the choice of the Ariana Park as a site for the new buildings of the League of Nations ;

“ Authorises the Secretary-General to sign all the necessary legal documents concerning the exchange of rights on the properties in question between the League of Nations and the Genevese authorities, as well as to draw up and sign the necessary contract between the architects and the League of Nations on the basis of the Special Committee's report to the Council (document C.93(1).1928), approved by the Council on March 6th, 1928 ;

“ Authorises the Special Committee of Five Members (M. ADATCI, M. OSUSKÝ, M. POLITIS, M. URRUTIA and Sir Edward HILTON-YOUNG) as soon as the legal formalities for the transfer of the land have been completed, and after having obtained all the expert advice necessary from the technical point of view, to give final approval to revised plans adapted to the new site, such approval to be submitted to the Council of the League of Nations for ratification. The final plans thus approved will then be carried into execution without delay by the Secretary-General and the Building Committee already appointed in accordance with the Assembly resolution of September 25th, 1924. ”

In accordance with this resolution, steps were immediately taken to give effect to the exchange of rights on the Ariana and Sécheron properties and the necessary convention between the Secretary-General of the League of Nations and the Swiss authorities was signed on March 26th, 1929. The contract with the architects appointed to carry out the work was also signed.

The Special Committee of Five Members, in execution of the mission entrusted to it under the foregoing resolution gave instructions without delay to the architects for the revision of their plans with a view to adapting them to the new site.

The architects produced a draft plan, which the Committee of Five examined in April 1929. The Committee, wishing to obtain expert advice both from the technical and administrative points of view, called for a report on the draft plan from the Building Committee mentioned in the Assembly resolution, and for a report from the Secretary-General from the administrative point of view. The Committee further invited those architects, who had been awarded prizes of 12,000 francs in the international competition but who were not among the architects chosen to carry out the work, to present suggestions on the utilisation of the new site if they cared to do so. Two responded to the invitation, and the Committee examined their suggestions with the greatest care.

In the light of all the expert advice thus obtained, the Committee requested that a certain number of changes should be made in the draft plan.

These changes were duly carried out by the architects, who, in May 1929, were able to submit a definite plan to the Special Committee.

In examining this plan the Committee of Five concentrated upon two questions :

1. Whether the buildings as now planned fulfilled the required conditions from the practical point of view as well as from the architectural and artistic ;
2. The question of the expenditure involved in the erection of the buildings as planned.

After having carefully considered all the elements of the question, the Committee arrived at the conclusion that the plan submitted fully complied with all requirements.

So far, however, as that part of the plan which referred to the Library was concerned, the Committee of Five approved it only subject to the judgment of the Library Planning Committee, to whom the Library plans would be submitted at a meeting which would take place in July. The architects pointed out that the Library Planning Committee might possibly suggest some changes, and that such changes might affect, to a certain extent, the exterior of that wing of the Secretariat building which faced the Library. The Committee of Five reserved the right of final approval of changes which might thus be proposed.

With regard to the financial side of the question, the Committee of Five had mainly to consider whether the plan submitted could be executed within the limits of the approximate credit of 19,500,000 Swiss francs, approved in principle by the Assembly on September 26th, 1927.

In the report which accompanied the plan the architects furnished an estimate of the cost of the buildings, based upon an average price per cubic metre, amounting in all to 17,681,000 Swiss francs. After having discussed the estimate with the architects themselves, the Committee was convinced that proper care had been exercised in its preparation, and that, although the estimate could naturally not be considered as final, the architects had drawn upon all possible sources of information, particularly the known cost of buildings recently erected in Switzerland. It is obvious that a precise estimate of the ultimate cost of the buildings can only be based upon the detailed descriptive estimate which will be drawn up by the architects later on and will require long study. On the other hand, the architects count upon obtaining the considerable rebates and reductions which are generally offered by contractors when tenders are invited for large buildings. The Committee of Five, moreover, counts upon the general economies which will result from the free entry into Switzerland of building materials.

Deducting 17,681,000 Swiss francs from the approximate credit contemplated by the Assembly, there remains a balance of about 1,800,000 Swiss francs for outside work. The architects stated that this sum would suffice for a reasonably good lay-out of the grounds surrounding the buildings, but that it was insufficient to carry out the arrangement of the Park exactly as shown in the plan (particularly the terraces in front of the Assembly Hall facing the Lake). They undertook to submit definite estimates for this work to the Committee before the session of the Assembly.

With regard to the question of acoustics in the Assembly Hall, the Committee of Five recalled that in 1924 the Assembly accepted the offer of the British Government to bear the expense of a series of experiments which would be carried out by the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research. In accordance with this decision the Secretary-General had already communicated with this Department and it had been decided, after consultation with the Building Committee, that one of the technical members of that Committee accompanied by two of the architects, should visit London in order to continue the study of this important question in consultation with the British experts. If, as a result of this study, any changes in the plan of the Hall should be found desirable, the Committee of Five reserved the right to approve such changes.

Subject to these considerations, the Committee of Five approved the revised plan and submitted it for the ratification of the Council of the League of Nations at its fifty-fifth session held in Madrid.

The decision of the Council and any subsequent information available will be given in the supplementary report on the work of the League.

16.

RATIFICATION OF AGREEMENTS AND CONVENTIONS CONCLUDED UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS.

The Secretary-General, acting on the instructions contained in the report adopted by the Council at its forty-third session, on December 6th, 1926, has submitted to the Council half-yearly lists indicating the States which have become contracting parties either by ratification or accession to agreements and conventions concluded under the auspices of the League of Nations, and mentioning at the same time the States which have signed these international agreements but which have not yet ratified them. The lists have also contained the names of States which have neither signed nor acceded to Conventions framed during Conferences in which they participated, or Conventions to which they were invited to accede.

In consequence of the report adopted by the Council at its fiftieth session (June 1928), the League Committees have been requested to consider from time to time the position in regard to the ratification of the Conventions in which they are interested. The Council reserved the right, should it deem it advisable, to instruct the Secretary-General to call the attention of the various States to the desirability of ratifying the said Agreements and Conventions, or certain of their number, with as little delay as possible.

It will be seen that, since the preparation of last year's general report to the Assembly, a large number of new ratifications has been received. However, the Council has thought it necessary to call the special attention of the Members of the League of Nations to the position in regard to the ratification of Conventions dealing with economic questions (fifty-third session, December 1928) and of the Convention and Statute establishing an International Relief Union (fifty-fourth session, March 1929).

17.

AMENDMENTS TO THE COVENANT OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS.

The Secretariat, as is customary, will prepare as an annex to the Supplementary Report to be submitted to the Assembly at its coming session a list giving all the ratifications, signatures and accessions to treaties, conventions and agreements concluded under the auspices of the League.

However, it should be noted that, since the general report to the eighth session of the Assembly, the amendments to the Covenant which have not yet entered into force have only received a very limited number of ratifications.

18.

PRESENT SITUATION WITH REGARD TO INTERNATIONAL ENGAGEMENTS REGISTERED BY THE SECRETARIAT OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS.

REGISTRATION AND PUBLICATION OF TREATIES AND INTERNATIONAL ENGAGEMENTS.

(ARTICLE 18 OF THE COVENANT.)

As in previous years, the registration of treaties by the Secretariat has been carried out according to the method laid down by the Council's memorandum of May 19th, 1920. Between May 19th, 1920, and May 19th, 1929, 2,022 treaties and international engagements have been submitted for registration.

During the period between May 19th, 1928, and May 19th, 1929, 304 treaties have been submitted for registration by Members of the League, or communicated by other States for publication only.

The treaties registered have, as in previous years, dealt with various subjects, as may be seen by consulting the following list, which gives a general picture of the character of the agreements registered during the period in question. Some of the treaties mentioned in the list may be classified under several heads.

ARBITRATION, CONCILIATION AND PACIFIC SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES.

Registration No.		Registration No.	
1730	Belgium and Portugal.	1959	United States of America and Finland.
1735	Denmark and Spain.	1969	Greece and Switzerland.
1737	United States of America and the Netherlands.	1978	Finland and the Netherlands.
1754	Brazil and France.	1984	Austria and Spain.
1764	Spain and Sweden.	1987	Brazil and Spain.
1765	Switzerland and Finland.	1988	United States of America and Austria.
1766	Spain and Portugal.	1989	United States of America and Austria.
1797	Germany and Italy.	1995	United States of America and Denmark.
1800	Poland and Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes.	2002	Finland and Italy.
1807	Sweden and the Netherlands.	2017	United States of America and Czechoslovakia.
1820	Belgium and Spain.	2018	United States of America and Czechoslovakia.
1874	Spain and Finland.		
1903	Latvia and Union of Socialist Soviet Republics.		
1958	United States of America and Finland.		

LIQUOR AND NARCOTIC DRUGS.

Registration No.		Registration No.	
1813	Germany and United States of America.	1817	Germany and Chile.
		1845	General Convention.

COMMERCE, NAVIGATION AND CUSTOMS.

Registration No.		Registration No.	
1722	Afghanistan and Switzerland.	1871	Greece and Hungary.
1732	Hungary and Italy.	1876	Italy and Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes.
1736	Germany and Japan.		
1761	Germany and France.	1889	Italy and Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes.
1763	Germany and Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes.	1899	Albania and Greece.
1776	Estonia and Czechoslovakia.	1908	Hungary and Lithuania.
1780	The Netherlands and Abyssinia.	1909	Economic Union of Belgium and Luxemburg and Spain.
1802	Austria and Hungary.		
1803	Bulgaria and Estonia.	1921	Greece and New Zealand.
1804	France and Italy.	1924	Great Britain and Haiti.
1805	Germany and France.	1927	Japan and New Zealand.
1815	Germany and France.	1936	Austria and Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes.
1821	United States of America and Latvia.	1937	Guatemala and the Netherlands.
1822	Egypt and Hungary.	1938	Germany and Siam.
1824	Finland and Union of Socialist Soviet Republics.	1939	Germany and Lithuania.
1825	Great Britain and Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes.	1940	Latvia and Sweden.
1828	Great Britain and Salvador.	1943	Austria and Denmark.
1833	Egypt and Palestine.	1944	Colombia and Sweden.
1836	Japan and Latvia.	1948	Denmark and Latvia.
1837	Chile and Norway.	1953	France and Mexico.
1842	Austria and Czechoslovakia.	1955	Hungary and Norway.
1848	Bulgaria and Turkey.	1957	Estonia and Turkey.
1849	Economic Union of Belgium and Luxemburg and Lithuania.	1964	Austria and Italy.
1852	The Netherlands and Persia.	1973	Italy and Sweden.
1855	Sweden and Turkey.	1974	Estonia and Italy.
1861	Finland and Lithuania.	1975	Economic Union of Belgium and Luxemburg and China.
1862	Economic Union of Belgium and Luxemburg and Turkey.	1980	Austria and Iceland.
1865	Canada and Czechoslovakia.	1983	China and Norway.
1869	Greece and Norway.	1986	Austria and France.
1870	Albania and Hungary.	1994	Sweden and Turkey.
		1996	Norway and Poland.
		2010	Germany and Lithuania.

CONSULAR CONVENTIONS AND CONVENTIONS RESPECTING CONDITIONS OF RESIDENCE.

Registration No.		Registration No.	
1719	France and Poland.	1883	Italy and Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes.
1740	Belgium and Estonia.		
1753	Czechoslovakia and Turkey.	1904	Chile and the Netherlands.
		1907	Greece and Switzerland.

PRIVATE LAW.

Registration No.		Registration No.	
1760	Germany and Portugal.	1950	General Convention.
1866	The Netherlands and Switzerland.	2022	Estonia and Sweden.
1906	Finland and Italy.		

ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL CONVENTIONS AND CONVENTIONS REGARDING TAXES.

Registration No.		Registration No.	
1723	Estonia and Latvia.	1856	United States of America and Great Britain.
1727	Hungary and Italy.	1857	Spain and Italy.
1728	Hungary and Italy.	1864	Spain and Portugal.
1729	Hungary and Italy.	1879	Italy and Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes.
1738	Bulgaria.	1922	Great Britain and Mexico.
1741	Hungary and Italy.	1928	Germany and Great Britain.
1743	General Convention.	1933	Austria and Roumania.
1744	General Convention.	1934	Austria and Roumania.
1745	General Convention.	1935	Austria and Switzerland (St. Gall).
1746	General Convention.	1941	Norway and the Netherlands.
1757	Denmark and Iceland.	1945	France and Saar Territory Governing Commission.
1759	Germany and Belgium.	1951	Austria and Czechoslovakia.
1777	Austria and Poland.	1952	Austria and Czechoslovakia.
1798	Hungary and Italy.	1970	Bulgaria and Greece.
1801	Norway and Union of Socialist Soviet Republics.	1979	Hungary and Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes.
1806	Germany, Belgium, France and Italy.	1982	Hungary and Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes.
1812	Germany and Mexico.	1992	Hungary and Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes.
1818	France and Mexico.	2008	Germany and Lithuania.
1830	Austria and Great Britain.	2012	Germany and Lithuania.
1831	Great Britain and Iceland.	2014	Belgium and France.
1835	General Convention.		
1840	Estonia and Union of Socialist Soviet Republics.		
1844	Germany and Sweden.		

DELIMITATION OF FRONTIERS AND FRONTIER TRAFFIC.

Registration No.		Registration No.	
1726	Colombia and Peru.	1827	Great Britain and Portugal.
1756	Germany and France.	1846	Union of South Africa and Por- tugal.
1768	Germany and France.	1860	Finland and Union of Socialist Soviet Republics.
1769	Saar Territory Governing Com- mission, Germany and France.	1863	Spain and Portugal.
1770	Saar Territory Governing Com- mission, Germany and France.	1891	Italy and Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes.
1771	Saar Territory Governing Com- mission, Germany and France.	1896	Italy and Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes.
1772	Saar Territory Governing Com- mission, Germany and France.	2000	Austria and Czechoslovakia.
1773	Saar Territory Governing Com- mission, Germany and France.	2009	Germany and Lithuania.
1823	Austria and Hungary.	2011	Germany and Lithuania.
		2021	Austria and Italy.

TONNAGE MEASUREMENT.

Registration No.		Registration No.	
1868	Poland and Sweden.	1972	Estonia and Sweden.
1932	Finland and Norway.	1977	Portugal and Sweden.

LEGAL AND EXTRADITION CONVENTIONS.

Registration No.		Registration No.	
1720	Belgium and Czechoslovakia.	1946	Poland and Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes.
1721	Belgium and Czechoslovakia.	1956	Switzerland and Czechoslovakia.
1739	Austria and Estonia.	1981	Austria and Switzerland.
1747	Belgium and Finland.	1985	Colombia and Panama.
1755	Austria and France.	1990	Latvia and Sweden.
1762	Germany and France.	1997	Greece and Czechoslovakia.
1767	Belgium and Lithuania.	1998	Greece and Czechoslovakia.
1843	Estonia and Sweden.	1999	Greece and Czechoslovakia.
1867	Poland and Czechoslovakia.	2001	France and San Marino.
1875	Chile and Colombia.	2007	Austria and Finland.
1898	Albania and Greece.		
1942	Belgium and Great Britain.		

AIR NAVIGATION.

Registration No.		Registration No.	
1724	Austria and Czechoslovakia.	1817	Saar Territory Governing Commission and Switzerland.
1725	Austria and Czechoslovakia.	2019	Germany and Czechoslovakia.
1810	Germany and Italy.	2020	Germany and Czechoslovakia.
1811	Germany and Spain.		

FISHERIES.

Registration No.		Registration No.	
1839	Japan and Union of Socialist Soviet Republics.	1954	Great Britain, Irish Free State and France.

TREATIES OF PEACE AND FRIENDSHIP, SOVEREIGNTY, ALLIANCE, etc.

Registration No.		Registration No.	
1734	Afghanistan and Poland.	1971	Spain, France, Great Britain and Italy.
1781	Latvia and Afghanistan.	1976	Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes and Czechoslovakia.
1799	Poland and Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes.		
1834	Brazil and Venezuela.		

POSTAL, TELEPHONIC, TELEGRAPHIC AND RADIOTELEGRAPHIC CONVENTIONS.

Registration No.		Registration No.	
1749	General Convention.	1829	Great Britain, France and Switzerland.
1750	General Convention.	1881	Italy and Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes.
1782	Germany, Denmark, Norway and Sweden.	1897	Italy and Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes.
1783	Germany, Austria, Sweden and Czechoslovakia.	1905	General Convention.
1784	Germany, Sweden and Czechoslovakia.	1920	India and Iraq.
1785	Germany, France and Sweden.	1923	Great Britain and Haiti.
1786	Germany, Norway, Sweden and Switzerland.	1925	Germany, Great Britain, Free City of Danzig, and the Netherlands.
1787	Germany, Austria, Norway and Sweden.	1926	Great Britain and France.
1788	Germany, Belgium, Norway and Sweden.	1929	Great Britain and Cuba.
1789	Germany, the Netherlands and Sweden.	1930	Estonia and Finland.
1790	Germany, Norway, Sweden and Czechoslovakia.	1961	Great Britain and France.
1791	Germany, Belgium and Sweden.	1962	Great Britain and Mexico.
1792	Germany, Norway, the Netherlands and Sweden.	1965	Germany and Finland.
1826	Iraq and Palestine.	1966	Finland and Sweden.
		1967	Denmark and Finland.
		1968	Finland and Norway.
		2015	Belgium and Luxemburg.
		2016	Belgium and Luxemburg.

SOCIAL QUESTIONS, LABOUR, REFUGEES.

Registration No.		Registration No.	
1795	Belgium and France.	1894	Italy and Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes.
1796	Belgium and Luxemburg.	1901	Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden.
1808	Colombia and the Holy See.	1931	Belgium and France.
1814	Germany and Switzerland.	2004	General Agreement.
1816	Germany and Austria.	2005	General Agreement.
1832	Great Britain and France.	2006	General Agreement.
1854	Germany and Czechoslovakia.		
1893	Italy and Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes.		

QUESTIONS RELATING TO THE APPLICATION OF THE TREATY OF VERSAILLES AND THE OTHER TREATIES OF PEACE.

Registration No.		Registration No.	
1850	Austria and Poland.	1916	Austria and Italy.
1910	Austria and Italy.	1917	Austria and Italy.
1911	Austria and Italy.	1918	Austria and Italy.
1912	Austria and Italy.	1919	Austria and Italy.
1913	Austria and Italy.	1947	Austria and Czechoslovakia.
1914	Austria and Italy.	1911	Hungary and Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes.
1915	Austria and Italy.		

SANITARY CONVENTIONS.

Registration No.		Registration No.	
1793	General Convention.	1902	Belgium and the Netherlands.
1794	General Convention.	1949	General Convention.
1884	Italy and Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes.	1993	Belgium and France.
		2013	Belgium and the Netherlands.

TRANSIT.

Registration No.		Registration No.	
1731	Hungary and Italy.	1877	Italy and Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes.
1733	Hungary and Italy.	1878	Italy and Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes.
1742	Estonia and Latvia.	1880	Italy and Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes.
1748	Finland and the Netherlands.	1882	Italy and Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes.
1752	Germany and Latvia.	1885	Italy and Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes.
1758	Germany and Czechoslovakia.	1890	Italy and Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes.
1774	Finland and Belgium.	1892	Italy and Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes.
1775	Italy and Finland.	1895	Italy and Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes.
1778	General Convention.		
1779	General Convention.		
1809	General Convention.		
1819	Belgium and Czechoslovakia.		
1838	Finland and Czechoslovakia.		
1851	Austria and Japan.		
1853	The Netherlands and Portugal.		
1872	Finland and Norway.		
1873	Iceland and Norway.		

WATERWAYS AND INLAND NAVIGATION.

Registration No.		Registration No.	
1960	Great Britain and Siam.	1963	Germany, Great Britain, Denmark, etc.

GENERAL RELATIONS.

Registration No.		Registration No.	
1751	Belgium and the Netherlands.	1887	Italy and Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes.
1841	Persia and Sweden.	1888	Italy and Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes.
1858	France and Persia.	1900	Albania and Greece.
1859	Denmark and Persia.		
1886	Italy and Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes.		

INTELLECTUAL RELATIONS.

Registration No.	
2003	Belgium and the Netherlands.

The following table gives the number of treaties registered by the Secretariat at the request of the various States during the period from May 19th, 1928, to May 19th, 1929 :

Albania	3	Latvia	7
Austria	24	Lithuania	6
Belgium	23	Netherlands	20
Bulgaria	1	Norway	9
Canada	1	Poland	9
Colombia	4	Portugal	4
Cuba	2	Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes	23
Czechoslovakia	23	Siam	1
Denmark	8	South Africa	1
Estonia	10	Spain	6
Finland	26	Sweden	24
France	22	Switzerland	10
Germany	20	Venezuela	1
Great Britain	27	International engagements regis- tered in consequence of their deposit with the Secretariat of the League	6
Greece	1		
Hungary	9		
Italy	48		
Japan	3		

Fourteen treaties were communicated by the United States of America in accordance with the arrangement described on page 125 of the report to the Assembly of 1926.

The Secretariat has also registered many accessions, ratifications, denunciations, etc., to conventions previously registered at the request of Members of the League of Nations.

It has also registered further information relating to general conventions which it had already published.

The above-mentioned international engagements have appeared, or will appear, in the *Treaty Series* in their original languages, with translations into French and English.

The Secretariat has issued, during the year 1929, the *Index* of registered treaties from No. 1001 to No. 1500. This *Index* is a continuation of the *Index* published previously which included the first thousand treaties registered. It contains chronological and alphabetical tables arranged according to subject, giving details regarding the character of each treaty, the contracting parties which have signed it, and the position of each international engagement registered.

Up to the present eighty volumes of about 450 pages each, containing some 1,850 treaties, have been published by the Secretariat. Other volumes will appear in the near future.

*[Distributed to the Council, the
Members of the League and the
Delegates at the Assembly.]*

A. 6 (a). 1929.

Geneva, August 31st, 1929.

4

LEAGUE OF NATIONS

Supplementary Report on the Work of the
League since the Last Session
of the Assembly.

Series of Publications of the League of Nations

✓ GENERAL. ✓

1929. 3.

INTRODUCTION.

The present Supplementary Report summarises the work of the fifty-fifth session of the Council, June 1929, and such Conferences and Committees of the League as have met since the issue of the General Report to the Assembly (document A.6.1929).

The members of the Council met at Madrid on June 6th, 1929. They sat first as a Committee of the Council to consider the question of the protection of minorities as submitted in the proposals of the representatives of Canada and Germany. The Council devoted considerable time to the consideration of this question and of a number of individual cases relating to minorities, and it finally adopted a series of resolutions concerning the receivability of petitions, the composition of Minorities Committees, the frequency of their meetings, communications concerning their action upon petitions, publication of the results of their examination of the questions submitted to them and regular annual publications concerning the work of the League in connection with the protection of minorities. All the relevant documents relating to this question have been published in a special supplement to the *Official Journal*, together with the Minutes of the meetings of the Council sitting in Committee and of its discussions during the session of the Council itself.

The Council noted that the preparatory work for the First Conference on the Codification of International Law was concluded and provisionally fixed March 13th, 1930, as the date for the opening of the Conference. Arrangements are now being made for the Conference to meet at The Hague.

The Council further approved a suggestion of the Committee of Jurists appointed to consider the revision of the Statute of the Permanent Court of International Justice that a conference of the States parties to the Statute should meet concurrently with the tenth session of the Assembly to examine the proposed amendments to the Statute and the recommendations made by the Committee of Jurists. The Council adopted a report drawn up by the same Committee on the procedure to be followed in order to facilitate the accession of the United States of America to the Statute of the Court.

The Preparatory Commission for the Disarmament Conference decided on May 6th to include the question of the continuation of the work of the Committee on Arbitration and Security in the agenda of the second part of its sixth session. It will be remembered that, at its sixth session, the Preparatory Commission refrained from drawing up a report and that, on adjourning, it did not consider its session to be closed.

The Council approved the work of the various technical organisations of the League, whose relevant reports and resolutions were summarised in the General Report to the Assembly.

The Economic Committee held its twenty-ninth session from July 1st to 4th, 1929. It arranged during that session for a further consultation of experts on the coal question, but decided that further consultations on the sugar question were, for the moment, unnecessary. The proposals of the Economic Consultative Committee for the appointment of a Committee of agricultural experts was postponed, so that the views of the President of the International Institute of Agriculture at Rome might be available to the Economic Committee. The Committee, in July, reviewed the progress of its investigations into the problem of smuggling, but did not consider that it was yet in a position to judge whether any international action was advisable.

The Financial Committee met on June 4th in Paris. It reviewed the progress of financial administration in Bulgaria, Greece, Hungary, Estonia and the Free City of Danzig. It postponed its decision in regard to the proposed issue of a loan to the Saar Basin Governing Commission.

The work of the Organisation for Communications and Transit was continued in several committees and conferences during June and July. Special attention is drawn to the European Conference which met on June 10th to deal with questions relating to passports and identity documents, to the action taken upon the resolutions of the Conference of Press Experts, and to the progress of the investigations on the question of communications of importance to the League of Nations in times of emergency.

The Council, in June, approved the reports and resolutions of the Health Organisation, and noted with special satisfaction the adoption by the Greek Government of the plan for the sanitary re-organisation of Greece, in collaboration with the Health Committee.

The Council, approving the report of the Committees dealing with humanitarian questions, authorised the Secretary-General to enquire of the interested Governments in the Near East, Middle East and Far East whether they would be prepared to co-operate in an extension to the East of the expert enquiry into the traffic in women and children. It approved the report of the Permanent Central Opium Board on its organisation and working.

The Permanent Mandates Commission held its fifteenth session from July 1st to July 19th, 1929. It examined, in the presence of the accredited representatives of the mandatory Powers, annual reports on the Administration of New Guinea (1927-1928), Nauru (1928), Togoland and the Cameroons under French Mandate (1928), South West Africa (1928), Palestine (1928), Tanganyika (1928), and Syria and the Lebanon (1928). It dealt with a number of petitions and discussed several questions of a general character. It considered, in particular, the treatment extended in countries Members of the League of Nations to persons belonging to territories under A and B mandates, and to produce and goods from these territories, the status of the inhabitants of territories under B and C mandates, and the question of public health in mandated territories.

The International Committee on Intellectual Co-operation held its eleventh session at Geneva on July 22nd to 26th, 1929, after the annual meetings of its various Sub-Committees (Intellectual Rights, University Relations, Arts and Letters, Science and Bibliography). The Committee requested its Chairman, in consultation with the Secretary-General, and with the Chairman of the Governing Body of the Institute on Intellectual Co-operation, to appoint a small Committee of not more than five of its members to study its programme, work and organisation, to review the progress made by the various questions, and to make suggestions as to any improvements which might increase the positive results to be achieved.

A full account of the matters referred to in this Introduction and of other work done since the issue of the General Report to the Assembly will be found in this Supplementary Report.

August 28th, 1929.

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1.

LEGAL QUESTIONS.

I. PROGRESSIVE CODIFICATION OF INTERNATIONAL LAW :
PREPARATORY WORK FOR THE FIRST CODIFICATION CONFERENCE.

At a third and final session held in May 1929, the Preparatory Committee considered information received from the Governments in the interval since its second session and adopted a second report to the Council, submitting in definitive form the bases of discussion which it proposed for the Conference on the three questions which are on the agenda of the Conference, namely, Nationality, Territorial Waters, and Responsibility of States for Damage done in their Territory to the Person or Property of Foreigners.¹ The Committee also gave effect to the Council's request for its advice as to the formulation of general rules intended to govern the proceedings of the Conference. It embodied its recommendations on this subject in a set of "Draft Rules of Procedure" for the Conference.² An explanation and commentary on the draft Rules, which are regarded by the Committee as merely proposals which the Conference is free to adopt, reject or amend, are contained in the Committee's second report to the Council.

It is contemplated that the detailed examination of the three questions on its agenda will be conducted by the Conference in three main Committees, on which all the delegations will be represented and which will work simultaneously. To permit of this method, the Committee suggests that each delegation might consist of a sufficient number of technical delegates in addition to a plenipotentiary delegate.

As regards the scope of the work of the Conference, the Committee's report contains the following statement :

" The suggestion that the Conference should deliberate on the bases of discussion prepared by the Preparatory Committee was also prompted by a desire to facilitate the work of the Conference. In point of fact, these bases of discussion were furnished by the Governments themselves, which replied to the requests submitted to them for information. The Committee merely collated their replies, and brought out the points on which they are in agreement. The individual delegations will, moreover, have the fullest liberty to submit amendments. The reason why proposals which do not come within the scope of the bases of discussion can only be dealt with if this is allowed by a previous decision is to obviate the necessity for the Conference to handle questions on which, as a result of the work of the Committee of Experts and the replies received from Governments, agreement would appear to be very unlikely. Moreover, the Conference will have the fullest possible powers to allow any question to be considered. "

As regards the four points expressly mentioned in the Assembly resolution of September 27th, 1927, the Committee says :

" The Committee examined the four points to which the Assembly resolution of September 27th, 1927, specially drew the Council's attention. It considered that all these points were not equally suitable for inclusion in the Rules.

" As regards the use to be made of the majority rule, the draft is based on the idea that this rule should merely be adopted for the successive votes which may have to be taken when the various parts of a draft proposal are being framed in a Committee. The matter is more delicate when the question of the final adoption of a draft is involved. The Preparatory Committee is of opinion that the Conference should do everything in its power to secure unanimous agreement, and that, where agreement is reached, it should be definitely placed on record. Moreover, in conformity with the Assembly resolution, the draft Rules recognise, as being an Act of the Conference, any convention concluded by a majority of the States represented. Finally, it provides for a declaration, also representing the views of the majority and indicating what the States which subscribe to it regard as constituting existing international law.

" At this point the Preparatory Committee was confronted with the problem of the place which should be given, in the work of codification, to the conclusion of conventions conferring on the rules which they lay down the character of conventional law, and to the signature of declarations designed to recognise existing law. This problem is one of the special aspects of the problem of " the spirit of the codification ", and is an exceedingly delicate matter. A particular Government which is prepared to sign some provision or other as a conventional rule might possibly refuse to recognise it as being the expression of existing law, whereas another Government which recognises this provision as existing

¹ The two reports of the Committee are printed in each of the three volumes of the bases of discussion (see reference given below in the text).

² Document C.190(1).M.93.1929.V.

law may not desire to see it included in a convention, being apprehensive that the authority of the provision will be weakened thereby. It did not appear to be possible to give a decision on this matter in the draft Rules. That is a problem which the Conference will be better able to settle when it has definite stipulations before it. The attention of Governments should be drawn to the importance of this point.

"The solution which will be found for this problem involves certain consequences relating to the term of validity of the provisions adopted and the right to denounce them. While such a right is very natural in the case of a convention, it is much less so in the case of a declaration laying down the content of ordinary international law. These also are points for which it is not easy to give solutions in advance in the Rules. The Conference will, however, require to examine them carefully in connection with the individual Acts which it has to frame, and must find suitable solutions in accordance with the contents of each instrument.

"The Conference will also have to decide whether a procedure should be laid down for revision, and how and to what extent the new instrument will, in the case of revision, replace the old instrument. That again would not appear to be a point which could be dealt with in the Rules for the Conference.

"The spirit of the codification, moreover, cannot be dealt with in the Rules. It was not possible to indicate whether only existing law should be registered, or whether the aim should be to adapt existing law to contemporary conditions of international life. The Conference will have to settle this question when the individual points are taken up. The Preparatory Committee would desire merely to state here that the work of codification involves the risk of a setback in international law if the content of the codification instrument is less advanced than the actually existing law. This is a matter which the Conference must always bear in mind.

"Finally, the Conference will have to decide carefully, in regard to each of the instruments which it adopts, the procedure of ratification and accession, and to determine to what extent reservations will be allowed. Only a few particulars could be indicated on this matter in the draft Rules."

At its meeting of June 12th, 1929, the Council considered the work of the Preparatory Committee and adopted the following resolution :

"The Council :

"Having acquainted itself with the report of the Preparatory Committee for the Codification Conference ;

"Notes with great satisfaction that the preparatory work for the first Codification Conference is thus concluded, and thanks the Preparatory Committee for the work it has accomplished ;

"Requests the Secretary-General to transmit the documentation containing the bases of discussion and the report on the rules which might govern the procedure of the Conference to the Members of the League and to the other Governments mentioned below ;

"Further requests the Secretary-General to transmit to the various Governments a copy of the letter dated March 26th, 1929, from the Chairman of the Advisory and Technical Committee for Communications and Transit, so that the Governments may be able to take this matter into account, in so far as they may deem it necessary, when issuing their instructions to their delegates to the Conference.

"Reserves the right to convene the Conference as soon as this year's Assembly has voted the necessary credits, and decides in principle to invite the following Governments :

"(1) The Members of the League of Nations ; (2) Brazil, Costa Rica, Egypt, Ecuador, Free City of Danzig, Iceland, Mexico, Monaco, San Marino, Turkey, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, and the United States of America ;

"Provisionally fixes March 13th, 1930, as the date for the opening of the Conference ;

"Requests the Secretary-General to get into touch with the Netherlands Government with a view to ascertaining whether this Government would be prepared to receive the Conference in its territory on the above-mentioned date."

In execution of this decision of the Council, the documentation for the Conference has been sent by the Secretary-General to the Governments to be invited to the Conference under cover of a letter dated July 15th, 1929. The documents in question are as follows :

Bases of Discussion drawn up for the Conference by the Preparatory Committee, Volume I : Nationality, document C.73.M.38.1929.V ;

Bases of Discussion drawn up for the Conference by the Preparatory Committee, Volume II : Territorial Waters, document C.74.M.39.1929.V ;

Bases of Discussion drawn up for the Conference by the Preparatory Committee, Volume III : Responsibility of States for Damage caused in Their Territory to the Person or Property of Foreigners, document C.75.M.69.1929.V ;

Draft Rules of Procedure, document C.190(1).M.93.1929.V.

Letter from the Chairman of the Advisory and Technical Committee for Communications and Transit, document C.218(1).M.96.1929.V.¹

The Secretary-General has also been informed by the Netherlands Government that it is prepared to receive the Conference for the Codification of International Law at The Hague on March 13th, 1930, the date mentioned in the resolution adopted by the Council at Madrid on June 12th, 1929.

¹ This letter communicates a resolution of the Committee formulating certain desiderata on the subject of territorial waters.

II. WORK OF THE COMMITTEE OF THREE JURISTS APPOINTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE ASSEMBLY'S RESOLUTION OF SEPTEMBER 24TH, 1928 (PART III).

An account of the report made to the Council by this Committee is given in the general report to the Assembly. In the present Supplementary Report it only remains to state that, at its meeting of June 10th, 1929, the Council resolved to thank the Committee of Three Jurists for the work which it had accomplished and to transmit its report to the Members of the League and to the Assembly. The text of the report, together with that of the report made to the Council by the Rapporteur, the Italian representative, and the resolution adopted by the Council are submitted to the Assembly in document A.12.1929.V.

III. QUESTION OF THE REVISION OF THE STATUTE OF THE PERMANENT COURT OF INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE.

As stated in the general report to the Assembly, the Council, in pursuance of the Assembly's resolution of September 20th, 1928, appointed a Committee of Jurists to report on the amendments which might appear desirable in the various provisions of the Statute of the Court.

At its meeting of June 12th, 1929, the Council considered the report of the Jurists, and the Rapporteur, the Italian representative, made the following statement as to the subsequent procedure to be adopted :

“ Although the Assembly's resolution of September 20th, 1928, asks the Council ‘ to submit the necessary proposals to the next ordinary session of the Assembly ’, it seems clear that the intentions of the Assembly will be fulfilled only if measures are taken by the Council forthwith for the early consideration by the States parties to the Court's Statute of the proposed amendments. I think that the Council would be correctly interpreting the wishes of the Assembly in deciding, in accordance with the Committee's suggestion, that such a consultation should take place concurrently with the next session of the Assembly. I propose, therefore, that the Council decide to convoke a Conference of the States parties to the Statute to meet at a date that would enable it to consult with the Assembly, whose intervention is also required. For similar reasons, the Council might agree to ask the Supervisory Commission to examine and report to the Assembly at its next session on the financial proposals contained in paragraph 14 of the report of the Committee.”

The Council adopted the following resolution :

“ The Council adopts the considerations and suggestions put forward by its Rapporteur. In view of the report which the Committee of Jurists has submitted to it on the question of the revision of the Statute of the Permanent Court of International Justice,

“ The Council decides :

“ 1. To instruct the Secretary-General to communicate the report of the Committee to the Members of the League of Nations and to the States mentioned in the Annex to the Covenant ;

“ 2. To convoke a Conference of States parties to the Statute of the Permanent Court of International Justice to meet at Geneva on Wednesday, September 4th, 1929,¹ with a view to examining the amendments to the Statute and recommendations formulated by the Committee of Jurists ;

“ 3. To request the Supervisory Commission to present to the Assembly, at its next ordinary session, its opinion as to the measures proposed in paragraph 14 of the report of the Committee of Jurists.”

In accordance with the decisions which have been taken by the Council and the Assembly, the question of the revision of the Statute of the Court has been placed on the agenda of the present session of the Assembly and invitations to the Conference convened by the Council were addressed by the Secretary-General to the Governments concerned in a letter dated July 12th, 1929.

The Jurists' report, together with the report made to the Council by the Rapporteur, and the resolution adopted by the Council are submitted to the Assembly in document A.9.1929.V., which has also been distributed to the Governments, as directed by the Council. The report from the Supervisory Commission asked for in the last paragraph of the Council resolution will be found in document A.5(a).1929.X.

¹ The Council, on June 15th, substituted this date for the date (September 10th) fixed by the resolution as originally adopted on June 12th.

IV. QUESTION OF THE ACCESSION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE PROTOCOL OF SIGNATURE OF THE STATUTE OF THE PERMANENT COURT OF INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE.

At its meeting on June 12th, 1929, the Council considered the report and draft Protocol concerning the above-mentioned question which, as stated in the general report to the Assembly, had been presented to it by the Committee of Jurists on the Statute of the Permanent Court. The Council adopted the following resolution :

“The Council adopts, together with the draft Protocol annexed thereto, the report submitted to it by the Committee of Jurists on the question of the accession of the United States of America to the Protocol of Signature of the Statute of the Permanent Court of International Justice.

“Accordingly, it instructs the Secretary-General :

“(1) To reply to Mr. Kellogg’s note of February 19th, 1929, and to communicate to the United States Government, together with the present Council resolution, the text of the said report and of the said draft Protocol ;

“(2) To make the same communication to the States signatories of the Protocol of December 16th, 1920, and to transmit also to those States the text of the resolution of the Senate of the United States, dated January 27th, 1926, embodying the latter’s reservations.

“In order that the Assembly, being, like the Council, a body whose procedure in regard to the method of seeking advisory opinions from the Court would be affected by the adoption of the Protocol proposed by the Committee of Jurists, may have an opportunity of expressing its opinion thereon, the Council decides to instruct the Secretary-General to transmit to the Assembly the report of the Committee and the draft Protocol and to place the question on the supplementary agenda of the tenth ordinary session of the Assembly.”

In execution of the Council’s decision, the proposals of the Jurists have been placed on the supplementary agenda of the present session of the Assembly. The report and draft Protocol, together with the text of the resolution adopted by the United States Senate on January 27th, 1926, have been communicated to the United States Government and the other Governments and are submitted to the Assembly in document A.11.1929.V. This publication also contains the report made to the Council by the Rapporteur, the Italian representative, on June 12th, 1929, the resolution adopted by the Council, and the Minutes of the Council’s discussion of March 18th, 1926, which resulted in the meeting of signatories of the Protocol of Signature which took place in September 1926.

2.

FINANCES OF THE LEAGUE.

I. GENERAL FINANCIAL POSITION.

The financial position remains satisfactory ; over 58 per cent of the amount due under the budget for 1929 was received during the first seven months of the year.

II. ACTION TAKEN BY THE COUNCIL AT ITS JUNE SESSION.

The Council, at its June session, decided not to submit any observations on the report of the Supervisory Commission, on the accounts for 1928 and the budget for 1930, reserving, however, the right of its members to make, during the Assembly, such proposals or amendments as they might think desirable.

III. EXTRAORDINARY SESSION OF THE SUPERVISORY COMMISSION.

The Supervisory Commission held an extraordinary session from June 21st to 25th, 1929.

(a) ORGANISATION OF THE SECRETARIAT AND AMENDMENTS TO THE STAFF REGULATIONS.

A report on this question was submitted to the Supervisory Commission by the Secretary-General after careful study by the competent officials of the Secretariat. The Commission

did not, however, feel that it had been given time thoroughly to examine the problem and it therefore limited itself to preliminary conversations between members and with the competent officials. It will continue to consider the question and will present its conclusions to the eleventh session of the Assembly.

(b) HIGH COMMISSARIAT FOR REFUGEES.

The report of the Advisory Commission on Refugees was referred to the Supervisory Commission in the first instance so that the Commission might advise the Assembly upon its financial aspects.

After examining the history of the Refugee Service and the development of its work, the Commission decided to recommend to the Assembly that the Service should be independent and autonomous. The Commission felt, however, that it was bound to satisfy itself that the annual subsidy was devoted to the purposes for which it was intended, and that the accounts of the High Commission should, therefore, be subjected to a regular audit by the League's Auditor and his report transmitted through the Supervisory Commission to the Assembly.

As regards the duration of the work which still remains for the Refugee Organisation, the Advisory Commission suggested a period of ten years. The Supervisory Commission recommended the Assembly to take a definite decision on this point and drew its attention to the recurring statements which had been made to the effect that the subsidy was granted for exceptional and temporary expenditure.

The Supervisory Commission endorsed the proposal of the Refugee Advisory Commission that the budget provision for 1930 should be maintained at the 1929 figure (298,000 francs for the general work of the High Commissariat and 50,000 francs for the settlement of refugees in the Republic of Erivan). It added that, owing to the inability of either the International Labour Office or the Secretariat to provide office accommodation or the usual central services, an additional sum may have to be included in the estimates after the general position of the Refugee Service had been discussed by the Assembly.

(c) ACTION TAKEN BY THE SUPERVISORY COMMISSION ON CERTAIN ASPECTS OF THE REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE FOR THE REVISION OF THE STATUTE OF THE PERMANENT COURT OF INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE.

At the request of the Council, the Commission considered certain aspects of the report of the Committee for the revision of the Statute of the Permanent Court of International Justice. In view of the fact that the judges will now be called upon to reside permanently at The Hague, and having regard to certain decisions taken by the first Assembly in the matter, it recommended that the judges' annual salary be fixed at 45,000 florins. The Commission has also submitted to the Assembly draft regulations for the pensions and travelling expenses of the members of the Court.

3.

REDUCTION OF ARMAMENTS.

INTER-ALLIED MILITARY CONTROL IN AUSTRIA.

By a letter dated May 23rd, 1929, the President of the Conference of Ambassadors, with reference to Article 159 of the Treaty of St. Germain, informed the Secretary-General officially that the Liquidation Board of the Military Inter-Allied Commission of Control in Austria concluded its mission on January 31st, 1928.

This letter was communicated to the Council at its June session and published in the *Official Journal*.¹

¹ See *Official Journal*, August 1929, page 1276.

4.

ARBITRATION AND SECURITY.

I. GENERAL ACT AND THREE MODEL BILATERAL CONVENTIONS IN REGARD TO CONCILIATION, ARBITRATION AND JUDICIAL SETTLEMENT.

On September 26th, 1928, the Assembly adopted the following resolutions :

1. *Resolution on the Submission and Recommendation of a General Act and of Three Model Bilateral Conventions in regard to Conciliation, Arbitration and Judicial Settlement.*

“ The Assembly :

“ Having considered the work of the Committee on Arbitration and Security ;

“ (1) Firmly convinced that effective machinery for ensuring the peaceful settlement of international disputes is an essential element in the cause of security and disarmament ;

“ (2) Considering that the faithful observance, under the auspices of the League of Nations, of methods of pacific settlement renders possible the settlement of all disputes ;

“ (3) Noting that respect for rights established by treaty or resulting from international law is obligatory upon international tribunals ;

“ (4) Recognising that the rights of the several States cannot be modified except with their consent ;

“ (5) Taking note of the fact that a great number of particular international conventions provide for obligatory conciliation, arbitration or judicial settlement ;

“ (6) Being desirous of facilitating to the greatest possible degree the development of undertakings in regard to the said methods of procedure ;

“ (7) Declaring that such undertakings are not to be interpreted as restricting the duty of the League of Nations to take at any time whatever action may be deemed wise and effectual to safeguard the peace of the world ; or as impeding its intervention in virtue of Articles 15 and 17 of the Covenant, where a dispute cannot be submitted to arbitral or judicial procedure or cannot be settled by such procedure or where the conciliation proceedings have failed ;

“ (8) Invites all States, whether Members of the League or not, and in so far as their existing agreements do not already achieve this end, to accept obligations in pursuance of the above purpose either by becoming parties to the annexed General Act or by concluding particular conventions with individual States in accordance with the model bilateral conventions annexed hereto or in such terms as may be deemed appropriate ;

“ (9) Resolves to communicate the annexed General Act and the annexed model bilateral conventions to all Members of the League of Nations and to such States not Members of the League as may be indicated by the Council ;

“ (10) Requests the Council to give the Secretariat of the League of Nations instructions to keep a list of the engagements contracted in accordance with the terms of the present resolution either by acceptance of the provisions of the General Act or by the conclusion of particular conventions with the same object, so as to enable Members of the League and States non-Members of the League to obtain information as soon as possible.”

2. *Resolution concerning the Good Offices of the Council.*

“ The Assembly ;

“ In view of the resolution adopted by the Assembly on September 25th, 1926, requesting the Council to offer its good offices to States Members of the League for the conclusion of suitable agreements likely to establish confidence and security ;

“ Recognising that the development of procedures for the pacific settlement of any disputes which may arise between States is an essential factor in the prevention of wars ;

“ Expresses its appreciation of the progress achieved in concluding treaties of this kind, and its desire to see the application of the principle of the pacific settlement of all disputes extended as far as possible ; and

“ Invites the Council to inform all States Members of the League that, should States feel the need of reinforcing the general security conferred by the Covenant and of contracting for this purpose undertakings concerning the pacific settlement of any disputes which may arise between them, and should negotiations in connection therewith meet

with difficulties, the Council would, if requested to do so by one of the parties — after it has examined the political situation and taken account of the general interests of peace — be prepared to place at the disposal of the States concerned its good offices, which, being voluntarily accepted by them, would be calculated to bring the negotiations to a happy issue."

To give effect to these resolutions of the Assembly, the Council, at its meeting on September 26th, 1928, adopted the following resolution :

" (1) The Council invites the Secretary-General to communicate the General Act and the three model bilateral conventions in regard to conciliation, arbitration and judicial settlement to all the States Members of the League of Nations and to the following non-Member States : Afghanistan, Brazil, Costa Rica, Egypt, Ecuador, Mexico, Turkey, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United States of America. The Secretary-General, is requested to draw the attention of Governments to the texts which throw light on these documents, viz., (1) the Assembly's resolution on their submission and recommendation ; (2) M. Politis's report adopted by the Assembly ; (3) an introductory note explaining the structure of the treaties. (This note should be prepared by the Secretariat, which would take as a basis the introductory note drawn up by the Committee on Arbitration and Security, but revising it to take account of the modifications made in the Committee's proposals by the Assembly, especially in consequence of the fusion of model general conventions A, B and C into a single General Act.)

" (2) The Council authorises the Secretary-General to keep the list of engagements referred to in paragraph 10 of the Assembly resolution reproduced above under No. 1.

" (3) The Council further asks the Secretary-General to inform all the States Members of the League of Nations that the Council is prepared to place at the disposal of the States concerned the good offices which they may be willing to accept voluntarily, under the conditions set forth in the second resolution of the Assembly, reproduced above."

The list of engagements referred to in paragraph (2) of the above-mentioned Council resolution is reproduced in the annex to the present report.

The Secretary-General has discharged the duties entrusted to him in paragraphs (1) and (3) of this resolution, by letters dated November 12th, 1928, addressed to States Members of the League and the non-Member States designated by the Council.

Up to the present time, the following States have deposited at the Secretariat of the League their instruments of accession to the General Act :

- (a) SWEDEN, May 13th, 1929 (acceded to Chapters I, II and IV of the General Act).
- (b) BELGIUM, May 18th, 1929 (acceded to the whole of the General Act).
- (c) NORWAY, June 11th, 1929 (acceded to Chapters I, II and IV of the General Act).

Consequently, in accordance with Article 44, the General Act came into force on August 16th, 1929, the ninetieth day following the receipt of the second accession by the Secretary-General of the League.

II. OPTIONAL CLAUSE OF ARTICLE 36 OF THE STATUTE OF THE PERMANENT COURT OF INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE.

On September 26th, 1928, the Assembly adopted the following resolution :

" The Assembly :

" Referring to the resolution of October 2nd, 1924, in which the Assembly, considering that the terms of Article 36, paragraph 2, of the Statute of the Permanent Court of International Justice are sufficiently wide to permit States to adhere to the special Protocol opened for signature in virtue of that article with the reservations which they regard as indispensable, and convinced that it is in the interest of the progress of international justice that the greatest possible number of States should, to the widest possible extent, accept as compulsory the jurisdiction of the Court, recommends States to accede to the said Protocol at the earliest possible date ;

" Noting that this recommendation has not so far produced all the effect that is to be desired ;

" Being of opinion that, in order to facilitate effectively the acceptance of the clause in question, it is expedient to diminish the obstacles which prevent States from committing themselves ;

" Being convinced that the efforts now being made through progressive codification to diminish the uncertainties and supply the deficiencies of international law will greatly facilitate the acceptance of the Optional Clause of Article 36 of the Statute of the Court, and that, meanwhile, attention should once more be drawn to the possibility offered by the terms of that clause to States which do not see their way to accede to it without qualification, to do so subject to appropriate reservations limiting the extent of their commitments, both as regards duration and as regards scope ;

" Noting, in this latter connection, that the reservations conceivable may relate, either generally to certain aspects of any kind of dispute, or specifically to certain classes or lists of disputes, and that these different kinds of reservation can be legitimately combined ;

“ Recommends that States which have not yet acceded to the Optional Clause of Article 36 of the Statute of the Permanent Court of International Justice should, failing accession pure and simple, consider, with due regard to their interests, whether they can accede on the conditions above indicated ;

“ Requests the Council to communicate the text of this resolution to those States as soon as possible, desiring them to notify it of their intentions in the matter indicating at the same time the questions of international law the elucidation of which would, in their opinion, facilitate their accession to the Optional Clause of Article 36 of the Statute of the Court ; and

“ Asks the Council to inform the Assembly at its next session of the replies it has by then received.”

In pursuance of this resolution of the Assembly, the Council adopted the following resolution on September 26th, 1928 :

“ The Council authorises the Secretary-General to notify the said resolution of the Assembly to the States which have not acceded to the Optional Clause of Article 36 of the Statute of the Court, requesting them to inform him of their intentions in the matter, and to indicate at the same time the questions of international law the elucidation of which would in their opinion facilitate their accession to the Optional Clause of Article 36 of the Statute of the Court.”

The notification referred to in this resolution was made by the Secretary-General in a letter dated November 30th, 1928.

III. NON-AGGRESSION AND MUTUAL ASSISTANCE.

On September 26th, 1928, the Assembly adopted the following resolutions :

1. *Resolution on the Submission and Recommendation of Model Treaties of non-Aggression and Mutual Assistance :*

“ The Assembly,

“ Having noted the model treaties of non-aggression and mutual assistance prepared by the Committee on Arbitration and Security, and amended as a result of the work of the First and Third Committees of the Assembly, together with the explanations supplied in the introductory note drawn up by the first-named Committee ;

“ Highly appreciating the value of those model treaties ;

“ And convinced that their adoption by the States concerned would contribute towards strengthening the guarantees of security ;

“ Recommends them for consideration by States Members or non-Members of the League of Nations ; and

“ Hopes that they may serve as a basis for States desiring to conclude treaties of this sort.”

2. *Resolution concerning the Good Offices of the Council.*

“ In view of the resolution adopted by the Assembly on September 25th, 1926, requesting the Council to offer its good offices to States Members of the League for the conclusion of suitable agreements likely to establish confidence and security,

“ The Assembly :

“ Convinced that the conclusion between States in the same geographical area of treaties of non-aggression and mutual assistance providing for conciliation, arbitration and mutual guarantees against aggression by any one of them constitutes one of the most practical means that can now be recommended to States anxious to secure more effective guarantees of security ;

“ Being of opinion that the good offices of the Council, if freely accepted by all the parties concerned, might facilitate the conclusion of such treaties ;

“ Invites the Council to inform all the States Members of the League of Nations that; should States feel the need of reinforcing the general security conferred by the Covenant and of concluding a treaty of non-aggression and mutual assistance or a treaty of non-aggression for this purpose, and should the negotiations relating thereto meet with difficulties, the Council would, if requested by one of the parties — after it has examined the political situation and taken account of the general interests of peace — be prepared to place at the disposal of the States concerned its good offices which, being voluntarily accepted, would be calculated to bring the negotiations to a happy issue.”

On September 26th, 1928, the Council adopted the following resolution on this subject :

“ (1) The Council asks the Secretary-General to communicate to the States Members or non-Members of the League of Nations the model treaties of non-aggression and mutual assistance and the introductory note prepared by the Committee on Arbitration and Security, together with the Third Committee's report and the resolution adopted by the Assembly on the said Committee's proposal.

“ (2) The Council further asks the Secretary-General to inform all the States Members of the League of Nations that the Council is prepared to place at the disposal of the States concerned the good offices which they may be willing to accept voluntarily under the conditions set forth in the second resolution of the Assembly reproduced above.”

The communications mentioned in this resolution were made by the Secretary-General in letters dated November 12th, 1928.

IV. REVISION OF THE SYSTEMATIC SURVEY OF ARBITRATION CONVENTIONS AND TREATIES OF MUTUAL SECURITY DEPOSITED WITH THE SECRETARIAT OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS.

On September 26th, 1928, the Assembly adopted the following resolution :

“ The Assembly :

“ Recognising the importance of the documentation which the Secretariat of the League of Nations has begun to collect concerning treaties of judicial settlement, arbitration and conciliation, and of the maps and graphs which it contemplates establishing ;

“ Requests the Secretary-General to be so good as to invite the Governments of States Members or non-Members of the League of Nations to communicate to the Secretariat the text :

“ (1) Of those treaties for the pacific settlement of disputes which are now in force and which were concluded prior to the establishment of the League of Nations and which have not been registered ;

“ (2) Of such arbitral awards affecting them as may be rendered in the future, with the exception of judgments of the Permanent Court of International Justice and of the Permanent Court of Arbitration and of special tribunals such as the Mixed Arbitral Tribunals.”

On August 1st, 1929, sixteen Governments (Austria, Denmark, Egypt, Estonia, Germany, Great Britain, India, Luxemburg, the Netherlands, Norway, Panama, Poland, Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes, Sweden, Switzerland, Venezuela) had replied to the letter addressed by the Secretary-General to the Governments of States Members and non-Members of the League of Nations, in execution of the aforementioned resolution.

V. ARTICLES 10, 11 AND 16 OF THE COVENANT.

On September 20th, 1928, the Assembly adopted the following resolution :

“ The Assembly :

“ Having noted the work of the Committee on Arbitration and Security in regard to Articles 10, 11 and 16 of the Covenant,

“ Appreciates the great importance of the work done to apply the provisions in question ;

“ Considers that the information concerning the question of the criteria of aggression contained in the Committee's documents usefully summarises the studies made by the Assembly and the Council and the provisions of certain treaties ;

“ Recalls in particular that the action to be taken by the Council under Article 11 and other articles of the Covenant, in the case of a conflict, will provide it with important elements of appreciation likely to facilitate the determination of the aggressor in the event of war breaking out in spite of every effort ;

“ Considers that the study of Article 11 of the Covenant, which stipulates that the League ‘ shall take any action that may be deemed wise and effectual to safeguard the peace of nations ’, forms the natural counterpart of the study undertaken by the Committee of the Council and approved by the Council on December 6th, 1927, on the Assembly's recommendation, and, without detracting from the value of the other articles of the Covenant, brings into prominence the fact that the League's first task is to forestall war, and that, in all cases of armed conflict or of threats of armed conflict, of whatever nature, it must take action to prevent hostilities or to stop hostilities which have already begun ;

“ Takes note of the suggestions concerning Article 16 contained in the Committee's documents relative to the study of the articles of the Covenant ;

“ Recommends to the Council the studies in question as a useful piece of work which, without proposing a hard-and-fast procedure in time of emergency, and without adding to or detracting from the rights and duties of the Members of the League, provides valuable indications as to the possibilities offered by the different articles of the Covenant, and as to the way in which they may be applied, without prejudice to the different modes of procedure which the infinite variety of possible eventualities may render necessary in practice ;

“ In conclusion, recommends that a study should be undertaken of the other articles of the Covenant the conscientious and full application of which offers special guarantees of security.”

In pursuance of this resolution of the Assembly, the Council adopted the following resolution on September 26th, 1928 :

“ The Council :

“ (1) Takes note of the Assembly resolution of September 20th, 1928, regarding the work of the Committee on Arbitration and Security on Articles 10, 11 and 16 of the Covenant, and adopts the studies in question as a useful piece of work, which, without proposing a hard-and-fast procedure in time of emergency, and without adding to or detracting from the rights and duties of the Members of the League, provides valuable indications as to the possibilities offered by the different articles of the Covenant, and as to the way in which they may be applied, without prejudice to the different modes of procedure which the infinite variety of possible eventualities may render necessary in practice ; and

“ (2) Transmits to the Preparatory Commission for the Disarmament Conference the recommendation of the Assembly that a study should be undertaken of the other articles of the Covenant.”

The Preparatory Commission for the Disarmament Conference has not yet undertaken the examination of this question.

VI. MODEL TREATY TO STRENGTHEN THE MEANS FOR PREVENTING WAR.

On September 20th, 1928, the Assembly adopted the following resolution :

“ The Assembly :

“ Having noted the model treaty to strengthen the means for preventing war framed by the Committee on Arbitration and Security, together with the explanations contained in the introductory note drawn up by the Committee ;

“ Highly appreciating the value of this model treaty ;

“ Being convinced that its adoption by a large number of States would serve to increase the guarantees of security :

“ Recommends it for consideration by States Members or non-Members of the League of Nations ;

“ And hopes that it may serve as a basis for States desiring to conclude a treaty of this kind.”

On November 12th, 1928, the Secretary-General transmitted this resolution, together with the model treaty, to States Members of the League and to non-Member States to whom the General Act and other models framed by the Committee on Arbitration and Security were communicated.

On July 15th, 1929, the Netherlands Government informed the Secretary-General that it was glad to find itself in complete agreement with the principles on which this model treaty is based. It made certain observations, however, as regards the form and content of the text recommended for its consideration.

The Secretary-General transmitted the Netherlands Government's observations to all States to whom the model treaty had been communicated.¹

VII. WIRELESS STATION TO BE CREATED WITH A VIEW TO PROVIDING THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS WITH INDEPENDENT COMMUNICATIONS IN TIME OF EMERGENCY.

This question is dealt with in the chapter of the present report relating to the “ Organisation for Communications and Transit ”.

VIII. CONTINUATION OF THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE ON ARBITRATION AND SECURITY.

At its sixth session, held at Geneva, from April 15th to May 6th, 1929, the Preparatory Commission for the Disarmament Conference noted with satisfaction the results achieved by the Committee on Arbitration and Security.

It expressed its satisfaction that certain countries had already announced their intention of acceding to the General Act and that other countries had concluded or were negotiating bilateral treaties based on the models prepared by the Committee on Arbitration and Security.

At its meeting on May 6th, 1929, the Preparatory Commission decided to include the question of the progress of the work of the Committee on Arbitration and Security in the agenda of the second part of its sixth session, to permit of an exchange of views regarding the line of conduct it might indicate and to enable M. Beneš, the Chairman of the Committee, to convene it in good time.

¹ See document C.327.M.113.1929.VII.

5.

POLITICAL QUESTIONS.

I. REQUEST OF THE HUNGARIAN GOVERNMENT UNDER ARTICLE 239 OF THE TREATY OF TRIANON AND ARTICLE 13, PARAGRAPH 4, AND ARTICLE 14 OF THE COVENANT OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS (MIXED HUNGARO-ROUMANIAN ARBITRAL TRIBUNAL).

On March 4th, 1929, the Council decided¹ to postpone this question to its session in June 1929.

On June 8th, 1929, the representatives of the Hungarian and Roumanian Governments informed the Secretary-General that, since direct negotiations were continuing, the two Governments had agreed to ask the Council to adjourn the matter until its session in September 1929. The Council acceded to this request at its meeting on June 10th, 1929.

II. REQUEST OF THE HUNGARIAN GOVERNMENT UNDER ARTICLE 239 OF THE TREATY OF TRIANON FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF THE SUBSTITUTE ARBITRATOR ON THE MIXED HUNGARO-SERB-CROAT-SLOVENE ARBITRAL TRIBUNAL.

On December 15th, 1928, the Hungarian Government addressed to the Council a request for the application of the provisions of Article 239 of the Treaty of Trianon in view of the vacancy created in the Mixed Arbitral Tribunal by the fact that the Serb-Croat-Slovene arbitrator had stated in a letter addressed to the President of the Mixed Hungaro-Serb-Croat-Slovene Arbitral Tribunal that he was unable to take part in the Tribunal's deliberations in the case of "Archduke Frederick of Habsburg-Lorraine *v.* the Serb-Croat-Slovene State".

At its meeting on March 4th, 1929, the Council took note of two letters from the Hungarian Government and from the Government of the Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes, in which these Governments stated that, as a result of an interview which had just taken place at Lausanne between the President of the Mixed Arbitral Tribunal and their representatives, there was reason to hope that the question of the absence of the Serb-Croat-Slovene arbitrator from the Tribunal might be amicably settled without it being necessary for the Council to adopt any resolution on the matter. The Council therefore postponed the question until its June session.

In letters dated June 7th and 8th respectively, the representatives of the Serb-Croat-Slovene Government and the Hungarian Government informed the Council, through the Secretary-General, that the negotiations referred to in March had resulted in a settlement of the question and that, as a result, the Serb-Croat-Slovene arbitrator had resumed his duties on the Tribunal. The two Governments having agreed to note that the intervention of the Council was no longer necessary in the matter, the request of the Hungarian Government should be considered as withdrawn.

The Council accordingly decided, on June 10th, 1929, to withdraw the question from its agenda.

III. THE TACNA-ARICA QUESTION.

At its meeting on June 13th, 1929, the representative of Chile informed the Council, on behalf of his Government, that the question concerning the sovereignty over the territories of Tacna and Arica had been settled by a treaty signed at Lima by the plenipotentiaries of Chile and Peru.

The President of the Council said that the Council noted with the utmost satisfaction an event which put an end to an old dispute between two nations of the same race, language and traditions. The members of the Council associated themselves with the President's statement.

IV. ENTRY OF NAVAL AND AIR FORCES INTO THE BLACK SEA.

(COMMUNICATION FROM THE STRAITS COMMISSION.)

In a letter dated June 20th, addressed to the Secretary-General of the League of Nations, the President of the Straits Commission, Admiral VASSIF (Turkey), on behalf of the Commission, drew the attention of the League of Nations to the following incident :

On June 6th an Italian squadron consisting of thirty-five hydroplanes arrived at Constantinople, following the Straits, with the consent of the Turkish Government. After a stay of

¹ See General Report to the Assembly, document A.6.1929, page 31.

twenty-four hours, twenty-one of these hydroplanes, escorted by three destroyers, followed the Bosphorus to the Black Sea, while the remaining fourteen, in accordance with their orders, rejoined the others after flying over the Sea of Marmora and the Ismid peninsula.

The Commission is of opinion that the provisions of the Straits Convention were not observed and draws attention to the text of paragraph 2 of the annex to Article 2, which reads as follows :

“ The maximum force which any one Power may send through the Straits into the Black Sea is not to be greater than that of the most powerful fleet of the littoral Powers of the Black Sea existing in that sea at the time of passage.”

While acknowledging that the Italian Government showed its intention of conforming to the provisions of the Convention by splitting up its squadron after it arrived at Constantinople, the Commission states that it would be glad if the League of Nations would settle for the future the differences of interpretations in connection with the entry of naval and air forces into the Black Sea.

The Secretary-General communicated the Commission's letter to the Council, the signatory Powers of the Straits Convention and the Members of the League.

V. RUSSIAN, ARMENIAN, ASSYRIAN, ASSYRO-CHALDEAN AND TURKISH REFUGEES.

At its meeting on June 12th, 1929, the Council considered the report of the Advisory Commission for Refugees.¹

On the proposal of the representative of Venezuela, Rapporteur, the Council decided not to discuss at the moment the substance of the question and to forward to the Assembly the Advisory Commission's report and the recommendations contained therein.

6.

ADMINISTRATIVE QUESTIONS.

I. TERRITORY OF THE SAAR BASIN.

1. GOVERNING COMMISSION'S LOAN.

The question of the *Governing Commission's proposal for a loan* is dealt with in the chapter of the present report relating to the work of the Financial Committee.

2. GENERAL QUESTIONS.

Under the arrangement approved by the Council on May 17th, 1920, the Governing Commission has sent to the League of Nations its thirty-eighth periodical report, for the second quarter of 1929. Certain questions dealt with in this report are mentioned below.

Economic and Social Situation.

As a result of negotiations between the French State Mines Administration and the unions concerned, it was decided to increase miners' wages by an amount representing about 5 per cent of the wages hitherto current.

Conditions in the labour market show a distinct improvement. The number of unemployed has fallen from 9,920 on March 20th, 1929, to 3,471 on May 22nd, 1929.

Administration.

Housing Question. — Several Communes have been able to abolish compulsory rent regulation which is now maintained in fifty-five communes only, while 235 communes have reverted to the ordinary law in the matter.

After consultation with the elected representatives of the population, the Governing Commission decided to extend until June 30th, 1930 (with certain amendments) the Decrees which expired on June 30th, 1929, regulating the housing question.

Valorisation. — On April 22nd, 1929, the Governing Commission issued a Decree dealing with the valorisation of mortgages, debts on land, ground rents and other claims. The Governing

¹ See General Report to the Assembly, document A.6.1929, pages 37 and 38.

Commission decided to take up these important matters for the following reasons. The depreciation of the former German currency affected a large number of people in the Saar Territory as elsewhere. The first proposal submitted by the Governing Commission to the representatives of the population only provided for the valorisation of mortgages and real property rights. Various bodies, however, demanded an extension of the valorisation scheme, and were specially anxious to have included claims arising out of communal industrial bonds, pledges and savings bank deposits.

The Governing Commission agreed to these proposals. Although adapted to the special conditions of the Saar Territory, the provisions of the Decree of April 22nd resemble, as far as possible, the German provisions concerning valorisation, more particularly the Reich laws of 1925 and 1927.

One of the most difficult points to be decided in regard to mortgage valorisation was to what date it should be made retrospective. This question evoked lively discussion in the circles interested. While the Saarbruck Chamber of Commerce requested that the date should be June 15th, 1922, the day prescribed by German legislation, the political parties declared in a general way for the year 1921 without, however, being unanimous as to the exact date. In view of the fact that currency developments in the Saar Territory did not take the same course as in the Reich, the Governing Commission fixed October 1st, 1921, as the date.

In regard to procedure, regulations were issued setting up a special section for valorisation cases at every cantonal court. Appeal may be made against all decisions of these authorities.

Communal Questions. — The boundaries of two Communes have been altered, so that the locality of Fröhn, which used to belong to the Commune of Wemmetzweiler, is now part of the Commune of Merchweiler.

The communes and districts (Kreis) of the Saar Territory asked for permission to raise a loan for very varied purposes : construction of roads, bridges, etc. The Governing Commission authorised the Inter-Communal Union of Saar Territory districts, which is to conclude the loan, to enter into negotiations on the subject. The loan must not exceed 187 million francs. The Governing Commission, moreover, reserved its final authorisation.

The city of Saarbruck also asked for permission to contract several loans ; but, in view of the heavy charges arising from the city's previous obligations, the Governing Commission did not see its way to granting these requests.

Aviation. — The Governing Commission, as a member since 1927 of the International Commission for Air Navigation, concluded an air agreement with the Swiss Government, which came into force on September 1st, 1928. A second agreement concluded with the German Government came into force on May 1st, 1929.

An aviation meeting was organised at Saarbruck on May 5th, 1929, in which French and German aircraft took part. The Saarbruck airport was officially opened on May 16th, 1929. So far as it depended on the Governing Commission, sanction was given to establish a commercial air route, Paris-Saarbruck-Frankfort-Berlin, exploited jointly by the Société générale de Transport aérien and the Deutsche Luft Hansa. This line was opened on May 21st, 1929.

On the same day a wireless station for the transmission and reception of meteorological and air traffic messages commenced operations at Saarbruck.

3. PETITION FROM THE INHABITANTS OF THE SAAR TERRITORY.

A petition from the Saar Mining Employees' Trade Union was communicated by the Governing Commission to the Council for its information under the terms of the Council resolution of May 17th, 1920.

II. FREE CITY OF DANZIG.

PARTICIPATION OF THE FREE CITY OF DANZIG IN INTERNATIONAL TREATIES AND AGREEMENTS.

In June 1929, the High Commissioner informed the Council of the Free City of Danzig's intention to adhere to the Kellogg Pact and the Litvinoff Protocol. The High Commissioner added that, in respect of these adhesions, he saw no reason to exercise the right of veto provided under Article 6 of the Treaty of November 9th, 1920, between the Free City of Danzig and Poland.

RELATIONS BETWEEN DANZIG AND POLAND.

The High Commissioner informed the Secretary-General that several agreements had been concluded between the Free City of Danzig and Poland, relating chiefly to economic and taxation questions.

An agreement has also been concluded on the question of the knowledge of the Polish language required of Danzig employees of the Polish Railway Management at Danzig.

7.

PROTECTION OF MINORITIES.

I. MINORITIES PROCEDURE: PROPOSALS OF THE REPRESENTATIVES OF CANADA AND GERMANY.

It was noted in the general report to the Assembly (document A.6.1929, page 43) that the Council had in March instructed its Rapporteur for minorities questions to submit, at its June session, a report on the proposals of the representatives of Canada and Germany, taking into account the points raised by various members of the Council during the discussion to which these proposals had given rise. The Council asked the representatives of Great Britain and Spain to co-operate with the Rapporteur in drawing up this report. It was understood that the Rapporteur and his colleagues might receive any observations that the Governments of States which had accepted provisions for the protection of minorities might desire to present and that any State Member of the League of Nations might also submit its views.

The Committee of Three met at Geneva on March 9th, 1929, and in London on April 29th to May 4th, 1929. The report¹ contains an historical and analytical survey of the content and purpose of the Minorities Treaties and of the stipulations relating to the protection of minorities contained in the Treaties of Peace. It records the Council's agreement to the placing of the Treaty stipulations concerning the protection of minorities under the guarantee of the League, describes the nature and limits of the guarantee and reviews the various measures taken to facilitate its exercise. These measures include the institution and development of a special procedure for the examination of petitions and the creation and development of the Minorities Section of the Secretariat. The report further summarises the discussions on the protection of minorities which have taken place during the successive sessions of the Assembly and describes the practical application of the procedure for the examination of petitions.

The report concludes with a number of general considerations. Proposals are put forward relating to the transmission of petitions, the relations of the Council of the League and the Secretariat with the petitioners, the composition and operation of the Committees dealing with petitions and the measures taken to secure information and to ensure publicity. Annexed to the report are the memoranda forwarded to the Committee of Three by the Governments, and a list of communications received from various associations and organisations.

The report of the Committee of Three was examined, in the first instance, by the Council sitting in Committee, at Madrid on June 6th, 7th, 8th and 11th. The Minutes of the meetings of the Council in Committee, together with the report of the Committee of Three and other relevant documents, have been published as a special supplement (No. 73) to the *Official Journal* in accordance with the resolution adopted by the Council on June 13th, 1929.

As a result of the discussions of the Council sitting in Committee the Rapporteur submitted a report and draft resolution to the Council at its meeting held on June 13th. The draft resolution was unanimously approved by the members of the Council, subject to the observations which they had submitted during the discussions in Committee and to statements made in the course of the Council meeting of June 13th. The report and resolution adopted by the Council, which should be read in the light of those statements and observations, are in the following terms :

“ By its resolution of March 7th, 1929, the Council instructed its Rapporteur and the representatives of Great Britain and Spain to submit a report for its June session. This document was distributed to the Members of the Council on May 18th (document C.C.M.1).

“ In the same resolution, the Council decided to sit in Committee before the opening of its June session in order to make a first examination of the report. It met for that purpose on June 6th, 7th, 8th and 11th.

“ As the outcome of its discussions, the Members of the Council, sitting in Committee, reached agreement on a number of provisions. These provisions are contained in the following draft resolution, which the Rapporteur has the honour to submit for the Council's approval :

“ The Council :

“ (a) Decides to add to the provisions contained in its previous resolutions regarding the procedure for the examination of minorities' petitions the following provisions :

1. *Receivability of Petitions.*

“ When the Secretary-General declares a petition non-receivable, he will inform the petitioner and, if necessary, will communicate to him the Council resolution of September 5th, 1923, laying down the conditions of receivability of minority petitions.

¹ Document C.C.M.1.1929.1.

2. *Composition of Minorities Committees.*

"The President of the Council may, in exceptional cases, invite four members of the Council to examine minorities petitions, instead of two as laid down in the Council resolution of October 25th, 1920.

3. *Frequency of the Meetings of the Minorities Committees.*

"The Council considers that it would be desirable for Minorities Committees to take into account the possibility of holding meetings in the intervals between sessions of the Council, whenever they think it expedient for the examination of individual petitions.

4. *Communications concerning the Action taken on Petitions by the Minorities Committees.*

"(1) When the members of a Minorities Committee have finished the examination of a question, without asking that it be placed on the Council's agenda, they will communicate the result of their examination by letter to the other Members of the Council for their information. The Secretary-General will keep the relevant documents at the disposal of the Members of the Council.

"(2) The Secretary-General will distribute once a year, for the information of all the Members of the Council, a document reproducing the letters addressed during the year, as described above, by the various Minorities Committees to the Members of the Council.

5. *Publication of the Result of the Examination of a Question by a Minorities Committee.*

"The Minorities Committees should consider carefully the possibility of publishing, with the consent of the Government concerned, the result of the examination of the questions submitted to them. The Council earnestly hopes that the Government will, whenever possible, give their consent to such publication. The information might be published in the *Official Journal* and might consist of the letter from the Minorities Committee informing the other Members of the Council, or any other text that seemed expedient.

6. *Regular Annual Publications concerning the Work of the League in connection with the Protection of Minorities.*

"The Secretary-General will publish annually in the *Official Journal* of the League statistics of : (1) the number of petitions received by the Secretariat during the year ; (2) the number of petitions declared to be non-receivable ; (3) the number of petitions declared to be receivable and referred to Committees of Three ; (4) the number of Committees and the number of meetings held by them to consider these petitions ; (5) the number of petitions whose examination by a Committee of Three has been finished in the course of the year.

"(b) The present resolution will be communicated to the States which have accepted stipulations for the protection of minorities.

"(c) The report prepared by the Japanese representative, as Rapporteur, with the assistance of the British and Spanish representatives (document C.C.M.1), including the annexes thereto,¹ together with the Minutes of the meetings of the Council sitting in Committee for the examination of this question and those of the present meeting of the Council, will be communicated to all the Members of the League and will, in accordance with practice, be published."

II. MINORITIES IN UPPER SILESIA.

1. GERMAN-POLISH CONVERSATIONS REGARDING THE APPLICATION OF CERTAIN CLAUSES OF THE CONVENTION OF MAY 15TH, 1922, RELATING TO UPPER SILESIA.

The Rapporteur for minorities questions informed the Council in March 1929 that the German and Polish Governments had agreed to engage in direct negotiations for the purpose of settling a certain number of points of interpretation of the Geneva Convention of May 15th, 1922, relating to Upper Silesia (document A.6.1929, page 49). It was understood that the Rapporteur would preside over these negotiations, with the assistance of the President of the Mixed Commission for Upper Silesia. More particularly, the representatives of the two countries desired to consider the possibility of improving and accelerating the local procedure as regulated by Article 149 of the Convention and of lightening the burden laid upon the Council by Article 147. These articles concern the right of petition and methods of redress, the form in which petitions are to be transmitted, the proceedings before the Mixed Commission, time-limits, etc.

The negotiations, which began in Paris on March 25th and continued until April 6th, resulted in the conclusion of certain agreements which were signed by the Polish and German delegates, subject to the subsequent approval of their respective Governments and with reservations as to their attitudes on certain legal points. The Rapporteur was duly informed

¹ Observations of the Governments of Austria, Bulgaria, China, Czechoslovakia, Estonia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, the Netherlands, Poland, Roumania, the Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes and Switzerland, and also the list of communications from associations and organisations.

by letters received in May from the Polish and German representatives that their respective Governments had approved the agreements.

The Rapporteur, informing the Council during its June session of the successful issue of these negotiations, expressed the view that proceedings in connection with petitions under Articles 147 and 149 would undoubtedly be rendered easier in future. The Council would no longer be called upon to pronounce on the substance of certain questions which were not really important enough to justify a direct appeal. These questions would first be submitted to the local procedure, which had been rendered more efficient and more practical.

The Rapporteur further stated that the subject-matter of the negotiations had not yet been exhausted and that negotiations would be resumed in order to continue the examination of questions relating to entries for minorities schools in the Voivodship of Silesia. The German delegation had not been authorised to negotiate on some points relating to this question, since it had not had time to consider whether means could be found to allay the Polish misgivings as to certain difficulties which had arisen in connection with the conditions governing the admission of children to minorities schools. The Polish delegation had expressed regret that these questions had not been dealt with during the negotiations and had expressed the hope that the conversations would be resumed as soon as the German Government had been able fully to examine the solutions proposed.

2. CONCRETE QUESTIONS RELATING TO THE APPLICATION OF THE CONVENTION RELATING TO UPPER SILESIA.

The Council, during its June session, examined a number of questions relating to minorities in Upper Silesia. Two petitions of the "Deutscher Volksbund für Polnisch Schlesien" were postponed for later examination, since the Polish Government had, in both cases, asked that the period during which its observations might be sent should be extended. The first of these petitions, dated March 22nd, 1929, related to the opening of a minorities school at Koszecin, and the second to the way in which the Polish Government had carried into effect the resolution adopted by the Council on March 12th, 1927. Two other petitions were withdrawn by the petitioners.

The Council considered and adopted reports on the five following petitions :

- (a) *Petition from the Association of Poles in Germany (Section I, at Oppeln), dated December 22nd, 1928, concerning the Polish Minority Schools in German Upper Silesia.*

On December 22nd, 1928, the Association of Poles in Germany (Section I, at Oppeln) addressed direct to the Council, under Article 147 of the Geneva Convention of May 15th, 1922, relating to Upper Silesia, a petition concerning the Polish minority schools in German Upper Silesia.

1. In this petition, the Association of Poles alleges that the provisions of the Geneva Convention relating to Upper Silesia are not observed by the German authorities so far as concerns the establishment and maintenance of Polish minority schools. The petition quotes, as instances, the cases of three schools in which instruction is stated to have been suspended for a certain period, either on account of the illness of the teacher or owing to his transfer to another post.

2. The petition further asserts that there is not one teacher in these schools who would acknowledge himself a member of the Polish minority, and that teachers who speak Polish fluently are very rare. The petitioners add that the Polish courses provided for the teaching staff are inadequate owing to their being too short, and that the German authorities have not done anything to provide an adequate training for future teachers in the Polish minority schools.

3. The petition reproduces certain official German statistics for June 1925 concerning the attendance at Polish minority schools in German Upper Silesia. According to these figures, the number of children of school-age belonging to the Polish minority would average about 50,000. There are, however, only 498 children attending the Polish minority schools in German Upper Silesia. The Association of Poles regards this relatively insignificant figure as the most striking result of the methods employed by the Prussian authorities to dissuade Polish parents from sending their children to the minority schools, and consequently to destroy Polish education in general, since the local population, which consists of labourers and peasants, is so poor that it cannot provide private schools from its own funds. On this point, the petitioners refer to the difficulties in which parents are afraid of being involved if they send their children to the minority schools, and urge that this fear is justified by unpleasant experiences in the past.

The following are the explanations furnished by the German Government on the various points raised in the petition :

(1) The German Government points out that the attendance at the three schools in which instruction has been suspended for various reasons has been, and is, very small. One of these schools, which was opened on May 1st, 1925, with fifteen children, was attended by only seven children on April 1st, 1928 ; another had eleven children on April 1st, 1925, and only four on the date when the German Government made its observations. The third school was attended by thirty-three children on April 1st, 1925, but this number had fallen to five on April 1st,

1928, and to-day no children at all attend this school. According to the provisions of the Geneva Convention, the administration has for several years been under no obligation to maintain these minority schools, since they are attended by less than twenty children in a year. Accordingly, the continued upkeep of these schools goes beyond the obligations which Germany assumed under the Geneva Convention.

(2) With regard to the training of teachers for the minority schools, the German Government observes that Article 113 of the Geneva Convention does not involve any obligation to establish institutions in which the language employed in teaching would be the minority language, but institutions designed, in conformity with the legislation of the State concerned, for the general training of future teachers, where the language of instruction should be the minority language. The German Government asserts that it has discharged this obligation as well as that of establishing special courses for teachers who are to be appointed to the minority schools in order that they may study the minority language. Over one hundred teachers have been trained by five Polish professors provided by the Polish Government. These courses have been inspected by M. Danek, delegated by the President of the Mixed Commission for Upper Silesia, and his impression was that they were perfectly satisfactory.

The German Government, at the same time, states that, when the Geneva Convention was negotiated, the old teachers' training system had already been abolished and a reorganisation on new lines was intended. The German Government now proposes, as it has informed the President of the Mixed Commission, to develop this new organisation by establishing in Upper Silesia a "Pedagogical Academy" with special arrangements for the training of teachers for the minority schools. This Academy is to be opened in 1930 and the necessary preparations are already in hand.

(3) Referring to the attendance at the minority schools, the German Government states that the minority schools are treated by the authorities in exactly the same way as the majority schools. Entries are received at the same time for both. There are no special entrance boards for the minority schools which could exert pressure of any kind on the persons legally responsible for the children's education. No methods of intimidation are employed by the authorities.

If, however, the minority schools are only attended by a comparatively small number of pupils, the reason is that the Polish minority in Upper Silesia feels no intellectual or economic need to give its children a Polish education. On the other hand, in view of the countless economic connections between the industrial area of Upper Silesia and other German economic centres, the minority has a vital interest in seeing that its children acquire a thorough knowledge of German. If, then, the minority does not avail itself to so large an extent as the Association of Poles would wish of its right to send its children to the minority school, that is the result of a free decision by the parents, and is in no way due to any pressure whatsoever on the part of the authorities.

The Rapporteur said he did not see how, in the light of these explanations, there could be any question of any infringement of the Geneva Convention in the case of the three schools mentioned by the petitioners in which instruction had been suspended. He further felt that the observations of the German Government made it clear that the scheme for the establishment of a training institution for future teachers had long been in contemplation and would be carried out in 1930. He did not think that the allegations to the effect that persons responsible for the children's education were subjected to pressure by the authorities could be entertained, since nothing could be decided on the basis of general assertions. He pointed out that, if circumstances should make it necessary, complaints could be addressed to the Council in each individual case.

The Council accordingly decided simply to take note of the observations of the German Government.

(b) Petition from Marya Ryborz and Felix Placzko, dated December 28th, 1928.

The petitioners submitted to the Council, under Article 147 of the Geneva Convention on Upper Silesia, a petition regarding certain incidents which are alleged to have taken place during a hearing before the Guardians Court at the Cosel District Court. A German official is alleged to have used insulting language towards the petitioners and to have forbidden them to speak Polish.

In its observations on this petition, submitted on March 18th, 1929, the German Government stated that the incidents complained of in the petition had been thoroughly investigated by the competent authorities, and that the result of the enquiry had not confirmed the assertions of the petitioners. In spite of this negative result and the fact that one of the petitioners can hardly be considered reliable, since she has already been sentenced for deliberately making a false accusation, the competent German authorities have instituted disciplinary proceedings against the official in question.

The Council decided that, in view of these explanations, it was only necessary to take note of the observations submitted by the German Government.

(c) Petition of M. Juliusz Jacek, dated December 31st, 1928.

The petitioner submitted to the Council of the League of Nations, under Article 147 of the Geneva Convention on Upper Silesia, a petition protesting against the language which

was used by a German gendarme and which, he alleged, would hurt the feelings of every Pole living in German Upper Silesia.

In a note dated March 20th, 1929, the German Government states that none of the witnesses examined has confirmed the petitioner's charges against the gendarme. It is true that it has not yet been possible to examine the person who was cited by the petitioner as able to corroborate his statements and who was apparently the only person who could be brought forward as a witness of the incident, because he left German territory some time ago. As regards the action brought against the gendarme for insults, the German Government states that the proceedings are not yet concluded, and that, if it is established that the gendarme in question made the remarks complained of, the necessary disciplinary measures will be taken against him. Lastly, the German Government observes that a member of the Polish minority, who himself sent a petition to the League of Nations in December 1928, has given evidence of his own free will, in a deposition which is annexed to the German Government's observations, stating that the behaviour of the gendarme referred to in the petition had been irreproachable.

The Council, in this instance, merely took note of the observations of the German Government.

(d) *Petition from the "Deutscher Volksbund für Polnisch Schlesien", dated March 28th, 1929.*

In a petition dated March 28th, 1929, and addressed direct to the Council under Article 147 of the German-Polish Convention of May 15th, 1922, relating to Upper Silesia, the "Deutscher Volksbund für Polnisch Schlesien" laid before the Council a petition regarding the dismissal of M. Pietsch from his post as manager of the "Gornolaskie Zjednoczone Huty Krolewska i. Laura Sp. Akc."

The Polish Government's observations on this petition were communicated to the Secretariat in a letter from the Polish delegation accredited to the League, dated June 8th, 1929. The petition and the Polish Government's observations were communicated to the Council in document C.271.1929.I.

The Rapporteur informed the Council that he had discussed the matter with the Polish representative, who was proposing to submit further information. The Council therefore decided to postpone consideration of the question until its next session.

(e) *Petition dated March 25th, 1929, from the Association of Poles in Germany (Section I, at Oppeln).*

The Association of Poles in Germany complained of the attitude of two teachers, M. Kuntz and M. Brommer, who are alleged to have forbidden Polish children to use their mother-tongue. M. Kuntz is said to have actually struck one of the pupils on the head and face because he spoke Polish in school.

The German Government's observations on this petition were forwarded to the Secretariat in a letter dated June 1st, 1929, and were communicated to the Council, together with the petition, in document C.266.1929.I. In these observations the German Government states that, in the case of the teacher Kuntz, enquiries have shown that the pupil in question was punished, not because he had spoken Polish, but for misbehaviour. Nevertheless, out of consideration for the sensitiveness of the members of the minority, the teacher has been warned to be more careful in future, in order to avoid any misunderstanding. In the case of M. Brommer, the enquiries made by the German Government have shown that various statements in the petition were incorrect. The enquiries show that M. Brommer may possibly have reprimanded a pupil for not speaking German and, accordingly, he has been seriously warned to observe, in future, the utmost restraint in his treatment of the Polish minority.

The Council in this instance took note of the information furnished by the German Government and expressed the hope that such incidents would be avoided in the future.

III. PETITION OF M. NAUMANN AND M. GRAEBE CONCERNING THE LIQUIDATION BY THE POLISH GOVERNMENT OF THE PROPERTY OF A NUMBER OF POLISH NATIONALS BELONGING TO THE GERMAN MINORITY.

This petition was placed on the agenda of the Council, at the request of the German Government, by a decision of the Council taken at the beginning of its June session, and was considered by the Council on June 14th and 15th, 1929. The Rapporteur, at the second of those meetings, expressed the view that the questions raised by the petitioners, and particularly those concerning the acquisition of Polish nationality, could be more speedily and effectively settled by direct negotiation between the Polish and German Governments. He informed the Council that the representatives of the two Governments had agreed to undertake these negotiations and to ask the acting President of the Council or his deputy to preside over them.

The negotiations were opened on July 3rd in Paris. The President of the Council has entrusted to M. Kaeckenbeeck, President of the Upper Silesian Mixed Arbitral Tribunal, the duty of presiding over the negotiations.

IV. PETITION FROM THIRTY-FOUR PERSONS OF RUSSIAN ORIGIN LIVING IN LITHUANIA REGARDING THE CONFISCATION OF THEIR LANDS UNDER THE LITHUANIAN AGRARIAN REFORM LAW OF FEBRUARY 15TH, 1922.

The representatives of Finland, Great Britain and Italy were recently called upon to examine, under the Council resolution of October 25th, 1920, a petition from thirty-four persons of Russian origin residing in Lithuania. The Lithuanian Government, to which this petition was communicated for its observations, stated that any observations it might offer would be premature, as the question was not on the agenda of the Council. It expressed itself willing to furnish in due course any explanations that might be desirable when the question came to be placed on the agenda of the Council in accordance with the normal procedure and at the request of a Member of the Council.

The representatives of Finland, Great Britain and Italy were therefore obliged to base their preliminary study of the question solely on the statements made in the petition. The petitioners allege that they were unfairly treated in comparison with other Lithuanian citizens on account of their Russian origin, a situation which might involve a danger of an infringement of the provisions of the Lithuanian declaration concerning the protection of minorities under which all Lithuanian nationals are to be regarded as equal before the law and as enjoying the same civil and political rights without distinction of race, language or religion.

In view of these allegations and of the attitude of the Lithuanian Government, the representatives of Finland, Great Britain and Italy requested the Secretary-General, in accordance with paragraph 2 of Article 9 of the Lithuanian declaration concerning the protection of minorities, to place the question on the agenda of the June session of the Council.

The President of the Council suggested, and the Council agreed on June 15th, that the examination of the question should be postponed till the September session, in order that the Lithuanian Government might have time to submit its observations.

8.

MANDATES.

WORK OF THE FIFTEENTH SESSION OF THE PERMANENT MANDATES COMMISSION.

The Permanent Mandates Commission, at its fifteenth session, held from July 1st to 19th, 1929, examined in the presence of the accredited representatives of the mandatory Powers the following eight annual reports : New Guinea (1927-28), Nauru (1928), Togoland and Cameroons under French Mandate (1928), South West Africa (1928), Palestine (1928), Tanganyika (1928), and Syria and the Lebanon (1928).

Administrators or high officials of the territories under mandate took part, as representatives of the mandatory Powers, in the discussion on the reports on the following territories : Palestine, Tanganyika, Cameroons under French Mandate and South West Africa.

In addition to the annual reports, the Commission dealt with several questions of a general nature, particularly those regarding the treatment extended in countries Members of the League of Nations to persons belonging to territories under A and B mandates and to produce and goods therefrom, the status of the inhabitants of territories under B and C mandates and the question of public health in mandated territories.

1. TREATMENT EXTENDED IN COUNTRIES MEMBERS OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS TO PERSONS BELONGING TO TERRITORIES UNDER A AND B MANDATES AND TO PRODUCE AND GOODS THEREFROM.

In view of the Council's resolution of September 1st, 1928, and after studying the question at its last two sessions, the Commission suggested to the Council to ask the mandatory Powers in charge of A and B mandates whether they considered it necessary and expedient to contemplate the conclusion of an international Convention intended to secure to the territories under A and B mandates the benefit, on a reciprocal basis, of economic equality which these territories are obliged to grant to States Members of the League of Nations, at least in respect of commercial exchanges, or whether, in their opinion, it would be preferable and sufficient for them to pursue the end in view by means of direct and bilateral negotiations.

2. STATUS OF THE INHABITANTS OF TERRITORIES UNDER B AND C MANDATES.

By a resolution dated March 5th, 1928, the Council adopted a suggestion made by the Commission to invite the mandatory Powers to inform it of the measures taken in order to

give effect to the Council's resolution of April 23rd, 1923, concerning the status of the inhabitants of territories under B and C mandates, particularly in regard to the fourth paragraph of that resolution. In view of the replies given by the mandatory Powers, the Commission thought that, at the present stage, it had no observations to make.

3. PUBLIC HEALTH.

The Commission considered the question of public health in mandated territories. In view of the shortage of doctors and public health specialists, which, according to certain mandatory Powers themselves, was one of the factors which hampered their efforts towards reform in public health, it decided to propose that the Council should ask these Powers to state their views on the following points :

(a) What are the difficulties encountered in recruiting public health officials for mandated territories ?

(b) Do the mandatory Powers accept properly qualified doctors of foreign nationality as officials in their mandatory administrations ? If not, would they be prepared to consider altering their policy in this connection ?

(c) What qualifications do the mandatory Powers require of officials, whether nationals or foreigners, in the public health services of their mandatory administrations ?

(d) Should the difficulties encountered in recruiting an adequate number of doctors who are nationals of the mandatory Power prove insuperable and should the principles of public policy absolutely preclude the engagement of foreign doctors as officials, would it be possible to encourage by more liberal subsidies the medical work of the missions operating in mandated territories ?

4. REPLIES OF MANDATORY POWERS TO COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS ON OBSERVATIONS CONCERNING GENERAL QUESTIONS AND OBSERVATIONS SUBMITTED BY THE COMMISSION WHEN EXAMINING THE ANNUAL REPORTS OF THE VARIOUS MANDATED TERRITORIES.

In order to introduce uniformity in the present diverse methods of communicating replies, the Commission resolved to beg the Council to request the mandatory Powers :

1. To be good enough in future to comply exactly with the Council's resolution of December 9th, 1926, and for that purpose to send, as soon as possible and in the form of separate communications, their replies to the Council's resolutions regarding suggestions concerning general questions.

2. To communicate their replies to the Council's resolutions relating to observations made by the Commission when examining the annual reports, in the form of annexes to the reports for the following year.

OBSERVATIONS OF THE COMMISSION CONCERNING CERTAIN TERRITORIES UNDER A, B AND C MANDATES.

Territories under A Mandate.

1. PALESTINE AND TRANS-JORDAN.¹

In view of the considerable interest attaching to the political, economic and social development of Palestine, the Commission, while recognising that much information is to be found in certain departmental reports, expressed the wish that annual reports should contain a general and more detailed account of questions concerning public health, education and, in particular, labour.

In order to enable it to form an opinion as to whether the procedure followed is in accordance with the terms of the mandate, the Commission asked the mandatory Power to give, in the next annual report, a complete statement regarding the concession for the exploitation of the natural wealth of the Dead Sea, and also of the procedure adopted for the construction of the harbour works at Haifa.

The Commission also requested that the next annual report should contain details as regards the joint plan which the Government of Palestine was working out with the Governments of Egypt and Syria for the more expeditious detection and suppression of all illicit traffic in dangerous drugs.

As regards Trans-Jordan, the Commission hoped that future annual reports would contain very full information on the development of this part of the mandated territory, and expressed

¹ After the present report had been drawn up, the accredited representative for Palestine and Trans-Jordan, acting in accordance with the right conferred upon him by Section (e) of the Constitution of the Permanent Mandates Commission, has made comments on the observations of the Commission, which have been inserted as an annex to the report of the Commission (document C.305.M.105.1929.VI) and which will be examined at the same time as the report in the course of the fifty-sixth session of the Council which opens at Geneva on August 30th, 1929.

the hope that the frontiers between Trans-Jordan, Syria, Iraq and Nejd would be demarcated on the spot as soon as possible, to the satisfaction of all concerned.

The Commission further hoped that the mandatory Power would find it possible to place at its disposal a complete collection of the laws and regulations in force in Trans-Jordan.

The Commission also expressed the wish to be assured that the measures applicable in Trans-Jordan, whereby foreigners appeared to be obliged to accept Trans-Jordan nationality as a condition of residence in the territory, did not apply to nationals of the States Members of the League of Nations.

2. SYRIA AND THE LEBANON.

The Commission attached special importance to the accredited representative's statement concerning the conditions and circumstances in which the recent attempt to collaborate with the Syrian Constituent Assembly had failed. It hoped that, when the present opposition had died down, the mandatory Power would succeed, in agreement with the local authorities, in giving to Syria a political status which respected the provisions of the mandate.

In regard to the production of and traffic in drugs, the Commission thought it desirable to draw the attention of the mandatory Power to the necessity of strengthening the suppression by the authorities of this traffic, and urged that the mandatory Power should completely suppress, as soon as possible, the cultivation of hemp.

The Commission hoped that the mandatory Power would be able to conclude arrangements with the immigration countries of South America and prevent Syrian and Lebanese emigrants being refused admittance when they complied with the requirements of local legislation.

In view of the economic and industrial development of the country, the Commission hoped that it would be possible gradually to regulate labour conditions.

Territories under B Mandate.

1. CAMEROONS AND TOGOLAND UNDER FRENCH MANDATE.¹

The Commission repeated the recommendation made at its thirteenth session that the mandatory Power should see that subsidies granted by the mandated territories to institutions of the mother-country and to certain international organisations should be granted only in proportion to the benefits which the mandated territories would derive therefrom.

The Commission's attention was drawn to the constant excessive differences between budget estimates and the actual receipts and expenditure. On this subject it obtained from the accredited representative explanations of the way in which budgets were drawn up.

With special reference to the Cameroons, the Commission, when considering the section of the report dealing with the liquor traffic, noted that the system of rationing would seem to have given good results, and was anxious to know whether the maximum authorised figure could not be reduced. The Commission also asked that the next report might contain a table showing the penalties imposed for infringement of the alcohol laws. The Commission showed itself interested also in the efforts made by the mandatory Power to combat the spread of sleeping-sickness. It further asked to be put in a position to follow closely the demographic movement of the territory.

As regards Togoland, the Commission was preoccupied about the fiscal effort demanded of the natives in order to build up reserves which are large in proportion to the whole budget, and about the financial policy of the Administration, which is inclined to charge to the ordinary budget the expenditure on major public works, such as the construction of a railway. It would like to have in the next report an account, with reasons in support, of the general financial policy of the mandatory Power, together with full information as to the taxpaying capacity of the natives in the different parts of the territory.

The Commission further noted with satisfaction the efforts made by the mandatory Power to combat leprosy and venereal disease, and asked to be kept fully informed of the steps taken and of the results obtained.

The Commission would be glad to see in the next report more exact information concerning the nature of the movements of migration in certain parts of the territory, referred to in the last report.

2. TANGANYIKA.

The Commission considered at some length the Hilton Young report, a copy of which had been sent by the British Government to every member of the Commission, and which proposed a closer union in administrative, Customs and fiscal matters between the mandated territory of Tanganyika and the neighbouring territories of Kenya and Uganda, which are under the sovereignty of Great Britain. The accredited representative informed the Commission that the British Government had not yet reached any decision on the findings of this report. In view of the importance of the proposals made in the report, from the

¹ After the present report had been drawn up, the accredited representative for Cameroons and Togoland under French mandate, acting in accordance with the right conferred upon him by Section (e) of the Constitution of the Permanent Mandates Commission, has made comments on the observations of the Commission, which have been inserted as an annex to the report of the Commission (document C.305.M.105.1929.VI) and which will be examined at the same time as the report in the course of the fifty-sixth session of the Council which opens at Geneva on August 30th, 1929.

point of view of the provisions and principles of the mandate, the Commission drew the Council's attention to its discussions on the subject, but did not feel that it should at this stage express a definite opinion on the findings of the report.

The Commission also asked for full information as to the conditions of purchase, by the Tanganyika administration, of the Central Railway, previously owned by a German private company.

Territories under C Mandate.

1. NAURU.

The Commission called attention to the questions inserted in the report on its thirteenth session as regards the settlement of the liabilities incurred by the mandated territory towards the Australian Department of Defence before and after the inception of civil administration. With regard to the arrangements made for and the indemnities to be granted to Chinese workers repatriated as unfit for service, the Commission noted with satisfaction the measures taken by the Administration of Nauru to give effect to the suggestion made at its thirteenth session.

2. NEW GUINEA.¹

At its thirteenth session, the Commission had expressed the hope that the mandatory Power would be good enough to afford such information as would dispel the misgivings which it had felt regarding certain aspects of the administration of this territory. The Commission regretted to find that this matter was not dealt with in the 1927-28 report, or in the accompanying documents, nor yet in the mandatory Government's reply of April 6th, 1929, to the Council. The report of the Minister for Home and Territories on his visit to the mandated territory afforded little or no information as to the conclusions at which he had arrived in regard to the general efficiency and conduct of the Administration, nor had the Commission been informed as to any action which the Australian Government might have in contemplation as a result of the confidential report which, it was understood from the accredited representative, had been submitted by the Minister. The Commission, moreover, could not ignore the statements made in other documents from official sources which tended to confirm the impression that an unsatisfactory condition, which was not of very recent origin, existed in the territory.

The Commission attached particular importance to receiving full information regarding the action which the Australian Government proposed to take with reference to the matters brought to the notice of the Minister regarding the steps to be taken to put an end to irregularities in recruiting, which the Chief Judge is reported to have described as having become a custom, and finally as to the measures taken to deal with the deplorable moral conditions prevailing among the natives, as described in the report of the Mission Conference and elsewhere.

3. SOUTH WEST AFRICA.²

The Commission noted with regret that, in spite of all its previous discussions on this subject and all the correspondence exchanged between the Council of the League of Nations and the Government of the Union of South Africa in 1927 and 1928, it had never received an explicit answer to its repeated question regarding the meaning attached by that Government to the term "full sovereignty" used to define the legal relations existing between the mandatory Power and the territory under its mandate. The Commission's question might be formulated as follows :

"In the official view of the Government of the Union of South Africa, does the term 'possesses sovereignty' express only the right to exercise full powers of administration and legislation in the territory of South West Africa under the terms of the mandate and subject to its provisions and to those of Article 22 of the Covenant, or does it imply that the Government of the Union regards itself as being sovereign over the territory itself?"

The Commission proceeded to express the fear that, so long as no clear reply to this question was received, a regrettable misunderstanding would subsist, which it hoped the Council would succeed in finally clearing up.

The Commission further asked for full particulars as regards the right of the inhabitants of Walvis Bay — administered as an integral part of the mandated territory — to participate in the elections to the Parliament of the Union and in those of the Legislative Council of South West Africa, respectively.

¹ After the present report had been drawn up, the accredited representative for New Guinea, acting in accordance with the right conferred upon him by Section (e) of the Constitution of the Permanent Mandates Commission, has made comments on the observations of the Commission, which have been inserted as an annex to the report of the Commission (document C.305.M.105.1929.VI) and which will be examined at the same time as the report in the course of the fifty-sixth session of the Council which opens at Geneva on August 30th, 1929.

² After the present report had been drawn up, the accredited representative for South West Africa, acting in accordance with the right conferred upon him by Section (e) of the Constitution of the Permanent Mandates Commission, has made comments on the observations of the Commission, which have been inserted as an annex to the report of the Commission (document C.305.M.105.1929.VI) and which will be examined at the same time as the report in the course of the fifty-sixth session of the Council which opens at Geneva on August 30th, 1929.

As regards the status of the non-native inhabitants of the territory, the Commission noted the communication forwarded by the Union Government in reply to the questions raised in the report of its fourteenth session. It regarded this question as of great importance and decided to devote further study to it at its next session.

The Commission noted that no information had been received regarding the steps taken by the mandatory Power to amend the South West Africa Railways and Harbours Act (No. 20) of 1922 in order to bring the legal regime of the railways and harbours into conformity with the principles of the mandate and of the Treaty of Versailles and the decision taken by the Council of the League of Nations on June 9th, 1926. The accredited representative, however, informed the Commission that a communication might shortly be expected on this subject.

The Commission also noted the financial statement concerning the working of the railways included in the annual report, but would be glad if future reports could contain fuller details on the subject, particularly in regard to cases in which the Government of the mandated territory had promised or guaranteed subsidies for the working of railways or harbours.

The Commission also asked that the next annual report should contain information on the internal organisation of the native reserves.

The Commission expressed appreciation of the constant efforts made by the Administration and by the mining companies to reduce the mortality in the mines amongst native workers from the north of the territory. It hoped that the causes of this high mortality would be discovered, and thought that it would thus be possible to carry on the work of the mines under more satisfactory conditions.

OBSERVATIONS OF THE COMMISSION ON PETITIONS.

The Commission examined various petitions and came to the conclusions summarised herewith :

1. PALESTINE.

(a) The Commission considered three petitions relating to the " Wailing Wall " of Jerusalem, from the " General Moslem Conference ", from the " Supreme Moslem Council " and from Emir Chékib Arslan, M. Ihsan el Djabri and M. Riad el Souhl. The Commission referred to and repeated its previous recommendations as to the advantages of an agreement freely entered into under the auspices of the mandatory Power, in regard to the rights of the Jewish and Moslem communities over the precincts of the Wailing Wall. Failing such an agreement, it appreciated the care with which the mandatory Power is ensuring the maintenance of the *status quo*. The Commission further noted the statements submitted by the mandatory Power on the existing legal enactments regarding expropriation on grounds of public utility, and thought that the fears expressed on this subject by the petitioners were groundless.

(b) The Commission considered two petitions regarding Trans-Jordan from the inhabitants of Kerak and Ajolun, dated November 24th, 1928, complaining of the mandatory Power's administration and protesting against the treaty concluded between the British Government and the Emir of Trans-Jordan. Consideration of the various points raised in these petitions, with the exception of the question of the Hejaz Railway, which has been dealt with in connection with another petition,¹ and the explanations offered by the mandatory Power, led the Commission to believe that the complaints submitted by the petitioners were not of a nature to call for any action.

(c) The Commission considered that the letter dated May 29th, 1929, and the memorandum on the development of the Jewish National Home in 1928, from the Zionist Organisation, together with the British Government's observations thereon, did not seem to give occasion for the insertion of any recommendation in the Commission's report to the Council.

2. PALESTINE AND SYRIA.

In commenting upon the petition from the Emir Chékib Arslan, dated November 5th, 1928, relating to the Hejaz Railway and the disarmament of the population of the Jebel Druse, the Commission remarked that the provisions and proposals made by the mandatory Powers concerned with the administration and operation of the Hejaz Railway were such as would not seem to conflict with the religious aspirations of the Moslem population. The Commission was therefore unable to comply with the wishes of the petitioners, and added that, in its opinion, the Moslem population of the mandated territories concerned would be well advised, in the interests of the resumption of traffic on the Hejaz Railway and of improved conditions in pilgrim transport, to associate themselves with the efforts made by the mandatory Powers to settle this matter in a manner most favourable to the interests of all concerned.

As regards the disarmament of the Jebel Druse, the Commission decided that, in view of the information given in the petition and of the observations made by the mandatory Power, there was no ground for action to be taken.

3. SYRIA AND THE LEBANON.

(a) Having examined, in the light of the mandatory Power's observations and the supplementary particulars supplied by the accredited representative in the course of the

¹ See below, " Palestine and Syria, Petition of the Emir Chékib Arslan, dated November 5th, 1928 ".

session, the petitions from the Committee of the Syro-Palestinian Congress, dated April 19th and May 20th, 1929, and from certain inhabitants of Damascus and Cairo, dated April 3rd, 1929, regarding the incidents which occurred at Homs in the spring of 1929, the Commission considered that these petitions did not call for any action on the part of the Council.

(b) The Commission, after having examined the petitioner's allegations and the mandatory Power's observations, considered that no action could be taken on the petition of M. Soubeil el Attar, dated April 14th, 1929, regarding the abuse he had suffered when arrested in the course of the demonstrations on August 12th, 1928, at Damascus.

(c) As regards the petition presented by certain inhabitants of Hama, dated October 20th, 1928, protesting against the alleged prohibition of a public meeting to be held in memory of Dr. Saleh Combaz, who was killed during the incidents at Hama in 1925, the Commission, having noted the mandatory Power's statements that the public meeting convened by the complainants was not prohibited and that the intervention of the authorities only took the form of persuasion, considered that no action could be taken on the petition.

4. CAMEROONS AND TOGOLAND UNDER FRENCH MANDATE, TANGANYIKA AND RUANDA-URUNDI.

The Commission considered a petition from the "Bureau international pour la défense des indigènes", dated May 20th, 1928, regarding certain allegations contained in Mr. M. R. Buell's work entitled: *The Native Problem in Africa*. Having examined the observations of the mandatory Powers concerned, and received further supplementary information during its fifteenth session from the accredited representatives of these Powers on certain points, the Commission considered that the observations of the author of the work in question cited in the petition were either without foundation or had been the subject of investigation by the Commission, and were not of a nature to justify any intervention by the Council.

5. CAMEROONS UNDER FRENCH MANDATE.

The Commission had before it a petition from Mr. Gogo Briggs, dated July 5th, 1928, communicated by the French Government, regarding a civil suit. As no new facts had been adduced which could have led the Commission to reconsider the decision, taken by its Chairman, and approved by the Commission during its thirteenth session, to reject a petition dated November 23rd, 1927, coming from the same source and dealing with the same subject, the Commission thought that no action should be taken.

6. TOGOLAND UNDER BRITISH MANDATE.

The Commission examined a petition dated July 9th, 1928, from the inhabitants of Womé (Togoland under French mandate) regarding the situation of lands possessed by these natives in the neighbouring territory of Togoland under British mandate. The Commission, while reserving the right to consider the complete and final delimitation of the frontier, when submitted to it, noted the mandatory Power's statement that "thus the inhabitants of Womé would continue to enjoy the possession of their farms, even though these lay on the British side of the frontier, and their fears lest they should be deprived of their property were groundless" and expressed the hope that the agreement between the tribes would be promptly signed by the respective chiefs and that the question would thus be amicably settled.

7. TOGOLAND UNDER FRENCH MANDATE.

The Commission considered a petition from the "Bund der Deutsch Togoländer", dated July 11th, 1928, regarding the appointment of certain notables as representatives of Togoland and asking that this territory should be restored to German administration. The Commission proposed to reply to the petitioners that their allegations had not been found to be correct, and as regards the concluding paragraph of the petition, which contained a request incompatible with the terms of the mandate, the Commission considered this to be outside its competence.

8. SOUTH WEST AFRICA.

(a) The Commission examined the petition from Mr. Dewdney Drew, dated August 9th, 1928, on the grievances of the Rehoboths. It proposed that Mr. Drew should be informed that the Commission had already recorded its opinion, which had been accepted by the Council, that "the grievances of the Rehoboths had been fully investigated and had now lost their relevance", and that it did not think it necessary to reopen the question or to take any action on Mr. Drew's letter.

(b) The Commission thought that a petition from M. A. Bergmann, dated July 15th, 1928, regarding the alleged unsatisfactory sanitary conditions in the diamond mines and the ill-treatment suffered by the natives, called for no action on its part, seeing that it contained no matter which would warrant its consideration.

9.

SLAVERY.

On September 22nd, 1927, at its eighth ordinary session, the Assembly adopted a resolution expressing the hope that the States which had signed the Convention of September 25th, 1926, would ratify it as soon as possible. On November 8th, 1927, the Secretary-General sent a circular letter to all States Members of the League of Nations reminding them of this resolution. On May 16th, 1929, since the report to the tenth Assembly was drawn up, the Estonian Government deposited with the Secretariat its instrument of ratification of this Convention.

Further, at its session on June 10th, 1929, the Council noted which States had ratified the Convention in question since the last session of the Assembly, namely, the German Government, which deposited its instrument of ratification with the Secretariat on March 12th, 1929, and the Iraq and United States Governments, which communicated their accessions on December 9th, 1928, and March 21st, 1929, respectively. The Council's attention was especially drawn to the reservation accompanying the accession of the United States which did not constitute a limitation of the obligations assumed under the Convention.

By a resolution dated September 25th, 1926, the Assembly requested the Council to communicate to it each year a list of the laws and regulations, together with any supplementary information, furnished by the States Members of the League in accordance with Article 7 of the Slavery Convention on the measures taken by them to ensure the progressive abolition of slavery and conditions analogous thereto. In conformity with the terms of this resolution the Council, at its meeting held on June 10th, 1929, received the following information, which it decided to communicate to the Assembly (document A.17.1929.VI) :

- (1) Letter from the British Government, dated October 13th, 1928, forwarding a memorandum on the steps taken in Palestine, Trans-Jordan, the Straits Settlements, Sarawak, the Falkland Isles, Sierra Leone and Fiji, to ensure the effective abolition of slavery in these territories.
- (2) Letter from the Spanish Government, dated February 15th, 1929, regarding the steps taken to combat the slave trade along the frontiers of Spanish Guinea.
- (3) Letter from the Sudan Government, dated April 4th, 1929, on the steps taken for the effective abolition of slavery in its territory.
- (4) Letter from the Portuguese Government, dated May 7th, 1929, regarding Portuguese colonial legislation in Africa designed to ensure the effective abolition of slavery in its Colonies.
- (5) Letter from the British Government, dated May 29th, 1929, concerning the social and economic effects of the Legal Status of Slavery (Abolition) Ordinance (1927) in the Sierra Leone Protectorate.

Further the Council authorised the Secretary-General to communicate direct to the Assembly, three weeks before the opening of its tenth session, any other communications he might receive in the interval, in virtue of the aforesaid resolution.

In conformity with the instructions of the Council, the Secretary-General has just communicated to the Assembly a report from the Government of India dated July 31st, 1929, on the measures taken to abolish slavery in Burma (document A.17(a).1929.VI).

10.

WORK OF THE TECHNICAL ORGANISATIONS.

I. ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL ORGANISATION.

A. WORK OF THE ECONOMIC COMMITTEE.

1. REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE ON THE WORK OF ITS SECOND SESSION.

The Council, during its June session, considered the report of the Economic Consultative Committee on the work of its second session held at Geneva from May 6th to 11th, 1929. This report was included in the general report to the Assembly (document A.6.1929, pages 72-85).

The Council noted the report and referred it for study to the Economic Committee.

The Economic Committee was unable, at its July session, to embark on any detailed discussion of the questions raised in the report, but arranged for preparatory work upon them to be undertaken immediately.

2. PROPOSAL OF THE ECONOMIC CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL EXPERTS.

The Economic Consultative Committee, in its report on the work of its second session, held in May 1929, suggested that the League of Nations should appoint a small number of qualified agricultural experts to be associated with the Economic Organisation in such a way as to make their assistance most practical and effective (document A.6.1929, page 82).

The Council in June devoted special attention to this proposal. The Italian representative observed that reference had been made in the Minutes of the Consultative Committee to the establishment of a permanent Committee of agricultural experts. Such a Committee would, in his view, be superfluous. He pointed out that the Economic Committee already had the right to consult qualified experts on any problems it wished to study, and that the International Institute of Agriculture was prepared to furnish the Economic Committee with all necessary information, advice and statistics. The German representative, acting as Rapporteur, replied that the Consultative Committee had merely recommended that a small number of competent agricultural experts should be attached to the Economic Organisation to assist it as practically and effectively as possible, and he proposed that this recommendation should be referred to the Economic Committee, together with the observations of the Italian representative.

The Council approved this suggestion, and further decided that the International Institute of Agriculture should be invited to send a representative, for consultation and discussion, when the question of appointing a Committee of agricultural experts came up for discussion before the Economic Committee.

The Economic Committee, in accordance with this decision, desired, during its July session, to hear the views of the President of the International Institute of Agriculture, who, however, was prevented by illness from accepting the invitation of the Committee. In these circumstances the Committee decided to adjourn the question to its next session.

3. COAL.

The Council, during its June session, considered the interim report of the Economic Committee on the coal problem. This report was summarised in the general report to the Assembly (document A.6.1929, pages 65 and 66). The Council noted that the Economic Committee considered it necessary to hold further consultations on a wider basis, and approved this suggestion.

The Economic Committee accordingly decided in July that a joint meeting of experts, including experts from consuming countries, acquainted with the views both of the producers' and of the workers' organisations should be convened for September 30th, 1929. It will be one of the objects of this meeting to inform the Economic Committee of any changes which have taken place in the international coal situation since the previous consultation, and to examine and discuss the principal ideas contained in the interim report.

The Economic Committee was informed, in July, of what had been done, and of what might be further undertaken, under the auspices of the International Labour Organisation, regarding hours and conditions of labour. The Committee considers that, in dealing with the general problem of the coal industry in all its aspects, there should be permanent co-operation between the Economic Organisation and the International Labour Organisation and that, while each of these bodies must, in virtue of its general character, be especially occupied with certain aspects of the problem, it should make every effort in its power to secure the participation of the other in its enquiries and consultations.

4. SUGAR.

The Economic Committee, during its July session, adopted a preliminary report on the world sugar situation based on the consultations with experts, to which reference was made in the general report to the Assembly (document A.6.1929, pages 66 and 67).

The report gives a brief account of the circumstances in which the enquiry into the world sugar situation was undertaken, at the invitation of the Economic Consultative Committee, in May 1928. The Committee has obtained a large amount of documentary evidence through its own members, from various national sources, from the Secretariat of the League and from the International Institute of Agriculture at Rome. Special memoranda were prepared by eminent sugar statisticians and there were several oral consultations with experts in sugar manufacture and refining and in the cultivation of the beet.

The Committee contemplates no further consultations in the immediate future and has seen no cause to modify the views it expressed in January 1929 (see document A.6.1929, page 66).

The report deals with the special characteristics of the sugar industry and with measures taken by the Governments to protect the industry within domestic or imperial frontiers.

The Committee limits itself to the following conclusions :

“ 1. The difficulties with which the industry is at present beset are such as can, to a large extent, either remedy themselves, or be remedied by those responsible for the conduct of business.

“ 2. We do not consider, therefore, that we are called upon to express a view concerning the relative merits of the various proposals for purely private action which have been put forward.

“ 3. Though it is true that the majority of the experts—representatives both of industry and of agriculture—were of opinion that in existing circumstances the conclusion of a Convention between States, based on the principles of the Brussels Convention, would not be likely to provide a solution for the crisis, all were agreed in recognising that the difficulties have been accentuated by the measures taken in many countries to stimulate the production of sugar, without consideration of the effects of their unco-ordinated action on the world situation.

“ 4. It is possible that action by producers in accordance with an agreed plan might render superfluous some of the artificial measures by which the sugar industry benefits in certain countries. Should that be so, the time might have come for the States concerned to submit the regime they have established to encourage the production or sale of sugar to a fresh examination, giving due regard to the essential interests of agriculture; and, should they find themselves unable to modify this regime without other countries acting similarly, to make known their views in regard to the taking of joint action.

“ 5. For the rest, the Economic Committee will continue to watch carefully the further developments of the sugar question in order to be in a position to furnish the Council at any moment with information enabling it to ‘ judge whether concerted international action could further the solution of the problems under consideration ’.

“ 6. Finally, we venture to suggest to the Council that the attention of Governments should be drawn to the desirability of ascertaining whether there is any possibility of lowering their excise duties on sugar, without adversely affecting their fiscal position. ”

5. INTERNATIONAL INDUSTRIAL COMBINATIONS.

The Economic Committee, during its July session, received information regarding the work of the legal experts on this subject.

With regard to the economic aspects of the problem, the Committee learnt with interest that the Secretariat was continuing and extending the investigations already undertaken into the form, subject and economic importance of existing industrial combinations, so far as official information and particulars obtained from persons interested in the League's economic work permitted. Further, with reference to its decision at its session in January 1929 (document A.6.1929, page 70), the Committee considered that it was desirable to draw up as soon as possible a programme of investigation into the economic aspects of the problem, in accordance with the recommendations of the International Economic Conference and those made by the Consultative Committee at the two sessions it had so far held. Following the suggestion made by the Consultative Committee at its last session, to the effect that it would be desirable to secure the help of experts in the study of these complicated problems, the Committee decided that, as soon as the programme of work had been drawn up, the Secretariat should receive the co-operation of two experts particularly qualified to assist it in apprehending the whole range of issues arising out of the problem.

6. TREATMENT OF FOREIGNERS.

The Council, during its June session, appointed M. Albert Devèze (Belgium) as President of the International Conference on the Treatment of Foreigners, which will meet on November 5th, 1929.

The Council further decided that the Economic Committee and the International Chamber of Commerce should be invited to send representatives to the Conference in an advisory capacity, and the Economic Committee has accordingly appointed three of its members to attend.

7. BILLS OF EXCHANGE.

The Council noted in June that thirty-two States had informed the Secretariat that they considered that the draft Convention drawn up by the experts on bills of exchange and cheques would serve as a basis for discussion at a conference to be held shortly. The proposals of the experts were summarised in the general report to the Assembly (document A.6.1929, page 68).

The Council decided that the Secretariat should be authorised to summon the Conference as soon as its technical preparation was sufficiently advanced. The Economic Committee, during its session in July, accordingly reviewed the preparatory documents which the Secretariat had compiled with the assistance of Professor Percerou, Chairman of the Committee of Experts. The Committee thought, after examining these texts, that the technical preparations might now be regarded as adequate, and that the Conference might be convened during the first quarter of the year 1930.

8. DISEASES OF PLANTS.

The Economic Committee was informed by the Secretariat in July of the outcome of the International Conference for the Protection of Plants, held at Rome from April 10th to 16th, 1929, under the auspices of the International Institute of Agriculture.

It noted the importance of certain provisions of the Convention from the point of view of international trade. Before, however, undertaking any more detailed enquiry into the commercial aspect of the question, the Committee prefers to wait until it has had an opportunity of conferring with the International Institute of Agriculture as to how far any extension of international action in this matter is desirable and expedient, and as to the lines on which the action and work connected therewith could best be divided between the two bodies.

9. EXPLOITATION OF THE RICHES OF THE SEA.

By a resolution of the eighth Assembly, dated September 23rd, 1927, the Economic Committee was entrusted with the task of examining, in co-operation particularly with the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea, at Copenhagen, "whether and in what terms, for what species and in what areas, international protection of marine fauna could be established".

The Economic Committee, accordingly, undertook preliminary enquiries bearing upon species of economic importance, with a view to submitting to the Council a report containing such recommendations as might provide a remedy for any particular situation which seemed to call for international action.

The Committee got into touch with the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea, at Copenhagen, which, through its experts, furnished very valuable data on the problems falling within the Assembly resolution and referred to the Committee.

The Committee was thus enabled to reach detailed conclusions in regard to fish, seals and whales, having decided to limit its investigations to these species, owing to their economic importance.

The Committee explains why only whaling would appear to lend itself to international action, which is even a matter of some urgency, as was shown by the conclusions of the Copenhagen Council at its last session in April 1929.

Nevertheless, the Committee is not yet in a position to reply to the question put to it by the Assembly resolution, even when confined to whales, that is to say, "whether, and in what terms and in what areas, international protection of whales could be established". For this purpose it appeared essential to consult experts belonging to the principal countries concerned, and the Committee proposes to convene a meeting of such experts at an early date.

10. SMUGGLING.

The circumstances in which the Economic Committee was asked to undertake an enquiry into the prevention of smuggling in general, and the smuggling of alcohol in particular, were noted in the general report to the Assembly (document A.6.1929, page 69).

The Committee has endeavoured to collect the fullest possible information on the subject. It has, more particularly, examined the conventions concluded on smuggling, and especially the most recent and typical examples, in order to ascertain what has already been done in this field and what possibilities may remain.

The Committee reviewed the progress of these investigations during its July session.

The conventions relating to smuggling may be divided into two groups—those dealing with the prevention of smuggling in general and those aiming at the prevention of liquor smuggling.

The Committee thus found it necessary to make a careful examination of a very large number of bilateral and multilateral agreements, and came to the conclusion that, while *bilateral* conventions designed to keep down or prevent smuggling across land frontiers were fairly numerous and very detailed as between countries with a common frontier, those that aimed at suppressing or restricting smuggling by sea were less numerous, less comprehensive and less detailed.

The Committee also found that the *multilateral* conventions related to the smuggling of special commodities (liquor, arms, narcotics, etc.) and that, as a general rule, they applied only to specified areas.

No example of a multilateral convention for the suppression of smuggling in general could be named, and the proposals made to the Committee regarding certain aspects of the problem

did not find support. The Committee therefore thought it might conclude that the interest of States in this matter had so far been special and local, although all countries with a maritime frontier had to carry on a more or less extensive campaign against smuggling along their coasts.

The question assumed a different aspect when it was limited to smuggling by sea. The interests at stake were then no longer, as in the case of smuggling by land, only those of countries with a common frontier; the international character of the question was much more pronounced, and, when it was remembered that countries with no maritime frontier might nevertheless have ships flying their flag, the scope of the question became yet wider.

Be that as it might, the Economic Committee considered that it should supplement its present information, in order to be in a position to judge whether any international action appeared advisable in regard to this question.

The Committee instructed the Secretariat to collect all information bearing on these points.

With regard to the problem of liquor smuggling, the Committee was informed that the Finnish Government did not wish a report to be submitted to the Council until a later date. Having regard to the fact that Finland was one of the countries most interested in the question, and that its delegation to the Ninth Assembly was one of those which brought forward the Assembly resolution already referred to, the Economic Committee felt that, for the time being, it should not make a report to the Council on this particular point.

B. WORK OF THE FINANCIAL COMMITTEE.

1. GREECE.

The Chairman of the Financial Committee announced to the Council, at the meeting held on June 14th, 1929, that the Financial Committee had discussed the programme of future work, at its June session, with the Vice-President of the Greek Refugee Settlement Office. As stated in the twenty-second quarterly report, the Settlement Office contemplated that its final liquidation might take place in the second quarter of 1930. As a first step, certain services were to be transferred during the coming months. The Council noted this decision.

At the same session, the Financial Committee heard statements from M. Mantzavinos and from M. Diomède, the Governor of the Bank of Greece, with regard to the activities of the Bank during its first year, and examined the question of the centralisation at that Bank of the various public funds.

2. BULGARIA.

(a) *Budget.*

The Financial Committee, after examining the fifth report of the Minister for Finance, was glad to be able to inform the Council of the continuance of the substantial progress made last year.

(b) *National Bank.*

While appreciating the progress made in the reforms recommended by the Protocol and by the new Statutes, the Financial Committee considered the position of the Bank, with reference to the special conditions existing in Bulgaria and urged the necessity of adhering to a cautious policy.

3. GRECO-BULGARIAN EMIGRATION: THE MOLLOFF-CAPHANDARIS AGREEMENT.

The Financial Committee pointed out to the Council at its last session that the Agreement of December 9th, 1927, regarding Greco-Bulgarian emigration (Molloff-Caphandaris Agreement) was now being carried out. The Greek Government had made the first payment due under this Agreement, the sum in question being relatively large.

M. de Chalendar, Chairman of the Financial Committee, who was present at the meeting of the Council, congratulated the Greek Government, and the British representative associated himself with these remarks, declaring at the same time that the carrying out of the Agreement was a most important measure from the standpoint of the maintenance of good relations between Bulgaria and Greece.

The Greek representative declared that his Government would certainly appreciate the Council's congratulations. It had been necessary to overcome some very real difficulties in order to start giving effect to the Agreement. The Greek Government had thought it desirable once again to give proof of its entire respect for its promises, in the hope that the subsequent recovery of the sums which were due to it would enable it to continue to discharge its obligations punctually.

The Bulgarian representative informed the Council that negotiations were proceeding in regard to questions which were still pending between Greece and Bulgaria. He hoped that those negotiations would shortly lead to an agreement.

4. HUNGARY.

The Council, at its June session, noted that Mr. Royall Tyler's duties as representative of the trustees of the Hungarian Loan and administrator of the balance of that loan would terminate at the end of June 1929.

The representative of the Hungarian Government thanked Mr. Royall Tyler for the distinguished manner in which he had fulfilled his task for five years, and assured him that Hungary would remember him with feelings of gratitude and cordiality.

The Council associated itself with the Rapporteur, and extended its thanks and congratulations to Mr. Royall Tyler.

5. ESTONIA.

The Financial Committee noted a statement by the Technical Adviser to the Eesti Pank with regard to the development of the banking situation in Estonia.

6. FREE CITY OF DANZIG.

The Financial Committee took note of the fourth annual report of the Trustee for the Municipality of Danzig 7 % Mortgage Loan of 1925. This report required no action on the part of the Council.

7. SAAR BASIN — PROPOSED GOVERNING COMMISSION LOAN.

It will be remembered that, on December 13th, 1928, the Council requested the Financial Committee to examine, in collaboration with the Governing Commission of the Saar Territory, the loan scheme proposed by the latter. In March, the Financial Committee announced that, as certain technical problems had arisen in connection with the loan, it was necessary for it to go into them more fully, and it hoped to be able to make definite proposals at its June session. Accordingly, the Committee informed the Council at the meeting held on June 14th, 1929, that, having examined the loan scheme, it would be ready to make a report as soon as the Council decided that it was desirable to consider the question.

The German representative asked that, in view of the importance of the question, it should be adjourned until the September session of the Council.

The Chairman of the Governing Commission of the Saar, Sir Ernest Wilton, pointed out that this adjournment might give rise to disappointment in the Saar territory, and hoped that it might be possible to arrive at a favourable solution in September.

The Council decided that the matter should be adjourned until its September session.

8. FISCAL COMMITTEE.

At the Council meeting on June 14th, 1929, the representative of Cuba, Rapporteur, recalled that, in December 1928, the Council had decided to create a Fiscal Committee. He announced that he was now able to propose the names of twelve titular members of that Committee for a period of three years.

The Council appointed these titular members, authorised its President, in agreement with the Rapporteur, to appoint, as titular members also, a person belonging to a South American country and an Asiatic country, respectively, and asked the International Chamber of Commerce to appoint a representative to assist in an advisory capacity in the work of the Fiscal Committee whenever invited by the Chairman to do so. The corresponding members of the Fiscal Committee were also appointed.¹

¹ The list of members is as follows :

Titular Members :

Professor Thomas S. ADAMS,
M. H. BLAU,
Dr. Gino BOLAFFI,
Dr. BORDUGE,
M. CLAVIER,
Professor Dr. H. DORN,
Professor Dr. Flores DE LÉMUS,
M. MANTZAVINOS,
Dr. J. H. R. Sinnighe DAMSTE,
Sir Percy THOMPSON, K.B.E., C.B.

Corresponding Members :

Mr. A. F. CORBETT,
Dr. EGGER,
Colonel James Jacob ESSON,
M. E. S. VON DER HUDE,
M. FR. KEMPELS,
Mr. W. KENT,
M. Waclaw KOSZKO,
Dr. G. W. DE KUYLENSTIERNNA,
M. LADEMANN, Counsellor of State,
M. ERNST NEVANLINNA,
M. SAX,
Dr. Slavko SÉCÉROV,
Mr. Watson SELLAR,
M. Juhan WAABEL,
Dr. Bohumil VLASAK.

9. WORK OF THE CONFERENCE FOR THE ADOPTION OF A CONVENTION FOR THE SUPPRESSION OF COUNTERFEITING CURRENCY.

At its meeting on June 14th, 1929, the Council took cognisance of the results of the Conference for the Suppression of Counterfeiting Currency.¹

The Council authorised the Secretary-General to communicate copies of the Convention to the following States non-members of the League, which were not represented at the Conference: Costa Rica, Egypt, Iceland, Lichtenstein, San Marino and Mexico.²

The Council further approved the recommendation that, as soon as fifteen Central Police Offices had been created by the signatory States to deal with counterfeiting, it should take the initiative in calling together the first Conference of these Central Offices.

10. COUNTERFEITING SECURITIES.

On the proposal of the representative of Cuba, Rapporteur, the Council, on June 14th, 1929, approved a proposal by the Conference on Counterfeiting Currency recommending that the League of Nations should consider the desirability of preparing an International Convention for the suppression of counterfeiting other securities (share and debenture certificates, cheques, bills of exchange, etc.) and stamps used as instruments of payment.

The Council accordingly referred the question for report to the Financial Committee, which is investigating the subject.

11. PURCHASING POWER OF GOLD.

The Financial Committee considered that, in view of recent developments, it was desirable to postpone for the moment the final constitution of the Special Committee decided upon by the Council "to examine into and report upon the causes of fluctuations in the purchasing power of gold and their effect on the economic life of the nations". The Committee proposed to proceed with the work by appointing a delegation of its own members with the adjunction of a few experts of international authority.

This delegation is composed as follows:

Members of the Financial Committee:

M. DE CHALENDAR,
M. M. A. JANSSEN,
Dr. F. MLYNARSKI,
Dr. V. POSPISIL,
Sir Henry STRAKOSCH.

Other members:

Professor BENEDEUCE,
Professor CASSEL,
Sir Reginald MANT,
Professor SPRAGUE,
Dr. TRIP.

The delegation will meet at Geneva on August 26th, 1929.

II. ORGANISATION FOR COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSIT.

A. TRANSPORT BY RAIL.

The arbitrators appointed by the Council to enquire into the dispute between the Sopron-Kőszeg Local Railway Company and the Austrian and Hungarian Governments have completed their work, and rendered their award on June 18th, 1929.

The Chairman of the Advisory and Technical Committee has, at the Council's request, arranged for experts to enquire into other disputes of a similar nature.

Further efforts have been made to settle the disputes between the Boldva Valley Local Railway Company and the Hungarian and Czechoslovak Governments by conciliation. Should no settlement have been reached by August 15th, arbitrators have been nominated to decide the matter.

¹ For a summary of the work of the Conference, see the general report to the Assembly, document A.6.1929, page 91.

² In addition to the twenty-six States enumerated in the general report to the Assembly as having signed the Convention, the United States Government also signed it on July 21st, 1929.

B. INLAND NAVIGATION.

The Committee for the Unification of River Law met at Vienna on June 17th and drew up the final texts to be submitted to the Conference mentioned in the general report to the Assembly (document A.6.1929). These texts include a draft convention relating to certain questions of river law (registration, mortgages, liens), a draft convention concerning administrative measures for attesting the nationality of vessels employed on inland waterways and a draft convention with regard to the unification of certain regulations concerning collisions on inland waterways.

C. MARITIME NAVIGATION.

D. ROAD TRAFFIC.

There is no further development to report under either of these heads.

E. AIR NAVIGATION.

In view of the results of an extraordinary session held by the International Commission for Air Navigation in conjunction with the representatives of a certain number of countries not represented on this Commission, it seems probable that after a further examination of the position, a satisfactory settlement of certain questions relating to the international organisation of air navigation in Europe can be achieved. The Advisory Committee, however, thinks it possible and desirable to postpone, until the early part of 1930, the convening of the special Committee to enquire into the international organisation of air navigation and co-operation between the civil aviation undertakings of the various countries.

A large amount of material, moreover, will have to be got ready for this meeting if the Committee is to be instrumental in bringing about any considerable improvement in the direction of the more rational and more international organisation of air navigation. Consequently, enquiries should be undertaken with a view to furnishing the Committee with accurate information as to the economic results of civil aviation, the efforts already made to promote co-operation between air navigation undertakings, the relations between civil and military aviation, the progress of international law regarding air traffic, the administrative organisation of civil aviation in various countries, and the relations between Governments and civil aviation undertakings. This information will doubtless enable the Committee to examine the problem—the connection of certain aspects of which, with the reduction of armaments, has not been overlooked by the Preparatory Commission for the Disarmament Conference. The question of a more effective co-operation between the civil aviation undertakings of the various nations was raised by that Commission in the course of its enquiries.

F. BROADCASTING QUESTIONS.

In accordance with the resolution adopted by the Advisory and Technical Committee, the latter has continued to be represented at the technical meetings of international organisations dealing with broadcasting.

G. GENERAL QUESTIONS CONCERNING VARIOUS MEANS OF COMMUNICATION.

(a) *Passports and Identity Documents.*

The European Conference on Cards for Emigrants in Transit met on June 10th, 1929, and resulted in the conclusion of an Agreement abolishing visas for emigrants in transit, these visas to be replaced by cards issued by shipping companies. The following States and territories were represented at the Conference: Belgium, Czechoslovakia, Free City of Danzig, Finland, France, Germany, Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Latvia, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Roumania, Saar Territory, Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes, Switzerland.

The Agreement was signed on behalf of the Governments of the following countries: Belgium, France, Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Italy, Saar Territory. It was signed *ad referendum* on behalf of the Governments of the following countries: Free City of Danzig, Finland, Greece, Hungary, Netherlands, Poland, Roumania, Switzerland.

The Agreement does not require ratification; the number of signatures obtained will enable it to come into force on September 12th, 1929.

(b) *Reform of the Calendar.*

Enquiries relating to the simplification of the Gregorian calendar are being more and more actively pursued. As regards the formation of the National Committees of Enquiry, we would state, in addition to the information given in the general report to the Assembly (document A.6.1929), that the National Committee of the United States of America has completed its work, and its report is expected very shortly; that the report of the French National Economic Council will probably be received before the end of the year; that the constitution of the Netherlands National Committee appears to be on the point of completion; that National Committees have been formed in Costa Rica, Cuba, Ecuador, Nicaragua, Panama, Peru and Salvador. Consequently, it is probable that, before the end of the year, most countries will

have either constituted their National Committees or have had the necessary enquiries set on foot by organisations already in existence. The Belgian Government has transmitted the report of a committee set up by the Belgian Academy of Sciences.

The movement in favour both of the general simplification of the calendar and of the stabilisation or fixing of Easter appears to be attracting an ever-increasing amount of attention in economic circles. The International Chamber of Commerce, at its Congress held in Amsterdam in July 1929, adopted the following resolution :

“ The Congress of the International Chamber of Commerce, earnestly desiring that the date of Easter should be fixed without delay and that the calendar should be reformed, reaffirms at its fifth Congress in Amsterdam its previous resolutions of the first Congress in London, 1921, the second Congress at Rome, 1923, and the third Congress at Brussels, 1925.

“ The Chamber notes with satisfaction that several nations, at the instance of the League of Nations, have organised special Committees to study calendar improvement and the fixing of Easter.

“ The Chamber urges that other nations should follow that same practical course and that the League should convene an international Conference to secure, without further delay, the improvement for which the world's commerce has so often asked. ”

It should be added that the International Labour Conference of 1928 also emphasised the importance which it attached to these enquiries.

As regards the question of Easter, the final decision appears to rest with the religious authorities. In this connection we would refer to the Bill introduced in England for the stabilisation of Easter, based on the League Committee's proposals. We are also unofficially informed that it is proposed to hold an Œcumenical Council in the near future. According to the statements made by the Holy See and transmitted to the Committee for the Reform of the Calendar, a decision regarding Easter can only be reached by the Holy See after hearing the opinion of the Œcumenical Council.

In these circumstances, it would appear that the various national enquiries as to the reform of the calendar should be completed during 1930 ; that if the international Conference advocated by the International Chamber of Commerce in its resolution is to be convened, it is important, more especially as regards the question of Easter, that this Conference, which is doubtless not expected to reach definite decisions but merely to co-ordinate and define the views of the various bodies concerned, should be held at a comparatively early date. It does not appear possible, however, to convene it before 1931, in which year the Fourth General Conference on Communications and Transit is also to meet.

H. COMMUNICATIONS OF IMPORTANCE TO THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS AT TIMES OF EMERGENCY.

(a) *Wireless Station.*

The supplementary enquiries concerning the question of the wireless station have been completed, and the results are given in a special report to the Assembly.

(b) *Facilities accorded to Aircraft employed for the Purpose of ensuring Air Communications of Importance to the League.*

At its last session, the International Commission for Air Navigation adopted texts to be inserted in the International Convention relating to Air Navigation, defining the special legal status of aircraft employed for the purpose of ensuring air communications of importance to the League, *i.e.*, the transport of delegations to the League or their mail or of the League's agents or mail.

The proposed provisions permit of the employment either of aircraft registered with the League and not in any State, or of aircraft registered in some State and temporarily placed at the League's disposal. The special marks to be assigned in either case to these aircraft would, in practice, enable them to be granted the necessary facilities.

The International Commission for Air Navigation has completed the examination of the texts concerning the regulations applicable in normal times to these aircraft.

As regards times of emergency, the text drawn up by the Legal Sub-Committee of the International Commission for Air Navigation merely stipulated that, both as regards supervision and the routes to be followed, the greatest possible facilities should be granted to these aircraft, so as to enable the League to accomplish its task as quickly as possible, it being understood, moreover, that the Secretary-General of the League would endeavour to notify sufficiently in advance and by some suitable means States, whose territory was to be flown over, of the identification marks on the said aircraft, together with the proposed route and persons on board.

Since this text was prepared, the International Commission for Air Navigation has proposed an amendment to one of the articles of the Convention relating to these aircraft, to the effect that, unless otherwise stipulated, any State would have the right at any moment to prohibit the flight over its territory of all foreign aircraft, including aircraft effecting transport of importance to the League.

In view of this new proposal, one delegation suggested that it should be clearly stipulated in the Convention that aircraft effecting transport of importance to the League should have

the right of passage at all times, including times of emergency, and that the proposed flight restrictions should not apply to them.

The question is to be re-examined by the International Commission for Air Navigation in the autumn. The Advisory and Technical Committee for Communications and Transit, through its representatives on the International Commission for Air Navigation — which is under the League's authority — has always understood that the Assembly desired that air communications of importance to the League, namely, those connected with the transport of the League's Secretariat and agents and of delegations, should be ensured at all times, more especially at times of emergency.

The Assembly, which has already, by its resolution of September 26th, 1927, "reasserted that it is the obligation of the States Members of the League of Nations to facilitate by every means in their power the rapid meeting of the Council at times of emergency", should perhaps be asked to express its opinion on this question, which is of a non-technical nature. It is, of course, precisely at times of serious emergency, when there is a risk of communications by land being partly disorganised, that air transport may be of the greatest importance to the League.

(c) *Installation of an Aerodrome in the Neighbourhood of the Seat of the League.*

New proposals have been received with regard to the necessary alterations to the Cointrin aerodrome to enable it to be utilised for the League's requirements. The expenditure involved is smaller than in the case of the previous proposals. The experts, who have already studied the question, will be asked to examine whether the scheme is satisfactory from a technical point of view. If so, concrete proposals might be submitted to the Assembly at its session to be held in 1930. It is already certain, however, that, whatever solution is adopted, considerable expenditure will have to be incurred by the League. According to the present estimate, this sum is round about one million francs, which could doubtless be distributed over several years.

I. ACTION TAKEN ON THE RESOLUTIONS OF THE CONFERENCE OF PRESS EXPERTS.

By Council resolutions dated September 2nd and December 7th, 1927, the resolutions of the Conference of Press Experts, which met at Geneva in August 1927, were divided into two categories. The first category comprised all the resolutions relating to rates, coding of Press messages, improvement of communications, transport of newspapers, and identity cards for journalists. The second category comprised the resolutions on the protection of Press news, most of the resolutions on professional facilities for journalists and the resolution on censorship in time of peace.

It was considered that the resolutions in the first category still required careful technical study, and accordingly the Council decided, on the proposal of the Conference itself, to refer them to the Organisation for Communications and Transit, asking the latter to continue the study of these resolutions with the help of the Press representatives interested. The resolutions in the second category were submitted direct to all Governments.

The result of the Advisory and Technical Committee's work, which was completed at its last session, may be summarised as follows :

As regards the question of equality of treatment as between national and foreign journalists in respect of reductions of transport rates, the Committee, after consulting the International Railway Union, considered that, so far as the procedure for the identification of journalists, which, moreover, had already been examined, would afford in the matter of the identification of foreign journalists guarantees equivalent to those in the case of national journalists, the request submitted did not appear to involve any technical difficulties which would necessitate its examination by the Committee ; and, further, that it did not seem to be within the Committee's competence to give an opinion on the principle of the equality of treatment as between national and foreign journalists. It considered that it was for the Council of the League to examine what action should be taken in connection with this resolution of the Conference of Press Experts.

The Council, at its session in June, considered that, in these circumstances, it was only necessary to note that, in the opinion of the Advisory and Technical Committee for Communications and Transit, the question raised did not involve any technical difficulties, and that this resolution of the Conference of Press Experts should be treated in the same manner as those which had been submitted by the Council direct to the Governments.

As regards identity cards for journalists, the Advisory and Technical Committee studied a model identity card to be issued by a qualified international or national organisation, the model of the card being attached to its resolution. It was of opinion that a card on this model would constitute a good means of professional identification for journalists travelling from one country to another, it being always understood that such a card would not take the place of a passport where the latter was required.

The telegraphic questions were submitted by the Advisory and Technical Committee to a special committee of experts. They relate to priority for Press telegrams and radiotelegrams ; the institution — which the Committee would like to see introduced by the next Telegraphic Conference — of "urgent Press" telegrams and radiotelegrams ; the rates applicable to long distance communications ; the terminal charges levied in certain countries ; telephone rates for Press communications, in regard to which the Committee had considered

that it could not propose a reduction in the form of a general recommendation, though it thought that the present text of the Telegraph Regulations allowed of certain reductions where financially possible; and, lastly, radiotelegraphic questions, in connection with which particular emphasis was laid on the Committee's resolution recommending that, as far as circumstances permitted, the rates for the transmission of Press messages by long-distance wireless should be as low as the cost of transmission allowed.

The question of the transport of newspapers and periodicals was also considered in detail by the Advisory and Technical Committee in co-operation with the International Railway Union and the International Air Traffic Association.

As regards the transport of newspapers by air, the Committee noted that the technical progress of air navigation made it possible to ensure the regular transport of newspapers by air, at any rate during the summer. It further stated that the proposals made on behalf of the various air-transport companies in regard to the rates applicable did not seem to give sufficient facilities for the transport of newspapers by air. It noted, however, the statements according to which much greater reductions had been granted on certain lines. It therefore invited the organisations interested in air transport and in the distribution of newspapers to keep it informed of all future developments, and it asked that the attention of Governments should be drawn to the importance of the problem and that they should be requested to assist in reaching a solution and to inform the Committee of any important improvements. Finally, the question of the transport of newspapers and periodicals by rail, and a large number of administrative and Customs questions connected with the general problem of transport of newspapers and periodicals which affect the postal, Customs and police administrations of the various countries, were found to be particularly important and complicated. Thanks to the help of the International Railway Union and of a Committee of Customs Experts, the preliminary studies are well advanced, and it has been proposed that the Council should summon during the autumn of 1929 a Conference of the Governments and administrations concerned; representatives of publishing houses and forwarding and distributing agencies interested in the transport of newspapers and periodicals would be invited to the Conference in an advisory capacity.

The Council, on June 12th, 1929, adopted the following resolution :

“ The Council has noted the resolutions adopted by the Advisory and Technical Committee for Communications and Transit regarding the action to be taken on the resolutions of the Conference of Press Experts dealing with communications questions.

“ It requests Governments to give the most favourable consideration to the recommendations or suggestions contained in the resolutions regarding identity cards for journalists, telegraphic questions and the transport of newspapers by air.

“ It requests the Governments concerned to take steps to place on the agenda of the next Conference of the Telegraphic Union the telegraphic questions mentioned by the Advisory Committee as capable of settlement by that Conference.

“ The Council decides to forward to Governments the resolution of the Conference of Press Experts concerning equality of treatment as between national and foreign journalists in regard to reductions of transport rates.

“ It decides to convene for next autumn . . . a Conference of Governments and Administrations concerned, which representatives of publishing, forwarding, or distributing undertakings interested in the transport of newspapers and periodicals would be invited to attend in an advisory capacity.”

J. JURISDICTION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION OF THE DANUBE.

The Chairman of the Advisory and Technical Committee and the Chairman of the Special Committee for the question of the jurisdiction of the European Commission of the Danube have begun the necessary enquiries and negotiations with a view to the settlement of the legal questions concerning the entry into force, in the form of a Convention, of the agreement concluded between the Powers represented on the European Commission of the Danube. Regulations to be annexed to the agreement are also being framed.

K. QUESTION CONCERNING THE FREEDOM OF COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSIT RAISED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS DURING ITS EXAMINATION OF THE POSITION OF THE POLISH-LITHUANIAN NEGOTIATIONS.

The Sub-Committee appointed by the League Transit Committee to examine the economic and technical aspects of the situation as regards questions of communications raised by the Council during its examination of the Polish-Lithuanian relations held a meeting in Berlin at the end of June 1929. The meeting was preceded by individual studies made by the members of the Committee in the regions concerned.

At the invitation of the Latvian and Polish Governments, the Sub-Committee paid an official visit to Riga, Libau, Vilna and Warsaw, where it conferred with officials of the technical Ministries and representatives of the business world.

The Sub-Committee will meet in August 1929 to draw up its report.

The Sub-Committee appointed to examine the existing international agreements referred to in the Council resolution and their bearing on the question of obstacles to the freedom of communications and transit will meet immediately after the 1929 Assembly.

III. HEALTH ORGANISATION.

A. RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE COUNCIL DURING ITS FIFTY-FIFTH SESSION.

The Council, during its June session, approved the report of the Health Committee on the work of its fourteenth session and congratulated the Health Committee on its work.

1. *Budget of the Health Organisation.*

The Council decided that the resolution adopted by the Health Committee during its fourteenth session should be referred to the Fourth Committee of the Assembly.

(A note of this decision will be found in the general report to the Assembly, document A.6.1929, page 100.)

2. *Sleeping-Sickness.*

The Council approved the resolution adopted by the Health Committee during its fourteenth session (see document A.6.1929, page 103). The Rapporteur expressed his satisfaction that the assistance of the Health Organisation had been made available for the Administrations of African possessions in their work of safeguarding human life in Africa.

3. *Opium.*

The Council approved the resolutions of the Health Committee in regard to the application of Article 10 of the International Opium Convention of 1925 to benzoylmorphine and the morphine esters (document A.6.1929, page 105). The Rapporteur expressed the hope that Governments which had not already done so would hasten to take the necessary measures to place all esters of morphine under the system of control provided by the Convention.

4. *Infant Mortality.*

The Council noted that the enquiry into the causes of infant mortality had been completed in the European countries where it had been undertaken, and had yielded results of particular importance to the various health administrations. Attention was drawn to the fact that the Health Committee had endorsed the recommendation of its experts that the health administrations of other countries should be invited to undertake similar studies, and was prepared to place its services at the disposal of these administrations and afford them the necessary assistance and advice. Such studies will probably be started in Roumania and Japan.

The Spanish representative on the Council, acting as Rapporteur, informed the Council that similar studies would be started in his own country and that he relied upon the co-operation of the Health Organisation for their development. He further reminded the Council that a similar enquiry had been undertaken in the countries of Latin America and that it was practically completed in the Argentine, in Brazil, Chile and Uruguay. He further referred to the possibility that the health services of other Latin-American countries might join in these investigations as a result of the tour of enquiry through all the countries of South America, which was being made by Dr. Etienne Burnet, Secretary of the Leprosy Commission of the Health Organisation.

5. *Studies on the Survey Method of stimulating Public Health Administrations practised in the United States of America.*

The Council approved the resolution of the Health Committee adopted at its fourteenth session recommending that an account should be included in the publications of the Health Organisation of the survey method employed in American cities to stimulate public health administrations and of the extensive studies made on the cost of medical care. The Medical Director is authorised by this resolution to prepare a report on the methods employed in other countries for the appraisal of public health work, and arrangements will be made for co-operation with the schools of hygiene and the health administrations concerned, with a view to the study of the work of the peripheral health services in European countries.

6. *Sanitary Reorganisation of Greece : Collaboration of the Health Organisation with the Greek Government.*

The steps taken by the Health Organisation in response to the request of the Greek Government for its assistance in the sanitary reorganisation of Greece were summarised in the general report to the Assembly (document A.6.1929, page 101).

The Council, during its June session, adopted the following resolution :

“ The Council :

“ Notes with satisfaction that the plan for the sanitary reorganisation of Greece, framed by the Health Committee at the request of the Greek Government and in conformity with the Council resolution of December 13th, 1928, has been adopted by that Government ;

“ Approves the manner in which the delegation of the Health Committee has acquitted itself of its task ;

“ Invites the Health Committee, in conformity with the Council resolution of December 1928 and in accordance with the desire expressed by the Prime Minister of the Greek Republic on April 19th, 1929, to offer all its technical assistance, with a view to the subsequent development of the plan which has now been agreed upon, on the lines laid down in that plan. ”

The Rapporteur, submitting this resolution, said he was sure that the Council would desire to express to the delegation of the Health Committee and the experts who had assisted in this work its deep appreciation of the highly creditable manner in which they had fulfilled their task. The representative of Greece, present at the meeting of the Council, cordially associated himself with the congratulations addressed to the Health Committee. He assured the Council that the work in Greece had aroused general admiration and that the Greek Government attached the highest importance to what had been done. The scheme proposed for its acceptance had been approved ; bills had been drafted and would shortly be submitted to Parliament. The Prime Minister of Greece had himself assumed the direction of the Ministry of Health, thus showing the importance which he attached to the task of reorganisation.

B. **INFANT MORTALITY : APPLICATION OF SPECIFIC METHODS OF IMMUNISATION AGAINST SCARLET FEVER AND DIPHtherIA.**

The Medical Director was authorised by the Health Committee, in October 1928, to ask certain experts to study and submit a report on the results obtained in certain countries of Europe and in America on the application of methods of specific immunisation against scarlet fever and diphtheria. Professor Debré, of Paris, was asked to undertake the report on scarlet fever, and Professor Gorter, of Leyden, the report on diphtheria.

Both experts made a study tour in Europe and prepared preliminary memoranda recording their impressions. Among the many interesting facts that have emerged from the enquiry the most striking feature, in regard to which agreement was universal, was the urgent need for a technical discussion and an exchange of material between the various research workers and clinicians in the different countries visited.

The Chairman of the Health Committee and the Medical Director were accordingly authorised by the Health Committee to obtain expert advice, and a consultation with experts was duly held in Paris on July 4th, 5th and 6th, 1929. The experts were invited not to discuss the problems which they were asked to consider, but to prepare a plan of future work of investigation. It was agreed that the method to be followed should be that of comparative experiments in selected districts, where the conditions of environment were comparable, using the same material, method and system of appraising results.

The experiments in regard to immunisation against diphtheria will be conducted in Czechoslovakia, Denmark, England, France, Germany, Hungary, the Netherlands, Poland, Roumania and the Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes.

The experiments in immunisation against scarlet fever will be conducted in Czechoslovakia, France, Germany, Hungary, the Netherlands, Poland, Roumania and the Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes. The enquiries will cover some 30,000 cases.

It is considered that these experiments will be extremely useful in estimating the value of immunisation against these diseases, which constitute one of the important causes of mortality among children.

C. **COLLECTIVE STUDY TOUR : INTERCHANGE FOR THE STUDY OF PROBLEMS OF RURAL HYGIENE IN DENMARK AND THE NETHERLANDS.**

A preliminary note upon this interchange was given in the general report to the Assembly (document A.6.1929, page 105). Twelve persons belonging to twelve different countries took part in a tour which began on June 3rd, 1929, at Copenhagen, and finished at The Hague on July 9th. The participants visited Copenhagen and the surrounding district, reviewing the central organisation of public health in Denmark, as well as the agricultural and veterinary institutions. They noted the measures applied for the control of milk and cattle. They

subsequently visited the rural districts of Denmark, Zealand, Fünen and the peninsula of Jutland, where they studied the conditions relating to rural hygiene.

The participants arrived at The Hague on June 26th, and thereafter visited Northern Holland, Amsterdam, Southern Holland, Brabant, Limburg and the Province of Drenthe. They reviewed conditions relating to rural housing, water-supplies in rural districts, and the organisation of rural hygiene in general.

The tour concluded with a conference at The Hague from July 6th to 9th, 1929.

D. ESTABLISHMENT OF A PERMANENT SECRETARIAT FOR THE UNIFICATION OF PHARMACOPŒIÆ.

The Belgian Government addressed to the Secretary-General on June 27th, 1929, a letter concerning the creation of a permanent secretariat for the unification of pharmacopœiæ and the establishment of certain international committees. The action of the Belgian Government was the result of a recommendation made by the second International Conference for the Unification of the Formulæ for Heroic Drugs which met at Brussels in 1925. The Conference had asked the Belgian Government to consult the League of Nations with a view to constituting the permanent Secretariat and the international Committees which the Conference had decided in principle to set up. The proposed Secretariat will be responsible for co-ordinating the work on the unification of pharmacopœiæ in accordance with a definite plan laid down by the Conference, and two international Committees will study respectively the standardisation of methods for the dosage of heroic remedies and the unification of methods of preparing heroic galenic remedies.

The Secretary-General, in a letter dated July 15th, 1929, informed the Belgian Government that the Health Organisation of the League considered that it had a special interest in the question which would, therefore, require to be submitted to the Council of the League of Nations. The Council would probably desire, in accordance with custom, to have the subject examined by the Health Committee before coming to a definite decision.

E. GENERAL PROGRESS.

Further progress has been made with the enquiries and activities summarised in the general report to the Assembly. In particular, the enquiry into syphilis is rapidly advancing. The final results of the enquiry into infant mortality will shortly be published, and other countries, including Denmark and Spain in Europe, and Colombia, Ecuador and Peru in South America, contemplate undertaking an enquiry organised on the same basis and in collaboration with the Health Organisation.

The liaison with South America has been strengthened and extended during a tour made by a representative of the Health Organisation, who had, on August 1st, visited Venezuela, Ecuador, Colombia, Bolivia, Peru, Chile and the Argentine.

11.

HUMANITARIAN QUESTIONS.

I. PROTECTION AND WELFARE OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE.

A. TRAFFIC IN WOMEN AND CHILDREN.

The report on the work of the eighth session of the Traffic in Women and Children Committee, held at Geneva from April 19th to 26th, 1929, which was summarised in the general report to the Assembly (document A.6.1929), was submitted to the Council at its meeting on June 11th, 1929.

The British representative, as Rapporteur, in recommending for the Council's approval the report and resolutions passed by the Committee, directed particular attention to the following points :

Continuation of the Experts' Enquiry.

The Committee, having endorsed the opinion expressed by the Assembly at its ninth session that enquiries into the international traffic should be pursued in other countries, especially in the East, the Rapporteur understood that, should it be considered by the Council and by the interested States that such enquiry would be of real utility, there was a strong probability that the necessary funds would be made available from the same source as those provided for the previous enquiry.

The Council therefore decided to instruct the Secretary-General to communicate with the Governments concerned in the Near East, Middle East and Far East, whose territories were not visited in the course of the previous enquiry, and ascertain whether they would be prepared to give their consent and co-operation to the action suggested, on the understanding, of course, that the enquiry would relate strictly to the international aspect of the problem.

The Secretary-General will submit, if possible at the December session, a report dealing first with the replies received from the Governments concerned, and, secondly, containing suggestions as to the composition of the Special Body of Experts and the scope of the enquiry.

System of Licensed Houses.

The Council noted that the Committee was still studying the question of the system of licensed houses, and that interesting statements on this question had been made by the French and other delegates. The Secretary-General was asked to approach Governments and voluntary organisations with a view to obtaining fuller information as to the measures taken to protect public order and health in countries that had abolished the system of licensed houses.

Persons living on the Earnings of Prostitutes.

The Secretariat has, at the request of the Traffic in Women and Children Committee, prepared a useful report based on information supplied by various Governments as to the laws and penalties relating to the *souteneur*. The Council asked the Secretary-General to draw the attention of Governments to this report and to the importance of ensuring that legislation and its application should be effective in bringing the *souteneur* to justice.

Age-limit in the Conventions.

As the age-limit (21) fixed by the International Convention of 1921 causes administrative difficulties in detecting cases of international traffic, the Council empowered the Secretary-General to ascertain the views of all Governments on the desirability of omitting the age-limit from the Convention.

Obscene Publications.

Under Article XVI of the International Convention of 1924 on the subject of obscene publications, it is the duty of the Council to consider the desirability of calling another conference at the end of each period of five years. The Committee, however, considers that no further conference is at present required, and the Council accepted the Committee's advice.

Composition of the Committee.

The attitude of the Council in regard to this matter was similar to that which it had adopted in respect of the Child Welfare Committee.

This attitude is made clear in the following passage from the report :

“ The Committee was of the opinion that the number of assessors should be kept within such limits as are reasonable, having regard to the scope and nature of the Committee's work, and that they should, except in special cases, be selected as representing international organisations which are recognised as acting on behalf of large groups of children and young persons. After a long discussion, the Committee decided to suggest that the Council should be good enough to consult the Committee before any steps are taken in future to add to the number of assessors. It laid down certain desirable conditions in connection with the appointment and re-election of assessors and their term of office, with which I think the Council will agree. ”

B. CHILD WELFARE.

The Council, during its June session, considered the report of the Child Welfare Committee on the work of its fifth session. This report was summarised in the general report to the Assembly (document A.6.1929, pages 109 and 110).

The Council approved the report, and instructed the Secretary-General :

“ (1) To communicate to all Governments the provisional draft agreement on the return to their homes of children and young people, and the provisional draft Convention on assistance to minors of foreign nationality, with the request that they forward their observations to the Secretariat by December 31st, 1929 ;

“ (2) To thank such Governments as have replied to the questionnaire on the position of the illegitimate child, and to invite Governments to continue to send information as to any changes in their laws ;

“ (3) To send to all Governments, including those which are not Members of the League, the questionnaire concerning the auxiliary services of Juvenile Courts. ”

II. TRAFFIC IN OPIUM AND OTHER DANGEROUS DRUGS.

1. PERMANENT CENTRAL OPIUM BOARD.

(a) *Action taken by the Council on the Report of the Board, submitted to its Fifty-fifth Session.*

It was noted in the general report to the Assembly that the Council, in March 1929, had asked the Permanent Central Opium Board to submit a report on its organisation and working to be considered by the Council during its June session (document A.6.1929, page 113).

The Council approved this report on June 12th, 1929, noting particularly the passage regarding the independence of the Board and the right which it claimed to communicate direct with Governments. The Board was of opinion that its relationships with the Advisory Committee should be as close as possible. It felt, however, that, until it had acquired some practical experience of its own duties, it could not say what measures might best be taken to ensure this co-operation.

It will be remembered that, in accordance with the suggestions of the Board, and with the views expressed by the Opium Advisory Committee, its Secretariat would form an integral part of the Secretariat of the League of Nations. The Board, however, laid stress on the fact that, in accordance with the Opium Convention, the Secretary of the Central Board must be responsible to it for the performance of his duties, though in all administrative matters concerning promotion, leave and discipline its staff would be governed by the staff regulations of the Secretariat.

The Council, while it was willing to make the necessary arrangements for the organisation and working of the Board, in order that effect might be given to Article 20 of the Convention, realised that the Board was not an organ of the Council, and that, being set up in accordance with the provisions of the Convention, it would itself be judge of the extent of the powers which it derived from that instrument. Attention, however, should perhaps be drawn to the following passage in the report adopted by the Council :

“ At the same time, it must be remembered that the Board owes its existence to a Conference called by the League of Nations, that it draws its funds from the League, and that, under Article 20 of the Convention, the Secretary and staff are to be controlled in all administrative matters by the Secretary-General. It is not, therefore, in my opinion, a completely independent organ, except as regards its technical competence, and its staff should form part of the Secretariat of the League.”

The Council, in the light of these considerations, decided that the Board should be an integral part of the Secretariat, being convinced that the Secretary-General would ensure its full technical independence in carrying out its duties and would remember that its staff was responsible to the Board for their fulfilment.

The Council further approved the appointment of M. Theodoli as Secretary of the Board. The staff has been attached by the Secretary-General, for administrative purposes, to the Opium Traffic and Social Questions Section of the Secretariat.

(b) *Documents of the Permanent Central Opium Board : Question of Secrecy.*

The representative of Venezuela on the Council during the discussion of the report of the Central Opium Board drew attention to the following passage :

“ The Board thinks that all its documents should be treated like other confidential League of Nations documents, unless the Board gives special instructions to its Secretary that certain documents are to be kept absolutely secret. ”

He enquired whether these secret documents would be communicated to the members of the Council and the States which had signed the Geneva Convention.

The President of the Central Board said that the Board, in taking this decision, had not had any intention of laying down that certain documents should be kept absolutely secret. It had merely desired to ensure that Article 27 of the Geneva Convention should be effectively carried out. The Central Board under that article is required to take all necessary measures to ensure that estimates, statistics, information and explanations supplied to it shall not be made public in such a manner as to facilitate the operations of speculators or injure the legitimate commerce of any contracting party. The President of the Board pointed out that circumstances might arise in which the Board might wish to safeguard itself in the case of a document which, in its opinion, should be kept specially secret. He submitted that, if the Board were instructed not to keep any documents secret, although it considered it necessary to do so in the efficient discharge of its duties, such instruction would constitute a diminution of the technical independence of the Board.

It was understood, as a result of the discussion which ensued, that the correct procedure would be for the ordinary documents of the Central Board to go into the general archives and be treated by the general services of the Secretariat. The Central Board, however, might decide that a document was of so secret a nature that it should only be communicated to its own secretariat and be kept in a special file.

2. RATIFICATION OF THE GENEVA OPIUM CONVENTION.

It was noted in the general report to the Assembly that the Advisory Committee on Traffic in Opium and other Dangerous Drugs asked the Council to send a letter to States Members of the League which had not yet ratified the Geneva Convention, urging that the control of the international trade in opium and drugs and the suppression of the illicit traffic could not operate effectively so long as a large number of States were unwilling to undertake the obligations of the Convention (document A.6.1929, page 110).

The Council, during its March session, authorised the Secretary-General to take the necessary action and the letter was immediately despatched.

The representative of Venezuela, during the discussion of the report of the Central Opium Board, again drew attention to the reluctance of a large number of States to ratify the Convention, and pointed out that an indeterminate delay must still be expected in the campaign against the illicit traffic. Certain declarations at the last session of the Advisory Committee had made it clear that the repression of the illicit traffic would be illusory so long as a practical system of limitation was not applied throughout the world.¹ He suggested that the Council might take advantage of the delay in ratifying the Convention to make a thorough study of the essential and subsidiary causes of the check which had occurred.

He felt that particular account must be taken of the interests of the consuming countries, only a few of which were represented on the Advisory Committee. An endeavour should be made to discover whether closer and more active relations were not desirable between the Council and its Advisory Committee. The Council might think it advisable to ask the Committee to communicate to the Council its agenda, in accordance with existing provisions, before discussing it, thus making it possible for the Council to follow the work of the Committee more closely and to give it any instructions required.

The representative of Canada on the Council, acting as Rapporteur, expressed the view that the matter might more effectively be raised at the forthcoming session of the Assembly, when all the States would be represented.

3. SMUGGLING OF NARCOTICS THROUGH THE POST.

The Advisory Committee, in its report on the work of its twelfth session, suggested that the London Conference of the Universal Postal Union, to be held in 1929, should be asked to examine the possibility of introducing into the Convention a provision authorising the administrations, both in the countries of consignment and in the countries of destination, to subject to Customs supervision correspondence, letters, business papers, and samples which they had reason to suspect contained drugs. The Committee further suggested that the British Government should be invited to lay these recommendations before the Postal Conference.

The Secretary-General drew the attention of the British Government to this suggestion in March 1929.

The British Government has noted that the recommendations of the Advisory Committee on this subject are based on the view that, under the Postal Union Convention, the secrecy of letters is inviolable, and that no letter can be opened in the post unless the Convention be modified to admit of such action. It submits, in a letter to the Secretary-General of May 29th, 1929, that this view is based on a misunderstanding. The Postal Union Convention contains no reference to the inviolability of correspondence in the post, and the secrecy of the post is considered to be a matter for the domestic legislation of the contracting countries. Any country is therefore free to apply its own internal legislation to such matters as the opening of correspondence in the post and its submission to Customs supervision. The British Government took the view that the objects of the Committee would be attained in a more efficient and

¹ The discussion referred to is summarised in the following passage from the report of the Advisory Committee to the Council:

"The Government of the United States of America transmitted to the Netherlands Government a scheme for the limitation of the output of manufactured drugs which had been submitted to it. In accordance with the suggestion of the Government of the United States in its letter of March 24th, 1928, to the Government of the Netherlands, in which it stated that this matter was of possible interest to the other Powers parties to the Hague Convention of 1912, the Secretary-General communicated this scheme to those States as well as to all other States Members of the League of Nations. The more outstanding features of the scheme are the following:

"Each Government shall notify in advance for a determined period its requirements of each of those substances derived from opium and the coca leaf that now are, or in the future may be, covered by either the Hague Convention or the Geneva Convention.

"Each Government shall state from which country it will purchase its requirements in narcotic drugs for medical and scientific purposes.

"Some members of the Committee who were in favour of the general ideas embodied in this scheme asked that it should be taken as a starting-point for a general discussion at the next session on the limitation of manufacture and possibly the establishment of a Government monopoly.

"The majority of the Committee, while agreeing that the idea of a limitation of the manufacture of narcotic drugs by the means set forth in the scheme was ingenious, did not think that it could be realised in the manner proposed. The Committee did not think it advisable to take any action in regard to the scheme submitted to it. It is waiting to see the results of the application of the Geneva Convention, which has only just come into force and provides a strict system of control."

satisfactory way by agreement between the countries concerned to carry into effect the measures suggested.

Only one of the recommendations of the Advisory Committee is, in the view of the British Government, a matter which can be dealt with in the Postal Union Convention, namely, the recommendation that packages containing drugs shall not, in any case, be delivered to the persons to whom they are addressed, or sent back to the person despatching them. The British Government has given notice to the International Bureau of the Universal Postal Union of an appropriate amendment to Article 41 of the Convention, in order that effect may be given to the proposal of the Advisory Committee.

12.

INTELLECTUAL CO-OPERATION.

The International Committee on Intellectual Co-operation held its eleventh plenary session at Geneva from July 22nd to 26th, 1929, after the annual meetings of its various Sub-Committees (Intellectual Rights, University Relations, Arts and Letters, Science and Bibliography). Between the meetings of the Sub-Committees and the plenary session, a conference of National Committees on Intellectual Co-operation was also held.

Further, sitting as the Governing Body of the Institute with M. Léon Brunschvicg in the Chair (M. Painlevé being unable to attend), the plenary Committee examined, on July 29th, 1929, the finance and administration of the Institute and adopted its budget.

I. SUB-COMMITTEE ON INTELLECTUAL RIGHTS.

The Sub-Committee on Intellectual Rights met on July 1st and 2nd, under the chairmanship of M. Casares.

SCIENTIFIC PROPERTY.

The question of scientific property, one of the most important matters with which the Sub-Committee has to deal, is still very far from solution, but progress is being made. The draft International Convention drawn up in 1927 by a Committee of Experts which met in Paris was very carefully examined last year. As a result of observations submitted by M. Serruys on behalf of the Economic Committee, it was recognised that the draft International Convention, if it were to be practicable, must contain an additional clause guaranteeing manufacturers, by a system of insurances, against the new burdens which would be the outcome of the royalties to be paid to scientists and inventors. M. Gallié, General Secretary of the International Confederation of Intellectual Workers, was asked to draft this clause. From enquiries made of insurance companies in France, Great Britain and elsewhere, it appears that the time has come to make a new effort to define as accurately as possible the scope to be covered by insurance and to convene a meeting of experts on the subject. The Sub-Committee adopted a resolution to this effect.

COPYRIGHT.

A second important question is that of copyright. The Sub-Committee considered that the part of the League of Nations was to assist in the efforts made to harmonise the Berne Convention, as revised at Berlin and subsequently at Rome, and the Buenos Aires Convention, as revised at Havana, and to unify the laws and agreements protecting intellectual productions. The Sub-Committee and the plenary Committee propose to collect in one or more publications the results of the enquiries and researches carried out by the Paris Institute for the use of the diplomatic conference which is to meet at Brussels in 1935 to prepare for the revision of the Berne Convention.

II. SUB-COMMITTEE ON UNIVERSITY RELATIONS.

This Sub-Committee sat from July 4th to 6th, under the chairmanship of M. Rocco. Co-ordination in the sphere of university relations is being carried out primarily in the committees which, for some years past, have to some extent become supplementary organs of the Sub-Committee, namely, the Committee of Directors of National University Offices and the Committee of Representatives of Students' International Associations as well as the Committee of Representatives of Scientific Institutes of International Studies.

COMMITTEE OF DIRECTORS OF NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OFFICES.

This Committee has continued to concern itself with the question of equivalences, and also with a question to the importance of which the plenary Committee called attention as long ago as 1922 — the teaching of modern languages. The Sub-Committee and the plenary Committee have decided to keep in touch with the Congress which the Hungarian Government is proposing to hold at Budapest on this subject, and to give it technical assistance.

COMMITTEE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF STUDENTS' INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATIONS.

The work of this Committee is proceeding at a somewhat slower pace. As its programme has been almost entirely completed, there seems to be no object in holding a meeting next year until fresh questions arise, and, if none do arise, the meeting might be postponed.

COMMITTEE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF SCIENTIFIC INSTITUTES OF INTERNATIONAL STUDIES.

On the other hand, a new Committee — that of the Representatives of Scientific Institutes of International Studies — has been doing valuable work during the last two years. The first meeting was held at Berlin in 1928; this year another session took place in London. An executive committee was appointed to superintend, during the intervals between the sessions, the performance of the work jointly undertaken.

POST-UNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIPS.

The difficult problem of post-university scholarships was considered by the Sub-Committee. The latter hopes that it will be possible, this year, to summon a Committee of Experts, comprising not only representatives of qualified institutions but also a certain number of directors of laboratories and university institutes.

PUBLICATIONS.

The Sub-Committee calls attention to two publications on which the Institute has successfully embarked. The first of these deals with *University Exchanges in Europe*; a revised and enlarged edition in English has recently been issued with the help of a grant from the American National Council on Education; this volume will shortly be reissued in French and German. The second publication is the Annual List of Holiday Courses.

III. SUB-COMMITTEE ON ARTS AND LETTERS.

The Sub-Committee on Arts and Letters sat from July 8th to 12th, under the chairmanship of M. Destrée.

INTERNATIONAL MUSEUMS OFFICE.

The Sub-Committee drew attention to the development of the institutions for whose creation it was responsible, and especially the International Museums Office. In its view, this office, the activity of which is constantly increasing, cannot do its work satisfactorily unless it has its own autonomous organisation within the Institute. The International Museums Office has been dealing more particularly with casts, an exhibition of which is now open at Cologne; with the educational rôle of museums; with the establishment of an international centre for information regarding the reproduction of works of art; with a scheme for international lecture tours; and with the publication of *Museumion*, which is at present perhaps the only review dealing exclusively with museum subjects. The Sub-Committee considers that further efforts are required to increase the circulation of this review.

POPULAR ARTS.

The Sub-Committee noted the success of the International Congress on Popular Arts held at Prague last October, and referred to in the general report to the Assembly (document A.6.1929, page 120). In this connection it should be mentioned that the city of Berne proposes to organise in 1934 an international exhibition of popular art which will serve as a continuation of the Prague Congress and an illustration of its aims.

LETTERS.

In the province of literature, which has scarcely yet been touched, the Sub-Committee has pursued the study of the problem of translation, and has authorised the Institute to continue its negotiations for the resumption of the International Publishers' Congresses.

MUSIC.

The Sub-Committee has resumed consideration of the question of pitch, and has once more expressed the desire that the meeting of experts which it proposed last year should be held.

IV. SUB-COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE AND BIBLIOGRAPHY.

The Sub-Committee sat from July 13th to 16th, under the chairmanship of M. Krüss. It dealt with a large number of special problems, such as the standardisation of linguistic terms, the preservation of printed matter and manuscripts, etc. As was the case last year, however, library co-ordination and the co-ordination of scientific bibliography were the two chief questions on its agenda.

LIBRARY CO-ORDINATION.

As regards the first of these questions, the Sub-Committee recommended that the Committee of Library Experts should again be convened ; that the guide to national information services and to formalities for obtaining loans should be published ; that a second edition of the *Index Bibliographicus* should be prepared ; that the attempt to introduce a common system of abbreviations for titles of periodicals should be continued ; that detailed proposals should be made for the exchange of information between important libraries in connection with the purchase of foreign books ; and, lastly, that the study of questions connected with international exchanges of publications should be resumed. It also directed the Institute of Intellectual Co-operation to enter into informal negotiations with the Brussels Institute with a view to laying the foundations of practical co-operation, and at the same time it recorded the success of the Congress of the International Federation of Librarians' Associations at Rome.

CO-ORDINATION OF SCIENTIFIC BIBLIOGRAPHY.

In regard to the co-ordination of bibliography, no important advance has been made during the year. As regards the biological sciences, it is already so far advanced as no longer to require the Sub-Committee's attention. For the physical sciences, a Conference of Experts is to meet before the end of the year. In the case of the economic sciences, no agreement has yet been reached. Lastly, in connection with the Romance languages, a scheme of improvement regarding bibliographical methods is now ready and has been accepted by the principal publications of analytical bibliography in this question.

ENQUIRY INTO THE EXTENT OF THE MATERIAL RESOURCES AT THE DISPOSAL OF SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH.

The Sub-Committee has further been occupied with a most important enquiry into the extent of the material resources at the disposal of scientific research. This enquiry has taken the form of the compilation of intellectual statistics on a large scale, and has been undertaken by the Institute. It amounts to a resumption, on a much more scientific basis, of the enquiry into conditions of intellectual life which the Committee undertook as long ago as 1922, but which it was prevented by lack of funds from completing. The work seems to be sufficiently advanced, thanks to the co-operation of Governments, to make it possible shortly to publish the first tables. These will doubtless bring up problems in the investigation of which a beginning can be made in 1930. Special attention will have to be given to that part of the enquiry which concerns the resources available for pure science.

V. MEETING OF REPRESENTATIVES OF NATIONAL COMMITTEES.

The representatives of the National Committees met at Geneva from July 18th to 20th, under the chairmanship of Professor Gilbert Murray. Two other meetings had previously taken place at Paris in 1923 and at Warsaw in 1926, but the meeting at Geneva marked an advance upon its predecessors ; first, owing to the fact that the number and importance of the National Committees had increased, as, for example, by the quite recent establishment of the Italian and British Committees ; and, secondly, owing to the fact that the contact of these Committees with the International Committee and the International Institute was more regular.

The representatives assembled at Geneva discussed their relations and their method of co-operation with the International Committee and the Institute of Intellectual Co-operation, and with other international institutions. The representatives at the meeting made it clear that the National Committees do not merely maintain fruitful contact with these bodies, but are themselves centres of intellectual relations. They also pointed out that the organisation of the National Committees is now completed, but varies in different countries. In some they are more or less in the nature of official Governmental bodies, while in others they have an independent status.

With regard to the relations of the National Committees with the International Committee and the Institute of Intellectual Co-operation, the representatives made certain recommendations and suggestions. According to the views expressed the work of intellectual co-operation should be simplified. The tasks of the Committee and those of the Institute should be limited to a small number of practical problems of international importance, and should not in any way duplicate the work of existing international scientific organisations. The International Committee, as well as the Institute, should, as far as possible, have no relations except with the qualified National Committees.

Before concluding their work, the representatives of the National Committees asked the Committee on Intellectual Co-operation to consider, in the light of the experience acquired, the practical working and the ultimate object of the whole organisation for intellectual co-operation.

They also put forward a number of suggestions as to the work to be done by each of the National Committees within its own province, and expressed the desire that the Committee on Intellectual Co-operation should decide to summon periodical conferences of National Committees at Geneva.

VI. PLENARY COMMITTEE.

Having re-elected Professor Gilbert Murray Chairman and Mme. Curie-Sklodowska and M. Jules Destrée Vice-Chairmen, the Committee surveyed the progress made in the field of intellectual co-operation and noted the work of the International Institute at Paris. Its most important discussions were those bearing on a scheme for reviewing its work and its organisation in the hope of making improvements which will increase the positive results of its activities, especially those of the Institute.

At the opening of the session, the Chairman welcomed his new colleague, M. Mariano H. Cornejo (Peru), who replaces M. Leopoldo Lugones, resigned.

EDUCATIONAL FILMS.

The plenary Committee heard a statement from one of its members, M. Rocco, President of the Governing Body of the International Educational Cinematographic Institute at Rome, on the steps to be taken to reduce the price of films dealing with education and the Customs duties on them. The Committee also had before it a report by M. de Feo, Director of the International Educational Cinematographic Institute. It adopted his conclusions, more especially as regards the study of the relations between the educational cinema, television and broadcasting.

SUB-COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS FOR THE INSTRUCTION OF YOUTH IN THE EXISTENCE AND AIMS OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS.

The Committee considered reports from the League Information Centres at Geneva and Paris. These centres, established in pursuance of a decision taken by the Assembly at its eighth session, have the duty of keeping in contact with Governments and official and unofficial organisations and of collecting particulars concerning measures taken to instruct youth in the existence and aims of the League, and at the same time to furnish the teaching profession with information concerning the League.

The general report to the Assembly (document A.6.1929, page 119) includes a chapter on the question of the instruction of youth in the aims of the League, which contains details on the three following points : (1) handbooks for teachers ; (2) summary of the League's work for educational reviews ; (3) question of the publication of a *League of Nations Educational Review*.

Having noted that these efforts have been welcomed on all sides, the Committee decided that another meeting of the Sub-Committee of Experts which compiled the booklet entitled *How to Make the League of Nations Known* should be held next year to consider how its work could be continued.

INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE OF INTELLECTUAL CO-OPERATION.

The Committee examined and discussed a report by M. Julien Luchaire, Director of the International Institute of Intellectual Co-operation, on the Institute's activities. It also considered the reports submitted to the Sub-Committees on the work of the various sections of the Institute. The Sub-Committees and the plenary Committee outlined the Institute's programme for 1930. In particular, the Committee instructed the Institute to deal with the question of international interchanges of school-children and to consider, in conjunction with the Secretariat, what inter-Governmental arrangements could be made to promote such exchanges.

Lastly, the Committee had the pleasure of hearing an announcement from M. Cornejo that Peru had decided to make an annual grant to the Institute, thus bringing the number of countries making such grants up to twenty.

REVIEW OF THE WORK AND ORGANISATION OF INTELLECTUAL CO-OPERATION.

The principal resolution adopted by the Committee was that which " requests the Chairman, in consultation with the Secretary-General of the League of Nations and with the Chairman of the Governing Body of the Institute, to appoint a small Committee of not more than five members of the International Committee to study the programme, work and organisation of

the International Committee on Intellectual Co-operation and of the organisations under its authority, and to give opinions on the improvements which might be introduced therein, so as to increase the positive results of their work”.

This Committee would be free to add to its number, after consultation with the Chairman, three other qualified persons who are not members of the Committee, but are already experienced in the problems under consideration.

In its report to the Council, the Committee recalls the fact that it was convened seven years ago on August 1st, 1922, to give its opinions on three questions which had been put to it, namely, how it would be possible to resume and extend international relations between the universities; how it would be possible to resume and extend international relations in the domain of science; how it would be possible to improve the methods of scientific bibliography in the international sphere.

At that time the Committee was only a temporary body. It subsequently became apparent that it would need several years to answer the highly complicated questions which had been put to it, and those which it had put to itself, having been left free by the Council to consider other problems. The Committee could not be satisfied with purely theoretical work, and felt the need of taking practical action. Thus it was that the Committee became permanent; but, as early as 1923, it felt that it could not pursue its work or achieve any results if it did not possess an executive organ. The French Government met this wish and need half way by offering, in 1924, to found the International Institute of Intellectual Co-operation. The Institute began work in January 1926.

The Committee further observes in its report that it was soon realised how essential the Institute was, and adds that it was also seen that the number of questions to be studied and problems to be solved was continually increasing, and that some choice among these questions and problems was essential. As early as 1927 the idea of a review of the work, method and organisation was expressed during the meetings. In 1928, this idea took concrete shape. Finally, this year the Committee considered that the time had come to go over and review very carefully all that it had done.

All that had been undertaken so far had been done in an empirical manner, as and when problems arose. “It is its duty”, says M. de Reynold, the Committee’s Rapporteur to the Council, “to stop for a moment to survey the path travelled, to consult the map and to draw up a new plan”. This is the more necessary inasmuch as the very idea of intellectual co-operation has, for the last two or three years, been making constant progress throughout the world, and the best friends of intellectual co-operation — those who are members of the bodies responsible for its promotion and those who take an interest in the matter — are the first to ask for such a review to-day. An expression of this feeling may also be found in the Minutes of the last meeting held by the representatives of National Committees at Geneva, but it is quite clear that, while the idea of a review is now sufficiently ripe to demand realisation, this idea comes, in the first instance, from the Committee itself.

The first thing that will be necessary is, on the basis of a list which has already been drawn up by the Institute, to review the work in progress and the projects awaiting completion, whether in the early or distant future, so as to eliminate all that is not of immediate interest and all that other bodies are better able to deal with than the League, with the object of concentrating the latter’s efforts on essentials and thus making its work gain in depth rather than in extent.

In the Committee’s opinion, the proposed review will afford a clearer sight of the essential idea of intellectual co-operation. At its session in July 1928, the Committee took up this main general idea, and, in examining the reports of the Sub-Committees, made a point of applying the principle which it had adopted in 1923 — that of arranging the problems in order of importance, so as to leave on one side, temporarily or permanently, those which are of secondary interest or whose solution is not of immediate utility.

REPORT TO THE COUNCIL.

The Committee appointed M. de Reynold to report on its work to the Council. In his report, M. de Reynold analyses the work done at the last session, and lays special emphasis on the proposed general review of this work. His conclusions contain the following passage:

“The operations undertaken by the Committee direct, or at its instigation, have proceeded somewhat more slowly. This is due partly to the difficulties inherent in any undertaking in the international field; partly to the large number of schemes in course of execution (we see once more that the time has now come to reduce their number rather than seek to increase it); and partly to the methods of working, which require reconsideration.

“On the other hand, constant progress is being made in regard to liaison and co-ordination. This is perhaps the essential part of our task. In any case, what we do must not be judged from a too purely administrative point of view; it must be remembered that a large public has been reached indirectly, quite apart from official action. Many instances could be given. Certain ideas launched or proposals made by the Committee may have come to nothing; but the ideas have spread, and the proposals have been taken up in other quarters. If it is true, as we said in connection with the Sub-Committee of Experts, that international co-operation is the normal method of conducting world affairs, it is quite certain — more certain with every day that passes — that international

co-operation is the normal method of conducting intellectual affairs, and is a necessity to the intellectual life of our time.

“ The work we have begun must be continued in the face of all difficulties, for time is on its side. The moment has certainly come for a general rearrangement; but this must be entered upon in an optimistic and constructive spirit. It must never be forgotten that the field is a vast one, and that seven years of work are but a negligible portion of the time that must pass before what has been begun reaches, if ever it does reach, its conclusion.

13.

INTERNATIONAL RELIEF UNION.

To the list of ratifications given in the general report to the Assembly (document A. 6 1929, page 115) should be added the name of Germany, which deposited its instrument of ratification on July 22nd of the present year.

14.

CONSTRUCTION OF AN ASSEMBLY HALL, OF A NEW BUILDING
FOR THE SECRETARIAT, AND OF A LIBRARY.

The Council, during its June session, considered the revised plan for the construction of an Assembly Hall, of a new building for the Secretariat, and of a Library, submitted by the Committee of Five. Particulars as to this plan were given in the general report to the Assembly (document A.6.1929, pages 122 and 123).

The Council adopted the following resolution :

“ The Council accepts the views and ratifies the conclusions contained in the report dated June 1st, 1929, in which the Special Committee of five members named in the Assembly resolution of September 25th, 1928, approves the plans drawn up for the new buildings of the League of Nations. ”

The British representative referred to the question of the acoustics of the Assembly Hall. The President of the Council, acting as Rapporteur, emphasised the importance of the problem, which had already been considered and discussed by the Committee of Five and informed the Council that the Secretariat was making the necessary enquiries in collaboration with the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research in London, whose services had been placed at the disposal of the League by the British Government. It was understood that a member of the Building Committee would go to London with two architects to continue these enquiries in the near future.

GENEVA, September 2nd, 1929.

Annex to the Supplementary Report¹
ON THE
WORK OF THE COUNCIL AND THE SECRETARIAT
TO THE
Tenth Ordinary Session of the Assembly of the League.

5

The aim of this document is to give, in execution of the Council's decision of December 10th, 1923, a general survey as regards the participation of the States in Conventions concluded under the auspices of the League of Nations. The reservations and declarations, etc., made by the Contracting Parties at the moment of signature, ratification or adhesion have not been inserted; they are indicated by footnotes showing the page of the *Treaty Series* volume where they are reproduced.

¹ The Annex to the Supplementary Report to the Fourth Assembly of the League on the Work of the Council and the Secretariat for 1923 (A. 10 (a). 1923. Annex) contains, moreover, complete details concerning:

- (a) PROTECTION OF RACIAL, RELIGIOUS AND LINGUISTIC MINORITIES:
1. Treaty of Peace between the Allied Powers and Austria, of September 10th, 1919.
 2. Treaty of Peace between the Allied Powers and Bulgaria, of November 27th, 1919.
 3. Treaty of Peace between the Allied Powers and Hungary, of June 4th, 1920.
 4. Treaty of Peace between the Allied Powers and Turkey, of July 24th, 1923.
 5. Treaty between the Principal Allied and Associated Powers and Poland, of June 28th, 1919.
 6. Treaty between the Principal Allied and Associated Powers and Czechoslovakia, of September 10th, 1919.
 7. Treaty between the Principal Allied and Associated Powers and the Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes, of September 10th, 1919.
 8. Treaty between the Principal Allied and Associated Powers and Roumania, of December 9th, 1919.
 9. Germano-Polish Convention relating to Upper Silesia, of May 15th, 1922.
 10. Declaration by Albania, of October 2nd, 1921.
 11. Declaration by Finland as to the Aaland Islands, of June 27th, 1921.
 12. Declaration by Latvia, of July 7th, 1923.
 13. Convention between Bulgaria and Greece respecting Reciprocal Emigration, Neuilly-sur-Seine, November 27th, 1919.
 14. Convention concerning the Exchange of Greek and Turkish Populations, of January 30th, 1923.
- (b) TRAFFIC IN LIQUOR: Convention relating to the Liquor Traffic in Africa, St. Germain-en-Laye, September 10th, 1919.
- (c) AERIAL NAVIGATION: Convention relating to the Regulation of Aerial Navigation, Paris, October 13th, 1919.
- (d) HEALTH:
1. Sanitary Convention between Poland and Roumania, Warsaw, December 20th, 1922.
 2. Sanitary Convention between Poland and the Federal Soviet Republic of Russia and Soviet Republics of Ukraine and of White Russia, Warsaw, February 17th, 1923.
 3. Sanitary Convention between Germany and Poland, Dresden, December 18th, 1922.
 4. Sanitary Convention between Poland and Czechoslovakia, Warsaw, 1922.
 5. Sanitary Convention between Poland and Latvia, Warsaw, July 7th, 1922.
 6. Sanitary Convention between Estonia and the Federal Soviet Republic of Russia and Soviet Republics of Ukraine and of White Russia, Tartu, June 25th, 1922.
 7. Sanitary Convention between Latvia and the Federal Soviet Republic of Russia and Soviet Republics of Ukraine and of White Russia, Tartu, June 24th, 1922.
 8. Sanitary Convention between Bulgaria and the Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes, April 1923.
- (e) AALAND ISLANDS: Convention relating to the Non-Fortification and Neutralisation of the Aaland Islands, Geneva, October 20th, 1921.
- (f) UPPER SILESIA: Germano-Polish Convention relating to Upper Silesia, Geneva, May 15th, 1922.
- (g) FINANCIAL RESTORATION OF AUSTRIA:
1. Protocol No. I (Declaration), Geneva, October 4th, 1922.
 2. Protocol No. II and Annexes and Explanatory Note, Geneva, October 4th, 1922.
 3. Protocol No. III (Declaration), Geneva, October 4th, 1922.
- (h) SAAR: Protocol between the German Government and the Governing Commission of the Territory of the Saar Basin, Berlin, June 3rd, 1921.
- (i) DANZIG:
1. Convention between Poland and the Free City of Danzig, Paris, November 9th, 1920.
 2. Treaty between Germany and Poland concerning the Regulation of Option Questions, Danzig, November 8th, 1920.
 3. Treaty between Poland and the Free City of Danzig, Warsaw, October 24th, 1921.

The Annex to the Supplementary Report on the Work of the Council and of the Secretariat to the Fifth Assembly of the League of Nations for the year 1924 (A. 8 (a). 1924. Annex) contains, moreover, complete details concerning:

- (a) MINORITIES:
1. Declaration concerning the Protection of Minorities in Lithuania, Geneva, May 12th, 1923.
 2. Convention between Poland and the Free City of Danzig, signed at Paris, November 9th, 1920.
- (b) TRAFFIC IN ARMS: Engagement undertaken by Ethiopia on signing the Protocol done at Geneva, September 27th, 1923.
- (c) REVISION OF BERLIN AND BRUSSELS ACTS RELATING TO AFRICAN TERRITORIES: Engagement undertaken by Ethiopia on signing the Protocol done at Geneva on September 27th, 1923.

PROGRESS OF CERTAIN INTERNATIONAL CONVENTIONS
AND ENGAGEMENTS.

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I. INTERNATIONAL LABOUR CONVENTIONS¹.

(a)

1. Convention limiting the hours of work in industrial undertakings, adopted as a Draft Convention by the International Labour Conference at its First Session on November 28th, 1919.

This Convention has been ratified by and is in force between :	Date of Registration :
AUSTRIA ³	June 12, 1924
BELGIUM	September 6, 1926
BULGARIA	February 14, 1922
CHILE	September 15, 1925
CZECHOSLOVAKIA	August 24, 1921
FRANCE ⁴	June 2, 1927
GREECE	November 19, 1920
INDIA	July 14, 1921
ITALY ⁴	October 6, 1924
LATVIA ⁵	August 15, 1925
LUXEMBURG	April 16, 1928
PORTUGAL	July 3, 1928
ROUMANIA	June 13, 1921
SPAIN ⁶	February 22, 1929

Note continued from page 1.

(d) REFUGEES :

1. Arrangement with regard to the issue of Certificates of Identity to Russian Refugees, Geneva, July 5th, 1922.
2. Protocol relating to the Settlement of Refugees in Greece and the creation for this purpose of a Refugees Settlement Commission, signed at Geneva, September 29th, 1923.
3. Declaration relating to the Settlement of Refugees in Greece and the creation for this purpose of a Refugees Settlement Commission, signed at Geneva, September 29th, 1923.

(e) FINANCIAL RECONSTRUCTION OF HUNGARY: Protocols on the Financial Reconstruction of Hungary, March 14th, 1924.

The Annex to the Supplementary Report for the year 1925 (A. 7 (a). 1925. Annex) contains, moreover, complete details concerning :

(a) PROTECTION OF RACIAL, RELIGIOUS AND LINGUISTIC MINORITIES :

1. Proposal relating to the Protection of Greek Minorities in Bulgaria ;
2. Proposal relating to the Protection of Bulgarian Minorities in Greece.

(Geneva, September 29, 1924.)

(Document A. 10 (a). 1923, Annex, will be found in Special Supplement 13 to the *Official Journal*, pages 174-189, document A. 8 (a). 1924, Annex, in the *Official Journal*, September 1924, pages 1127-1153, and document A. 7 (a). 1925, Annex, in the *Official Journal* of November 1925, pages 1553-1584.)

¹ The Annex to the Supplementary Report for 1923 (A. 10 (a). 1923. Annex) contains, moreover, complete details concerning : The Convention on the Prohibition of the Use of White Phosphorus in the Manufacture of Matches, Berne, September 26th, 1906.

² " . . . as regards Austria, this Convention will enter into force only when it has been ratified by those European Members of the International Labour Organisation which are of the chief industrial importance (Belgium, France, Germany, Great Britain and Italy) and by all the States, bordering upon Austria, with whom the latter has economic relations (the Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes, Poland, Switzerland, the Czechoslovak Republic and Hungary)"

³ This ratification is subject to the condition that the obligations it entails for France shall not take effect until the Convention has been ratified by Germany and Great Britain.

⁴ Subject to the condition that it shall only come into force when the ratifications, without reservations or other conditions, of the following Members of the International Labour Organisation have been registered with the Secretariat of the League of Nations : Belgium, France, Germany, Great Britain and Switzerland.

⁵ " The Convention shall come into force in Latvia, in accordance with the provisions of Article 18 of the Draft Convention, after the ratifications of three of the Powers which are of the chief industrial importance, as laid down in Article 393, paragraphs 5 and 6, of the Treaty of Peace of Versailles, shall have been registered with the Secretariat of the League of Nations. "

⁶ This ratification is given on condition that the Convention is ratified by Germany, France, Great Britain and Italy.

2. Convention concerning unemployment, adopted as a Draft Convention by the International Labour Conference at its First Session on November 28th, 1919.

This Convention has been ratified by and is in force between :	Date of Registration :
UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA	February 20, 1924
AUSTRIA	June 12, 1924
GREAT BRITAIN	July 14, 1921
BULGARIA	February 14, 1922
DENMARK	October 13, 1921
ESTONIA	December 20, 1922
FINLAND	October 19, 1921
FRANCE	August 25, 1925
GERMANY	June 6, 1925
GREECE	November 19, 1920
HUNGARY	March 1, 1928
INDIA	July 14, 1921
IRISH FREE STATE	September 4, 1925
ITALY	April 10, 1923
JAPAN	November 23, 1922
LUXEMBURG	April 16, 1928
NORWAY	November 23, 1921
POLAND	June 21, 1924
ROUMANIA	June 13, 1921
KINGDOM OF THE SERBS, CROATS AND SLOVENES	April 1, 1927
SPAIN	July 4, 1923
SWEDEN	September 27, 1921
SWITZERLAND	October 9, 1922

3. Convention concerning the employment of women before and after childbirth, adopted as a Draft Convention by the International Labour Conference at its First Session on November 29th, 1919.

This Convention has been ratified by and is in force between :	Date of registration :
BULGARIA	February 14, 1922
CHILE	September 15, 1925
CUBA	August 6, 1928
GERMANY	October 31, 1927
GREECE	November 19, 1920
HUNGARY	April 19, 1928
LATVIA	June 3, 1928
LUXEMBURG	April 16, 1928
ROUMANIA	June 13, 1921
KINGDOM OF THE SERBS, CROATS AND SLOVENES	April 1, 1927
SPAIN	July 4, 1923

4. Convention concerning the employment of women during the night, adopted as a Draft Convention by the International Labour Conference at its First Session on November 28th, 1919.

This Convention has been ratified by and is in force between :	Date of Registration :
UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA	November 1, 1921
AUSTRIA	June 12, 1924
BELGIUM	July 12, 1924
GREAT BRITAIN	July 14, 1921
BULGARIA	February 14, 1922
CUBA	August 6, 1928
CZECHOSLOVAKIA	August 24, 1921
ESTONIA	December 20, 1922
FRANCE	May 14, 1925
GREECE	November 19, 1920
HUNGARY	April 19, 1928
INDIA	July 14, 1921
IRISH FREE STATE	September 4, 1925
ITALY	April 10, 1923
LUXEMBURG	April 16, 1928
THE NETHERLANDS	September 4, 1922
ROUMANIA	June 13, 1921
KINGDOM OF THE SERBS, CROATS AND SLOVENES	April 1, 1927
SWITZERLAND	October 9, 1922

5. Convention fixing the minimum age for admission of children to industrial employment, adopted as a Draft Convention by the International Labour Conference at its First Session on November 28th, 1919.

This Convention has been ratified by and is in force between :	Date of Registration :
BELGIUM	July 12, 1924
GREAT BRITAIN	July 14, 1921
BULGARIA	February 14, 1922
CHILE	September 15, 1925
CUBA	August 6, 1928
CZECHOSLOVAKIA	August 24, 1921
DENMARK	January 4, 1923
ESTONIA	December 20, 1922
GREECE	November 19, 1920
IRISH FREE STATE	September 4, 1925
JAPAN	August 7, 1926
LATVIA	June 3, 1926
LUXEMBURG	April 16, 1928
THE NETHERLANDS	July 21, 1928
POLAND	June 21, 1924
ROUMANIA	June 13, 1921
KINGDOM OF THE SERBS, CROATS AND SLOVENES	April 1, 1927
SWITZERLAND	October 9, 1922

6. Convention concerning the night work of young persons employed in industry, adopted as a Draft Convention by the International Labour Conference at its First Session on November 28th, 1919.

This Convention has been ratified by and is in force between :	Date of Registration :
AUSTRIA	June 12, 1924
BELGIUM	July 12, 1924
GREAT BRITAIN	July 14, 1921
BULGARIA	February 14, 1922
CHILE	September 15, 1925
CUBA	August 6, 1928
DENMARK	January 4, 1923
ESTONIA	December 20, 1922
FRANCE	August 25, 1925
GREECE	November 19, 1920
HUNGARY	April 19, 1928
INDIA	July 14, 1921
IRISH FREE STATE	September 4, 1925
ITALY	April 10, 1923
LATVIA	June 3, 1926
LUXEMBURG	April 16, 1928
THE NETHERLANDS	March 17, 1924
POLAND	June 21, 1924
ROUMANIA	June 13, 1921
KINGDOM OF THE SERBS, CROATS AND SLOVENES	April 1, 1927
SWITZERLAND	October 9, 1922

(b)

7. Convention fixing the minimum age for admission of children to employment at sea, adopted as a Draft Convention by the International Labour Conference at its Second Session on July 9th, 1920.

This Convention has been ratified by and is in force between :	Date of Registration :
BELGIUM ¹	February 4, 1925
GREAT BRITAIN	July 14, 1921
BULGARIA	March 16, 1923
CANADA	March 31, 1926
CUBA	August 6, 1928
DENMARK	May 12, 1924
ESTONIA	March 3, 1923
FINLAND	October 10, 1925
GERMANY	June 11, 1929
GREECE	December 16, 1925
HUNGARY	March 1, 1928
IRISH FREE STATE	September 4, 1925
JAPAN	June 7, 1924
LATVIA	June 3, 1926

¹ Subject to subsequent decisions regarding the application of the Convention to the Belgian Congo and to the territories under Belgian mandate.

This Convention has been ratified by and is in force between :	Date of Registration :
LUXEMBURG	April 16, 1928
THE NETHERLANDS	March 26, 1925
NORWAY	October 7, 1927
POLAND	June 21, 1924
ROUMANIA	May 8, 1922
KINGDOM OF THE SERBS, CROATS AND SLOVENES	April 1, 1927
SPAIN	June 20, 1924
SWEDEN	September 27, 1921

8. Convention concerning unemployment indemnity in case of loss or foundering of the ship, adopted as a Draft Convention by the International Labour Conference at its Second Session on July 9th, 1920.

This Convention has been ratified by and is in force between :	Date of Registration :
BELGIUM ¹	February 4, 1925
GREAT BRITAIN	March 12, 1926
BULGARIA	March 16, 1923
CANADA	March 31, 1926
CUBA	August 6, 1928
ESTONIA	March 3, 1923
FRANCE	March 21, 1929
GREECE	December 16, 1925
ITALY	September 8, 1924
LATVIA ²	August 5, 1926
LUXEMBURG	April 16, 1928
POLAND	June 21, 1924
SPAIN	June 20, 1924

9. Convention for establishing facilities for finding employment for seamen, adopted as a Draft Convention by the International Labour Conference at its Second Session on July 10th, 1920.

This Convention has been ratified by and is in force between :	Date of Registration :
AUSTRALIA	August 3, 1925
BELGIUM ¹	February 4, 1925
BULGARIA	March 16, 1923
CUBA	August 6, 1928
ESTONIA	March 3, 1923
FINLAND	October 7, 1922
FRANCE	January 25, 1928
GERMANY	June 6, 1925
GREECE	December 16, 1925
ITALY	September 8, 1924
JAPAN	November 23, 1922
LATVIA	June 3, 1926
LUXEMBURG	April 16, 1928
NORWAY	November 23, 1921
POLAND	June 21, 1924
SWEDEN	September 27, 1921

(c)

10. Convention concerning the age for admission of children to employment in agriculture, adopted as a Draft Convention by the International Labour Conference at its Third Session on November 16th, 1921.

This Convention has been ratified by and is in force between :	Date of Registration :
AUSTRIA	June 12, 1924
BELGIUM ¹	June 13, 1928
BULGARIA	March 6, 1925
CZECHOSLOVAKIA	August 31, 1923
ESTONIA	September 8, 1922
HUNGARY	February 2, 1927
IRISH FREE STATE	May 26, 1925
ITALY	September 8, 1924
JAPAN	December 19, 1923
LUXEMBURG	April 16, 1928
POLAND	June 21, 1924
SWEDEN	November 27, 1923

¹ Subject to subsequent decisions regarding the application of the Convention to the Belgian Congo and to the territories under Belgian mandate.

² The Convention shall come into force in Latvia, according to the conditions provided in Article 7 of this Convention, after the Powers chief in importance in maritime commerce shall have registered their ratifications in the Secretariat.

11. Convention concerning the rights of association and combination of agricultural workers, adopted as a Draft Convention by the International Labour Conference at its Third Session on November 12th, 1921.

This Convention has been ratified by and is in force between :	Date of Registration :
AUSTRIA	June 12, 1924
BELGIUM ¹	July 19, 1926
GREAT BRITAIN	August 6, 1923
BULGARIA	March 6, 1925
CHILE	September 15, 1925
CZECHOSLOVAKIA	August 31, 1923
ESTONIA	September 8, 1922
FINLAND	June 19, 1923
FRANCE	March 23, 1929
GERMANY	June 6, 1925
INDIA	May 11, 1923
IRISH FREE STATE	June 17, 1924
ITALY	September 8, 1924
LATVIA	September 9, 1924
LUXEMBURG	April 16, 1928
NORWAY	June 11, 1929
THE NETHERLANDS	August 20, 1926
POLAND	June 21, 1924
SWEDEN	November 27, 1923

12. Convention concerning workmen's compensation in agriculture, adopted as a Draft Convention by the International Labour Conference at its Third Session on November 12th, 1921.

This Convention has been ratified by and is in force between :	Date of Registration :
GREAT BRITAIN	August 6, 1923
BULGARIA	March 6, 1925
CHILE	September 15, 1925
DENMARK	February 26, 1923
ESTONIA	September 8, 1922
FRANCE	April 4, 1928
GERMANY	June 6, 1925
IRISH FREE STATE	June 17, 1924
LUXEMBURG	April 16, 1928
THE NETHERLANDS	August 20, 1926
POLAND	June 21, 1924
SWEDEN	November 27, 1923

13. Convention concerning the use of white lead in painting, adopted as a Draft Convention by the International Labour Conference at its Third Session on November 19th, 1921.

This Convention has been ratified by and is in force between :	Date of Registration :
AUSTRIA	June 12, 1924
BELGIUM ¹	July 19, 1926
BULGARIA	March 6, 1925
CHILE	September 15, 1925
CUBA	July 7, 1928
CZECHOSLOVAKIA	August 31, 1923
ESTONIA	September 8, 1922
FINLAND ²	April 5, 1929
FRANCE	February 19, 1926
GREECE	December 22, 1926
HUNGARY ³	January 4, 1928
LATVIA	September 9, 1924
LUXEMBURG	April 16, 1928
NORWAY	June 11, 1929
POLAND	June 21, 1924
ROUMANIA	December 4, 1925
SPAIN	June 20, 1924
SWEDEN	November 27, 1923

¹ Subject to subsequent decisions regarding the application of the Convention to the Belgian Congo and to the territories under Belgian mandate.

² Effective as from October 1, 1929.

³ The Convention shall not come into force as regards Hungary until it has been ratified by France, Great Britain and Germany.

14. Convention concerning the application of the weekly rest in industrial undertakings, adopted as a Draft Convention by the International Labour Conference at its Third Session on November 17th, 1921.

This Convention has been ratified by and is in force between :	Date of Registration :
BELGIUM ¹	July 19, 1926
BULGARIA	March 6, 1925
CHILE	September 15, 1925
CZECHOSLOVAKIA	August 31, 1923
ESTONIA	November 29, 1923
FINLAND	June 19, 1923
FRANCE	September 3, 1926
GREECE	May 11, 1929
INDIA	May 11, 1923
ITALY	September 8, 1924
LATVIA	September 9, 1924
LUXEMBURG	April 16, 1928
POLAND	June 21, 1924
PORTUGAL	July 3, 1928
ROUMANIA	August 18, 1923
KINGDOM OF THE SERBS, CROATS AND SLOVENES	April 1, 1927
SPAIN	June 20, 1924

15. Convention fixing the minimum age for the admission of young persons to employment as trimmers and stokers, adopted as a Draft Convention by the International Labour Conference at its Third Session on November 11th, 1921.

This Convention has been ratified by and is in force between :	Date of Registration :
BELGIUM ¹	July 19, 1926
GREAT BRITAIN	March 8, 1926
BULGARIA	March 6, 1925
CANADA	March 31, 1926
CUBA	July 7, 1928
DENMARK	May 12, 1924
ESTONIA	September 8, 1922
FINLAND	October 10, 1925
FRANCE	January 16, 1928
GERMANY	June 11, 1929
HUNGARY	March 1, 1928
INDIA	November 20, 1922
ITALY	September 8, 1924
LATVIA	September 9, 1924
LUXEMBURG	April 16, 1928
NORWAY	October 7, 1927
POLAND	June 21, 1924
ROUMANIA	August 18, 1923
KINGDOM OF THE SERBS, CROATS AND SLOVENES	April 1, 1927
SPAIN	June 20, 1924
SWEDEN	July 14, 1925

16. Convention concerning the compulsory medical examination of children and young persons employed at sea, adopted as a Draft Convention by the International Labour Conference at its Third Session on November 11th, 1921.

This Convention has been ratified by and is in force between :	Date of Registration :
BELGIUM ¹	July 19, 1926
GREAT BRITAIN	March 8, 1926
BULGARIA	March 6, 1925
CANADA	March 31, 1926
CUBA	July 7, 1928
ESTONIA	September 8, 1922
FINLAND	October 10, 1925
FRANCE	March 22, 1928
GERMANY	June 11, 1929
HUNGARY	March 1, 1928

¹ Subject to subsequent decisions regarding the application of the Convention to the Belgian Congo and to the territories under Belgian mandate.

This Convention has been ratified by and is in force between :	Date of Registration :
INDIA	November 20, 1922
ITALY	September 8, 1924
JAPAN	June 7, 1924
LATVIA	September 9, 1924
LUXEMBURG	April 16, 1928
THE NETHERLANDS	March 9, 1928
POLAND	June 21, 1924
ROUMANIA	August 18, 1923
KINGDOM OF THE SERBS, CROATS AND SLOVENES	April 1, 1927
SPAIN	June 20, 1924
SWEDEN	July 14, 1925

(d)

17. Convention concerning workmen's compensation for accidents, adopted as a Draft Convention by the International Labour Conference at its Seventh Session on June 10th, 1925.

This Convention has been ratified by and is in force between :	Date of Registration :
BELGIUM ¹	October 3, 1927
CUBA	August 6, 1928
HUNGARY	April 19, 1928
LATVIA	May 29, 1928
LUXEMBURG	April 16, 1928
THE NETHERLANDS	September 13, 1927
PORTUGAL ²	March 27, 1929
KINGDOM OF THE SERBS, CROATS AND SLOVENES	April 1, 1927
SPAIN	February 22, 1929
SWEDEN	September 8, 1926

18. Convention concerning workmen's compensation for occupational diseases, adopted as a Draft Convention by the International Labour Conference at its Seventh Session on June 10th, 1925.

This Convention has been ratified by and is in force between :	Date of Registration :
AUSTRIA	September 29, 1928
BELGIUM ¹	October 3, 1927
GREAT BRITAIN	October 6, 1926
CUBA	August 6, 1928
FINLAND	September 17, 1927
GERMANY	September 18, 1928
HUNGARY	April 19, 1928
INDIA ³	September 30, 1927
IRISH FREE STATE	November 25, 1927
JAPAN ⁴	October 8, 1928
LUXEMBURG	April 16, 1928
THE NETHERLANDS	November 1, 1928
NORWAY	June 11, 1929
PORTUGAL ²	March 27, 1929
KINGDOM OF THE SERBS, CROATS AND SLOVENES	April 1, 1927
SWITZERLAND	November 16, 1927

19. Convention concerning equality of treatment for national and foreign workers as regards workmen's compensation for accidents, adopted as a Draft Convention by the International Labour Conference at its Seventh Session on June 5th, 1925.

This Convention has been ratified by and is in force between :	Date of Registration :
UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA	March 30, 1926
AUSTRIA	September 29, 1928

¹ Subject to subsequent decisions regarding the application of the Convention to the Belgian Congo and to the territories under Belgian mandate.

² With reservation as regards the application of the convention to the Portuguese Colonies, until ulterior decisions can be taken.

³ The ratification by the Indian Government applies only to British India.

⁴ This ratification does not include Chosen, Taiwan, Karafuto, the Leased Territory of Kwantung and the South Sea Islands under Japanese mandate.

This Convention has been ratified by and is in force between :

Date of Registration :

BELGIUM ¹	October 3, 1927
GREAT BRITAIN	October 6, 1926
CUBA	August 6, 1928
CZECHOSLOVAKIA	February 8, 1927
DENMARK ²	March 31, 1928
FINLAND	September 17, 1927
FRANCE	April 4, 1928
GERMANY	September 18, 1928
HUNGARY	April 19, 1928
INDIA ³	September 30, 1927
ITALY	March 15, 1928
JAPAN ⁴	October 8, 1928
LATVIA	May 29, 1928
LUXEMBURG	April 16, 1928
THE NETHERLANDS	September 13, 1927
NORWAY	June 11, 1929
POLAND	February 28, 1928
PORTUGAL ⁵	March 27, 1929
KINGDOM OF THE SERBS, CROATS AND SLOVENES	April 1, 1927
SPAIN	February 22, 1929
SWEDEN	September 8, 1926
SWITZERLAND	February 1, 1929

20. Convention concerning night work in bakeries, adopted as a Draft Convention by the International Labour Conference at its Seventh Session on June 8th, 1925.

This Convention has been ratified by and is in force between :

Date of Registration :

CUBA	August 6, 1928
FINLAND	May 26, 1928
LUXEMBURG	April 16, 1928

(e)

21. Convention concerning the simplification of the inspection of emigrants on board ship, adopted as a Draft Convention by the International Labour Conference at its Eighth Session on June 5th, 1926.

This Convention has been ratified by and is in force between :

Date of Registration :

AUSTRIA	December 29, 1927
BELGIUM ¹	February 15, 1928
GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND ⁶	September 16, 1927
CZECHOSLOVAKIA	May 25, 1928
FINLAND	April 5, 1929
INDIA	January 14, 1928
JAPAN ⁴	October 8, 1928
LUXEMBURG	April 16, 1928
THE NETHERLANDS	September 13, 1927

¹ Subject to subsequent decisions regarding the application of the Convention to the Belgian Congo and to the territories under Belgian mandate.

² This ratification does not include Greenland.

³ The ratification by the Indian Government applies only to British India.

⁴ This ratification does not include Chosen, Taiwan, Karafuto, the Leased Territory of Kwantung and the South Sea Islands under Japanese mandate.

⁵ With reservation as regards the application of the convention to the Portuguese Colonies, until ulterior decisions can be taken.

⁶ As regards Great Britain and Northern Ireland, this Convention will enter into force only when it has been ratified without reservation by France, Germany, The Netherlands, Italy, Norway and Spain.

(f)

22. Convention concerning seamen's articles of agreement, adopted as a Draft Convention by the International Labour Conference at its Ninth Session on June 24th, 1926.

This Convention has been ratified by and is in force between :	Date of Registration :
BELGIUM ¹	October 3, 1927
GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND	June 14, 1929
CUBA	July 7, 1928
ESTONIA	May 10, 1929
FRANCE	April 4, 1928
LUXEMBURG	April 16, 1928

23. Convention concerning the repatriation of seamen, adopted as a Draft Convention by the International Labour Conference at its Ninth Session on June 23rd, 1926.

This Convention has been ratified by and is in force between :	Date of Registration :
BELGIUM ¹	October 3, 1927
CUBA	July 7, 1928
ESTONIA	July 9, 1928
FRANCE	March 4, 1929
LUXEMBURG	April 16, 1928

(g)

24. Convention concerning sickness insurance for workers in industry and commerce and domestic servants, adopted as a Draft Convention by the International Labour Conference at its Tenth Session on June 16, 1927.

This Convention has been ratified by and is in force between :	Date of Registration :
AUSTRIA	February 18, 1929
CZECHOSLOVAKIA	January 17, 1929
GERMANY	January 23, 1928
HUNGARY	April 19, 1928
LUXEMBURG	April 16, 1928
ROUMANIA	June 28, 1929

25. Convention concerning sickness insurance for agricultural workers, adopted as a Draft Convention by the International Labour Conference at its Tenth Session on June 16, 1927.

This Convention has been ratified by and is in force between :	Date of Registration :
AUSTRIA	February 18, 1929
CZECHOSLOVAKIA	January 17, 1929
GERMANY	January 23, 1928
LUXEMBURG	April 16, 1928

(h)

26. Convention concerning the creation of minimum-wage-fixing machinery, adopted as a Draft Convention by the International Labour Conference at its Eleventh Session on June 16, 1928.

This Convention has been ratified by and is in force between :	Date of Registration :
GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND	June 14, 1929
GERMANY	May 30, 1929

¹ Subject to subsequent decisions regarding the application of the Convention to the Belgian Congo and to the territories under Belgian mandate.

II. COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSIT.

1. CONVENTION AND STATUTE ON FREEDOM OF TRANSIT.¹
(Barcelona, April 20, 1921.)

<i>Signatures</i>	<i>Ratifications</i>	<i>Accessions</i>	<i>Final</i>
ALBANIA	ALBANIA (October 8, 1921)		
AUSTRIA	AUSTRIA (November 15, 1923)		
BELGIUM	BELGIUM (May 16, 1927)		
BOLIVIA			
BRITISH EMPIRE	BRITISH EMPIRE, including NEWFOUNDLAND (August 2, 1922)		Federated Malay States (States of Perak, Se- langor, Negri Sembil- an and Pahang) (Au- gust 22, 1923). Non- Federated Malay States (States of Bru- nei, Johore, Kedah, Perlis, Kelantan and Trengganu) (August 22, 1923)
			PALESTINE (British Mandate) (January 28, 1924)
NEW ZEALAND	NEW ZEALAND (August 2, 1922)		
INDIA	INDIA (August 2, 1922)		
BULGARIA	BULGARIA (July 11, 1922)		
CHILE	CHILE (March 19, 1928)		
CHINA			
CZECHOSLOVAKIA	CZECHOSLOVAKIA (October 29, 1923)		
DENMARK	DENMARK (November 13, 1922)		
ESTONIA	ESTONIA (June 6, 1925)		
FINLAND	FINLAND (January 29, 1923)		
FRANCE	FRANCE (September 19, 1924)		
—	—		GERMANY (April 9, 1924)
GREECE	GREECE (February 18, 1924)		
GUATEMALA			HUNGARY (May 18, 1928)
—	—		
ITALY	ITALY (August 5, 1922)		
JAPAN	JAPAN (February 20, 1924)		
LATVIA	LATVIA (September 29, 1923)		
LITHUANIA			
LUXEMBURG			
THE NETHER- LANDS (inclu- ding NETHER- LANDS INDIES, SURINAM and CURAÇAO)	THE NETHERLANDS (April 17, 1924) (including NETHERLANDS INDIES, SURINAM and CURAÇAO)		
NORWAY	NORWAY (September 4, 1923)		
PANAMA			
PERSIA			
—	—		PERU (September 15, 1924)
POLAND	POLAND (October 8, 1924)		FREE CITY OF DANZIG (April 3, 1925)
PORTUGAL			
ROUMANIA	ROUMANIA (September 5, 1923)		
KINGDOM OF THE SERBS, CROATS AND SLOVENES			
—	—		SIAM (November 29, 1922)
SPAIN			
SWEDEN	SWEDEN (January 19, 1925)		
SWITZERLAND	SWITZERLAND (July 14, 1924)		
—	—		SYRIA AND LEBANON (February 7, 1929)
URUGUAY			

¹ This Convention came into force on October 31, 1922, ninety days after it had been ratified by five Powers. See League of Nations *Treaty Series*, Vol. VII, p. 11; Vol. XI, p. 406; Vol. XV, p. 304; Vol. XIX, p. 278; Vol. XXIV, p. 154; Vol. XXXI, p. 244; Vol. XXXV, p. 298; Vol. XXXIX, p. 166; Vol. LIX, p. 344, and Vol. LXIX, p. 70.

2. CONVENTION AND STATUTE ON THE RÉGIME OF NAVIGABLE WATERWAYS OF INTERNATIONAL CONCERN.¹

(Barcelona, April 20, 1921.)

<i>Signatures</i>	<i>Ratifications</i>	<i>Accessions</i> <i>Subject to ratification</i>	<i>Final</i>
ALBANIA	ALBANIA (October 8, 1921)		
AUSTRIA	AUSTRIA (November 15, 1923)		
BELGIUM			
BOLIVIA			
BRITISH EMPIRE	BRITISH EMPIRE, including NEWFOUNDLAND (August 2, 1922)		Federated Malay States (States of Perak, Se- langor, Negri Sem- bilan and Pahang) (August 22, 1923). Non-Federated Ma- lay States (States of Brunei, Johore, Ke- dah, Perlis, Kelan- tan and Trengganu) (August 22, 1923) PALESTINE (British Mandate) (January 28, 1924)
NEW ZEALAND	NEW ZEALAND (August 2, 1922)		
INDIA	INDIA (August 2, 1922)		
BULGARIA	BULGARIA (July 11, 1922)		
CHILE	CHILE (March 19, 1928)		
CHINA	—	COLOMBIA (April 7, 1923)	
CZECHOSLOVAKIA	CZECHOSLOVAKIA (Septem- ber 8, 1924)		
DENMARK	DENMARK (November 13, 1922)		
ESTONIA			
FINLAND	FINLAND (January 29, 1923)		
FRANCE	FRANCE (December 31, 1926)		
GREECE	GREECE (January 3, 1928)		
GUATEMALA	—		HUNGARY (May 18, 1928)
ITALY	ITALY (August 5, 1922)		
LITHUANIA			
LUXEMBURG			
NORWAY	NORWAY (September 4, 1923)		
PANAMA	—	PERU (September 15, 1924)	
POLAND			
PORTUGAL	—	ROUMANIA (June 19, 1923)	ROUMANIA (May 9, 1924)
—	—		SIAM (November 29, 1922)
—	—		
SPAIN			
SWEDEN	SWEDEN (September 15, 1927)		
URUGUAY			

¹ This Convention came into force on October 31, 1922, ninety days after it had been ratified by five Powers. See *League of Nations Treaty Series*, Vol. VII, p. 35; Vol. XI, p. 406; Vol. XV, p. 306; Vol. XIX, p. 280; Vol. XXIV, p. 156; Vol. L, p. 160; Vol. LIX, p. 344, and Vol. LXIX, p. 71.

3. ADDITIONAL PROTOCOL TO THE CONVENTION ON THE RÉGIME OF NAVIGABLE WATERWAYS OF INTERNATIONAL CONCERN.¹

(Barcelona, April 20, 1921.)

<i>Signatures</i>	<i>Ratifications</i>	<i>Accessions</i>
		<i>Subject to ratification</i> <i>Final</i>
ALBANIA —	ALBANIA (October 8, 1921) —	AUSTRIA (April 7, 1923) AUSTRIA (November 15, 1923)
BELGIUM BRITISH EMPIRE	BRITISH EMPIRE, including NEWFOUNDLAND (August 2, 1922)	Nyasaland Protectorate and Tanganyika Territory (August 2, 1922) Bahamas Barbados British Guiana Jamaica (including Turks and Caicos Islands and Cayman Islands) Leeward Islands Trinidad and Tobago Windward Islands (Grenada, St. Lucia and St. Vincent) Gibraltar Malta Cyprus Gambia Colony and Protectorate Sierra Leone Colony and Protectorate Nigeria Colony and Protectorate Gold Coast, Ashanti and Northern Territories of the Gold Coast Kenya Territory and Protectorate Uganda Protectorate Zanzibar St. Helena Ceylon Mauritius Seychelles Hong-Kong Straits Settlements Fiji Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony British Solomon Islands Tonga Islands (August 2, 1922) Federated Malay States (States of Perak, Selangor, Negri Sembilan and Pahang) (August 22, 1923) Non-Federated Malay States (States of Brunei, Johore, Kedah, Perlis, Kelantan and Trengganu) (August 22, 1923) PALESTINE (British Mandate) (January 28, 1924) BERMUDA (December 27, 1928)

¹ The Convention being in force, this Protocol became operative after it had been ratified by two Powers. See League of Nations *Treaty Series*, Vol. VII, p. 65; Vol. XI, p. 406; Vol. XV, p. 308; Vol. XIX, p. 280; Vol. XXIV, p. 156; Vol. LIX, p. 345; Vol. LXIX, p. 71, and Vol. LXXVIII, p. 437.

3. ADDITIONAL PROTOCOL TO THE CONVENTION ON THE RÉGIME OF NAVIGABLE WATERWAYS OF INTERNATIONAL CONCERN (*continued*).

<i>Signatures</i>	<i>Ratifications</i>	<i>Accessions</i>	<i>Final</i>
		<i>Subject to ratification</i>	
BRITISH EMPIRE (<i>continued</i>)			
NEW ZEALAND	NEW ZEALAND (August 2, 1922)		
INDIA	INDIA (August 2, 1922)		
CHILE	CHILE (March 19, 1928)		
CZECHOSLOVAKIA	CZECHOSLOVAKIA (September 8, 1924)		
DENMARK	DENMARK (November 13, 1922)		
FINLAND	FINLAND (January 29, 1923)		
GREECE	GREECE (January 3, 1928)		
—	—		HUNGARY (May 18, 1928)
NORWAY	NORWAY (September 4, 1923)		
—	—	PERU (September 15, 1924)	
PORTUGAL	—	ROUMANIA (June 19, 1923)	ROUMANIA (May 9, 1924)
—	—		SIAM (November 29, 1922)
SPAIN	—		SWEDEN (September 15, 1927)

4. DECLARATION RECOGNISING THE RIGHT TO A FLAG OF STATES HAVING NO SEA-COAST.¹ (*Barcelona, April 20, 1921.*)

<i>Signatures</i>	<i>Ratifications</i>	<i>Adhesions</i>	<i>Final</i>
		<i>Subject to ratification</i>	
ALBANIA	ALBANIA (October 8, 1921)		
AUSTRIA	AUSTRIA (July 10, 1924)		
BELGIUM	BELGIUM ² (May 16, 1927)		
BOLIVIA			
BRITISH EMPIRE	BRITISH EMPIRE, including NEWFOUNDLAND (October 9, 1922)		CANADA (October 31, 1922)
NEW ZEALAND	NEW ZEALAND (October 9, 1922)		AUSTRALIA (October 31, 1922)
INDIA	INDIA (October 9, 1922)		UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA (October 31, 1922)
BULGARIA	BULGARIA (July 11, 1922)		
CHILE	CHILE (March 19, 1928)		
CHINA			
CZECHOSLOVAKIA	CZECHOSLOVAKIA (September 8, 1924)		
DENMARK	DENMARK (November 13, 1922)		
ESTONIA	—		
—	—		FINLAND (September 22, 1922)
FRANCE ³			
GREECE	GREECE (January 3, 1928)		
GUATEMALA	—		
—	—		HUNGARY (May 18, 1928)
ITALY ⁴			
JAPAN	JAPAN (February 20, 1924)		
LATVIA	LATVIA (February 12, 1924)		
LITHUANIA			
NETHERLANDS ⁵			
(including NETHERLANDS INDIES, SURINAM and CURAÇAO)			

¹ See League of Nations *Treaty Series*, Vol. VII, p. 73 ; Vol. XI, p. 410 ; Vol. XV, p. 308 ; Vol. XIX, p. 280 ; Vol. XXIV, p. 158 ; Vol. XXXI, p. 244 ; Vol. LIX, p. 345 and Vol. LXIX, p. 72.

² The ratification does not include the Belgian Congo or the Territory of Ruanda-Urundi under Belgian mandate.

³ Accepts Declaration as binding without ratification.

4. DECLARATION RECOGNISING THE RIGHT TO A FLAG OF STATES HAVING NO SEA-COAST
(continued).

<i>Signatures</i>	<i>Ratifications</i>	<i>Accessions</i>	<i>Final</i>
NORWAY	NORWAY (September 4, 1923)	Subject to ratification	
PANAMA			
PERSIA			
—	—	PERU (September 15, 1924)	
POLAND	POLAND (December 20, 1924)		
PORTUGAL			
—	—		ROUMANIA (February 22, 1923)
KINGDOM OF THE SERBS, CROATS AND SLOVENES			
—	—		SIAM (November 29, 1922)
SPAIN	SPAIN (July 1, 1929)		
SWEDEN	SWEDEN (January 19, 1925)		
SWITZERLAND ¹			
URUGUAY			

5. CONVENTION AND STATUTE ON THE INTERNATIONAL RÉGIME OF RAILWAYS
AND PROTOCOL OF SIGNATURE.²
(Geneva, December 9, 1923.)

<i>Signatures</i>	<i>Ratifications</i>	<i>Accessions</i>	<i>Final</i>
—	—	Subject to ratification	ABYSSINIA (September 20, 1928)
AUSTRIA	AUSTRIA (January 20, 1927)		
BELGIUM	BELGIUM ³ (May 16, 1927)		
BRAZIL			
BRITISH EMPIRE	BRITISH EMPIRE (August 29, 1924)		SOUTHERN RHODESIA (April 23, 1925) NEWFOUNDLAND (April 23, 1925) Following BRITISH COLONIES, PROTECTORATES AND MANDATED TERRITORIES (September 22, 1925): British Guiana British Honduras Brunei Federated Malay States : Perak Selangor Negri Sembilan Pahang Gambia Gold Coast Hong-Kong Malay States (Unfederated) : Johore Kedah Perlis Kelantan Trengganu Nigeria Northern Rhodesia Nyasaland Palestine Sierra Leone

¹ Accepts Declaration as binding without ratification.

² The Convention and the Protocol came into force (Article 6) on March 23rd, 1926. See League of Nations Treaty Series, Vol. XLVII, p. 55; Vol. L, p. 180; Vol. LIX, p. 383; Vol. LXIII, p. 417, Vol. LXIX, p. 92 and Vol. LXXVIII, p. 472.

³ The ratification does not include the Belgian Congo or the Territory of Ruanda-Urundi under Belgian mandate.

5. CONVENTION AND STATUTE ON THE INTERNATIONAL RÉGIME OF RAILWAYS AND PROTOCOL OF SIGNATURE (*continued*).

<i>Signatures</i>	<i>Ratifications</i>	<i>Accessions</i>	<i>Final</i>
		<i>Subject to ratification</i>	
BRITISH EMPIRE (<i>continued</i>)			Straits Settlements Tanganyika Territory
NEW ZEALAND	NEW ZEALAND (April 1, 1925)		
INDIA	INDIA (April 1, 1925)		
BULGARIA			
CHILE			
—	—	CHINA ¹ (January 21, 1925)	
—	—	COLOMBIA (December 3, 1927)	
CZECHOSLOVAKIA			
DENMARK	DENMARK (April 27, 1926)		
ESTONIA			
FINLAND			
FRANCE			
GERMANY	GERMANY (December 5, 1927)		
GREECE	GREECE (March 6, 1929)		
HUNGARY	HUNGARY (March 21, 1929)		
ITALY			
JAPAN	JAPAN (September 30, 1926)		
LATVIA			
LITHUANIA			
THE NETHERLANDS (for the Kingdom in Europe)	THE NETHERLANDS (February 22, 1928)		
NORWAY	NORWAY (February 24, 1926)		
—	—	PANAMA (July 31, 1925)	
POLAND AND FREE CITY OF DANZIG	POLAND AND FREE CITY OF DANZIG (January 7, 1928)		
PORTUGAL			
ROUMANIA	ROUMANIA (December 23, 1925)		
SALVADOR			
KINGDOM OF THE SERBS, CROATS AND SLOVENES			
SIAM	SIAM (January 9, 1925)		
SPAIN			
SWEDEN	SWEDEN (September 15, 1927)		
SWITZERLAND	SWITZERLAND (October 23, 1926)		
URUGUAY			

6. CONVENTION AND STATUTE ON THE INTERNATIONAL RÉGIME OF MARITIME PORTS AND PROTOCOL OF SIGNATURE.²
(*Geneva, December 9, 1923.*)

<i>Signatures</i>	<i>Ratifications</i>	<i>Accessions</i>	<i>Final</i>
		<i>Subject to ratification</i>	
BELGIUM	BELGIUM ³ (May 16, 1927)		AUSTRIA (January 20, 1927)
—	—		
BRAZIL			
BRITISH EMPIRE	BRITISH EMPIRE (August 29, 1924)		SOUTHERN RHODESIA (April 23, 1925) NEWFOUNDLAND (April 23, 1925) AUSTRALIA (June 29, 1925)

¹ This adhesion is given for the Convention only.

² The Convention and the Protocol came into force on July 26, 1926. See League of Nations *Treaty Series* Vol. LVIII, p. 285, Vol. LXIX, p. 102, and Vol. LXXII, p. 485.

³ This ratification does not include the Belgian Congo or the Territory of Ruanda-Urundi under Belgian mandate.

6. CONVENTION AND STATUTE ON THE INTERNATIONAL RÉGIME OF MARITIME PORTS AND
 PROTOCOL OF SIGNATURE (*continued*).

<i>Signatures</i>	<i>Ratifications</i>	<i>Accessions</i>
		<i>Subject to ratification</i>
		<i>Final</i>
BRITISH EMPIRE (<i>continued</i>)		Following BRITISH COLONIES, PROTECTORATES AND MANDATED TERRITORIES (September 22, 1925): Bahamas Barbados Bermuda British Guiana British Honduras British Solomon Islands Protectorate Brunei Ceylon Cyprus Falkland Islands Federated Malay States : Perak Selangor Negri Sembilan Pahang Fiji Gambia Gibraltar Gilbert and Ellice Islands Gold Coast Grenada Hong-Kong Jamaica (excluding Turks and Caicos Islands and Cayman Islands) Kenya Leeward Islands : Antigua Dominica Montserrat St. Christopher Nevis Virgin Islands Malay States (Unfederated) : Johore Kedah Perlis Kelantan Trengganu Mauritius Nigeria Palestine St. Helena St. Lucia St. Vincent Seychelles Sierra Leone Somaliland Straits Settlements Tanganyika Territory Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago Zanzibar Malta (November 7, 1925)
NEW ZEALAND	NEW ZEALAND (April 1, 1925)	
INDIA	INDIA (April 1, 1925)	

6. CONVENTION AND STATUTE ON THE INTERNATIONAL RÉGIME OF MARITIME PORTS
AND PROTOCOL OF SIGNATURE (*continued*).

<i>Signatures</i>	<i>Ratifications</i>	<i>Accessions</i>	
		<i>Subject to ratification</i>	<i>Final</i>
BULGARIA			
CHILE			
CZECHOSLOVAKIA			
DENMARK	DENMARK (April 27, 1926) (excluding Greenland)		
ESTONIA	—	FRANCE (December 1, 1924)	
GERMANY	GERMANY (May 1, 1928)		
GREECE	GREECE (January 24, 1927)		
HUNGARY	HUNGARY (March 21, 1929)		IRAQ (May 1, 1929)
ITALY			
JAPAN	JAPAN (September 30, 1926)		
LITHUANIA			
THE NETHERLANDS (for the Kingdom in Europe)	THE NETHERLANDS (Febru- ary 22, 1928)		NETHERLANDS INDIES, SURINAM AND CURA- CAO ¹ (February 22, 1928)
NORWAY	NORWAY (June 21, 1928)	PANAMA (July 31, 1925)	
SALVADOR			
KINGDOM OF THE SERBS, CROATS AND SLOVENES			
SIAM	SIAM (January 9, 1925)		
SPAIN			
SWEDEN	SWEDEN (September 15, 1927)		
SWITZERLAND	SWITZERLAND (October 23, 1926)		
URUGUAY			

7. CONVENTION RELATING TO THE TRANSMISSION IN TRANSIT OF ELECTRIC POWER AND
PROTOCOL OF SIGNATURE.¹

(Geneva, December 9, 1923.)

<i>Signatures</i>	<i>Ratifications</i>	<i>Accessions</i>	
		<i>Subject to ratification</i>	<i>Final</i>
AUSTRIA	AUSTRIA (January 20, 1927)		
BELGIUM			
BRITISH EMPIRE	BRITISH EMPIRE (April 1, 1925)		SOUTHERN RHODESIA (April 23, 1925) NEWFOUNDLAND (April 23, 1925) Following BRITISH COLONIES, PROTEC- TORATES AND MAN- DATED TERRITORIES: (September 22, 1925) British Guiana British Honduras Brunei Federated Malay States : Perak Selangor Negri Sembilan Pahang Gambia Gold Coast Hong-Kong Kenya

¹ The Convention and Protocol came into force on July 26, 1926. See League of Nations *Treaty Series*, Vol. LVIII, p. 315.

7. CONVENTION RELATING TO THE TRANSMISSION IN TRANSIT OF ELECTRIC POWER AND
 PROTOCOL OF SIGNATURE (*continued*).

<i>Signatures</i>	<i>Ratifications</i>	<i>Accessions</i>
		<i>Subject to ratification</i>
		<i>Final</i>
BRITISH EMPIRE (<i>continued</i>)		Malay States (Unfederated): Johore Kedah Perlis Kelantan Trengganu Nigeria Northern Rhodesia Nyasaland Palestine Sierra Leone Straits Settlements Tanganyika Territory Uganda Protectorate (January 12, 1927)
NEW ZEALAND	NEW ZEALAND (April 1, 1925)	
BULGARIA		
CHILE		
CZECHOSLOVAKIA	CZECHOSLOVAKIA (November 30, 1926)	
DENMARK	DENMARK (April 27, 1926)	
FRANCE		
GREECE	GREECE (February 15, 1929)	
HUNGARY		
ITALY		
LITHUANIA		
POLAND and FREE CITY OF DANZIG		
KINGDOM OF THE SERBS, CROATS AND SLOVENES		
SPAIN		
URUGUAY		

8. CONVENTION RELATING TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF HYDRAULIC POWER AFFECTING MORE
 THAN ONE STATE, AND PROTOCOL OF SIGNATURE. ¹

(*Geneva, December 9, 1923.*)

<i>Signatures</i>	<i>Ratifications</i>	<i>Accessions</i>
		<i>Subject to ratification</i>
		<i>Final</i>
AUSTRIA	AUSTRIA (January 20, 1927)	
BELGIUM		
BRITISH EMPIRE	BRITISH EMPIRE (April 1, 1925)	SOUTHERN RHODESIA (April 23, 1925) NEWFOUNDLAND (April 23, 1925) Following BRITISH COLONIES, PROTECTORATES AND MANDATED TERRITORIES. (September 22, 1925) British Guiana British Honduras Brunei Federated Malay States: Perak Selangor Negri Sembilan Pahang

¹The Convention and the Protocol came into force on June 30, 1925. See *League of Nations Treaty Series*, Vol. XXXVI, p. 75, Vol. XLV, p. 170 and Vol. L, p. 166.

8. CONVENTION RELATING TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF HYDRAULIC POWER AFFECTING MORE THAN ONE STATE, AND PROTOCOL OF SIGNATURE (*continued*).

<i>Signatures</i>	<i>Ratifications</i>	<i>Accessions</i>	<i>Final</i>
		<i>Subject to ratification</i>	
BRITISH EMPIRE (<i>continued</i>)			Gambia Gold Coast Hong-Kong Kenya Malay States (Unfederated): Johore Kedah Perlis Kelantan Trengganu Nigeria Northern Rhodesia Nyasaland Palestine Sierra Leone Straits Settlements Tanganyika Territory Uganda Protectorate (January 12, 1927)
NEW ZEALAND	NEW ZEALAND (April 1, 1925)		
BULGARIA			
CHILE			
DENMARK	DENMARK (April 27, 1926)		
FRANCE			
GREECE	GREECE (March 14, 1929)		
HUNGARY			
ITALY			
LITHUANIA			
POLAND and FREE CITY OF DANZIG			
KINGDOM OF THE SERBS, CROATS AND SLOVENES			
SIAM	SIAM (January 9, 1925)		
URUGUAY			

9. CONVENTION REGARDING THE MEASUREMENT OF VESSELS EMPLOYED IN INLAND NAVIGATION. ¹

(Paris, November 27, 1925.)

<i>Signatures</i>	<i>Ratifications</i>	<i>Accessions</i>	<i>Final</i>
		<i>Subject to ratification</i>	
AUSTRIA	AUSTRIA (July 4, 1927)		
BELGIUM	BELGIUM (July 2, 1927)		
BRITISH EMPIRE	BRITISH EMPIRE (for GREAT BRITAIN and NORTHERN IRELAND) (June 14, 1927)		
BULGARIA	BULGARIA (July 2, 1927)		
CZECHOSLOVAKIA	CZECHOSLOVAKIA (January 17, 1929)		
FINLAND			
FRANCE	FRANCE (July 2, 1927)		
GERMANY	GERMANY (July 2, 1927)		
GREECE			
HUNGARY	HUNGARY (January 3, 1928)		
ITALY			

¹ The Convention came into force on October 1st, 1927, in conformity with Article 12. See League of Nations *Treaty Series*, Vol. LXVII, p. 63.

9. CONVENTION REGARDING THE MEASUREMENT OF VESSELS EMPLOYED
IN INLAND NAVIGATION (*continued*).

<i>Signatures</i>	<i>Ratifications</i>	<i>Accessions</i>	
		<i>Subject to ratification</i>	<i>Final</i>
THE NETHERLANDS (for the Kingdom in Europe)	THE NETHERLANDS (July 2, 1927)		
POLAND			
ROUMANIA	ROUMANIA (May 18, 1928)		
UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST RE- PUBLICS			
KINGDOM OF THE SERBS, CROATS AND SLOVENES			
SPAIN	SPAIN (July 11, 1927)		
SWITZERLAND	SWITZERLAND (July 2, 1927)		

PROTOCOL OF SIGNATURE.
(Paris, November 27, 1925.)

<i>Signatures</i>	<i>Ratifications</i>	<i>Accessions</i>	
		<i>Subject to ratification</i>	<i>Final</i>
AUSTRIA	AUSTRIA (July 4, 1927)		
BELGIUM	BELGIUM (July 2, 1927)		
BRITISH EMPIRE	BRITISH EMPIRE (for GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND) (June 14, 1927)		
BULGARIA	BULGARIA (July 2, 1927)		
CZECHOSLOVAKIA	CZECHOSLOVAKIA (January 17, 1929)		
FINLAND			
FRANCE	FRANCE (July 2, 1927)		
GERMANY	GERMANY (July 2, 1927)		
GREECE			
HUNGARY	HUNGARY (January 3, 1928)		
ITALY			
THE NETHERLANDS (for the Kingdom in Europe)	THE NETHERLANDS (July 2, 1927)		
POLAND			
ROUMANIA	ROUMANIA (May 18, 1928)		
UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST RE- PUBLICS			
KINGDOM OF THE SERBS, CROATS AND SLOVENES			
SPAIN	SPAIN (July 11, 1927)		
SWITZERLAND	SWITZERLAND (July 2, 1927)		

III. TRAFFIC IN WOMEN AND CHILDREN.¹

INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION FOR THE SUPPRESSION OF THE TRAFFIC IN WOMEN AND CHILDREN.²

(Geneva, September 30, 1921.)

<i>Signatures</i>	<i>Ratifications</i>	<i>Accessions</i> <i>Subject to ratification</i>	<i>Final</i>
ALBANIA	ALBANIA (October 13, 1924)		
AUSTRIA	AUSTRIA (August 9, 1922)		
BELGIUM	BELGIUM (June 15, 1922)		
BRAZIL			
BRITISH EMPIRE	BRITISH EMPIRE (June 28, 1922)		Bahamas, Trinidad, Kenya, Nyasaland, Ceylon, Hong-Kong, Straits Settlements, Gibraltar, Malta, Cyprus, Southern Rhodesia, Barbados, Grenada, St. Lucia, St. Vincent, Seychelles, Northern Rhodesia, British Honduras (September 18, 1922) British Guiana, Fiji (October 24, 1922) Leeward Islands, Ja maica, Mauritius (March 7, 1924) Falkland Islands (May 8, 1924) Gold Coast Colony (July 3, 1924) Iraq (May 15, 1925) Sierra Leone* (Novem ber 16, 1927)
CANADA	CANADA (June 28, 1922)		
AUSTRALIA	AUSTRALIA (June 28, 1922)		
UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA	UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA (June 28, 1922)		
NEW ZEALAND	NEW ZEALAND (June 28, 1922)		
INDIA	INDIA (June 28, 1922)		
—	—		BULGARIA (April 29, 1925)
CHILE	CHILE (January 15, 1929)		
CHINA	CHINA (February 24, 1926)		
COLOMBIA			
COSTA RICA			
CUBA	CUBA (May 7, 1923)		
CZECHOSLOVAKIA	CZECHOSLOVAKIA (September 29, 1923)		
—	—	DENMARK (March 12, 1923)	
ESTONIA	—		FINLAND (August 16, 1926)
—	—	FRANCE (January 19, 1926) (This adhesion does not include the French Colonies and Protectorates, or the Mandated Territories.)	FRANCE (March 1, 1926)

¹ The Annex to the Supplementary Report for 1923 (A. 10 (a), Annex, 1923) contains, moreover, complete details concerning:

1. The Agreement for the Suppression of the White Slave Traffic, Paris, May 18th, 1904.
2. The Convention for the Suppression of the White Slave Traffic, Paris, May 4th, 1910.

² "The present Convention shall come into force in respect of each Party on the date of the deposit of its ratification or act of accession" (Article 11). See *Treaty Series of the League of Nations*: Vol. IX, p. 415; Vol. XV, p. 310; Vol. XIX, p. 282; Vol. XXIV, p. 162; Vol. XXVII, p. 418; Vol. XXXV, p. 298; Vol. XXXIX, p. 167; Vol. XLV, p. 99; Vol. I., p. 160; Vol. LIV, p. 388, and Vol. LXIII, p. 378.

* This accession applies only to the Colony of Sierra Leone and not to the Protectorate as well.

INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION FOR THE SUPPRESSION OF THE TRAFFIC IN WOMEN AND CHILDREN
(continued).

<i>Signatures</i>	<i>Ratifications</i>	<i>Accessions</i>	
		<i>Subject to ratification</i>	<i>Final</i>
GERMANY	GERMANY (July 8, 1924)		
GREECE	GREECE (April 9, 1923)		
HUNGARY	HUNGARY (April 25, 1925)		
ITALY	ITALY (June 30, 1924)		Italian Colonies (July 27, 1922)
JAPAN ¹	JAPAN (December 15, 1925)		
LATVIA	LATVIA (February 12, 1924)		
LITHUANIA			
THE NETHERLANDS (including NETHERLANDS INDIES, SURINAM and CURAÇAO)	THE NETHERLANDS (September 19, 1923) (including NETHERLANDS INDIES, SURINAM and CURAÇAO)		
NORWAY	NORWAY (August 16, 1922)		
—	—	PANAMA (September 6, 1922)	
PERSIA	—	PERU (September 15, 1924)	
—	—		
POLAND AND FREE CITY OF DANZIG	POLAND AND FREE CITY OF DANZIG (October 8, 1924)		
PORTUGAL	PORTUGAL (December 1, 1923)		
ROUMANIA	ROUMANIA (September 5, 1923)		
—	—		KINGDOM OF THE SERBS, CROATS AND SLOVENES (May 2, 1929)
SIAM	SIAM (July 13, 1922)		SPAIN (May 12, 1924). (This adhesion does not include the Spanish possessions in Africa or the territories of the Spanish Protectorate in Morocco.)
—	—		
SWEDEN	SWEDEN (June 9, 1925)		
SWITZERLAND	SWITZERLAND (January 20, 1926)		
—	—		URUGUAY (October 21, 1924)

IV. OBSCENE PUBLICATIONS.

INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION FOR THE SUPPRESSION OF THE CIRCULATION OF AND TRAFFIC IN OBSCENE PUBLICATIONS. ²

(Geneva, September 12, 1923.)

<i>Signatures</i>	<i>Ratifications</i>	<i>Accessions</i>	
		<i>Subject to ratification</i>	<i>Final</i>
ALBANIA	ALBANIA (October 13, 1924)		
AUSTRIA	AUSTRIA (January 12, 1925)		
BELGIUM ³	BELGIUM (July 31, 1926)		
BRAZIL			

¹ The signature by Japan does not include Chosen, Taiwan and the Leased Territory of Kwantung.

² The present Convention came into force on August 7th, 1924, viz., on the thirtieth day following the one on which the deposit of the second ratification took place (Article 11). See *Treaty Series of the League of Nations*, Vol. XXVII, p. 213; Vol. XXXI, p. 260; Vol. XXXV, p. 314; Vol. XXXIX, p. 120; Vol. XLV, p. 122; Vol. LIV, p. 391, and Vol. LIX, p. 357.

³ The signature by Belgium includes also the Belgian Congo and the mandated territory of Ruanda-Urundi.

INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION FOR THE SUPPRESSION OF THE CIRCULATION
OF AND TRAFFIC IN OBSCENE PUBLICATIONS (*continued*).

<i>Signatures</i>	<i>Ratifications</i>	<i>Accessions</i>
	<i>Subject to ratification</i>	<i>Final</i>
BRITISH EMPIRE	GREAT BRITAIN and NORTHERN IRELAND (December 11, 1925)	CANADA (May 23, 1924)
UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA, including South West Africa (Mandate)	UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA, including South West Africa (Mandate) (December 11, 1925)	SOUTHERN RHODESIA (December 31, 1925)
NEW ZEALAND (including the mandated territory of Western Samoa)	NEW ZEALAND, including the mandated territory of Western Samoa (December 11, 1925)	NEWFOUNDLAND (December 31, 1925)
INDIA	INDIA (December 11, 1925)	Nigeria
IRISH FREE STATE		Seychelles
		British Honduras
		Ceylon
		Kenya
		Mauritius
		British Solomon Islands Protectorate
		Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony
		Fiji
		Uganda
		Trinidad
		Zanzibar
		Tanganyika Territory
		Leeward Islands
		Windward Islands
		Gambia
		Nyasaland
		Straits Settlements
		Non-Federated
		Malay States :
		Brunei
		Johore
		Kedah
		Kelantan
		Trengganu
		Sierra Leone
		Northern Rhodesia
		Barbados
		Gold Coast
		Cyprus
		Gibraltar
		Malta
		Somaliland
		Basutoland
		Bechuanaland
		Swaziland
		Hong-Kong (November 3, 1926)
		Bermuda
		Bahamas
		Falkland Islands
		St. Helena
		Palestine
		Trans-Jordan
		Jamaica (August 22, 1927)

May 23, 1927

INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION FOR THE SUPPRESSION OF THE CIRCULATION
OF AND TRAFFIC IN OBSCENE PUBLICATIONS (*continued*).

<i>Signatures</i>	<i>Ratifications</i>	<i>Accessions</i>	
		<i>Subject to ratification</i>	<i>Final</i>
BULGARIA	BULGARIA (July 1, 1924)		
CHINA	CHINA (February 24, 1926)		
COLOMBIA			
COSTA RICA			
CUBA			
CZECHOSLOVAKIA	CZECHOSLOVAKIA (April 11, 1927)		
DENMARK	—		
—	—		EGYPT (October 29, 1924)
FINLAND	FINLAND (June 29, 1925)		
FRANCE			
GERMANY	GERMANY (May 11, 1925)		
GREECE			
HAITI			
HONDURAS			
HUNGARY	HUNGARY (February 12, 1929)		
—	—		
ITALY	ITALY (July 8, 1924)		IRAQ (April 26, 1929)
JAPAN			
LATVIA	LATVIA (October 7, 1925)		
LITHUANIA			
LUXEMBURG	LUXEMBURG ¹ (August 10, 1927)		
—	—		
MONACO	MONACO (May 11, 1925)		SAN MARINO (April 21, 1926)
THE NETHERLANDS (including NETHERLANDS INDIES, SURINAM and CURAÇAO)	THE NETHERLANDS (including NETHERLANDS INDIES, SURINAM and CURAÇAO) (September 13, 1927)		
—	—		
—	—		NORWAY (May 8, 1929)
PANAMA			
PERSIA			
—	—		
POLAND and FREE CITY OF DANZIG	POLAND (March 8, 1927) and FREE CITY OF DANZIG (March 31, 1926)		PERU (September 15, 1924)
PORTUGAL	PORTUGAL (October 4, 1927)		
ROUMANIA	ROUMANIA (June 7, 1926)		
SALVADOR			
KINGDOM OF THE SERBS, CROATS AND SLOVENES	KINGDOM OF THE SERBS, CROATS AND SLOVENES (May 2, 1929)		
SIAM	SIAM (July 28, 1924)		
SPAIN	SPAIN (December 19, 1924)		
SWITZERLAND	SWITZERLAND (January 20, 1926)		
TURKEY			
URUGUAY			

¹ Subject to the reservation that, in applying the provisions relating to penalties in the Convention, the Luxemburg authorities will respect the final paragraph of Article 24 of the Constitution of the Grand-Duchy, which lays down that the publisher, printer or bookseller may not be prosecuted if the author is known and is a national of Luxemburg and domiciled in the Grand-Duchy.

V. TRAFFIC IN OPIUM AND OTHER DANGEROUS DRUGS.

INTERNATIONAL OPIUM CONVENTION OF JANUARY 23, 1912.¹

Schedule containing the signatures of the Convention, the signatures of the Protocol of Signature of the Powers not represented at the First Opium Conference, provided for in the penultimate paragraph of Article 22 of the Convention, the ratifications of the Convention, and the signatures of the Protocol respecting the putting into force of the Convention provided under "B" of the Final Protocol of the Third International Opium Conference.

(The ratifications and signatures in accordance with Article 295 of the Peace Treaty of Versailles or in accordance with a similar article of other treaties of peace are marked *.)

States	Signatures of the Convention	Signatures of the Protocol of the Powers not represented at the Opium Conference	Ratifications of the Convention	Signatures of the Protocol relative to the bringing into force of the Convention (dates of the entry into force)
ALBANIA	—	Feb. 3, 1925	Feb. 3, 1925	Feb. 3, 1925
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA	Jan. 23, 1912	—	Dec. 15, 1913	Feb. 11, 1915
ARGENTINE	—	Oct. 17, 1912	—	—
AUSTRIA	—	—	July 16, 1920*	July 16, 1920*
BELGIUM ²	—	June 18, 1912	June 16, 1914	May 14, 1919
BOLIVIA	—	June 4, 1913	Jan. 10, 1920*	Jan. 10, 1920*
BRAZIL	—	Oct. 16, 1912	Dec. 23, 1914	Jan. 10, 1920*
GREAT BRITAIN ³	Jan. 23, 1912	April 24, 1922	July 15, 1914	Jan. 10, 1920*
BULGARIA	—	March 2, 1914	Aug. 9, 1920*	Aug. 9, 1920*
CHILE	—	July 2, 1913	Jan. 16, 1923	May 18, 1923
CHINA	Jan. 23, 1912	—	Feb. 9, 1914	Feb. 11, 1915
COLOMBIA ⁴	—	Jan. 15, 1913	June 26, 1924	June 30, 1924
COSTA RICA	—	April 25, 1912	August 1, 1924	July 29, 1925
CUBA	—	May 8, 1913	March 8, 1920*	March 8, 1920*
CZECHOSLOVAKIA	—	—	Jan. 10, 1920*	Jan. 10, 1920*
FREE CITY OF DANZIG	—	Nov. 8, 1921	April 18, 1922	—
DENMARK ⁵	—	Dec. 17, 1912	July 10, 1913	Oct. 21, 1921
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC	—	Nov. 12, 1912	June 7, 1923	—
ECUADOR	—	July 2, 1912	Feb. 25, 1915	August 23, 1923
ESTONIA	—	Jan. 9, 1923	April 20, 1923	—
FINLAND	—	April 24, 1922	May 16, 1922	Dec. 1, 1922
FRANCE ⁶	Jan. 23, 1912	—	Jan. 10, 1920*	Jan. 10, 1920*
GERMANY	Jan. 23, 1912	—	Jan. 10, 1920*	Jan. 10, 1920*
GREECE	—	—	March 30, 1920*	March 30, 1920*
GUATEMALA	—	June 17, 1912	Aug. 27, 1913	Jan. 10, 1920*
HAITI	—	Aug. 21, 1912	June 30, 1920*	June 30, 1920*
HONDURAS	—	July 5, 1912	Aug. 29, 1913	April 3, 1915
HUNGARY	—	—	July 26, 1921*	July 26, 1921*
ITALY	Jan. 23, 1912	—	June 28, 1914	Jan. 10, 1920*
JAPAN	Jan. 23, 1912	—	Jan. 10, 1920*	Jan. 10, 1920*
LATVIA	—	Feb. 6, 1922	March 25, 1924	—
LIBERIA	—	—	June 30, 1920*	June 30, 1920*

¹ See *Treaty Series of the League of Nations*: Vol. VIII, p. 187; Vol. XI, p. 414; Vol. XV, p. 310; Vol. XIX, p. 282; Vol. XXIV, p. 162; Vol. XXXI, p. 244; Vol. XXXV, p. 298; Vol. XXXIX, p. 167, and Vol. LIX, p. 346.

² Subject to adherence or denunciation as regards Belgian Congo.

³ In accordance with the following reservation:

The articles of the present Convention, if ratified by His Britannic Majesty's Government, shall apply to the Government of British India, Ceylon, the Straits Settlements, Hong-Kong, and Wei-hai-Wei in every respect in the same way as they shall apply to the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland; but His Britannic Majesty's Government reserve the right of signing or denouncing separately the said Convention in the name of any Dominion, Colony, Dependency, or Protectorate of His Majesty other than those which have been specified.

In virtue of the above-mentioned reservation, Great Britain signed the Convention for the following Dominions, Colonies, Dependencies, and Protectorates:

On December 17th, 1912, for Canada, Newfoundland, New Zealand, Brunel, Cyprus, the East Africa Protectorate, Falkland Islands, Malay Protectorates, Gambia, Gibraltar, Gold Coast, Jamaica, Johore, Kedah, Kelantan, Perlis, Trengganu, Malta, Northern Nigeria, Northern Borneo, Nyasaland, St. Helena, Sarawak, Seychelles, Somaliland, Southern Nigeria, Trinidad, Uganda; on February 27th, 1913, for the Colony of Fiji; on April 22nd, 1913, for the Colony of Sierra Leone, the Gilbert and Ellice Islands Protectorate and the Solomon Islands Protectorate; on June 25th, 1913, for the Government of the Commonwealth of Australia; on November 14th, 1913, for the Bahamas Islands and for the three Colonies of the Windward Islands, that is to say, Grenada, St. Lucia and St. Vincent; on January 30th, 1914, for the Leeward Islands; on February 11th, 1914, for British Guiana as well as for British Honduras; on March 11th, 1914, for the Government of the Union of South Africa; on March 28th, 1914, for Zanzibar, Southern and Northern Rhodesia, Basutoland, the Bechuanaland Protectorate and Swaziland; on April 4th, 1914, for the Colony of Barbados; on April 8th, 1914, for Mauritius and its dependencies; on July 11th, 1914, for the Bermuda Islands; on August 21st, 1924, for Palestine and together with France for the New Hebrides; on October 20th, 1924, for Iraq.

⁴ Subject to the approval of the Colombian Parliament.

⁵ The signature of the Protocol of Signature of the Powers not represented at the Conference as well as its ratification were given by Denmark for Iceland and the Danish Antilles; the signature of the Protocol respecting the putting into force of the Convention was given separately by Denmark and Iceland.

⁶ With the reservation that a separate and special ratification or denunciation may subsequently be obtained for the French Protectorates. France and Great Britain signed the Convention for the New Hebrides, August 21, 1924.

States	Signatures of the Convention	Signatures of the Protocol of the Powers not represented at the Opium Conference	Ratifications of the Convention	Signatures of the Protocol relative to the bringing into force of the Convention (dates of the entry into force)
LITHUANIA	—	April 7, 1922	—	—
LUXEMBURG	—	June 18, 1912	—	—
MEXICO	—	May 15, 1912	Aug. 21, 1922	Aug. 21, 1922
MONACO	—	May 1, 1923	April 2, 1925	May 8, 1925
THE NETHERLANDS	Jan. 23, 1912	—	Feb. 20, 1925	May 26, 1925
NICARAGUA	—	—	July 28, 1914	Feb. 11, 1915
NORWAY	—	July 18, 1913	Nov. 10, 1914	Nov. 3, 1920
PANAMA	—	Sept. 2, 1913	Nov. 12, 1914	Sept. 20, 1915
PARAGUAY	—	June 19, 1912	Nov. 25, 1920*	Nov. 25, 1920*
PERU	—	Dec. 14, 1912	—	—
PERSIA ¹	Jan. 23, 1912	July 24, 1913	Jan. 10, 1920*	Jan. 10, 1920*
POLAND	—	—	—	—
PORTUGAL	Jan. 23, 1912	—	Jan. 10, 1920*	Jan. 10, 1920*
ROUMANIA	—	—	Dec. 15, 1913	April 8, 1920*
RUSSIA	Jan. 23, 1912	Dec. 27, 1913	Sept. 14, 1920*	Sept. 14, 1920*
SALVADOR	—	—	—	—
SERBS, CROATS AND SLOVENES, (KINGDOM OF THE).	—	July 30, 1912	Sept. 19, 1922	—
SIAM ²	Jan. 23, 1912	—	Feb. 10, 1920*	Feb. 10, 1920*
SPAIN	—	—	July 10, 1913	Jan. 10, 1920*
SWEDEN ³	—	Oct. 23, 1912	Jan. 25, 1919	Feb. 11, 1921
SWITZERLAND ⁴	—	Aug. 27, 1913	April 17, 1914	Jan. 13, 1921
URUGUAY	—	Dec. 29, 1913	Jan. 15, 1925	Jan. 15, 1925
VENEZUELA	—	March 9, 1914	April 3, 1916	Jan. 10, 1920*
		Sept. 10, 1912	Oct. 28, 1913	July 12, 1927

FIRST OPIUM CONFERENCE OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS.

AGREEMENT, PROTOCOL AND FINAL ACT. ⁵

(Signed at Geneva, February 11, 1925.)

Signatures	Ratifications	Signatures	Ratifications
BRITISH EMPIRE	BRITISH EMPIRE (Feb. 17, 1926)	THE NETHERLANDS (including NETHERLANDS INDIES, SURINAM and CURAÇAO)	THE NETHERLANDS (including NETHERLANDS INDIES, SURINAM and CURAÇAO) (March 1, 1927)
INDIA	INDIA (Feb. 17, 1926)		
FRANCE	FRANCE (April 29, 1926)		
JAPAN	JAPAN (October 10, 1928)	PORTUGAL	PORTUGAL (September 13, 1926)
		SIAM	SIAM (May 6, 1927)

SECOND OPIUM CONFERENCE OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS.

CONVENTION. ⁶

(Geneva, February 19, 1925.)

Signatures	Ratifications	Accessions	Final
ALBANIA		Subject to ratification	
AUSTRIA	AUSTRIA (November 25, 1927)		
BELGIUM	BELGIUM ⁷ (August 24, 1927)		
		BOLIVIA (January 19, 1927)	
BRAZIL			
BRITISH EMPIRE	BRITISH EMPIRE (February 17, 1926)		STATE OF SARAWAK (March 11, 1926)
CANADA	CANADA (June 27, 1928)		
AUSTRALIA	AUSTRALIA (February 17, 1926)		BAHAMAS (October 22, 1926)

¹ With the reservation of Articles 15, 16, 17, 18 and 19 (Persia having no treaty with China) and paragraph (a) of Article 3.

² With the reservation of Articles 15, 16, 17, 18 and 19 (Siam having no treaty with China).

³ Subject to the following declaration: "Opium not being manufactured in Sweden, the Swedish Government will for the moment confine themselves to prohibiting the importation of prepared opium, but they declare at the same time that they are ready to take the measures indicated in Article 8 of the Convention if experience proves their expediency."

⁴ Subject to ratification and with the declaration that the Swiss Government will be unable to issue the necessary legal enactments within the terms fixed by the Convention.

⁵ The Agreement and the Protocol came into force on July 28, 1926. See League of Nations *Treaty Series*, Vol. LI, p. 337, Vol. LIX, p. 401 and Vol. LXXXVIII, p. 489.

⁶ The Convention and the Protocol came into force September 25, 1928 (Article 36). See League of Nations *Treaty Series*, Vol. LXXXI, p. 317.

⁷ This ratification does not include the Belgian Congo or the Territory of Ruanda-Urundi placed under Belgian mandate.

SECOND OPIUM CONFERENCE OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS.
CONVENTION (*continued*).

<i>Signatures</i>	<i>Ratifications</i>	<i>Accessions</i>	
		<i>Subject to ratification</i>	<i>Final</i>
BRITISH EMPIRE (<i>continued</i>)			
UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA	UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA (February 17, 1926)		
NEW ZEALAND	NEW ZEALAND (February 17, 1926)		
INDIA	INDIA (February 17, 1926)		
IRISH FREE STATE			
BULGARIA	BULGARIA (March 9, 1927)		
CHILE			
CUBA			
CZECHOSLOVAKIA	CZECHOSLOVAKIA (April 11, 1927)		
DENMARK			
—	—	DOMINICAN REPUBLIC (October 16, 1926)	DOMINICAN REPUBLIC (July 19, 1928)
—	—		EGYPT (March 16, 1926)
—	—		FINLAND (December 5, 1927)
FRANCE	FRANCE (July 2, 1927)		
GERMANY	Germany, (August 15, 1929)		
GREECE			
HUNGARY			
—	—	ITALY ¹ (September 17, 1928)	
JAPAN	JAPAN (October 10, 1928)		
LATVIA	LATVIA (October 31, 1928)		
LUXEMBURG	LUXEMBURG (March 27, 1928)		
—	—		SAN MARINO (April 21, 1926)
THE NETHERLANDS (including NETHERLANDS INDIES, SURINAM and CURAÇAO)	THE NETHERLANDS (including NETHERLANDS INDIES, SURINAM AND CURAÇAO) (June 4, 1928)		
—	—		MONACO (February 9, 1927)
—	—		NEW HEBRIDES (December 27, 1927)
NICARAGUA			
PERSIA			
POLAND	POLAND (June 16, 1927)		FREE CITY OF DANZIG (June 16, 1927)
PORTUGAL	PORTUGAL (September 13, 1926)		
—	—	ROUMANIA (March 26, 1926)	ROUMANIA (May 18, 1928)
—	—	SALVADOR (March 11, 1926)	SALVADOR (December 2, 1926)
KINGDOM OF THE SERBS, CROATS AND SLOVENES			
SIAM			
SPAIN	SPAIN ² (June 22, 1928)		

¹ For the Kingdom and the Colonies.

² This ratification includes also the Spanish Colonies with the exception of the Spanish Protectorate of Morocco.

SECOND OPIUM CONFERENCE OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS.
CONVENTION (continued).

<i>Signatures</i>	<i>Ratifications</i>	<i>Accessions</i>	
		<i>Subject to ratification</i>	<i>Final</i>
SUDAN	SUDAN (February 20, 1926)		
SWITZERLAND	SWITZERLAND (April 3, 1929)		
URUGUAY	—	VENEZUELA (June 25, 1927)	VENEZUELA (June 19, 1929)
—	—		

PROTOCOL.

(Geneva, February 19, 1925.)

<i>Signatures</i>	<i>Ratifications</i>	<i>Accessions</i>	
		<i>Subject to ratification</i>	<i>Final</i>
ALBANIA	—	BOLIVIA (January 19, 1927)	
—	—		
BRITISH EMPIRE	BRITISH EMPIRE (February 17, 1926)		STATE OF SARAWAK (March 11, 1926)
CANADA	CANADA (June 27, 1928)		
AUSTRALIA	AUSTRALIA (February 17, 1926)		BAHAMAS (October 22, 1926)
—	—		
UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA	UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA (February 17, 1926)		
NEW ZEALAND	NEW ZEALAND (February 17, 1926)		
INDIA	INDIA (February 17, 1926)		
BULGARIA	BULGARIA (March 9, 1927)		
CHILE	—		
CUBA	—		
CZECHOSLOVAKIA	CZECHOSLOVAKIA (April 11, 1927)		
—	—		EGYPT (March 16, 1926)
—	—		FINLAND (December 5, 1927)
GERMANY	Germany (August 15, 1929)		
GREECE	—		
JAPAN	JAPAN (October 10, 1928)		
LATVIA	LATVIA (October 31, 1928)		
LUXEMBURG	LUXEMBURG (March 27, 1928)		
THE NETHERLANDS	THE NETHERLANDS (including NETHERLANDS INDIES, SURINAM and CURAÇAO) (June 4, 1928)		
NICARAGUA	—		
PERSIA	—		
PORTUGAL	PORTUGAL (September 13, 1926)		
—	—	ROUMANIA (March 26, 1926)	ROUMANIA (May 18, 1928)
—	—	SALVADOR (March 11, 1926)	SALVADOR (December 2, 1926)
—	—		
KINGDOM OF THE SERBS, CROATS AND SLOVENES	—		
SIAM	—		
SUDAN	SUDAN (February 20, 1926)		
—	—	VENEZUELA (June 25, 1927)	VENEZUELA (June 19, 1929)

VI. SUPERVISION OF THE INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN ARMS AND
AMMUNITION AND IN IMPLEMENTS OF WAR.

CONVENTION FOR THE SUPERVISION OF THE INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN ARMS AND AMMUNITION
AND IN IMPLEMENTS OF WAR. ¹

(Geneva, June 17, 1925.)

<i>Signatures</i>	<i>Ratifications</i>	<i>Accessions</i>	<i>Final</i>
		<i>Subject to ratification</i>	
ABYSSINIA			
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA			
AUSTRIA			
BELGIUM			
BRAZIL			
BRITISH EMPIRE			
CANADA			
INDIA			
BULGARIA			
CHILE			
CHINA	CHINA		
CZECHOSLOVAKIA			
DENMARK			
EGYPT	EGYPT		
ESTONIA			
FINLAND			
FRANCE	FRANCE		
GERMANY			
HUNGARY			
ITALY			
JAPAN			
LATVIA			
—	—		LIBERIA
LUXEMBURG			
THE NETHERLANDS (including NETHERLANDS INDIES, SURINAM and CURAÇAO)	THE NETHERLANDS (including NETHERLANDS INDIES, SURINAM and CURAÇAO)		
NORWAY			
POLAND	POLAND		
ROUMANIA			
SALVADOR			
KINGDOM OF THE SERBS, CROATS AND SLOVENES			
SIAM			
SPAIN			
SWEDEN			
SWITZERLAND			
URUGUAY			
VENEZUELA	VENEZUELA		

¹ "A first procès-verbal of the deposit of ratifications will be drawn up by the Government of the French Republic as soon as the present Convention shall have been ratified by fourteen Powers.

"The Convention shall come into force four months after the date of the notification of this procès-verbal by the Government of the French Republic to all signatory Powers" (Article 41).

PROTOCOL OF SIGNATURE.
(Geneva, June 17, 1925.)

<i>Signatures</i>	<i>Ratifications</i>	<i>Accessions</i>	
		<i>Subject to ratification</i>	<i>Final</i>
ABYSSINIA			
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA			
AUSTRIA			
BELGIUM			
BRAZIL			
BRITISH EMPIRE			
CANADA			
INDIA			
BULGARIA			
CHILE			
CZECHOSLOVAKIA			
DENMARK			
ESTONIA			
FINLAND			
FRANCE	FRANCE		
GERMANY			
GREECE			
HUNGARY			
ITALY			
JAPAN			
LATVIA			
—	—		
LUXEMBURG			LIBERIA
THE NETHERLANDS (including NETHERLANDS INDIES, SURINAM and CURAÇAO)			
NICARAGUA			
POLAND	POLAND		
PORTUGAL			
ROUMANIA			
SALVADOR			
KINGDOM OF THE SERBS, CROATS AND SLOVENES			
SPAIN			
SWITZERLAND			
TURKEY			
URUGUAY			
VENEZUELA	VENEZUELA		

DECLARATION REGARDING THE TERRITORY OF IFNI.
(Geneva, June 17, 1925.)

<i>Signatures</i>	<i>Ratifications</i>	<i>Accessions</i>	
		<i>Subject to ratification</i>	<i>Final</i>
ABYSSINIA			
AUSTRIA			
BELGIUM			
BRAZIL			
BRITISH EMPIRE			
CANADA			
INDIA			

DECLARATION REGARDING THE TERRITORY OF IFNI (*continued*).

<i>Signatures</i>	<i>Ratifications</i>	<i>Accessions</i>	
		<i>Subject to ratification</i>	<i>Final</i>
BULGARIA			
CHILE			CHINA
—	—		
CZECHOSLOVAKIA			
DENMARK			
EGYPT	EGYPT		
ESTONIA			
FINLAND			
FRANCE	FRANCE		
ITALY			
JAPAN			
LATVIA			
—	—		LIBERIA
LUXEMBURG			
THE NETHERLANDS (including NETHERLANDS INDIES, SURINAM and CURAÇAO)	THE NETHERLANDS (including NETHERLANDS INDIES, SURINAM and CURAÇAO)		
POLAND	POLAND		
ROUMANIA			
SALVADOR			
KINGDOM OF THE SERBS, CROATS AND SLOVENES			
SPAIN			
SWITZERLAND			
VENEZUELA	VENEZUELA		

PROTOCOL FOR THE PROHIBITION OF THE USE IN WAR OF ASPHYXIATING, POISONOUS OR OTHER GASES, AND OF BACTERIOLOGICAL METHODS OF WARFARE. ¹
(Geneva, June 17, 1925.)

<i>Signatures</i>	<i>Ratifications</i>	<i>Accessions</i>	
		<i>Subject to ratification</i>	<i>Final</i>
ABYSSINIA			
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA			
AUSTRIA	AUSTRIA (May 9, 1928)		
BELGIUM	BELGIUM (December 4, 1928)		
BRAZIL			
BRITISH EMPIRE			
CANADA			
INDIA			
BULGARIA			
CHILE			
—	—		CHINA (August 7, 1929)
CZECHOSLOVAKIA			
DENMARK			
EGYPT	EGYPT (December 6, 1928)		
ESTONIA			
FINLAND	FINLAND (June 26, 1929)		
FRANCE	FRANCE (May 9, 1926)		
GERMANY	GERMANY (April 25, 1929)		
GREECE			
ITALY	ITALY (April 3, 1928)		

¹ The present Protocol will come into force for each signatory Power as from the date of deposit of its ratification and, from that moment, each Power will be bound as regards other Powers which have already deposited their ratifications.

PROTOCOL FOR THE PROHIBITION OF THE USE IN WAR OF ASPHYXIATING, POISONOUS OR OTHER GASES, AND OF BACTERIOLOGICAL METHODS OF WARFARE (*continued*).

<i>Signatures</i>	<i>Ratifications</i>	<i>Accessions</i>
		<i>Subject to ratification</i> <i>Final</i>
JAPAN		
LATVIA		
—	—	
LITHUANIA		LIBERIA (April 2, 1927)
LUXEMBURG		
THE NETHERLANDS		
(including NETHERLANDS IN-		
DIES, SURINAM		
and CURAÇAO)		
NICARAGUA		
NORWAY		
POLAND	POLAND (February 4, 1929)	
PORTUGAL		
ROUMANIA	ROUMANIA (August 23, 1929)	
SALVADOR		
KINGDOM OF THE	KINGDOM OF THE SERBS,	
SERBS, CROATS	CROATS and SLOVENES	
AND SLOVENES	(April 12, 1929)	
SIAM		
SPAIN	SPAIN (August 22, 1929)	
SWEDEN		
SWITZERLAND		
TURKEY		
—	—	
	UNION OF SOVIET	UNION OF SOVIET
	SOCIALIST REPUBLICS	SOCIALIST REPUBLICS
		(April 5, 1928)
URUGUAY		
VENEZUELA	VENEZUELA (February 8, 1928)	

VII. REFUGEES.¹

I. ADDITIONAL ACT TO THE PROTOCOL OF SEPTEMBER 29, 1923, RELATING TO THE SETTLEMENT OF GREEK REFUGEES, SIGNED AT GENEVA, SEPTEMBER 19, 1924.²

Signed by GREECE and ratified December 4, 1924.

II. DECLARATION RELATING TO THE MODIFICATIONS MADE TO THE PROTOCOL OF SEPTEMBER 29, 1923, WITH REGARD TO THE SETTLEMENT OF REFUGEES IN GREECE, BY THE ADDITIONAL ACT OF SEPTEMBER 19, 1924. GENEVA, SEPTEMBER 25, 1924.³

Signed by GREAT BRITAIN, FRANCE and ITALY.

III. PROTOCOL⁴ CONCERNING THE SETTLEMENT OF REFUGEES IN BULGARIA, SIGNED AT GENEVA, SEPTEMBER 8, 1926.

Ratified by BULGARIA, November 23, 1926.

¹ The Annex to the Supplementary Report for 1924 (A. 8 (a). 1924. Annex) contains, moreover, complete details concerning :

(1) Arrangement with regard to the Issue of Certificates of Identity to Russian Refugees ;

(2) Protocol relating to the Settlement of Refugees in Greece and the Creation for this Purpose of a Refugee Settlement Commission, signed at Geneva, September 29, 1923 ;

(3) Declaration relating to the Settlement of Refugees in Greece and the Creation for this Purpose of a Refugee Settlement Commission, signed at Geneva, September 29, 1923.

² See League of Nations *Treaty Series*, Vol. XXX, p. 413.

³ See League of Nations *Treaty Series*, Vol. XXX, p. 421.

⁴ Came into force November 23, 1926, according to its Article X, paragraph 3.

IV. PROTOCOL¹ FOR THE STABILISATION OF THE CURRENCY AND LIQUIDATING THE BUDGET ARREARS OF THE HELLENIC STATE AND FOR FURTHER SETTLEMENT OF GREEK REFUGEES, SIGNED AT GENEVA, SEPTEMBER 15, 1927.

Ratified by GREECE, January 12, 1928.

DECLARATION² CONCERNING THE ABOVE PROTOCOL ON BEHALF OF FRANCE, GREAT BRITAIN AND ITALY, SIGNED AT GENEVA, DECEMBER 8, 1927.

Signatures

GREAT BRITAIN
FRANCE
ITALY

V. ARRANGEMENT RELATING TO THE ISSUE OF IDENTITY CERTIFICATES TO RUSSIAN AND ARMENIAN REFUGEES, SUPPLEMENTING AND AMENDING THE PREVIOUS ARRANGEMENTS DATED JULY 5, 1922, AND MAY 31, 1924, SIGNED AT GENEVA, MAY 12, 1926.

Signatures

In force between

UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA	—
AUSTRIA	AUSTRIA (October 23, 1926)
BELGIUM	BELGIUM (October 11, 1926)
BULGARIA	BULGARIA (August 27, 1926)
CANADA	—
CUBA	CUBA (March 6, 1926)
DENMARK	DENMARK (September 20, 1926)
ESTONIA	ESTONIA (August 2, 1926)
FINLAND	FINLAND (May 11, 1927)
FRANCE	FRANCE (August 28, 1926)
GERMANY	GERMANY (August 26, 1927)
GREAT BRITAIN	—
GREECE	GREECE (September 12, 1926)
HUNGARY	HUNGARY (September 22, 1926)
INDIA	INDIA (September 21, 1926)
IRISH FREE STATE	IRISH FREE STATE (February 12, 1927)
LATVIA	—
—	LUXEMBURG (August 2, 1927)
—	NORWAY (January 10, 1927)
POLAND	POLAND (September 11, 1926)
ROUMANIA	ROUMANIA (July 3, 1928)
KINGDOM OF THE SERBS, CROATS AND SLOVENES	KINGDOM OF THE SERBS, CROATS AND SLOVENES (February 28, 1928)
SWEDEN	SWEDEN (April 12, 1927)
SWITZERLAND	SWITZERLAND (June 14, 1926)

VI. ARRANGEMENT CONCERNING THE LEGAL STATUS OF RUSSIAN AND ARMENIAN REFUGEES, SIGNED AT GENEVA, JUNE 30, 1928.

Signatures

In force between

AUSTRIA	—
BELGIUM	BELGIUM (April 25, 1929)
BULGARIA	BULGARIA (October 23, 1928)
ESTONIA	ESTONIA (February 27, 1929)
FRANCE	—
GERMANY	GERMANY (March 5, 1929)
GREECE	—
LATVIA	—
POLAND	—
ROUMANIA	ROUMANIA (September 22, 1928)
KINGDOM OF THE SERBS, CROATS AND SLOVENES	KINGDOM OF THE SERBS, CROATS AND SLOVENES (April 18, 1929)
SWITZERLAND	SWITZERLAND (September 4, 1928)

¹ See League of Nations Treaty Series, Vol. LXX, page 9.

² See League of Nations Treaty Series, Vol. LXX, page 73.

VII. ARRANGEMENT CONCERNING THE EXTENSION TO OTHER CATEGORIES OF REFUGEES OF CERTAIN MEASURES TAKEN TO ASSIST RUSSIAN AND ARMENIAN REFUGEES, SIGNED AT GENEVA, JUNE 20, 1928.

<i>Signatures</i>	<i>In force between</i>
BELGIUM	BELGIUM (April 25, 1929)
BULGARIA	BULGARIA (October 23, 1928)
ESTONIA	ESTONIA (April 19, 1929)
FRANCE	
GERMANY	GERMANY (March 5, 1929)
LATVIA	LATVIA (April 17, 1929)
POLAND	POLAND (September 17, 1928)
ROUMANIA	ROUMANIA (September 22, 1928)
	KINGDOM OF THE SERBS, CROATS AND SLO- VENES (April 18, 1929)
	SWITZERLAND (August 4, 1928)
SWITZERLAND	

VIII. AGREEMENT CONCERNING THE FUNCTIONS OF THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES, SIGNED AT GENEVA, JUNE 30, 1928.¹

<i>Signatures</i>	<i>Ratifications</i>	<i>Accessions</i>	<i>Final</i>
BELGIUM	BELGIUM (May 2, 1929)	Subject to ratification	
FRANCE	FRANCE (May 21, 1929)		

AGREEMENT CONCERNING THE PREPARATION OF A TRANSIT CARD FOR EMIGRANTS.*

(Geneva, June 14, 1929.)

<i>Signatures</i>	<i>Signatures ad referendum</i>
BELGIUM (June 14, 1929)	FREE CITY OF DANZIG
GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND (June 14, 1929)	FINLAND
FRANCE (June 14, 1929)	GREECE
ITALY (June 14, 1929)	HUNGARY
SAAR TERRITORY GOVERNING COMMISSION (June 14, 1929)	THE NETHERLANDS
	POLAND
	ROUMANIA
	SWITZERLAND

VIII. EMIGRATION.

GRECO-BULGARIAN AGREEMENT, SIGNED AT GENEVA, DECEMBER 9, 1927.

(Greco-Bulgarian Emigration.)

<i>Signatures</i>	<i>Ratifications</i>
BULGARIA	BULGARIA (February 22, 1929)
GREECE	GREECE (March 8, 1929)

IX. SLAVERY.

SLAVERY CONVENTION.*

(Geneva, September 25, 1926.)

<i>Signatures</i>	<i>Ratifications</i>	<i>Accessions</i>	<i>Final</i>
ABYSSINIA			
ALBANIA			
		UNITED STATES OF AMERICA ⁴ (March 21, 1929)	

¹ This Agreement came into force August 19, 1929, ninety days after the deposit of the second ratification (final provisions). It remains open to the accession of the Governments of all Member or non-Member States of the League of Nations.

² This Agreement is not subject to ratification. It shall come into force, September 12, 1929, ninety days after it has been signed by three Governments (Article 11).

³ This Convention came into force March 9, 1927, according to its Article 12. See *League of Nations Treaty Series*, Vol. LX, p. 253, Vol. LXIX, p. 114, and Vol. LXXII, p. 485.

⁴ Subject to the reservation that the Government of the United States, adhering to its policy of opposition to forced or compulsory labour except as punishment for crime of which the person concerned has been duly convicted, adheres to the convention except as to the first subdivision of the second paragraph of Article 5, which reads as follows:

"(1) Subject to the transitional provisions laid down in paragraph (2) below, compulsory or forced labour may only be exacted for public purposes."

SLAVERY CONVENTION (continued).

<i>Signatures</i>	<i>Ratifications</i>	<i>Accessions</i>	<i>Final</i>
		<i>Subject to ratification</i>	
AUSTRIA	AUSTRIA (August 19, 1927)		
BELGIUM	BELGIUM (September 23, 1927)		
BRITISH EMPIRE	BRITISH EMPIRE (June 18, 1927)		
CANADA	CANADA (August 6, 1928)		
UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA	UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA (June 18, 1927)		
AUSTRALIA	AUSTRALIA (June 18, 1927)		
NEW ZEALAND	NEW ZEALAND (June 18, 1927)		
INDIA	INDIA (June 18, 1927)		
BULGARIA	BULGARIA (March 9, 1927)		
CHINA			
COLOMBIA			
CUBA			
CZECHOSLOVAKIA			
DENMARK	DENMARK (May 17, 1927)		
—	—	DOMINICAN REPUBLIC (July 16, 1928)	
—	—		ECUADOR (March 26, 1928)
—	—		EGYPT (January 25, 1928)
ESTONIA	ESTONIA (May 16, 1929)		
FINLAND	FINLAND (September 29, 1927)		
FRANCE			
GERMANY	GERMANY (March 12, 1929)		
GREECE			
—	—		HAITI (September 3, 1927)
—	—		HUNGARY ¹ (April 16, 1927)
—	—		IRAQ (January 18, 1929)
ITALY	ITALY (August 25, 1928)		
LATVIA	LATVIA (July 9, 1927)		
LIBERIA			
LITHUANIA			
—	—		MONACO (January 17, 1928)
THE NETHERLANDS (including NETHERLANDS INDIES, SURINAM and CURAÇAO)	THE NETHERLANDS (including NETHERLANDS INDIES, SURINAM and CURAÇAO) (January 7, 1928)		
—	—		NICARAGUA (October 3, 1927)
NORWAY	NORWAY (September 10, 1927)		
PANAMA			
PERSIA			
POLAND			
PORTUGAL	PORTUGAL (October 4, 1927)		
ROUMANIA			
KINGDOM OF THE SERBS, CROATS AND SLOVENES			
SPAIN	SPAIN (September 12, 1927)		
—	—		SUDAN (September 15, 1927)
SWEDEN	SWEDEN (December 17, 1927)		
URUGUAY			

¹ "The Royal Hungarian Government expresses, with respect to point (2) of paragraph 2 of Article 5, the opinion that the application of measures of coercion by public authorities against persons who without legal justification refuse to fulfil undertakings (duties as domestic servants, agricultural labourers, or harvest labourers), entered into by them freely under the civil law, cannot be considered as a measure conducing to conditions analogous to slavery which is prohibited by the present Convention, since in such cases the sole object is to ensure the proper observance of the period of notice which the law requires to be given to the employer or to secure the completion of a task of short duration freely accepted by the workman."

X. PERMANENT COURT OF INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE.¹

1. PROTOCOL OF SIGNATURE OF THE PERMANENT COURT OF INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE,
DATED DECEMBER 16, 1920.

<i>Signatures</i>	<i>Ratifications</i>	<i>Signatures</i>	<i>Ratifications</i>
ABYSSINIA	ABYSSINIA (July 16, 1926)	INDIA	INDIA (August 4, 1921)
UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA	UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA (August 4, 1921)	IRISH FREE STATE	IRISH FREE STATE
ALBANIA	ALBANIA (July 13, 1921)	ITALY	ITALY (June 20, 1921)
AUSTRALIA	AUSTRALIA (August 4, 1921)	JAPAN	JAPAN (November 16, 1921)
AUSTRIA	AUSTRIA (July 23, 1921)	LATVIA	LATVIA (February 12, 1924)
BELGIUM	BELGIUM (August 29, 1921)	LIBERIA	—
BOLIVIA	—	LITHUANIA	LITHUANIA (May 16, 1922)
BRAZIL	BRAZIL (November 1, 1921)	LUXEMBURG	—
BRITISH EMPIRE	BRITISH EMPIRE (August 4, 1921)	THE NETHERLANDS	THE NETHERLANDS (August 6, 1921)
BULGARIA	BULGARIA (August 12, 1921)	NEW ZEALAND	NEW ZEALAND (August 4, 1921)
CANADA	CANADA (August 4, 1921)	NORWAY	NORWAY (August 20, 1921)
CHILE	CHILE (July 20, 1928)	PANAMA	PANAMA (June 14, 1929)
CHINA	CHINA (May 13, 1922)	PARAGUAY	—
COLOMBIA	—	PERSIA	—
COSTA RICA	—	POLAND	POLAND (August 26, 1921)
CUBA	CUBA (January 12, 1922)	PORTUGAL	PORTUGAL (October 8, 1921)
CZECHOSLOVAKIA	CZECHOSLOVAKIA (September 2, 1921)	ROUMANIA	ROUMANIA (August 8, 1921)
DENMARK	DENMARK (June 13, 1921)	SALVADOR	—
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC	—	KINGDOM OF THE SERBS, CROATS AND SLOVENES	KINGDOM OF THE SERBS, CROATS AND SLOVENES (August 12, 1921)
ESTONIA	ESTONIA (May 2, 1923)	SIAM	SIAM (February 27, 1922)
FINLAND	FINLAND (April 6, 1922)	SPAIN	SPAIN (August 30, 1921)
FRANCE	FRANCE (August 7, 1921)	SWEDEN	SWEDEN (February 21, 1921)
GERMANY	GERMANY (March 11, 1927)	SWITZERLAND	SWITZERLAND (July 25, 1921)
GREECE	GREECE (October 3, 1921)	URUGUAY	URUGUAY (September 27, 1921)
GUATEMALA	—	VENEZUELA	VENEZUELA (December 2, 1921)
HAITI	HAITI (September 7, 1921)		
HUNGARY	HUNGARY (November 20, 1925)		

2. OPTIONAL CLAUSE RECOGNISING THE COURT'S JURISDICTION AS DESCRIBED
IN ARTICLE 36 OF THE STATUTE.

<i>Signatures</i>	<i>Ratifications</i>	<i>Signatures</i>	<i>Ratifications</i>
ABYSSINIA	ABYSSINIA (July 16, 1926, for 5 years)	—	ESTONIA (May 2, 1923, for 5 years, renewed for 10 years as from May 2, 1928)
AUSTRIA	AUSTRIA (March 14, 1922, for 5 years; renewed for 10 years from March 13, 1927)	FINLAND ⁴ (from April 6, 1927, for 10 years)	FINLAND (April 6, 1922, for 5 years)
BELGIUM	BELGIUM (March 10, 1926, for 15 years)	FRANCE [*] (for 15 years)	—
BRAZIL	BRAZIL ³ (November 1, 1921, for 5 years)	GERMANY (for 5 years)	GERMANY (February 29, 1928)
BULGARIA ³	BULGARIA (August 12, 1921)	GUATEMALA ^{**}	—
CHINA	CHINA (May 13, 1922, for 5 years)	HAITI ^{3 4}	—
COSTA RICA ^{3 *}	—	HUNGARY [*] (for 5 years)	HUNGARY (August 13, 1929)
DENMARK	DENMARK (June 13, 1921, for 5 years; renewed for 10 years from June 13, 1926)	LATVIA [*] (for 5 years)	—
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC ^{3 **}	—	LIBERIA ^{**}	—
		LITHUANIA	LITHUANIA (May 16, 1922, for 5 years)
		LUXEMBURG [*] (for 5 years)	—

¹ See *Treaty Series of the League of Nations*, Vol. VI, p. 379; Vol. XI, p. 404; Vol. XV, p. 304; Vol. XXIV, p. 152; Vol. XXVII, p. 416; Vol. XXXIX, p. 165; Vol. XLV, p. 96; Vol. L, p. 159; Vol. LIV, p. 387; Vol. LXIX, p. 70; Vol. LXXII, p. 452, and Vol. LXXVIII, p. 435.

² Subject to acceptance also by at least two of the Powers permanently represented on the Council.

³ Without limitation as to the length of validity.

⁴ Declaration not subject to ratification.

^{*} Subject to the ratification of the Declaration or of the Protocol.

2. OPTIONAL CLAUSE RECOGNISING THE COURT'S JURISDICTION AS DESCRIBED
IN ARTICLE 36 OF THE STATUTE (*continued*).

<i>Signatures</i>	<i>Ratifications</i>	<i>Signatures</i>	<i>Ratifications</i>
NETHERLANDS ¹ (from August 6, 1926, for 10 years)	NETHERLANDS (August 6, 1921, for 5 years)	SWEDEN ¹ (August 16, 1921, for 5 years and March 18, 1926, for 10 years)	—
NORWAY ² (from Oc- tober 3, 1926, for 10 years)	NORWAY (October 3, 1921, for 5 years)	SWITZERLAND	SWITZERLAND (July 26, 1921, for 5 years; re- newed for 10 years from July 24, 1926)
PANAMA ^{2*}	PANAMA (June 14, 1929)	URUGUAY ²	URUGUAY (September 27, 1921)
PORTUGAL ²	PORTUGAL (October 8, 1921)		
SALVADOR ^{2*}	—		
SPAIN ¹ (from Sep- tember 21, 1928, for 10 years)	—		

CONFERENCE OF STATES SIGNATORIES OF THE PROTOCOL OF SIGNATURE
OF THE STATUTE OF THE PERMANENT COURT OF INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE

FINAL ACT OF THE CONFERENCE.

(Geneva, September 23, 1926.)

Signatures

UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA
ALBANIA
AUSTRALIA
AUSTRIA
BELGIUM
BRITISH EMPIRE
BULGARIA
CANADA
CZECHOSLOVAKIA
DENMARK
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC
ESTONIA
FINLAND
FRANCE
GREECE
HUNGARY
INDIA
IRISH FREE STATE
ITALY
JAPAN
LITHUANIA
LUXEMBURG
THE NETHERLANDS
NEW ZEALAND
NORWAY
PANAMA
PERSIA
POLAND
PORTUGAL
ROUMANIA
KINGDOM OF THE SERBS,
CROATS AND SLOVENES
SIAM
SPAIN
SWEDEN
SWITZERLAND
VENEZUELA

¹ Declaration not subject to ratification.

² Without limitation as to the length of validity.

* Subject to the ratification of the Declaration or of the Protocol.

XI. PACIFIC SETTLEMENT OF INTERNATIONAL DISPUTES.

1. PROTOCOL FOR THE PACIFIC SETTLEMENT OF INTERNATIONAL DISPUTES¹, annexed to the Resolution adopted by the Fifth Assembly of the League of Nations on October 2, 1924.

<i>Signatures</i>	<i>Ratifications</i>	<i>Signatures</i>	<i>Ratifications</i>
ALBANIA		LATVIA	
BELGIUM		LIBERIA	
BRAZIL		PARAGUAY	
BULGARIA		POLAND	
CHILE		PORTUGAL	
CZECHOSLOVAKIA		KINGDOM OF THE	
ESTONIA		SERBS, CROATS	
FINLAND		AND SLOVENES	
FRANCE		SPAIN	
GREECE		URUGUAY	
HAITI			

2. GENERAL ACT².

(Geneva, September 26, 1928.)

A	B	C
<i>All the provisions of the Act.</i>	<i>Provisions relating to conciliation and judicial settlement (Chapters I and II) and general provisions dealing with these procedures (Chapter IV).</i>	<i>Provisions relating to conciliation (Chapter I), and general provisions concerning that procedure (Chapter IV).</i>
<p>BELGIUM (May 18, 1929). Subject to the reservation provided in Article 39, (2), (a), with the effect of excluding from the procedures described in this Act disputes arising out of facts prior to the accession of Belgium or prior to the accession of any other Party with whom Belgium may have a dispute.</p> <p>NORWAY (June 11, 1929) SWEDEN (May 13, 1929)</p>		

XII. ARBITRATION CLAUSES IN COMMERCIAL MATTERS.

1. PROTOCOL ON ARBITRATION CLAUSES.³

(Geneva, September 24, 1923.)

<i>Signatures</i>	<i>Ratifications</i>	<i>Accessions</i>
		<i>Subject to ratification</i>
		<i>Final</i>
—	ALBANIA (August 29, 1924)	
AUSTRIA	AUSTRIA (January 25, 1928)	
BELGIUM	BELGIUM (September 23, 1924)	
BRAZIL		

¹ "So soon as the majority of the permanent Members of the Council and ten other Members of the League have deposited or effected their ratifications, a procès-verbal to that effect shall be drawn up by the Secretariat. After the said procès-verbal has been drawn up, the Protocol shall come into force as soon as the plan for the reduction of armaments has been adopted by the Conference provided for in Article 17." (Article 21).

² The General Act came into force August 16, 1929. (Article 44.)

³ The present Protocol came into force on July 28, 1924, date of the second deposit of ratification (Article 6). See *Treaty Series of the League of Nations*: Vol. XXVII, p. 157; Vol. XXXI, p. 260; Vol. XXXV, p. 314; Vol. XXXIX, p. 190; Vol. XLV, p. 116; Vol. L, p. 161; Vol. LIV, p. 355; Vol. LXIX, p. 79, and Vol. LXXII, p. 452.

1. PROTOCOL ON ARBITRATION CLAUSES (*continued*).

<i>Signatures</i>	<i>Ratifications</i>	<i>Accessions</i> <i>Subject to ratification</i>	<i>Final</i>
BRITISH EMPIRE	BRITISH EMPIRE (September 27, 1924)	Southern Rhodesia (December 18, 1924) Newfoundland (June 22, 1925) British Guiana British Honduras Jamaica Leeward Islands Grenada St. Lucia St. Vincent Gambia Gold Coast Kenya Zanzibar Northern Rhodesia Ceylon Mauritius Gibraltar Malta Falkland Islands IRAQ and PALESTINE Tanganyika (June 17, 1926) St. Helena (July 29, 1926)	March 12, 1926
CHILE			
DENMARK	DENMARK (April 6, 1925)		
ESTONIA	ESTONIA (May 16, 1929)		
FINLAND	FINLAND (July 10, 1924)		
FRANCE	FRANCE (June 7, 1928)		
GERMANY	GERMANY (November 5, 1924)		
GREECE	GREECE (May 26, 1926)		
ITALY	ITALY (July 28, 1924)		
JAPAN	JAPAN (June 4, 1928)		
		CHOSEN, TAIWAN, KARA- RAFUTO, the leased Territory of KWAN- TUNG and Territo- ries under Japanese mandate (February 26, 1929)	
LATVIA			
LITHUANIA			
MONACO	MONACO (February 8, 1927)		
THE NETHERLANDS	THE NETHERLANDS (includ- ing NETHERLANDS INDIES, SURINAM and CURAÇAO) (August 6, 1925)		
NEW ZEALAND	NEW ZEALAND (June 9, 1926)		
NICARAGUA			
NORWAY	NORWAY (September 2, 1927)		
PANAMA			
PARAGUAY			
POLAND and FREE CITY OF DANZIG			
ROUMANIA	ROUMANIA (March 12, 1925)		
SALVADOR			
SIAM			
SPAIN	SPAIN (July 29, 1926)		
SWEDEN	SWEDEN (August 8, 1929)		
SWITZERLAND	SWITZERLAND (May 14, 1928)		
—	—		
URUGUAY		UGANDA (June 28, 1929)	

2. CONVENTION ¹ ON THE EXECUTION OF FOREIGN ARBITRAL AWARDS.
(Geneva, September 26, 1927.)

<i>Signatures</i>	<i>Ratifications</i>
AUSTRIA	
BELGIUM	BELGIUM (April 27, 1929)
GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND	
DENMARK	DENMARK (April 25, 1929)
ESTONIA	ESTONIA (May 16, 1929)
FRANCE	
GERMANY	
ITALY	
THE NETHERLANDS	
NEW ZEALAND	NEW ZEALAND (April 9, 1929)
(WESTERN SAMOA included)	
NICARAGUA	
ROUMANIA	
SPAIN	
SWEDEN	SWEDEN (August 8, 1929)

XIII. CUSTOMS FORMALITIES.

INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION RELATING TO THE SIMPLIFICATION OF CUSTOMS FORMALITIES
AND PROTOCOL RELATING THERETO. ²
(Geneva, November 3, 1923.)

<i>Signatures</i>	<i>Ratifications</i>	<i>Accessions</i>	<i>Subject to ratification</i>	<i>Final</i>
AUSTRIA	AUSTRIA (September 11, 1924)			
BELGIUM	BELGIUM (October 4, 1924)			
BRAZIL	BRAZIL (July 10, 1929)			
BRITISH EMPIRE	BRITISH EMPIRE (August 29, 1924)			
AUSTRALIA	AUSTRALIA (March 13, 1925)			
UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA	UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA (August 29, 1924)			
NEW ZEALAND	NEW ZEALAND (August 29, 1924)			
INDIA	INDIA (March 13, 1925)			
BULGARIA	BULGARIA (December 10, 1926)			
CHILE				
CHINA	CHINA (February 23, 1926)			
CZECHOSLOVAKIA	CZECHOSLOVAKIA (February 10, 1927)			
DENMARK	DENMARK (May 17, 1924)			
EGYPT	EGYPT (March 23, 1925)			
FINLAND	FINLAND (May 23, 1928)			
FRANCE	FRANCE ³ (September 13, 1926)			
GERMANY	GERMANY (August 1, 1925)			
GREECE	GREECE (July 6, 1927)			
HUNGARY	HUNGARY (February 23, 1926)			
ITALY	ITALY (June 13, 1924)			
JAPAN				
LITHUANIA				
LUXEMBURG	LUXEMBURG (June 10, 1927)			
FRENCH PROTEC- TORATE OF MO- ROCCO	FRENCH PROTECTORATE OF MOROCCO (November 8, 1926)			

¹ The Convention came into force July 25, 1929 (Article 8).

² The present Convention came into force on November 27, 1924, ninety days after the deposit of the fifth ratification (Article 26). The Protocol came into force on the same conditions as the Convention to which it relates. See *Treaty Series of the League of Nations*, Vol. XXX, p. 371; Vol. XXXV, p. 324; Vol. XXXIX, p. 208; Vol. XLV, p. 140; Vol. L, p. 161; Vol. LIV, p. 398; Vol. LIX, p. 365; and Vol. LXIX, p. 79.

³ The French Government has specified in its Bill approving the above Convention that, in accordance with Article 29, the provisions contained in this Act should not apply to the Colonies under its sovereignty.

PROTOCOL TO THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION (*continued*).

<i>Signatures</i>	<i>Ratifications</i>	<i>Accessions</i> <i>Subject to ratification</i>	<i>Final</i>
BULGARIA			
CHILE			
CZECHOSLOVAKIA			
DENMARK ¹			
EGYPT			
ESTONIA			
FINLAND			
FRANCE ²	FRANCE (July 31, 1929)		
GERMANY			
HUNGARY	HUNGARY (July 26, 1929)		
ITALY			
JAPAN			
LATVIA			
LUXEMBURG	LUXEMBURG (June 27, 1929)		
THE NETHERLANDS	THE NETHERLANDS ³ (June 28, 1929)		
NORWAY			
POLAND			
PORTUGAL			
ROUMANIA	ROUMANIA (June 30, 1929)		
KINGDOM OF THE SERBS, CROATS AND SLOVENES			
SIAM			
SWEDEN	SWEDEN (August 8, 1929)		
SWITZERLAND	SWITZERLAND (June 27, 1929)		
TURKEY			

ANNEXED DECLARATION.

Signatures

CHILE
FRANCE
GREECE
HUNGARY
ITALY
PORTUGAL
KINGDOM OF THE
SERBS, CROATS
AND SLOVENES
SWITZERLAND

2. SUPPLEMENTARY AGREEMENT TO THE CONVENTION OF NOVEMBER 8, 1927, FOR THE ABOLITION OF IMPORT AND EXPORT PROHIBITIONS AND RESTRICTIONS.

(Geneva, July 11, 1928.)

<i>Signatures</i>	<i>Ratifications</i>	<i>Accessions</i> <i>Subject to ratification</i>	<i>Final</i>
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA			
AUSTRIA	AUSTRIA (June 26, 1929)		
BELGIUM	BELGIUM (April 27, 1929)		

¹ Excluding Greenland.

² The signature by France does not include its colonies, protectorates or territories under its suzerainty or mandate.

³ The Netherlands Government does not intend to assume any obligation as regards overseas territories.

2. SUPPLEMENTARY AGREEMENT TO THE CONVENTION OF NOVEMBER 8, 1927, FOR THE ABOLITION OF IMPORT AND EXPORT PROHIBITIONS AND RESTRICTIONS (*continued*).

<i>Signatures</i>	<i>Ratifications</i>	<i>Accessions</i> <i>Subject to ratification</i>	<i>Final</i>
GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND and all parts of the BRITISH EMPIRE which are not separate Members of the League of Nations ¹	GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND (April 12, 1929)		
INDIA			
BULGARIA			
CHILE			
CZECHOSLOVAKIA			
DENMARK			
EGYPT			
ESTONIA			
FINLAND			
FRANCE ²	FRANCE (July 31, 1929)		
GERMANY			
HUNGARY	HUNGARY ³ (July 26, 1929)		
ITALY			
JAPAN			
LATVIA			
LUXEMBURG	LUXEMBURG (June 27, 1929)		
NORWAY			
THE NETHERLANDS	THE NETHERLANDS ⁴ (June 28, 1929)		
POLAND			
PORTUGAL			
ROUMANIA	ROUMANIA ⁵ (June 30, 1929)		
KINGDOM OF THE SERBS, CROATS AND SLOVENES			
SIAM			
SWEDEN	SWEDEN (August 8, 1929)		
SWITZERLAND	SWITZERLAND (June 27, 1929)		
TURKEY ⁶			

PROTOCOL.

<i>Signatures</i>	<i>Ratifications</i>	<i>Accessions</i> <i>Subject to ratification</i>	<i>Final</i>
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA			
AUSTRIA	AUSTRIA (June 26, 1929)		
BELGIUM	BELGIUM (April 27, 1929)		

¹ This signature does not include any of His Britannic Majesty's colonies, protectorates or territories under suzerainty or mandate.

² By its acceptance it does not intend to assume any obligation in regard to any of its colonies, protectorates and territories under its suzerainty or mandate.

³ The entry into force of this Agreement as regards Hungary is subject to its ratification by Austria, Italy, Poland, Roumania, the Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes, Switzerland and Czechoslovakia.

⁴ The Netherlands Government does not intend to assume any obligation as regards overseas territories.

⁵ The entry into force of this Agreement in Roumania is subject to its ratification by Austria, Hungary, Poland, the Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes and Czechoslovakia.

⁶ Subject to reservation as regards Article B.

PROTOCOL (*continued*).

<i>Signatures</i>	<i>Ratifications</i>	<i>Accessions</i>	<i>Final</i>
		<i>Subject to ratification</i>	
GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND and all parts of the BRITISH EMPIRE which are not separate Members of the League of Nations ¹	GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND (April 12, 1929)		
INDIA			
BULGARIA			
CHILE			
CZECHOSLOVAKIA			
DENMARK			
EGYPT			
ESTONIA			
FINLAND			
FRANCE ²	FRANCE (July 31, 1929)		
GERMANY			
HUNGARY	HUNGARY (July 26, 1929)		
ITALY			
JAPAN			
LATVIA			
LUXEMBURG	LUXEMBURG (June 27, 1929)		
NORWAY			
THE NETHERLANDS	THE NETHERLANDS (June 28, 1929)		
POLAND			
PORTUGAL			
ROUMANIA	ROUMANIA (June 30, 1929)		
KINGDOM OF THE SERBS, CROATS AND SLOVENES			
SIAM			
SWEDEN	SWEDEN (August 8, 1929)		
SWITZERLAND	SWITZERLAND (June 27, 1929)		
TURKEY ³			

ANNEXED DECLARATION.

AUSTRIA
CZECHOSLOVAKIA
GERMANY
HUNGARY

3. INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENT RELATING TO THE EXPORTATION OF HIDES AND SKINS. ⁴

(Geneva, July 11, 1928.)

<i>Signatures</i>	<i>Ratifications</i>	<i>Accessions</i>	<i>Final</i>
		<i>Subject to ratification</i>	
AUSTRIA	AUSTRIA (June 26, 1929)		
BELGIUM	BELGIUM ⁵ (April 27, 1929)		
CZECHOSLOVAKIA	CZECHOSLOVAKIA (June 28, 1929)		

¹ This signature does not include any of His Britannic Majesty's colonies, protectorates or territories under suzerainty or mandate.

² Subject to the reservations made on signing the Supplementary Agreement.

³ Subject to reservation as regards Article B.

⁴ The entry into force of this Agreement is provided for in its Article 4.

⁵ The Belgian Government does not intend to assume any obligation as regards the Belgian Colony of the Congo and the territory under Belgian mandate of Ruanda-Urundi.

3. INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENT RELATING TO THE EXPORTATION OF HIDES AND SKINS
(continued).

<i>Signatures</i>	<i>Ratifications</i>	<i>Accessions</i> <i>Subject to ratification</i>	<i>Final</i>
GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND and all parts of the BRITISH EMPIRE which are not separate Members of the League of Nations ¹	GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND (April 9, 1929)		
BULGARIA			
DENMARK	DENMARK ² (June 14, 1929)		
FINLAND	FINLAND (June 27, 1929)		
FRANCE ³	FRANCE (June 30, 1929)		
GERMANY	GERMANY (June 30, 1929)		
HUNGARY	HUNGARY ⁴ (July 26, 1929)		
ITALY	ITALY (June 29, 1929)		
LUXEMBURG	LUXEMBURG (June 27, 1929)		
THE NETHERLANDS	THE NETHERLANDS ⁵ (June 28, 1929)		
NORWAY			
POLAND			
ROUMANIA	ROUMANIA ⁶ (June 30, 1929)		
KINGDOM OF THE SERBS, CROATS AND SLOVENES			
SWEDEN	SWEDEN (June 27, 1929)		
SWITZERLAND	SWITZERLAND (June 27, 1929)		
TURKEY			

PROTOCOL.

<i>Signatures</i>	<i>Ratifications</i>	<i>Accessions</i> <i>Subject to ratification</i>	<i>Final</i>
AUSTRIA	AUSTRIA (June 26, 1929)		
BELGIUM	BELGIUM (April 27, 1929)		
GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND and all parts of the BRITISH EMPIRE which are not separate Members of the League of Nations ¹	GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND (April 9, 1929)		
BULGARIA			
CZECHOSLOVAKIA	CZECHOSLOVAKIA (June 28, 1929)		

¹ This signature does not include any of His Britannic Majesty's colonies, protectorates or territories under suzerainty or mandate.

² The ratification does not include Greenland.

³ On signing the present Agreement, France declares that by its acceptance it does not intend to assume any obligation in regard to any of its colonies, protectorates and territories under its suzerainty or mandate.

⁴ The entry into force of this Agreement as regards Hungary is subject to its ratification by Austria, Roumania, the Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes and Czechoslovakia.

⁵ The Netherlands Governments does not intend to assume any obligation as regards overseas territories.

⁶ The entry into force of this Agreement in Roumania is subject to its ratification by Austria, Hungary, Poland, the Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes and Czechoslovakia.

3. INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENT RELATING TO THE EXPORTATION OF HIDES AND SKINS.

PROTOCOL (*continued*).

<i>Signatures</i>	<i>Ratifications</i>	<i>Accessions</i>	
		<i>Subject to ratification</i>	<i>Final</i>
DENMARK	DENMARK (June 14, 1929)		
FINLAND	FINLAND (June 27, 1929)		
FRANCE ¹	FRANCE (June 30, 1929)		
GERMANY	GERMANY (June 30, 1929)		
HUNGARY	HUNGARY (July 26, 1929)		
ITALY	ITALY (June 29, 1929)		
LUXEMBURG	LUXEMBURG (June 27, 1929)		
THE NETHERLANDS	THE NETHERLANDS ² (June 28, 1929)		
NORWAY			
POLAND			
ROUMANIA	ROUMANIA (June 30, 1929)		
KINGDOM OF THE SERBS, CROATS AND SLOVENES			
SWEDEN	SWEDEN (June 27, 1929)		
SWITZERLAND	SWITZERLAND (June 27, 1929)		
TURKEY			

4. INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENT RELATING TO THE EXPORTATION OF BONES.³

(Geneva, July 11, 1928.)

<i>Signatures</i>	<i>Ratifications</i>	<i>Accessions</i>	
		<i>Subject to ratification</i>	<i>Final</i>
AUSTRIA	AUSTRIA (June 26, 1929)		
BELGIUM	BELGIUM ⁴ (April 27, 1929)		
GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND and all parts of the BRITISH EMPIRE which are not sepa- rate Members of the League of Nations ⁵	GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTH- ERN IRELAND (April 9, 1929)		
BULGARIA			
CZECHOSLOVAKIA	CZECHOSLOVAKIA (June 28, 1929)		
DENMARK	DENMARK ⁶ (June 14, 1929)		
FINLAND	FINLAND (June 27, 1929)		
FRANCE ⁷	FRANCE (June 30, 1929)		
GERMANY	GERMANY (June 30, 1929)		
HUNGARY	HUNGARY (July 26, 1929)		
ITALY	ITALY (June 29, 1929)		
LUXEMBURG	LUXEMBURG (June 27, 1929)		
THE NETHERLANDS	THE NETHERLANDS ⁸ (June 28, 1929)		

¹ Subject to the reservations made on signing the Agreement.

² The Netherlands Government does not intend to assume any obligation as regards overseas territories.

³ The entry into force of this Agreement is provided for in its Article 8.

⁴ The Belgian Government does not intend to assume any obligation as regards the Belgian Colony of the Congo and the territory under Belgian mandate of Ruanda-Urundi.

⁵ This signature does not include any of His Britannic Majesty's colonies, protectorates or territories under suzerainty or mandate.

⁶ The ratification does not include Greenland.

⁷ On signing the present Agreement, France declares that by its acceptance it does not intend to assume any obligation in regard to any of its colonies, protectorates and territories under its suzerainty or mandate.

4. INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENT RELATING TO THE EXPORTATION OF BONES (continued).

<i>Signatures</i>	<i>Ratifications</i>	<i>Accessions</i> <i>Subject to ratification</i>	<i>Final</i>
NORWAY			
POLAND			
ROUMANIA	ROUMANIA ¹ (June 30, 1929)		
KINGDOM OF THE SERBS, CROATS AND SLOVENES			
SWEDEN	SWEDEN (June 27, 1929)		
SWITZERLAND	SWITZERLAND (June 27, 1929)		
TURKEY			

PROTOCOL.

<i>Signatures</i>	<i>Ratifications</i>	<i>Accessions</i> <i>Subject to ratification</i>	<i>Final</i>
AUSTRIA	AUSTRIA (June 26, 1929)		
BELGIUM	BELGIUM (April 27, 1929)		
GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND and all parts of the BRITISH EMPIRE which are not sepa- rate Members of the League of Nations ²	GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTH- ERN IRELAND (April 9, 1929)		
BULGARIA			
CZECHOSLOVAKIA	CZECHOSLOVAKIA (June 28, 1929)		
DENMARK	DENMARK ³ (June 14, 1929)		
FINLAND	FINLAND (June 27, 1929)		
FRANCE ⁴	FRANCE (June 30, 1929)		
GERMANY	GERMANY (June 30, 1929)		
HUNGARY	HUNGARY (July 26, 1929)		
ITALY	ITALY (June 29, 1929)		
LUXEMBURG	LUXEMBURG (June 27, 1929)		
THE NETHER- LANDS	THE NETHERLANDS ⁵ (June 28, 1929)		
NORWAY			
POLAND			
ROUMANIA	ROUMANIA (June 30, 1929)		
KINGDOM OF THE SERBS, CROATS AND SLOVENES			
SWEDEN	SWEDEN (June 27, 1929)		
SWITZERLAND	SWITZERLAND (June 27, 1929)		
TURKEY			

¹ The entry into force of this Agreement in Roumania is subject to its ratification by Austria, Hungary, Poland, the Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes and Czechoslovakia.

² This signature does not include any of His Britannic Majesty's colonies, protectorates or territories under suzerainty or mandate.

³ The ratification does not include Greenland.

⁴ Subject to the reservations made on signing the Agreement.

⁵ The Netherlands Government does not intend to assume any obligation as regards overseas territories.

XV. CURRENCY AND BANKING REFORM.

1. PROTOCOL¹ REGARDING CURRENCY AND BANKING REFORM IN ESTONIA, SIGNED AT GENEVA, DECEMBER 10, 1926.

Ratified by ESTONIA, May 10, 1927.

2. PROTOCOL REGARDING THE BULGARIAN STABILISATION LOAN, SIGNED AT GENEVA, MARCH 10, 1928.

Signed by BULGARIA, March 10, 1928. Ratified, June 4, 1928.

3. ADDITIONAL ACT TO THE PROTOCOL OF MARCH 10, 1928.

Signed by BULGARIA, September 8, 1928. Ratified, November 3, 1928.

XVI. SUPPRESSION OF COUNTERFEITING CURRENCY.

INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION FOR THE SUPPRESSION OF COUNTERFEITING CURRENCY.²

(Geneva, April 20, 1929).

Signatures

ALBANIA
UNITED STATES
OF AMERICA
AUSTRIA
BELGIUM
GREAT BRITAIN
AND NORTHERN
IRELAND and
all parts of
the BRITISH
EMPIRE which
are not sepa-
rate Members
of the League
of Nations
INDIA³
CHINA
COLOMBIA
CUBA
CZECHOSLOVAKIA
DENMARK
FRANCE
GERMANY
GREECE
HUNGARY
ITALY
JAPAN
LUXEMBURG
MONACO
THE NETHERLANDS
POLAND and
FREE CITY OF
DANZIG
PORTUGAL
ROUMANIA
KINGDOM OF THE
SERBS, CROATS
AND SLOVENES
UNION OF SOVIET
SOCIALIST RE-
PUBLICS
SWITZERLAND

¹ Came into force May 10, 1927, according to its final provisions. See League of Nations *Treaty Series*, Vol. LXII, p. 277.

² The present Convention shall not come into force until five ratifications or accessions on behalf of Members of the League of Nations or non-Member States have been deposited (Article 25).

³ As provided in Article 24 of the Convention, this signature does not include the territories of any Prince or Chief under the suzerainty of His Majesty.

PROTOCOL

Signatures

ALBANIA
 UNITED STATES
 OF AMERICA
 AUSTRIA
 BELGIUM
 GREAT BRITAIN
 AND NORTHERN
 IRELAND and
 all parts of
 the BRITISH
 EMPIRE which
 are not sepa-
 rate Members
 of the League
 of Nations
 INDIA
 CHINA
 COLOMBIA
 CUBA
 CZECHOSLOVAKIA
 DENMARK
 FRANCE
 GERMANY
 GREECE
 HUNGARY
 ITALY
 JAPAN
 LUXEBURG
 MONACO
 THE NETHERLANDS
 POLAND and
 FREE CITY OF
 DANZIG
 PORTUGAL
 ROUMANIA
 KINGDOM OF THE
 SERBS, CROATS
 AND SLOVENES
 UNION OF SOVIET
 SOCIALIST RE-
 PUBLICS
 SWITZERLAND

OPTIONAL PROTOCOL

Signatures

AUSTRIA
 COLOMBIA
 CUBA
 CZECHOSLOVAKIA
 GREECE
 PORTUGAL
 ROUMANIA
 KINGDOM OF THE
 SERBS, CROATS
 AND SLOVENES

XVII. ECONOMIC STATISTICS.

INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION RELATING TO ECONOMIC STATISTICS. ¹

(Geneva, December 14, 1928.)

<i>Signatures</i>	<i>Ratifications</i>	<i>Accessions</i>	
		<i>Subject to ratification</i>	<i>Final</i>
AUSTRIA			
BELGIUM ²			
BRAZIL			

¹ The Convention shall come into force on the ninetieth day following the receipt by the Secretary-General of the League of Nations of ratifications or accessions on behalf of not less than ten Members of the League of Nations or non-Member States.

² Does not apply to the Belgian Congo.

INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION RELATING TO ECONOMIC STATISTICS (*continued.*)

<i>Signatures</i>	<i>Ratifications</i>	<i>Accessions</i> <i>Subject to ratification</i>	<i>Final</i>
GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND and all parts of the BRITISH EMPIRE which are not sepa- rate Members of the League of Nations ¹			
BULGARIA			
CZECHOSLOVAKIA			
DENMARK ²			
EGYPT			
ESTONIA			
FINLAND			
FRANCE ³			
GERMANY			
GREECE			
HUNGARY			
ITALY ⁴			
JAPAN ⁵			
LATVIA			
LUXEMBURG			
THE NETHER- LANDS ⁶			
NORWAY	Norway ⁷ (March 20, 1929)		
POLAND and FREE CITY OF DANZIG			
PORTUGAL ⁸			
ROUMANIA			
KINGDOM OF THE SERBS, CROATS AND SLOVENES			
SWEDEN			
SWITZERLAND			

PROTOCOL.

<i>Signatures</i>	<i>Ratifications</i>	<i>Accessions</i> <i>Subject to ratification</i>	<i>Final</i>
AUSTRIA			
BELGIUM			
BRAZIL			
GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND and all parts of the BRITISH EMPIRE which are not sepa- rate Members of the League of Nations			
BULGARIA			
CZECHOSLOVAKIA			
DENMARK			
EGYPT			
ESTONIA			
FINLAND			
FRANCE			

- ¹ Does not include any of His Britannic Majesty's Colonies, Protectorates or Territories under suzerainty or mandate.
- ² Greenland is excepted from the provisions of the Convention as well as the Faroe Islands.
- ³ Does not apply to the Colonies, Protectorates and Territories under French suzerainty or mandate.
- ⁴ Does not apply to the Colonies, Protectorates and other Territories referred to in the first paragraph of Article 11.
- ⁵ Does not apply to Chosen, Taiwan, Karafuto, the leased Territory of Kwantung and the territories under Japanese mandate.
- ⁶ Does not apply to Dutch East Indies, Surinam and Curaçao.
- ⁷ The Bouvet Island and Svalbardh excepted.
- ⁸ Does not apply to the Portuguese Colonies.

PROTOCOL (continued.)			
<i>Signatures</i>	<i>Ratifications</i>	<i>Subject to ratification</i>	<i>Accessions</i> <i>Final</i>
GERMANY			
GREECE			
HUNGARY			
ITALY			
JAPAN			
LATVIA			
LUXEMBURG			
THE NETHERLANDS			
NORWAY	NORWAY (March 20, 1929)		
POLAND and FREE CITY OF DANZIG			
PORTUGAL			
ROUMANIA			
KINGDOM OF THE SERBS, CROATS AND SLOVENES			
SWEDEN			
SWITZERLAND			

XVIII. INTERNATIONAL RELIEF UNION.

CONVENTION AND STATUTE ESTABLISHING AN INTERNATIONAL RELIEF UNION, SIGNED AT GENEVA, JULY 12, 1927. ¹

<i>Signatures</i>	<i>Ratifications</i>	<i>Subject to ratification</i>	<i>Accessions</i> <i>Final</i>
ALBANIA			
BELGIUM	BELGIUM (May 9, 1929)		
BRAZIL			
—	—		GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND ² (January 9, 1929)
BULGARIA			
COLOMBIA			
CUBA			
CZECHOSLOVAKIA			
FREE CITY OF DANZIG			
ECUADOR	ECUADOR (July 30, 1928)		
EGYPT	EGYPT (August 7, 1928)		
FINLAND	FINLAND (April 10, 1929)		
FRANCE			
GERMANY	GERMANY (July 22, 1929)		
GREECE			
GUATEMALA			
HUNGARY	HUNGARY (April 17, 1929)		
INDIA	INDIA (April 2, 1929)		
ITALY	ITALY (August 2, 1928) ³		
LATVIA			
—	—		LUXEMBURG (June 27, 1929)
MONACO	MONACO (May 21, 1929)		
—	—		NEW ZEALAND (December 22, 1928)
NICARAGUA			
PERU			
POLAND			
PORTUGAL			
ROUMANIA	ROUMANIA (September 11, 1928)		
SAN MARINO	SAN MARINO (August 12, 1929)		
SPAIN			
—	—		SUDAN (May 11, 1928)
TURKEY			
URUGUAY			
VENEZUELA	VENEZUELA (June 19, 1929)		

¹ The present Convention shall not come into force until ratifications or accessions shall have been deposited in the name of at least twelve Members of the League of Nations or non-Member States of which the combined contributions amount to six hundred shares. The date of its entry into force will be the ninetieth day after the receipt by the Secretary-General of the League of Nations of the last of such ratifications or accessions.

² This accession does not include any of His Britannic Majesty's Colonies, Protectorates or Territories under suzerainty or mandate.

³ This ratification applies also to the Italian Colonies.

XIX. AMENDMENTS TO THE COVENANT OF THE LEAGUE. ¹

(Geneva, October 5, 1921.)

1. PROTOCOL OF AN AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE 4. ²

<i>Signatures</i>	<i>Ratifications</i>	<i>Signatures</i>	<i>Ratifications</i>
UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA	UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA (February 3, 1923)	LATVIA	LATVIA (February 12, 1924)
ALBANIA	ALBANIA (January 3, 1924)	LIBERIA	LIBERIA (May 1, 1924)
AUSTRALIA	AUSTRALIA (Feb. 3, 1923)	LITHUANIA	LITHUANIA (March 13, 1925)
—	BELGIUM (Sept. 28, 1923)	THE NETHERLANDS	THE NETHERLANDS (April 4, 1923)
BOLIVIA	—	NEW ZEALAND	NEW ZEALAND (February 3, 1923)
—	BRAZIL (July 7, 1923)	NORWAY	NORWAY (March 29, 1922)
BRITISH EMPIRE	BRITISH EMPIRE (February 3, 1923)	PANAMA	—
BULGARIA	BULGARIA (October 4, 1922)	PARAGUAY	—
CANADA	CANADA (February 3, 1923)	PERSIA	—
CHILE	CHILE (August 1, 1928)	POLAND	POLAND (December 15, 1922)
CHINA	CHINA (July 4, 1923)	—	PORTUGAL (October 5, 1923)
COLOMBIA	—	ROUMANIA	ROUMANIA (September 5, 1923)
COSTA RICA	—	—	SALVADOR (September 3, 1924)
CUBA	CUBA (May 7, 1923)	SIAM	SIAM (December 4, 1922)
CZECHOSLOVAKIA	CZECHOSLOVAKIA (September 1, 1923)	—	SPAIN (July 29, 1926)
DENMARK	DENMARK (August 11, 1922)	SWEDEN	SWEDEN (August 24, 1922)
ESTONIA	ESTONIA (Sept. 7, 1923)	SWITZERLAND	SWITZERLAND (March 29, 1923)
FINLAND	FINLAND (June 25, 1923)	—	URUGUAY (January 12, 1924)
FRANCE	FRANCE (May 19, 1926)	VENEZUELA	VENEZUELA (March 24, 1925)
GREECE	GREECE (April 9, 1923)	—	—
HAITI	HAITI (November 2, 1925)	—	—
HUNGARY	HUNGARY (June 22, 1923)	—	—
INDIA	INDIA (February 3, 1923)	—	—
ITALY	ITALY (August 5, 1922)	—	—
JAPAN	JAPAN (June 13, 1923)	—	—

2. PROTOCOL OF AN AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE 6 (*addition to the Annex to the Covenant*). ³

<i>Signatures</i>	<i>Ratifications</i>	<i>Signatures</i>	<i>Ratifications</i>
UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA	—	ITALY	—
AUSTRALIA	—	JAPAN	—
—	BELGIUM (Sept. 28, 1923)	LATVIA	—
BOLIVIA	—	LIBERIA	—
—	BRAZIL (August 13, 1924)	NEW ZEALAND	—
BRITISH EMPIRE	—	NORWAY	NORWAY (March 29, 1922)
BULGARIA	BULGARIA (October 4, 1922)	PANAMA	—
CANADA	—	PARAGUAY	—
CHINA	—	—	POLAND (December 15, 1922)
COLOMBIA	—	—	PORTUGAL (October 5, 1923)
COSTA RICA	—	—	SIAM (December 4, 1922)
CZECHOSLOVAKIA	—	SIAM	SWEDEN (August 24, 1922)
DENMARK	DENMARK (August 11, 1922)	SWEDEN	SWITZERLAND (March 29, 1923)
FINLAND	FINLAND (June 25, 1923)	SWITZERLAND	—
FRANCE	—	—	VENEZUELA (March 24, 1925)
GREECE	—	VENEZUELA	—
HAITI	HAITI (November 2, 1925)	—	—

¹ Article 26 of the Covenant provides: "Amendments to this Covenant will take effect when ratified by the Members of the League whose representatives compose the Council and by a majority of the Members of the League whose representatives compose the Assembly." See League of Nations *Treaty Series*, Vol. LI, p. 361; Vol. LIX, p. 401, and Vol. LXXII, p. 480.

² This amendment came into force on July 29, 1926, according to Article 26 of the Covenant.

³ At the request of the Third Assembly, the Council has notified the Members of the League that it is no longer necessary to ratify this amendment.

3. PROTOCOL OF AN AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE 6 (*last paragraph*).¹

<i>Signatures</i>	<i>Ratifications</i>	<i>Signatures</i>	<i>Ratifications</i>
UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA	UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA (November 23, 1922)	LATVIA	LATVIA (September 29, 1923)
ALBANIA	ALBANIA (January 3, 1924)	LIBERIA	LIBERIA (May 1, 1924)
AUSTRALIA	AUSTRALIA (November 23, 1922)	LITHUANIA	LITHUANIA (March 13, 1925)
—	BELGIUM (Sept. 28, 1923)	THE NETHERLANDS	THE NETHERLANDS (April 4, 1923)
BOLIVIA	—	NEW ZEALAND	NEW ZEALAND (November 23, 1922)
—	BRAZIL (August 13, 1924)	NORWAY	NORWAY (March 29, 1922)
BRITISH EMPIRE	BRITISH EMPIRE (November 23, 1922)	PANAMA	—
BULGARIA	BULGARIA (October 4, 1922)	PARAGUAY	—
CANADA	CANADA (Nov. 23, 1922)	PERSIA	—
CHILE	CHILE (August 1, 1928)	POLAND	POLAND (December 15, 1922)
CHINA	CHINA (July 4, 1923)	—	PORTUGAL (October 5, 1923)
COLOMBIA	—	ROUMANIA	ROUMANIA (September 5, 1923)
COSTA RICA	—	—	SALVADOR (September 3, 1924)
CZECHOSLOVAKIA	CZECHOSLOVAKIA (September 1, 1923)	SIAM	SIAM (September 12, 1922)
DENMARK	DENMARK (August 11, 1922)	SPAIN	SPAIN (January 31, 1924)
ESTONIA	ESTONIA (Sept. 7, 1923)	SWEDEN	SWEDEN (August 24, 1922)
FINLAND	FINLAND (June 25, 1923)	SWITZERLAND	SWITZERLAND (March 29, 1923)
FRANCE	FRANCE (August 2, 1923)	—	URUGUAY (January 12, 1924)
GREECE	GREECE (April 9, 1923)	VENEZUELA	VENEZUELA (March 24, 1925)
HAITI	HAITI (November 2, 1925)	—	—
HUNGARY	HUNGARY (June 22, 1923)	—	—
INDIA	INDIA (November 23, 1922)	—	—
ITALY	ITALY (June 13, 1924)	—	—
JAPAN	JAPAN (June 13, 1923)	—	—

4. PROTOCOL OF AN AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE 6 (*adding a new paragraph*).²

<i>Signatures</i>	<i>Ratifications</i>	<i>Signatures</i>	<i>Ratifications</i>
ALBANIA	—	ITALY	—
AUSTRALIA	—	JAPAN	—
—	BELGIUM (September 28, 1923)	LATVIA	—
BOLIVIA	—	LIBERIA	—
—	BRAZIL (July 7, 1923)	LITHUANIA	—
BRITISH EMPIRE	—	THE NETHERLANDS	—
BULGARIA	BULGARIA (October 4, 1922)	NEW ZEALAND	—
CANADA	—	NORWAY	NORWAY (March 29, 1922)
CHINA	—	PANAMA	—
COLOMBIA	—	PARAGUAY	—
COSTA RICA	—	PERSIA	—
CZECHOSLOVAKIA	—	POLAND	POLAND (December 15, 1922)
DENMARK	DENMARK (August 11, 1922)	—	PORTUGAL (October 5, 1923)
ESTONIA	—	SIAM	SIAM (December 4, 1922)
FINLAND	FINLAND (June 25, 1923)	SWEDEN	SWEDEN (August 24, 1922)
FRANCE	—	SWITZERLAND	SWITZERLAND (March 29, 1923)
GREECE	—	—	—
HAITI	HAITI (November 2, 1925)	VENEZUELA	—

¹ This amendment came into force August 13, 1924, in accordance with Article 26 of the Covenant. See *League of Nations Treaty Series*, Vol. XXVII, p. 349; Vol. XXXI, p. 260; Vol. XXXIX, p. 191; Vol. LIX, p. 358, and Vol. LXXII, p. 453.

² At the request of the Third Assembly, the Council has notified the Members of the League that it is no longer necessary to ratify this amendment.

5. PROTOCOL OF AN AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE 12. ¹

<i>Signatures</i>	<i>Ratifications</i>	<i>Signatures</i>	<i>Ratifications</i>
UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA	UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA (July 5, 1923)	INDIA	INDIA (July 5, 1923)
AUSTRALIA	AUSTRALIA (July 5, 1923)	ITALY	ITALY (August 5, 1922)
—	BELGIUM (Sept. 28, 1923)	JAPAN	JAPAN (June 13, 1923)
BOLIVIA	—	LATVIA	LATVIA (February 12, 1924)
BRITISH EMPIRE	BRITISH EMPIRE (July 5, 1923)	LIBERIA	—
—	BRAZIL (July 7, 1923)	—	LITHUANIA (March 13, 1925)
BULGARIA	BULGARIA (October 4, 1922)	—	THE NETHERLANDS (April 4, 1923)
CANADA	CANADA (July 5, 1923)	NEW ZEALAND	NEW ZEALAND (July 5, 1923)
CHILE	CHILE (August 1, 1928)	NORWAY	NORWAY (March 29, 1922)
CHINA	CHINA (July 4, 1923)	PANAMA	—
COLOMBIA	—	PARAGUAY	—
COSTA RICA	—	—	POLAND (December 15, 1922)
CUBA	CUBA (May 7, 1923)	—	PORTUGAL (October 5, 1923)
CZECHOSLOVAKIA	CZECHOSLOVAKIA (September 1, 1923)	ROUMANIA	ROUMANIA (September 5, 1923)
DENMARK	DENMARK (August 11, 1922)	SIAM	SIAM (September 12, 1922)
—	ESTONIA (Sept. 7, 1923)	SPAIN	SPAIN (September 26, 1924)
FINLAND	FINLAND (June 25, 1923)	SWEDEN	SWEDEN (August 24, 1922)
FRANCE	FRANCE (August 2, 1923)	SWITZERLAND	SWITZERLAND (March 29, 1923)
GREECE	GREECE (August 20, 1923)	—	URUGUAY (January 12, 1924)
HAITI	HAITI (November 2, 1925)	VENEZUELA	VENEZUELA (March 24, 1925)
HUNGARY	HUNGARY (June 22, 1923)		

6. PROTOCOL OF AN AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE 13. ²

<i>Signatures</i>	<i>Ratifications</i>	<i>Signatures</i>	<i>Ratifications</i>
UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA	UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA (February 3, 1923)	HUNGARY	HUNGARY (June 22, 1923)
ALBANIA	—	INDIA	INDIA (February 3, 1923)
AUSTRALIA	AUSTRALIA (Feb. 3, 1923)	ITALY	ITALY (August 5, 1922)
—	BELGIUM (September 28, 1923)	JAPAN	JAPAN (June 13, 1923)
BOLIVIA	—	LATVIA	LATVIA (February 12, 1924)
—	BRAZIL (July 7, 1923)	LIBERIA	—
BRITISH EMPIRE	BRITISH EMPIRE (Feb. 3, 1923)	LITHUANIA	LITHUANIA (March 13, 1925)
BULGARIA	BULGARIA (October 4, 1922)	THE NETHERLANDS	THE NETHERLANDS (April 4, 1923)
CANADA	CANADA (February 3, 1923)	NEW ZEALAND	NEW ZEALAND (February 3, 1923)
CHILE	CHILE (August 1, 1928)	NORWAY	NORWAY (March 29, 1922)
CHINA	CHINA (July 4, 1923)	PANAMA	—
COLOMBIA	—	PARAGUAY	—
COSTA RICA	—	PERSIA	—
CUBA	CUBA (May 7, 1923)	POLAND	POLAND (December 15, 1922)
CZECHOSLOVAKIA	CZECHOSLOVAKIA (September 1, 1923)	—	PORTUGAL (October 5, 1923)
DENMARK	DENMARK (August 11, 1922)	ROUMANIA	ROUMANIA (September 5, 1923)
ESTONIA	ESTONIA (September 7, 1923)	SIAM	SIAM (September 12, 1922)
FINLAND	FINLAND (June 25, 1923)	SPAIN	SPAIN (September 26, 1924)
FRANCE	FRANCE (August 2, 1923)	SWEDEN	SWEDEN (August 24, 1922)
GREECE	GREECE (August 20, 1923)	SWITZERLAND	SWITZERLAND (March 29, 1923)
HAITI	HAITI (November 2, 1925)	—	URUGUAY (January 12, 1924)
		VENEZUELA	VENEZUELA (March 24, 1925)

¹ This amendment came into force September 26, 1924, in accordance with Article 26 of the Covenant. See League of Nations *Treaty Series*, Vol. XXIX, p. 67; Vol. XXXI, p. 262; Vol. XXXIX, p. 199; Vol. LIX, p. 360, and Vol. LXXII, p. 453.

² This amendment came into force September 26, 1924, in accordance with Article 26 of the Covenant. See League of Nations *Treaty Series*, Vol. XXIX, p. 73; Vol. XXXI, p. 262; Vol. XXXIX, p. 199; Vol. LIX, p. 361, and Vol. LXXII, p. 453.

7. PROTOCOL OF AN AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE 15. ¹

<i>Signatures</i>	<i>Ratifications</i>	<i>Signatures</i>	<i>Ratifications</i>
UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA	UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA (February 3, 1923)	INDIA	INDIA (February 3, 1923)
AUSTRALIA	AUSTRALIA (Feb. 3, 1923)	ITALY	ITALY (August 5, 1922)
—	BELGIUM (Sept. 28, 1923)	JAPAN	JAPAN (June 13, 1923)
BOLIVIA	—	LATVIA	LATVIA (February 12, 1924)
—	BRAZIL (July 7, 1923)	LIBERIA	—
BRITISH EMPIRE	BRITISH EMPIRE (February 3, 1923)	—	LITHUANIA (March 13, 1925)
BULGARIA	BULGARIA (October 4, 1922)	—	THE NETHERLANDS (April 4, 1923)
CANADA	CANADA (February 3, 1923)	NEW ZEALAND	NEW ZEALAND (February 3, 1923)
CHILE	CHILE (August 1, 1928)	NORWAY	NORWAY (March 29, 1922)
CHINA	CHINA (July 4, 1923)	PANAMA	—
COLOMBIA	—	PARAGUAY	—
COSTA RICA	—	—	POLAND (December 15, 1922)
CUBA	CUBA (May 7, 1923)	—	PORTUGAL (October 5, 1923)
CZECHOSLOVAKIA	CZECHOSLOVAKIA (September 1, 1923)	ROUMANIA	ROUMANIA (September 5, 1923)
DENMARK	DENMARK (August 11, 1922)	SIAM	SIAM (September 12, 1922)
ESTONIA	ESTONIA (Sept. 7, 1923)	SPAIN	SPAIN (September 26, 1924)
FINLAND	FINLAND (June 25, 1923)	SWEDEN	SWEDEN (August 24, 1922)
FRANCE	FRANCE (August 2, 1923)	SWITZERLAND	SWITZERLAND (March 29, 1923)
GREECE	GREECE (August 20, 1923)	—	URUGUAY (January 12, 1924)
HAITI	HAITI (November 2, 1925)	VENEZUELA	VENEZUELA (March 24, 1925)
HUNGARY	HUNGARY (June 22, 1923)		

8. PROTOCOL OF AN AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE 16.

(Sentence to be substituted for the latter part of the first paragraph of Article 16 of the Covenant.)

<i>Signatures</i>	<i>Ratifications</i>	<i>Signatures</i>	<i>Ratifications</i>
UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA	UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA (August 12, 1924)	ITALY	ITALY (August 5, 1922)
ALBANIA	—	JAPAN	JAPAN (June 13, 1923)
AUSTRALIA	AUSTRALIA (August 12, 1924)	LATVIA	—
—	BELGIUM (Sept. 28, 1923)	LIBERIA	—
BOLIVIA	—	LITHUANIA	LITHUANIA (March 13, 1925)
—	BRAZIL (August 13, 1924)	THE NETHERLANDS	THE NETHERLANDS (April 4, 1923)
BRITISH EMPIRE	BRITISH EMPIRE (August 12, 1924)	NEW ZEALAND	NEW ZEALAND (August 12, 1924)
BULGARIA	BULGARIA (October 4, 1922)	NORWAY	NORWAY (March 29, 1922)
CANADA	CANADA (August 12, 1924)	PANAMA	—
CHINA	CHINA (July 4, 1923)	PARAGUAY	—
COLOMBIA	—	PERSIA	—
COSTA RICA	—	POLAND	—
CUBA	—	—	PORTUGAL (October 5, 1923)
CZECHOSLOVAKIA	CZECHOSLOVAKIA (September 1, 1923)	ROUMANIA	ROUMANIA (September 5, 1923)
DENMARK	DENMARK (August 11, 1922)	SIAM	SIAM (December 4, 1922)
ESTONIA	ESTONIA (Sept. 7, 1923)	SWEDEN	SWEDEN (August 24, 1922)
FINLAND	FINLAND (June 25, 1923)	SWITZERLAND	SWITZERLAND (March 29, 1923)
GREECE	—	—	URUGUAY (January 12, 1924)
HAITI	—	VENEZUELA	—
HUNGARY	HUNGARY (June 22, 1923)		
INDIA	INDIA (August 12, 1924)		

¹ This amendment came into force September 26, 1924, in accordance with Article 26 of the Covenant. See League of Nations Treaty Series, Vol. XXIX, p. 79; Vol. XXXI, p. 262; Vol. XXXIX, p. 199; Vol. LIX, p. 360, and Vol. LXXII, p. 453.

9. PROTOCOL OF AN AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE 16.

(First paragraph to be inserted after the first amended paragraph of Article 16.)

<i>Signatures</i>	<i>Ratifications</i>	<i>Signatures</i>	<i>Ratifications</i>
UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA	UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA (August 12, 1924)	HUNGARY	HUNGARY (June 22, 1923)
AUSTRALIA	AUSTRALIA (August 12, 1924)	INDIA	INDIA (August 12, 1924)
—	AUSTRIA (August 29, 1927)	ITALY	ITALY (August 5, 1922)
—	BELGIUM (Sept. 28, 1923)	JAPAN	JAPAN (June 13, 1923)
BOLIVIA	—	LATVIA	LATVIA (February 12, 1924)
—	BRAZIL (August 13, 1924)	LIBERIA	—
BRITISH EMPIRE	BRITISH EMPIRE (August 12, 1924)	—	LITHUANIA (March 13, 1925)
BULGARIA	BULGARIA (October 4, 1922)	—	THE NETHERLANDS (April 4, 1923)
CANADA	CANADA (August 12, 1924)	NEW ZEALAND	NEW ZEALAND (August 12, 1924)
CHILE	CHILE (August 1, 1928)	NORWAY	NORWAY (March 29, 1922)
CHINA	CHINA (July 4, 1923)	PANAMA	—
COLOMBIA	—	PARAGUAY	—
COSTA RICA	—	—	PORTUGAL (October 5, 1923)
CUBA	—	ROUMANIA	ROUMANIA (September 5, 1923)
CZECHOSLOVAKIA	CZECHOSLOVAKIA (September 1, 1923)	SIAM	SIAM (September 12, 1922)
DENMARK	DENMARK (August 11, 1922)	SWEDEN	SWEDEN (August 24, 1922)
—	ESTONIA (Sept. 7, 1923)	SWITZERLAND	SWITZERLAND (March 29, 1923)
FINLAND	FINLAND (June 25, 1923)	—	URUGUAY (January 12, 1924)
GREECE	GREECE (January 20, 1925)	VENEZUELA	—
HAITI	—		

10. PROTOCOL OF AN AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE 16.

(Second paragraph to be inserted after the first amended paragraph of Article 16.)

<i>Signatures</i>	<i>Ratifications</i>	<i>Signatures</i>	<i>Ratifications</i>
UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA	UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA (August 12, 1924)	HUNGARY	HUNGARY (June 22, 1923)
AUSTRALIA	AUSTRALIA (Aug. 12, 1924)	INDIA	INDIA (August 12, 1924)
—	AUSTRIA (August 29, 1927)	ITALY	ITALY (August 5, 1922)
—	BELGIUM (Sept. 28, 1923)	JAPAN	JAPAN (June 13, 1923)
BOLIVIA	—	LATVIA	LATVIA (February 12, 1924)
—	BRAZIL (August 13, 1924)	LIBERIA	—
BRITISH EMPIRE	BRITISH EMPIRE (August 12, 1924)	—	LITHUANIA (March 13, 1925)
BULGARIA	BULGARIA (October 4, 1922)	—	THE NETHERLANDS (April 4, 1923)
CANADA	CANADA (August 12, 1924)	NEW ZEALAND	NEW ZEALAND (August 12, 1924)
CHILE	CHILE (August 1, 1928)	NORWAY	NORWAY (March 29, 1922)
CHINA	CHINA (July 4, 1923)	PANAMA	—
COLOMBIA	—	PARAGUAY	—
COSTA RICA	—	—	PORTUGAL (October 5, 1923)
CUBA	—	ROUMANIA	ROUMANIA (September 5, 1923)
CZECHOSLOVAKIA	CZECHOSLOVAKIA (September 1, 1923)	SIAM	SIAM (September 12, 1922)
DENMARK	DENMARK (August 11, 1922)	SWEDEN	SWEDEN (August 24, 1922)
—	ESTONIA (Sept. 7, 1923)	SWITZERLAND	SWITZERLAND (March 29, 1923)
FINLAND	FINLAND (June 25, 1923)	—	URUGUAY (January 12, 1924)
GREECE	GREECE (January 20, 1925)	VENEZUELA	—
HAITI	—		

11. PROTOCOL OF AN AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE 16.

(Paragraph to be inserted between the new third paragraph and the original second paragraph of Article 16.)

<i>Signatures</i>	<i>Ratifications</i>	<i>Signatures</i>	<i>Ratifications</i>
UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA	UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA (August 12, 1924)	HAITI	—
ALBANIA	—	HUNGARY	HUNGARY (June 22, 1923)
AUSTRALIA	AUSTRALIA (August 12, 1924)	INDIA	INDIA (August 12, 1924)
—	AUSTRIA (August 29, 1927)	ITALY	ITALY (August 5, 1922)
—	BELGIUM (Sept. 28, 1923)	JAPAN	JAPAN (June 13, 1923)
BOLIVIA	—	LATVIA	—
—	BRAZIL (July 7, 1923)	LIBERIA	—
BRITISH EMPIRE	BRITISH EMPIRE (August 12, 1924)	—	LITHUANIA (March 13, 1925)
BULGARIA	BULGARIA (October 4, 1922)	NEW ZEALAND	THE NETHERLANDS (April 4, 1923)
CANADA	CANADA (August 12, 1924)	—	NEW ZEALAND (August 12, 1924)
CHILE	CHILE (August 1, 1928)	NORWAY	NORWAY (March 29, 1922)
CHINA	CHINA (July 4, 1923)	PANAMA	—
COLOMBIA	—	PARAGUAY	—
COSTA RICA	—	—	PORTUGAL (October 5, 1923)
CUBA	—	ROUMANIA	ROUMANIA (September 5, 1923)
CZECHOSLOVAKIA	CZECHOSLOVAKIA (September 1, 1923)	SIAM	SIAM (September 12, 1922)
DENMARK	DENMARK (August 11, 1922)	SWEDEN	SWEDEN (August 24, 1922)
—	ESTONIA (Sept. 7, 1923)	SWITZERLAND	SWITZERLAND (March 29, 1923)
FINLAND	FINLAND (June 25, 1923)	—	URUGUAY (January 12, 1924)
GREECE	GREECE (January 20, 1925)	VENEZUELA	—

12. PROTOCOL OF AN AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE 26.

(First paragraph.)

<i>Signatures</i>	<i>Ratifications</i>	<i>Signatures</i>	<i>Ratifications</i>
UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA	UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA (February 3, 1923)	HUNGARY	HUNGARY (June 22, 1923)
ALBANIA	—	INDIA	INDIA (February 3, 1923)
AUSTRALIA	AUSTRALIA (Feb. 3, 1923)	ITALY	ITALY (August 5, 1922)
—	AUSTRIA (August 29, 1927)	JAPAN	JAPAN (June 13, 1923)
—	BELGIUM (Sept. 28, 1923)	LATVIA	LATVIA (December 10, 1923)
BOLIVIA	—	LIBERIA	—
—	BRAZIL (August 13, 1924)	LITHUANIA	LITHUANIA (March 13, 1925)
BRITISH EMPIRE	BRITISH EMPIRE (February 3, 1923)	THE NETHERLANDS	THE NETHERLANDS (April 4, 1923)
BULGARIA	BULGARIA (October 4, 1922)	NEW ZEALAND	NEW ZEALAND (February 3, 1923)
CANADA	CANADA (February 3, 1923)	NORWAY	NORWAY (March 29, 1922)
CHILE	CHILE (August 1, 1928)	PANAMA	—
CHINA	CHINA (July 4, 1923)	PARAGUAY	—
COLOMBIA	—	PERSIA	—
COSTA RICA	—	POLAND	POLAND (December 15, 1922)
CUBA	CUBA (May 7, 1923)	—	PORTUGAL (October 5, 1923)
CZECHOSLOVAKIA	CZECHOSLOVAKIA (September 1, 1923)	ROUMANIA	ROUMANIA (September 5, 1923)
DENMARK	DENMARK (August 11, 1922)	SIAM	SIAM (September 12, 1922)
ESTONIA	ESTONIA (September 7, 1923)	SWEDEN	SWEDEN (August 24, 1922)
FINLAND	FINLAND (June 25, 1923)	SWITZERLAND	SWITZERLAND (March 29, 1923)
FRANCE	FRANCE (August 2, 1923)	—	URUGUAY (January 12, 1924)
GREECE	GREECE (August 20, 1923)	VENEZUELA	VENEZUELA (March 24, 1925)
HAITI	HAITI (November 2, 1925)		

13. PROTOCOL OF AN AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE 26.

(Adding a new paragraph after the first paragraph.)

<i>Signatures</i>	<i>Ratifications</i>	<i>Signatures</i>	<i>Ratifications</i>
UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA	UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA (February 3, 1923)	INDIA	INDIA (February 3, 1923)
AUSTRALIA	AUSTRALIA (Feb. 3, 1923)	ITALY	ITALY (August 5, 1922)
—	AUSTRIA (August 29, 1927)	JAPAN	JAPAN (June 13, 1923)
—	BELGIUM (Sept. 28, 1923)	LATVIA	LATVIA (December 10, 1923)
BOLIVIA	—	LIBERIA	—
—	BRAZIL (August 13, 1924)	LITHUANIA	LITHUANIA (March 13, 1925)
BRITISH EMPIRE	BRITISH EMPIRE (February 3, 1923)	THE NETHERLANDS	THE NETHERLANDS (April 4, 1923)
BULGARIA	BULGARIA (October 4, 1922)	NEW ZEALAND	NEW ZEALAND (February 3, 1923)
CANADA	CANADA (February 3, 1923)	NORWAY	NORWAY (March 29, 1922)
CHILE	CHILE (August 1, 1928)	PANAMA	—
CHINA	CHINA (July 4, 1923)	PARAGUAY	—
COLOMBIA	—	PERSIA	—
COSTA RICA	—	POLAND	POLAND (December 15, 1922)
CUBA	CUBA (May 7, 1923)	—	PORTUGAL (October 5, 1923)
CZECHOSLOVAKIA	CZECHOSLOVAKIA (September 1, 1923)	ROUMANIA	ROUMANIA (September 5, 1923)
DENMARK	DENMARK (August 11, 1922)	SIAM	SIAM (September 12, 1922)
ESTONIA	ESTONIA (Sept. 7, 1923)	SWEDEN	SWEDEN (August 24, 1922)
FINLAND	FINLAND (June 25, 1923)	SWITZERLAND	SWITZERLAND (March 29, 1923)
FRANCE	FRANCE (August 2, 1923)	—	URUGUAY (January 12, 1924)
GREECE	GREECE (August 20, 1923)	VENEZUELA	VENEZUELA (March 24, 1925)
HAITI	HAITI (November 2, 1925)		
HUNGARY	HUNGARY (June 22, 1923)		

14. PROTOCOL OF AN AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE 26.

(Second paragraph.)

<i>Signatures</i>	<i>Ratifications</i>	<i>Signatures</i>	<i>Ratifications</i>
UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA	UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA (February 3, 1923)	INDIA	INDIA (February 3, 1923)
AUSTRALIA	AUSTRALIA (Feb. 3, 1923)	ITALY	ITALY (August 5, 1922)
—	AUSTRIA (August 29, 1927)	JAPAN	JAPAN (June 13, 1923)
—	BELGIUM (Sept. 28, 1923)	LATVIA	LATVIA (December 10, 1923)
BOLIVIA	—	LIBERIA	—
—	BRAZIL (July 7, 1923)	LITHUANIA	LITHUANIA (March 13, 1925)
BRITISH EMPIRE	BRITISH EMPIRE (February 3, 1923)	THE NETHERLANDS	THE NETHERLANDS (April 4, 1923)
BULGARIA	BULGARIA (Oct. 4, 1922)	NEW ZEALAND	NEW ZEALAND (February 3, 1923)
CANADA	CANADA (February 3, 1923)	NORWAY	NORWAY (March 29, 1922)
CHILE	CHILE (August 1, 1928)	PANAMA	—
CHINA	CHINA (July 4, 1923)	PARAGUAY	—
COLOMBIA	—	PERSIA	—
COSTA RICA	—	—	POLAND (December 15, 1922)
CUBA	CUBA (May 7, 1923)	—	PORTUGAL (October 5, 1923)
CZECHOSLOVAKIA	CZECHOSLOVAKIA (September 1, 1923)	ROUMANIA	ROUMANIA (September 5, 1923)
DENMARK	DENMARK (August 31, 1922)	SIAM	SIAM (September 12, 1922)
ESTONIA	ESTONIA (Sept. 7, 1923)	SWEDEN	SWEDEN (August 24, 1922)
FINLAND	FINLAND (June 25, 1923)	SWITZERLAND	SWITZERLAND (March 29, 1923)
FRANCE	FRANCE (August 2, 1923)	—	URUGUAY (January 12, 1924)
GREECE	GREECE (August 20, 1923)	VENEZUELA	VENEZUELA (March 24, 1925)
HAITI	HAITI (November 2, 1925)		
HUNGARY	HUNGARY (June 22, 1923)		

15. PROTOCOL OF AN AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE 16.

(Latter part of first paragraph of Article 16.)

(Geneva, September 27, 1924.)

<i>Signatures</i>	<i>Ratifications</i>	<i>Signatures</i>	<i>Ratifications</i>
UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA	—	GREECE	—
ALBANIA	—	THE NETHERLANDS	THE NETHERLANDS (February 8, 1926)
BRAZIL	—	NEW ZEALAND	—
BULGARIA	—	—	ROUMANIA (March 12, 1925)
CANADA	—	POLAND	—
CHILE	—	SALVADOR	SALVADOR (June 4, 1925)
CUBA	—	SIAM	SIAM (September 30, 1925)
ESTONIA	ESTONIA (September 18, 1926)	URUGUAY	—

16. PROTOCOL OF AN AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE 16.

(Second paragraph of the original text.)

(Geneva, September 21, 1925.)

<i>Signatures</i>	<i>Ratifications</i>
UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA	
ALBANIA	
BRAZIL	
BULGARIA	
CANADA	
CHILE	CHILE (August 1, 1928)
DENMARK	DENMARK (March 28, 1926)
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC	
ESTONIA	ESTONIA (September 18, 1926)
JAPAN	
THE NETHERLANDS	THE NETHERLANDS (August 20, 1926)
NEW ZEALAND	
NORWAY	
PORTUGAL	
SALVADOR	
SIAM	
URUGUAY	

XX. AMENDMENTS TO THE LABOUR PART OF THE TREATIES OF PEACE.

(a) AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE 393 OF THE TREATY OF VERSAILLES AND TO THE CORRESPONDING ARTICLES OF THE OTHER TREATIES OF PEACE.

(Adopted at the Fourth Session of the International Labour Conference, Geneva, November 2, 1922.¹)

<i>Has been ratified by :</i>	<i>Has been ratified by :</i>
ALBANIA (November 26, 1924)	LATVIA (March 16, 1925)
AUSTRIA (October 9, 1924)	LITHUANIA (May 25, 1928)
BELGIUM (October 29, 1924)	LUXEMBURG (April 5, 1928)
BULGARIA (March 6, 1925)	THE NETHERLANDS (August 14, 1924)
CHILE (August 23, 1928)	PERSIA (August 14, 1928)
CZECHOSLOVAKIA (September 30, 1924)	PORTUGAL (September 13, 1926)
DENMARK (June 20, 1924)	ROUMANIA (July 19, 1923)
ESTONIA (April 12, 1926)	SALVADOR (May 4, 1928)
FINLAND (March 25, 1924)	SPAIN (July 5, 1924)
GERMANY (June 6, 1925)	SWEDEN (May 15, 1924)
HAITI (November 2, 1925)	SWITZERLAND (November 1, 1924)
HUNGARY (May 14, 1925)	URUGUAY (April 28, 1928)
IRISH FREE STATE (June 26, 1925)	

¹ The amendment shall take effect when ratified by the States whose representatives compose the Council of the League of Nations and by three-quarters of the Members (Article 422 of the Treaty of Versailles).

(b) PROTOCOL RELATIVE TO THIS AMENDMENT OPENED FOR SIGNATURE AT GENEVA ON
JUNE 14, 1923.

<i>Signatures</i>	<i>Ratifications</i>	<i>Signatures</i>	<i>Ratifications</i>
UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA	UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA (October 20, 1923)	JAPAN	JAPAN (May 11, 1925)
AUSTRALIA	AUSTRALIA (October 20, 1923)	NEW ZEALAND	NEW ZEALAND (October 20, 1923)
BRITISH EMPIRE	BRITISH EMPIRE (October 20, 1923)	NORWAY	NORWAY (April 8, 1924)
CANADA	CANADA (October 20, 1923)	PARAGUAY	—
CHINA	CHINA (June 3, 1926)	POLAND	POLAND (February 10, 1925)
CUBA	CUBA (September 7, 1925)	KINGDOM OF THE SERBS, CROATS AND SLOVENES	KINGDOM OF THE SERBS, CROATS AND SLOVENES (March 11, 1927).
FRANCE	FRANCE (June 2, 1925)	SIAM	SIAM (March 18, 1924)
GREECE	GREECE (June 8, 1927)		
INDIA	INDIA (October 20, 1923)		