

THE
MONTHLY SUMMARY
OF THE
LEAGUE OF NATIONS

JANUARY 1926

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MONTHLY SUMMARY OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS

JANUARY 1926

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Communications concerning the *Monthly Summary* should be addressed
to the Information Section, League of Nations, Geneva.

I. — Summary of the Month.

The official inauguration of the International Institute of Intellectual Cooperation, founded by the French Government in Paris, was the principal manifestation of the activity of the League in January. This ceremony took place during the seventh plenary session of the Committee on Intellectual Cooperation. Important progress was made in the study of the codification of international law, and in the work of the Organisation for Communications and Transit.

The Committee on the Progressive Codification of International Law met at Geneva for the second time, when it examined the reports of its sub-committees on certain matters of international law and noted the replies of Institutes consulted in this connection.

The results of the League's inquiry into navigation conditions on the Rhine and the Danube; the unification of private law in inland navigation; combined tariffs; passport examination in international trains and other questions concerning railroad transport were studied by sub-committees of the League Committee for Communications and Transit, meeting at Strasburg and Geneva.

The United States Government notified the Secretary-General of its readiness to communicate to the Secretariat all treaties and agreements to which it is a party, while pointing out that this step did not imply registration under Article XVIII of the Covenant.

The Saar Governing Commission sent in its twenty-fourth quarterly report.

II. The Permanent Court of International Justice ⁽¹⁾.

1. — EXTRAORDINARY SESSION ⁽²⁾

On May 15th, 1925, Germany instituted proceedings before the Court against the Polish Government in regard to certain German interests in Polish Upper Silesia. The latter Government having contested the Court's jurisdiction to deal with the case set out in the German Application, the Court, by its Judgment of August 25th, upheld its jurisdiction. On the same day, the German Government filed a further Application concerning similar German interests in Polish Upper Silesia.

The time-limits for the written procedure relating to the two suits having been fixed so as to expire on January 23rd, the President decided to convoke the Court in extraordinary session to deal with the merits of the suits for February 2nd, 1926. At this session the Court will be composed as follows : Mr. Huber, President (Switzerland), Dr. Lodér, former President (Netherlands), M. Weiss, Vice-President (France), Lord Finlay (Great Britain), M. Nyholm (Denmark), M. Altamira (Spain), M. Anzilotti (Italy), M. Yovanovitch (Serb-Croat-Slovene Kingdom), M. Beichmann (Norway) and M. Negulesco (Roumania), Count Michel-Rostworowski (Poland), and Dr. Rabel (Germany). The two last mentioned will sit as national judges, appointed for the purposes of this case, Germany and Poland having no judges of their nationality on the Bench.

Germany will be represented before the Court by Professor Erich Kaufmann (Bonn) and Poland by M. Mrozowski, President of the Supreme Court of Warsaw, M. Sobolewski, Polish representative on the Reparations Commission and M. Limburg, Leader of the Hague Bar.

2. — ACCEPTANCE OF THE OPTIONAL CLAUSE ⁽³⁾

The Danish Government, which in 1920 signed and in 1921 ratified a declaration whereby, in accordance with the Optional Clause attached to the Protocol of Signature of the Court's Statute, it accepted the jurisdiction of the Court as compulsory and on condition of reciprocity for a period of five years, on December 11th, 1925, signed a similar declaration covering a further period of ten years. This declaration will take effect as from the date of its ratification.

3. — DEPOSIT OF SWISS ARBITRATION TREATIES ⁽⁴⁾

In accordance with precedent, the Swiss Minister at the Hague deposited with the Registry, on January 16th, 1926, the text of the Treaty of Conciliation con-

(1) This article has been prepared with the aid of information furnished by the Registry of the Court.

(2) See *Monthly Summary*, Vol. V, No. 8, p. 186.

(3) See *Monthly Summary*, Vol. V, No. 9, p. 207.

(4) See *Monthly Summary*, Vol. V, No. 6, p. 143.

cluded on August 21st, 1925, between the Federal Government and the Government of Norway.

4. — APPOINTMENT OF EXPERTS BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE COURT

On August 27th, 1925, a convention was concluded between the Greek Government and a Belgian company, *La Société commerciale de Belgique à Ougrée (Belgique)* for the construction by the latter of railways in Greece. The convention contains a stipulation to the effect that "the contracting parties shall have recourse to qualified expert or experts to be nominated by the President of the Permanent Court of International Justice at the Hague", in order to determine the price of certain material, of a value of approximately 21 million dollars, to be supplied by the company. The Greek and Belgian Governments having, through their Legations at The Hague, requested the President to undertake the mission contemplated in the convention, the President decided to accept.

After making the necessary arrangements, he appointed M. J. E. Inckel, Director of the Technical Department of the Colonial Ministry, The Hague, and M. C. K. Visser, Professor at the Delft Polytechnic High School, to fill the posts of experts provided for by the convention.

III. — Reduction of Armaments.

PREPARATORY COMMISSION FOR THE DISARMAMENT CONFERENCE

The Bulgarian, German, Netherlands, Polish, Roumanian, Serb-Croat-Slovene and United States Governments have accepted the Council's invitation to be represented on the Preparatory Commission for the Disarmament Conference ⁽¹⁾. The Finnish and Soviet Governments have not yet replied ⁽²⁾.

IV. — General Questions.

1. — CODIFICATION OF INTERNATIONAL LAW ⁽³⁾

The second session of the Committee of Experts for the Progressive Codification of International Law took place at Geneva from January 12th to January 29th, under the Chairmanship of M. Hammarskjöld (Sweden), Governor of Upsala. This body, it may be remembered, was appointed in December 1924 by the Council, acting in accordance with a resolution of the Fifth Assembly.

The session was attended by M. Hammarskjöld (Sweden), Chairman; Professor Diena (Italy), Vice-Chairman; Professor Brierly (Great Britain); M. Fromageot (France); M. Guerrero (Salvador); M. Loder (Netherlands); M. de Magalhaes (Portugal); M. Mastny (Czechoslovakia); M. Matsuda (Japan); M. Rundstein (Poland); Professor Schücking (Germany); M. Suarez (Argentine); Mr. Wickersham (United States), M. de Visscher (Belgium), M. Wang-Chung-Hui (China), M. Botella (Spain), and Sir Muhamed Rafique (India) were unable to be present.

(1) See *Monthly Summary*, Vol. V, No. 12, p. 308.

(2) A request for the postponement of the meeting of the Preparatory Commission, signed by five States Members of the Council, was received just before going to press.

(3) See *Monthly Summary*, Vol. V, No. 4, p. 105.

At this meeting the Committee examined the reports of its sub-committees on the following questions :

- 1) *Nationality.* — Rapporteur : M. Rundstein (Poland).
- 2) *Territorial waters.* — Rapporteur : M. Schücking (Germany)
- 3) *Diplomatic privileges and immunities.* — Rapporteur : M. Diena (Italy).
- 4) *Legal status of ships owned by the State and used for trade.* — Rapporteur : M. Magalhaes (Portugal).
- 5) *Extradition and criminal jurisdiction of States with regard to crimes perpetrated outside of their territories.* — Rapporteur : Mr. Brierly (Great Britain).
- 6) *Responsibility of States for damages suffered within their territories by foreigners.* — Rapporteur : M. Guerrero (Salvador).
- 7) *Procedure of international conferences and the conclusion and drafting of treaties.* — Rapporteur : M. Mastny (Czechoslovakia)
- 8) *Suppression of piracy.* — Rapporteur : M. Matsuda (Japan).
- 9) *Limitation.* — Sole Member : M. de Visscher (Belgium).
- 10) *Exploitation of the produce of the sea.* — Sole member : M. Suarez (Argentine).

The Committee made a careful examination of these questions, noting in this connection the replies received from the international institutes it had consulted in order to obtain their opinions on the matters selected for codification. Without recommending definite solutions it came to the conclusion that the regulation of most of these questions was feasible by international agreement, and that they might be submitted, together with the Sub Committees' reports, to the various Governments. The latter will be requested to send in their answers before October 15th, 1926.

The Committee considers that it is preferable to gain time by submitting successive lists of the questions examined, rather than wait until it is able to present a complete and definitive list.

The question of the legal status of ships owned by States and used for trade will be dealt with by the Committee in a special report to the Council. It was decided, in the absence of the rapporteur, M. de Visscher, to postpone to the next session of the Committee the discussion of the question of limitation. The only questions that the Committee did not feel able to recommend as ripe for immediate solution by international agreement were those relating to extradition and the criminal jurisdiction of States with regard to crimes perpetrated outside their territories.

Finally, the Committee appointed ten sub-committees to study, with a view to their ultimate codification, the following questions of public and private international law :

- 1) *Communication in criminal matters of judicial and other documents; commissions to take evidence.* — Rapporteur : M. Schücking; Member : M. Diena.
- 2) *Legal status of private, non-profit-making, international associations and private international foundations.* — Rapporteur : M. de Visscher; Members : M. Rundstein, M. Wang-Chung-Hui.
- 3) *Conflict of laws in the matter of domicile.* — Rapporteur : M. de Magalhaes; Member : Mr. Brierly.
- 4) *Legal status and functions of Consuls.* — Rapporteur : M. Guerrero; Member : M. Mastny.
- 5) *Effect of the "most favoured nations" clause.* — Rapporteur : Mr. Wickersham; Member : M. de Magalhaes.
- 6) *Classification of Diplomatic Agents.* — Rapporteur : M. Guerrero; Member : M. Mastny.
- 7) *Competence of courts in regard to foreign States.* — Rapporteur : M. Matsuda; Members : M. Diena, M. de Visscher.

8) *Nationality of commercial corporations.* — Rapporteur : M. Rundstein; Members : M. Guerrero, M. Schücking.

9) *Recognition of the legal personality of foreign commercial corporations.* — Rapporteur : M. Rundstein; Members : M. Guerrero, M. Schücking.

10) *Conflicts of laws concerning contracts for the sale of goods.* — Rapporteur : M. Wang-Chung-Hui; Members : M. Rundstein, M. Botella.

The Committee also examined a draft Statute for the International Institute for the Unification of Private Law, which the Italian Government has offered to found in Rome and to place under the Direction of the League. Its opinion was favourable.

2. — INTERNATIONAL ENGAGEMENTS

a) *Registration.*

Among the treaties and international engagements registered during the month figure :

A series of treaties, agreements and exchanges of notes presented by the British Government, including, in particular, a Convention (London, December 3rd, 1924) between the United Kingdom and the United States of America relating to the rights of the Governments and nationals of these countries in Palestine; an Agreement (Rome, May 21st, 1925) between the United Kingdom and Italy concerning medical practice in these countries; a Treaty of Commerce and Navigation (London, December 2nd, 1924) between the United Kingdom and Germany.

An Extradition Treaty between Esthonia and Finland, and a provisional Commercial Agreement between Esthonia and Norway, presented by Esthonia.

An Exchange of Notes between Belgium and Hungary concerning the transmission of legal documents and commissions of enquiry, presented by Belgium.

A Convention on legal assistance and extradition (Riga, July 12th, 1921) between Esthonia and Latvia, presented by Esthonia.

A Treaty of Friendship, Commerce and Navigation (Paris, February 14th, 1925) between France and Siam, presented by Siam.

An Exchange of Notes between Germany and Sweden concerning the reciprocal exemption from income tax of commercial agents, presented by Sweden.

b) *Communication to the League of Treaties concluded by the United States.*

The United States Government has notified the Secretary-General that it is willing to transmit to the Secretariat all treaties or international agreements entered into by it and that it has no objection to their inclusion in the League' Treaty Series; but that these facts do not imply that the treaties are formally registered with the League under Article XVIII of the Covenant, as the United States is not a Member of the League.

In acknowledging receipt of this communication, the Secretary-General expressed the appreciation which, he said, he felt sure all States Members of the League would feel in this connection. He added that, though undoubtedly, as pointed out in the American communication, almost all American treaties were now registered by another Contracting Party, nevertheless the possibility of including other treaties, received directly from the United States Government, would tend to make the Treaty Series a still more complete depository of all new treaties.

3. — APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVES TO THE LEAGUE

The Polish Government has notified the Secretary-General of the appointment of M. François Sokal, Minister Plenipotentiary, to succeed M. Morawski as Permanent Polish Delegate to the League of Nations.

4. — BUILDING OF AN ASSEMBLY HALL

The jury of architects appointed to draw up the programme and conditions of an international competition for the plans of an Assembly Hall for the League of Nations met at Geneva from January 11th to January 23rd.

Sir John Burnet (British), M. Berlag (Dutch), M. Victor Horta (Belgian), M. Charles Lemaesquier (French), M. Karl Moser (Swiss), M. Attilio Muggia (Italian), M. I. Tengbom (Swedish), M. Steinhof (replacing M. Hoffmann, Austrian) and M. Urdapilleta (Spain) are members of the jury.

In order to clear up certain points raised in connection with the programme, a conference took place on January 22nd and 23rd between a delegation of the jury, composed of M. Horta (chairman), Sir John Burnet and M. Lemaesquier, and the special committee appointed by the Council on October 28th, 1925. Besides the above-named, there were present at this meeting M. Fernandez y Medina (Uruguay), chairman; M. Cavazzoni (Italy); M. Dinichert (replacing M. Burckhardt, Switzerland); M. de Modzelewski (Poland); M. Osusky (Czechoslovakia); M. Reveillaud (France); Mr. Rowe Dutton (replacing Sir Hubert Llewellyn Smith, British Empire).

The conditions and programme of the competition, together with the observations of the special committee, have been transmitted to the Secretary-General, who will lay them before the Council. As soon as these documents have been approved by the competent League authorities, the Secretary-General will make the necessary arrangements for opening the competition. Copies of the programme and conditions will be forwarded to all Governments of States Members of the League. When they have been delivered in the most distant states, the text of the programme will be published simultaneously in all countries and the competition will be declared open.

Six months will be allowed for drawing up plans, which should be dispatched to Geneva when this period has expired. The jury will then meet to consider the plans and distribute the awards.

V. — Technical Organisations.

1. — THE ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL ORGANISATION. THE FINANCIAL RECONSTRUCTION OF AUSTRIA

In September 1925, the Council decided that the League supervision over the Austrian budget should be gradually abolished. The details of this operation were settled in December (1).

Since January 1st, 1926, the control exercised by the Commissioner-General has been confined to the assigned revenues and the use made of the loan balance. The Commissioner-General is no longer obliged to reside permanently in Vienna.

In these circumstances, the publication in the *Monthly Summary* of financial and statistical information from the Commissioner-General's Office will be discontinued.

2. — COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSIT

a) *Inland Navigation* (2).

The Sub-Committee on Inland Navigation met at Geneva, from January 25th to January 28th, to consider, in particular, what action should be taken on Mr. Walker D. Hines' reports on Rhine and Danube Navigation (3).

(1) See *Monthly Summary*, Vol. V, No. 9, p. 217 and No. 12, p. 313.

(2) See *Monthly Summary*, Vol. V, No. 7, p. 169.

(3) See *Monthly Summary*, Vol. V, No. 8, p. 192.

There were present, besides the members of the Sub-Committee ⁽¹⁾, delegates of Rhine and Danube riparian States not otherwise represented on the Sub-Committee and representatives of the international river commissions.

On the occasion of the examination of the reports on Rhine and Danube navigation, the delegates of the Governments concerned submitted their observations. The Sub-Committee adopted a certain number of resolutions designed to give effect to those of the investigator's conclusions, with which it was in agreement.

In his report on navigation conditions on the Rhine, Mr. Walker D. Hines had raised the question of customs seals. The Sub-Committee was of the opinion that uniform regulations should be established which Governments should agree to respect. It postponed the examination of Mr. Hines' observations regarding the French super-tax on commerce moving through foreign ports until the Central Commission for Rhine Navigation should have made known its point of view.

As regards the Danube, the Sub-Committee considered that the conclusion by the Danubian States of commercial treaties would result in economic conditions favourable to the development of river navigation. It recommended the simplification of various customs formalities and asked several Governments directly concerned to adopt certain measures under examination. It drew the attention of the International Commission of the Danube to certain questions falling within its scope, such as the definition of coasting traffic, the improvement of the river-bed, etc. It noted declarations to the effect that international agreements, as requested by Mr. Hines, would shortly be concluded with a view to securing complete and reciprocal equality of treatment as regards warehouse and other facilities for Austrian, Hungarian and Czechoslovak navigation companies in Austrian, Hungarian and Czechoslovak Danube ports and recommended that similar measures be taken in regard to other Danube ports.

The Sub-Committee decided to include in its study of the unification of private law in inland navigation the question of the recognition of liens on vessels—raised by Mr. Hines—and the unification of statistics, which is at present being dealt with by a special sub-committee.

The Sub-Committee recommended that the policy of Governments in regard to navigation should be based on extremely liberal principles, allowing navigation companies a reasonable and economical use of national and international waterways. It observed that considerable progress had been made during the past few years, and expressed its conviction that continued efforts in the same direction would result in further progress in the development of Danube navigation. Questions relating to competition between rail and river transport were referred to a special committee, which will study the problem as a whole, in its bearing on Rhine and Danube navigation.

The measures adopted by the special committee on the Unification of Private Law in Inland Navigation ⁽²⁾ were approved by the Sub-Committee. With regard to the unification of statistics, interesting replies have already been received from several countries, and the enquiries will be pursued on this subject until the next meeting of the Sub-Committee, when the question will be dealt with as a whole.

b) *Private Law in Inland Navigation.*

The first session of the Committee on Private Law in Inland Navigation was held at Strasburg, at the seat of the Central Commission for Rhine Navigation, from January 11th to January 14th. M. Winiarski, member of the Committee on Communications and Transit, was in the chair.

(1) See List of Commissions at the end of this number.

(2) See special chapter.

There were present :

M. Hostie, member of the Legal Committee of the Committee on Communications and Transit ;

M. de Jarmay, Director of the Royal Hungarian Navigation Company ;

M. Malinine, legal advisor to the River Navigation Board of the Union of Soviet and Socialist Republics ;

M. Millot, Director of the National Office of Inland Navigation, Paris, assisted by M. Chargueraud-Hartmann, secretary of the French delegation to the International River Commissions ;

Professor Mittelstein, President of the Hamburg Court of Appeal ;

M. Sitensky, adviser to the Czechoslovak Ministry of Commerce.

M. Nauta, of the Rotterdam Bar, who is also a member of the Committee, was unable to be present at this meeting.

The Committee had been requested by the Sub-Committee on Inland Navigation to draw up a programme of work and collect comprehensive information regarding the present status in European countries of private law in inland navigation.

The Committee began with a general discussion as to what matters of private law should first engage its attention. It decided to include in its programme the question of the nationality of vessels used in inland navigation, a point which concerns both public and private law. It drew up three questionnaires, to be forwarded to European Governments, bearing on questions of nationality ; ownership, mortgages and privileges ; collisions.

The Committee also had before it a draft questionnaire, prepared by M. Malinine, concerning engagement contracts and labour conditions in inland navigation.

Subject to the approval of the Sub-Committee on Inland Navigation, the Committee agreed to examine the draft at its next meeting, in July. The place and exact date of the meeting will be fixed later.

c) *Transport by rail.*

The Sub-Committee for Transport by Rail of the Advisory and Technical Committee for Communications and Transit met at Geneva from January 25th to January 27th.

There were present :

M. Sinigalia, President (Italy)

M. Amunátegui (Chile)

M. Brockmann (Spain)

M. Herold (Switzerland)

M. Kalf (Netherlands)

M. Lankas (Czechoslovakia)

M. Marriott (Great Britain)

M. Niemack (Germany)

M. Politis (Greece)

M. Raileanu (Roumania)

M. Schwob (France)

M. Spiess (Germany)

M. Wang Hang (China)

The International Chamber of Commerce was represented in an advisory capacity.

The agenda included the report of the experts who met in Paris in July 1925, which dealt with such questions as combined tariffs, and a universal nomenclature to be used in connection with international tariffs. The Sub-Committee also exa-

mined questions concerning facilities for passport examination in international trains, railway statistics, special facilities for communication with Geneva when exceptional circumstances concerning international relations might make them necessary.

3. — INTELLECTUAL COOPERATION

a) *Seventh Session of the Committee.*

The seventh plenary session of the Committee on Intellectual Cooperation—which was preceded by a meeting of the Sub-Committee on Arts and Letters—took place in Paris from January 14th to 18th.

During this session the International Institute of Intellectual Cooperation was officially inaugurated. Two new members, M. Painlevé, member of the French Institute, and Professor Rocco, of Rome University, succeeding respectively Professor Bergson and Senator Ruffini, took part for the first time in the work of the Committee.

On the proposal of M. Painlevé, Professor Lorents, formerly of Leyden University, was unanimously elected to succeed Professor Bergson in the chair. The other members present were Mlle. Bonnevie, Mme. Curie, M. Destrée, Professor Einstein, Professor de Reynold, Sir Atul Chandra Chatterjee, M. Casares, Mr. Maxwell Garnett, M. Montarroyos and Mr. Trowbridge. The International Labour Office was represented by M. Maurette.

Instruction in the principles and work of the League. — The Sixth Assembly had invited the Committee to consider the question of familiarising young people with the principles and work of the League. The Committee was called upon, in particular, to examine the possibility of summoning a sub-committee to seek the best methods of coordinating all official and non-official efforts in this respect.

- At its January session, the Committee marked its appreciation of the importance of the new duties entrusted to it by the Assembly, at the same time noting the various difficulties which might arise in this connection. It decided to appoint an expert sub-committee to examine the whole question.

The Committee proposed to the Council that the sub-committee should be formed of ten or twelve members, including three members of the Committee, Professor Gilbert Murray, M. Destrée and M. Casares.

Arts and Letters. — The Sub-Committee on Art and Letters, under the chairmanship of M. Destrée, met on January 12th and 13th, when it drew up the programme of the work of the International Institute in the sphere of arts and letters.

The programme, which was approved by the Committee, includes studies on the following subjects: the establishment of a list of museums; plans for an international art yearbook; the organisation and work of an International Museum Office; an inventory of catalogues of photographic collections and the creation of national photographic archives; the organisation of an international congress and exhibition of popular art; the regular publication of reviews dealing with certain aspects of international artistic life; histories of national literature, to appear in instalments, beginning by the least known; an enquiry to be addressed to literary associations and editors on the possibility of setting up a central office for translations.

Institute for the Unification of Private Law. — The Committee examined, at the request of the Council, the draft statute of the International Institute for the Unification of Private Law, which the Italian Government had offered to found in Rome. The Committee's observations will be examined by the Council together with those of other League bodies consulted on the subject.



In view of the development of its work and the creation of the Institute, the Committee re-organised and enlarged several of its sub-committees.

b) *Inauguration of the Institute of Intellectual Cooperation.*

On January 16th the International Institute of Intellectual Cooperation (Paris, 2, rue de Montpensier), was officially inaugurated in the presence of the President of the French Republic, of the members of the Committee on Intellectual Cooperation, and of numerous representatives of the diplomatic corps and French and international universities and scientific societies.

On behalf of the French Government, the Minister of Education, M. Daladier, handed over the Institute to League of Nations. Recalling the circumstances in which the French Government's offer to found the Institute had been made and accepted, and previous efforts to develop intellectual intercourse, he said :

These efforts have up to now been confined to certain groups of people or countries and to certain branches of learning. The International Institute, thanks to the League of Nations, is both permanent and universal in conception. Its very existence is a striking manifestation of those great laws of solidarity and interdependence which govern the spiritual as well as the material life of all countries. By the coordination and facilitation of scientific work, the International Institute will, in the words of Léon Bourgeois, be cooperating in the work of moral disarmament and promotion of understanding among nations.

M. Scialoja, Acting-President of the League Council, after thanking the French Government in the name of the League, reviewed the work accomplished by the Committee.

For three years the Committee on Intellectual Cooperation, with commendable surety of method, intelligence and zeal, has patiently sought means of facilitating the international organisation and intercourse of intellectual workers, and the cooperation of research workers in all branches of knowledge.

After describing the work which had already been done, he added :

The vast field before the Committee rendered some material assistance necessary. Thanks to the offer of the French Government, it is today in possession of the indispensable instrument for the execution of its programme—this International Institute... Based on the same guiding principles as the Committee, cooperating with all national and international intellectual institutions, the Institute will be called upon to coordinate and harmonise their efforts, in that spirit of altruism which characterises all the work of the League of Nations. By the intermediary of its Governing Body—the Committee on Intellectual Cooperation—and its Committee of Directors, this Institute, the object of so many hopes, will take part in the work of the League, under the direction of the Council and the Assembly.

The Secretary-General of the League, Sir Eric Drummond, was the next speaker. He pointed out that the creation of the Institute signified considerable progress in the endeavours to develop international cooperation — according to the Preamble of the Covenant, the primary aim and object of the League. After paying tribute to the generosity of the French Government, he said.

When the Committee on Intellectual Cooperation was founded, there were numerous sceptics. The first years of the work of the Committee reduced their numbers, but many doubters still remained who believed that nothing effective could ultimately be accomplished because of the very limited funds which the Members of the League, in view of the great demands on its budget, felt able

to place at the Committee's disposal. They held—with some reason—that no important continuing results could be expected from a Committee, however brilliant and able its members might be, unless adequate administrative and research machinery were at its disposal.

Then came the offer of the French Government, and all doubt and scepticism were swept away. The Committee on Intellectual Cooperation is now enabled to proceed with its varied tasks—tasks of high import to the world as a whole and to the League in particular—in the knowledge that they will see fruition.

May I assure the Committee that, in the future as in the past, it may rely on the sincerest cooperation from myself and from all my collaborators in the Secretariat.

Professor Lorentz, Chairman of the Committee on Intellectual Cooperation, said :

You all know how the Committee on Intellectual Cooperation came into being. The League considered that, in order to fulfil the noble and lofty mission with which it had been entrusted, it was necessary to promote and facilitate to the greatest possible extent international cooperation in intellectual matters.

In the belief that cooperation is the surest path to mutual understanding and appreciation, the League set up our Committee, without, however, tracing a definite programme. We therefore had before us a very vast field in which we had to find a path.

After paying a tribute to his predecessor, Professor Bergson, whose health prevented him from being present at the ceremony, the Chairman continued :

We had neither the strength nor the means to terminate successfully many studies we wished to undertake, when the French Government very generously came to our aid, founded the International Institute, and placed it at our disposal.

It is the express desire of the French Government that the Institute should be really international, and we have taken account of this when appointing the staff. We wish to enter into relations with all countries, and we hope that all countries will present suggestions in regard to our work. We venture to hope that we may be called upon to intervene whenever we can usefully do so. The French Government and the League of Nations have placed the Institute at our disposal; for our part we can only desire that it may become an instrument of universal progress.

The President of the Committee of Directors of the Institute, M. Painlevé, also drew especial attention to the fact that the work of the Institute would be, above all, international. He said :

The great aim of the Institute is to promote mutual understanding between peoples; by facilitating intellectual intercourse it will afford the elect of different countries—in particular the coming generation, the moral leaders of the masses,—opportunities of learning to know one another and of exchanging ideas.

The new Institute, he said, intended to combat with all the means in its power misunderstanding among nations. It was certain that intellectual workers had duties to perform with regard to their own countries, but they had also another task to fulfil; that of learning to understand other nations and to interpret them to their own people.

Finally, M. Julien Luchaire, Director of the Institute, thanked the French Government in the name of the staff of the Institute, adding :

The programme laid down by the Committee on Intellectual Cooperation is both broad and well defined. We must examine all problems of organisation bearing upon intellectual activity; familiarise ourselves with all details concerning international scientific, literary, artistic and pedagogic relations; put ourselves in touch with the chief intellectual institutions of the world; and help them, if

they so desire, to know one another better, and to cooperate more systematically... Who can deny that the international organisation of intellectual work still leaves much to be desired, that there are many omissions, much overlapping and delay? This is due to a great extent, to the fact that the efforts of the intellectual workers of different countries are not sufficiently coordinated; that they do not realise that, by dividing their work, they could make it easier. Our part is a modest, but, we believe, a necessary one; we are neither scholars nor artists; our duty is merely to clear a way for those who, entirely absorbed by their ideal, are sometimes unable to devote sufficient attention to the path their feet should tread.

VI. — Administrative Questions.

TWENTY-FOURTH REPORT OF THE SAAR GOVERNING COMMISSION

The Governing Commission of the Saar Territory has forwarded to the Secretary-General its twenty-fourth report, on the situation in the Saar and the work of the Commission from October 1st to December 31st, 1925.

The following is a brief analysis :

I. ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL SITUATION

The application of the French customs system in the Saar, in conjunction with the non-existence of a Franco-German commercial treaty and the introduction of maximum import and export tariffs, has resulted in a situation which, in the opinion of the Commission, gives rise to some anxiety.

The cost of living has increased slightly as an effect of the fluctuations of the exchange markets. Demands have been made for increased wages. Conflicts have broken out in the timber and building trades. One thousand industrial workers have been dismissed; several of them have found employment elsewhere.

These circumstances, combined with the lock-out in the building trade, have resulted in an increase in the number of unemployed. The unemployment figures rose from 1,331 in October to 6,900 in December. In November the Governing Commission increased the unemployment subsidy by 50 %. In December a further rise of 25 % was granted for the winter; this increase will be maintained until March 31st, 1926.

The mining production in October was 1,342,051 tons, in November 1,200,403 tons, and in December 1,239,053 tons. During the last month 72,611 persons were employed in the mines.

II. ADMINISTRATION

A. General Administration. 1. Negotiations with the German Government. — In October and December negotiations took place at Baden-Baden with the German Government concerning the situation of German officials in the service of the Governing Commission and certain administrative questions. Thanks to the spirit of conciliation shown on both sides, these negotiations led to important practical results for the inhabitants of the territory.

An agreement reached on administrative questions concerned chiefly the maintenance of war-disabled; public assistance; measures to avoid double taxation in Germany and the Saar; mutual assistance in the recovery of taxes; the sale in the Saar Territory of tickets of the Prussian State Lottery; the establishment of nationality papers; formalities relating to the reimbursement of German public loans, etc.

2. *Development of Local Gendarmerie.* — The Gendarmerie force which was increased by 67 recruits, comprised on January 1st, 1926, 946 units.

3. *Housing legislation and measures concerning officials and State workmen.* — The autumn sessions of the Advisory Council and Technical Committee were mainly devoted to housing legislation. In order to give effect to a unanimous recommendation of the former the Commission prolonged for three months the present rent regulations, in order to submit to the Advisory Council a programme of measures calculated to surmount the housing crisis.

The Commission granted to subaltern officials and State workmen credits to enable them to make provision for the winter. A reform is being studied in respect of wages and salaries.

B. *Finance.* — The Commission decided to abolish the tax on imported coal as from October 1st, 1925. It also abolished, on the same date, the tax on the increase of value of real estate.

C. *Public works.* — 1. *Railways.* — The goods tariff, which was increased by 7 % on May 1st, was raised again by 5 % on December 1st.

2. *Postal and Telegraphic Services.* — Inland and foreign postal tariffs, with the exception of those in use for France and Germany, were revised and increased by 25 % as from October 1st. Measures were taken to improve telephonic communications between France and Germany.

3. *Navigation.* — Navigation statistics for the third quarter show the following figures :

Down traffic (imports 115,638 tons);

Up traffic (exports 173,292 tons);

Compared with 82,749 and 192,802 tons for the corresponding quarter of 1924.

D. *Justice.* — During 1925 the number of questions brought before the Civil Court of the Saar Territory increased considerably, the number of trials before the Saarbruck District Court rising from 1,986 in 1913 to 6,800 in 1925. Several post-war commercial undertakings registered declarations of insolvency.

A considerable number of disputes were referred to the special customs Chamber of the Saarbruck District Court. This body dealt with all questions referred to it to the entire satisfaction of the parties.

E. *Religious and Educational Questions.* — The Commission granted subsidies for the creation of new parishes and for the upkeep of museums and a theatre with popular prices. It proceeded to various educational reforms with a view to improving instruction in German and French.

F. *Trade, Industry, Labour and Social Insurance.* — 1. *Trade and Industry.* — The Governing Commission continued its efforts to avoid a further increase in the cost of living.

In connection with the compensation procedure for the settlement of pre-war debts the Commission reached an agreement with the German Government providing certain facilities for Saar debtors.

2. *Labour.* — The Labour Department was mainly concerned with arrangements for the constitution of the new Labour Chamber.

3. *Social Insurance.* — Decrees were published with a view to modifying in favour of the working classes the social insurance system at present in force.

G. *Public Assistance and Social Hygiene.* — 1. *Public Assistance.* — Extraordinary subsidies to the amount of 1,353,000 francs were granted to persons in need of assistance.

2. *Assistance for war disabled.* — The Commission modified the pension rates and distributed 360,000 francs among the war disabled and families of persons killed in the war.

3. *Social Hygiene.* — Health conditions were on the whole satisfactory.

H. *Agriculture.* — The potato crop was satisfactory on the whole. The winter sowing took place under adverse conditions owing to the rain.

The report concludes in the following terms :

From the description of the position in the Saar during the last quarter of 1925 it is clear that manufacturing and trading circles, as well as the working classes, had to cope with a somewhat difficult situation. The Governing Commission expresses the hope that it will shortly be possible to note favourable results of its endeavours to avoid fresh conflicts regarding wages and to settle those which have broken out; it further hopes that there will soon be a marked improvement in the relations between Germany and the French customs territory.

VII. — Forthcoming Events.

- February 16th : Extraordinary session of the Permanent Mandates Commission, Rome.
- February 22nd : Interchange of Municipal Health Officers, London.
- February 24th : Meeting of the Supervisory Commission, Geneva.
- February 24th : Meeting of the Commission of Enquiry on the Opium Situation in Persia, Geneva.
- March 1st : Meeting of the Economic Committee, Geneva.
- March 1st : Meeting of the special Committee of Enquiry on Road Traffic.
- March 4th : Meeting of the Mixed Committee on Economic Crises, Geneva.
- March 5th : Meeting of the Financial Committee, Geneva.
- March 8th : Thirty-eighth session of the Council, Geneva.
- March 22nd : West African Interchange of Colonial Medical Officers, Dakar.
- March 22nd : Meeting of the Advisory Commission for the Protection and Welfare of Children and Young People, Geneva.

VIII. — Publications of the League of Nations.

The League Economic and Financial Organisation has recently issued the second volume of the Memorandum on the Balance of Payments and Foreign Trade Balances 1910-24. This volume gives in considerable detail the international trade statistics of fifty-seven States. For each country for which the data exist, the following tables have been compiled :

- 1) Annual imports and exports of merchandise and separately of bullion and specie for the years 1910-1924 (values).
- 2) Monthly imports and exports of merchandise and of bullion and specie for the years 1923 and 1924 (values).
- 3) Imports and exports by countries of origin and destination for the years 1913 and 1920-24 (values).

- 4) Principal articles imported and exported by value and by weight for the years 1913 and 1920-24.
- 5) Imports and exports of gold and silver bullion and specie for the years 1910-24.

The volume is prefaced by a note summarising the main differences in the methods adopted in the compilation of commercial statistics and explaining the difficulties which the present lack of uniformity entails. In addition each individual chapter opens with a note explaining in greater detail the procedure adopted by the particular country with which the chapter in question is concerned. These notes have been drawn up on a uniform system and have in nearly all cases been checked by the Government of the country to which they refer.

IX. — League Organisations and Commissions.

LIST OF MEMBERS

THE ASSEMBLY

(Not more than three representatives from each Member State of the League.)

THE COUNCIL

(Consists of the representatives of France, Great Britain, Italy and Japan, who sit permanently, and those of six other States Members elected for one year by the Assembly.)

Membership in 1926.

France	M. BRIAND
Great Britain	Sir Austen CHAMBERLAIN
Italy	M. SCIALOJA
Japan	Viscount ISHII
Belgium	M. HYMANS
Brazil	M. DE MELLO FRANCO
Czechoslovaquia	Dr. BENES
Spain	M. QUINONES DE LÉON
Sweden	M. UNDEN
Uruguay	M. GUANI

Permanent Court of International Justice.

(The Judges are elected by the Assembly and the Council for a period of nine years. The President and Vice-President are elected by the Court for a term of three years.)

Judges :

M. HUBER (President)	(Swiss)
M. WEISS (Vice-President)	(France)
M. ALTAMIRA	(Spanish)
Comm. ANZILOTTI	(Italian)
M. Epitacio da SILVA PESSOA	(Brazilian)
M. DE BUSTAMANTE	(Cuban)
Lord FINLAY	(British)
M. LODER	(Dutch)
Mr. MOORE	(American)

M. NYHOLM (Danish)
M. ODA (Japanese)

Deputy-Judges :

M. BEICHMANN (Norwegian)
M. NEGULESCO (Roumanian)
M. WANG CHUNG HAI (Chinese)
M. YOVANOVITCH (Serbian)

Registrar :

M. HAMMARSKJÖLD (Swedish)

Deputy-Registrar :

Dr. RUEGGER (Swiss)

COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS FOR THE PROGRESSIVE CODIFICATION
OF INTERNATIONAL LAW

(Constituted in accordance with a resolution of the Fifth Assembly. The members are appointed by the Council.)

- M. HAMMARSKJÖLD (Chairman), Governor of Upsala (Sweden);
Professor DIENA (Vice-Chairman), professor of international law at the University of Pavia (Italy);
Professor BRIERLY, professor of international law at the University of Oxford (Great Britain);
M. FROMAGEOT, Legal Adviser to the French Ministry for Foreign Affairs (France);
Dr. GUSTAVE GUERRERO, Minister of Salvador in Paris (Salvador);
Dr. BERNARD C. J. LODER, former member of the Supreme Court of the Netherlands; Judge and former President of the Permanent Court of International Justice (Netherlands);
Dr. BARBOZA DE MAGALHAES, professor of law at the University of Lisbon, former Minister of Foreign Affairs, Justice and Education (Portugal);
Dr. Adalbert MASTNY, Minister of Czechoslovakia in Rome, President of the Czechoslovak branch of the International Law Association (Czechoslovakia);
M. MATSUDA, Doctor of Law, Minister Plenipotentiary at The Hague (Japan);
M. SIMON RUNDSTEIN, Barrister, former Legal Adviser to the Ministry for Foreign Affairs, founder of the Polish Association of International Law (Poland);
Professor Walter SCHÜCKING, professor of Law at the Higher School of Commercial Science, Berlin (Germany);
Dr. José LEON SUAREZ, Dean of the Faculty of Political Sciences of the University of Buenos Aires (Argentine);
Professor Charles DE VISSCHER, professor of law at the University of Ghent, legal adviser to the Ministry for Foreign Affairs (Belgium);
Dr. Chung Hui WANG, Deputy Judge at the Permanent Court of International Justice (China);
Mr. George W. WICKERSHAM, former Attorney-General of the United States, member of the Committee of International Law of the American Bar Association, President of the American Law Institute (United States);
M. Cristobal BOTELLA, former professor of the Faculty of Law at the University of Madrid, President of the Franco-German Mixed Arbitral Tribunal and Legal Adviser to the French Embassy in Paris (Spain);
Sir MUHAMED RAFIQUE, expert in Moslem Law.

THE PERMANENT ADVISORY COMMISSION ON NAVAL
MILITARY AND AIR QUESTIONS

(Constituted by a Council Resolution of May 9th 1920, pursuant to Article IX of the Covenant. The members are appointed by and, are representatives of, their Governments. The Presidents of the Military, Naval and Air Sub-Commissions are selected by rotation of the nations represented on the Commission for periods of six months. The President of the Plenary Commission is elected at each session by, and from, the Presidents of the Sub-Commissions. This list includes a number of the regular members of the different delegations who have frequently taken the place of members of the Commission.)

Members and Assistants.

Lt.-General DE CEUNINCK.	(Belgium)
Major-General VAN CROMBRUGGE.	(Belgium)
Major Estevao DE CARVALHO.	(Brazil)
Rear-Admiral DE SOUZA E SILVA	(Brazil)
Colonel H. A. C. TEMPERLEY, C. M. G., D. S. O..	(British Empire)
Rear-Admiral Aubrey C. H. SMITH, C. B., M.V.O.	(British Empire)
Captain G. HALIFAX, R. N.	(British Empire)
Squadron-Leader F. P. DON	(British Empire)
General Vladimir KLECANDA.	(Czechoslovakia)
Commandant d'État-Major R. K. JIZERSKY. .	(Czechoslovakia)
Colonel Sylvester BLAHA	(Czechoslovakia)
Colonel REQUIN	(France)
Vice-Admiral JEHENNE	(France)
Captain DELEUZE	(France)
General DUMESNIL.	(France)
Brig.-General DE MARINIS STENDARDO DI RICI-	
GLIANO	(Italy)
Vice-admiral Baron ACTON	(Italy)
Commander Don F. RUSPOLI.	(Italy)
Commander Cugia di SANT 'ORSOLA.	(Italy)
Lt.-Colonel PELLEGRINI.	(Italy)
Captain GIBERTI.	(Italy)
Brig.-General SHIODEN	(Japan)
Lieut.-Colonel SONOBE	(Japan)
Captain TSUCHIHASHI.	(Japan)
Captain HYAKUTAKE	(Japan)
Captain M. YASUTOMI	(Japan)
Lieutenant J. IKEDA	(Japan)
Lieutenant ARAKI.	(Japan)
Brig.-General Don Juan GARCIA BENITEZ. . .	(Spain)
Lieut.-Colonel LON.	(Spain)
Rear-Admiral Marquis DE MAGAZ.	(Spain)
Captain J. MONTAGUT	(Spain)
Captain Xavier DE SALAS.	(Spain)
Captain Barob del SACRO LIRIO.	(Spain)
General SORIANO	(Spain)
Lieut.-Colonel GARCIA DE PRUNEDA.	(Spain)
Colonel Oscar NYGREN.	(Sweden)
Major M. S. H GADD	(Sweden)
Rear-Admiral C. F. W. DE RIBEN	(Sweden)
Captain F. W. H. DE WRANGEL.	(Sweden)
Major Pedro SICCO	(Uruguay)

PREPARATORY COMMISSION FOR THE DISARMAMENT CONFERENCE
(in process of formation)

Joint Commission

(in process of formation)

Economic and Financial Commission

(Appointed by the Council, in accordance with a recommendation of the Brussels Financial Conference, 1920.)

M. Gustave ADOR, Chairman of the Commission (Swiss)

I. Financial Committee.

M. L. DUBOIS, President of the Swiss Banking Corporation, Chairman (Swiss)
Comm. BIANCHINI, Director-General of the Italian Bank Association (Italian)
Sir O. E. NIEMEYER, K. C. B., Controller of Finance, British Treasury (British)
M. FIGUERAS, Director of the Bank of Bilbao. (Spanish)
M. JANSSEN, Financial Minister. (Belgian)

Substitutes :

M. O. LÉPREUX, Vice-Governor of the Belgian National Bank .
M. J. WARLAND, Director, Belgian Financial Ministry.
M. C. E. ter MEULEN (Dutch)
M. J. PARMENTIER, Hon. Director General at the French Ministry of Finance. (French)

Substitute :

Comte DE CHALENDAR.
Dr. V. POSPISIL, Governor of the Czechoslovak National Bank (Czechoslovak)
M. T. SEKIBA, Assistant Delegate to the Reparations Commission (Japanese)

Substitute :

M. S. YAMAJI, Reparations Commission.
Sir Henry STRAKOSCH, K. B. E. (South African)
M. Carlos TORNUST. (Argentine)
M. Marcus WALLENBERG, Vice-President of the Stockholm Enskilda Bank (Swedish)

II. The Economic Committee.

Professor E. NECULCEA, Chairman (Roumanian)
M. J. BRUNET, Envoy Extraordinary, Minister Plenipotentiary (Belgian)
M. C. A. B. CAMPION (Australian)

- M. J. BARBOZA CARNEIRO, Commercial Attaché to the Brazilian Embassy in London. (Brazilian)
M. J. DVORACEK, Minister of Commerce. . . (Czechoslovak)

Substitute :

Dr. IBL, Councillor of Legation, Czechoslovak Foreign Ministry.

- M. Henri HËER, President of the Swiss Co-operative Society for the Promotion of Foreign Trade. (Swiss)
M. A. JENSEN, Chief of the Department of Statistics at the Danish Ministry of Finance. (Danish)
M. S. MATSUYAMA, Japanese Commercial Attaché. (Japanese)

Substitute :

M. USAMI, Japanese League of Nations Bureau.

- Dr. PIRELLI. (Italian)

Substitute :

M. DI NOLA, Director General at the Italian Ministry of Commerce.

- M. SERRUYS, Director of Commercial Agreements at the French Ministry of Commerce (French)
Sir Hubert LLEWELLYN SMITH, G. C. B., Economic Adviser to the British Government. (British)
M. A. WIENIAWSKI, President of the Bank of Commerce. (Polish)

COMMITTEES IN RELATION WITH THE FINANCIAL COMMITTEE

Committee of Experts on Double Taxation.

- Professeur EINAUDI (Italian)
Sir Josiah STAMP (British)
Professor BRUINS (Dutch)
Professor SELIGMAN (American)

Committee of Government Experts on Double Taxation.

- Mr. G. B. CANNY, C. B., of the Board of Inland Revenue (Great Britain)
M. BORDUGE, Director General of Direct Taxation (France)
M. CLAVIER, Director General of Direct Taxation (Belgium)
M. J. BLAU, Director of the Federal Taxation Department. (Switzerland)
Professor P. D'AROMA, Director General of the Direct Taxation Department. (Italy)

- M. SINNINGHE-DAMSTE, Director General of Taxes, Customs and Excises (Netherlands)
 Dr. VALNICEK, Chief of Section at the Czechoslovak Ministry of Finance. (Czechoslovak)

Statistical Sub-Committee.

- M. PARMENTIER (French)
 Comm. BIANCHINI. (Italian)
 Sir O. E. NIEMEYER. (British)

Preparatory Committee on Statistics.

- M. DELATOUR, Director-General, Caisse des Dépôts et Consignations (French)
 M. Lucien MARCH, Hon. Director of French Statistics (French)
 Mr. A. W. FLUX, C. B., of the Board of Trade. (British)
 Dr. B. HANOSEK, Ministry of Agriculture (Czechoslovak)
 Dr. JULIN, Secretary-General of the Ministry of Industry and Labour (Belgian)
 M. A. JENSEN (Danish)
 Professor NECULCEA. (Roumanian)
 Sir Henry REW. (British)
 M. SIMIAND. (French)
 Professor V. STUART, President of the Central Statistical Commission. (Dutch)
 Professor E. WURZBURGER. (German)
 Dr. MATAJA. (Austrian)
 Dr. PRIBRAM, International Labour Office. (American)
 Professor RICCI. (Italian)
 Dr. METHORST, International Statistical Institute. (Dutch)
 Mr. A. LOVEDAY, League of Nations (British)

SUB-COMMITTEES OF THE ECONOMIC COMMITTEE

Sub-Committee for the Equitable Treatment of Commerce.

- Sir Hubert LLEWELLYN SMITH, Chairman. (British)
 M. BRUNET. (Belgian)
 M. BARBOZA CARNEIRO. (Brazilian)
 M. DVORACEK. (Czechoslovak)
 M. MATSUYAMA (Japanese)
 Dr. PIRELLI. (Italian)
 M. SERRUYS. (French)

Sub-Committee for the Cooperation of the League of Nations and the International Statistical Institute.

- M. DVORACEK. (Czechoslovak)
 M. A. JENSEN. (Danish)
 Professor NECULCEA. (Roumanian)
 Sir Hubert LLEWELLYN SMITH. (British)

Sub-Committee on Inquiry into Economic Crises.

M. HEER (Chairman)	(Swiss)	} Members of the Economic Committee
M. BRUNET	(Belgian)	
M. DVORACEK	(Czechoslovak)	
Dr. PIRELLI	(Italian)	
M. SERRUYS	(French)	
Sir Hubert LLEWELLYN SMITH	(British)	} Members of the Financial Committee
M. WIENIAWSKI	(Polish)	
M. DUBOIS	(Swiss)	
Sir Otto NIEMEYER	(British)	
M. JANSSEN	(Belgian)	
M. M. LAZARD, Chairman of the French Association for the Suppression of Unemployment	(French)	
M. E. MAHAIM, Professor at Liège Uni- versity	(Belgian)	
M. E. SJOSTRAND, representative of Swe- dish Government at the International Labour Office	(Swedish)	
M. WAGEMANN, Professor at Berlin Uni- versity	(German)	

(The four last-named experts were selected by the International Labour Office.)

Sub-Committee on False Customs Declarations.

M. SERRUYS (President)	(France)
Sir Hubert LLEWELLYN SMITH	(Great Britain)
M. DI NOLA	(Italy)
M. JENSEN	(Denmark)
M. BARBOZA CARNEIRO	(Brazil)
M. BRUNET	(Belgium)

THE FINANCIAL RECONSTRUCTION OF AUSTRIA

a) *Commissioner-General of the League of Nations at Vienna.*

(Appointed by the Council in accordance with the Reconstruction Protocols, Geneva, October 4th, 1922.)

M. ZIMMERMAN	(Dutch)
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b) *Committee of Control of the Guaranteeing States for the Austrian Loan.*

(Constituted in accordance with the second Reconstruction Protocol, Geneva, October 4th, 1922. The members of the Committee are nominated by their Governments.)

Marquis CUSANI CONFALONIERI (Chairman) . .	(Italy)
Dr. ROOS, Director of the Zemska Bank, Pra- gue	(Czechoslovakia)
M. ANDERSEN, of the Danish Ministry of Fi- nance	(Denmark)
M. DE LA HUERTA	(Spain)
M. DINICHERT, Minister Plenipotentiary . . .	(Switzerland)

M. JANSSEN, Director of the Belgian National Bank. (Belgium)
Count J. G. LAGERBIELKE, Delegate to the Swedish Comptoir de la Dette Publique. . (Sweden)
Sir O. NIEMEYER (Great Britain)
M. R. J. H. PATIJN, Minister Plenipotentiary. (Netherlands)
Jonkheer W. F. van LENNEP, Substitute.
M. SEYDOUX, Minister Plenipotentiary. . . . (France)

c) Trustees for the Loan.

(Appointed by the Council.)

M. MARCUS WALLENBERG. (Swedish)
M. JANSSEN. (Belgian)
Mr. JAY, of Morgan, Harjes & Co. (American)

THE FINANCIAL RECONSTRUCTION OF HUNGARY

a) Commissioner-General of the League of Nations at Budapest.

(Appointed by the Council.)

Mr. Jeremiah SMITH, Jr. (American)

b) Committee of Control.

(Appointed by the Reparations Commission.)

M. CAVAZZONI (Chairman) (Italy)
M. G. DJOURITCH (Vice-Chairman) (Serb-Croat-Slovene
Kingdom)
Mr. B. A. KEMBALL COOK (Great Britain)
M. BOUNIOLS (France)
M. E. NECULCEA (Roumania)
Dr. V. POSPISIL (Czechoslovakia)

c) Trustees for the Loan.

(Appointed by the Council.)

M. BIANCHINI. (Italian)
Sir Henry STRAKOSCH (South African)
M. C. E. ter MEULEN (Dutch)

GREEK REFUGEES SETTLEMENT COMMISSION

(Constituted under the Greek Refugees Protocol, Geneva, September 29th, 1923. Two members are nominated by the Council of the League.)

M. Charles P. HOWLAND (Chairman). (American)
M. J. CAMPBELL. (British)

ADVISORY AND TECHNICAL COMMITTEE FOR COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSIT

(Constituted at the request of the First Assembly by the General Conference on Communications and Transit convened by the League at Barcelona in March 1921. The Committee consists of one member nominated by each of the States Members permanently represented on the Council and of other members nominated by States Members not so represented, chosen by the General Conference, the selection having regard, as far as possible, to technical interest and geographical representation. The members hold office for two years.

Chairman :

M. Yotaro SUGIMURA (appointed by the Government of Japan). Counsellor of Embassy; Assistant Director of the Japanese League of Nations Office at Paris.

Vice-Chairmen :

M. Guillermo BROCKMANN Y ABARZUA (appointed by the Government of Spain). Inspector-General of Roads, Canals and Ports; President of the Council of Public Works.

His Excellency Dr. Francisco José URRUTIA (appointed by the Government of Colombia). Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary in Switzerland.

Members :

His Excellency Dr. Aristides DE AGUERO Y BETHANCOURT (appointed by the Cuban Government). Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary at Berlin and Vienna.

M. Francisco AMUNATEGUI (appointed by the Government of Chile). Engineer of Bridges and Roads; Secretary-General of the Mixed Courts of Arbitration.

Mr. J. G. BALDWIN (appointed by the Government of Great Britain). Representative of Great Britain on the International River Commissions.

M. Gaetan DOBKEVICIUS (appointed by the Government of Lithuania). Engineer; Counsellor of Legation.

M. Silvain DREYFUS (appointed by the Government of France). Inspector-General of Bridges and Roads; Member of the Central Commission for Rhine Navigation.

His Excellency Dr. J. Gustave GUERRERO (appointed by the Government of Salvador). Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary in France and Switzerland.

M. OUANG-HANG (appointed by the Government of China). Railway Engineer.

M. Athanase POLITIS (appointed by the Government of Greece). Technical Representative of the Greek Government at Paris; former Director of the Greek Railways.

M. G. POPESCO (appointed by the Government of Roumania). Professor; Director-General of the Société nationale de crédit industriel.

M. Henri REINHARDT (appointed by the Government of Austria). Former Ministerial Counsellor.

M. Girolamo SINIGALIA (appointed by the Government of Italy). Former Chief Inspector of the Italian State Railways; Member of the Central Commission for Rhine Navigation.

M. Gabriel SMITH (appointed by the Government of Norway). Former Director-General of Ports in Norway.

Dr. A. STIEVENARD (appointed by the Government of Belgium). Inspector of Belgian Railways.

M. Bohdan WINIARSKI (appointed by the Polish Government). Professor of Law at the University of Poznan.

One Member to be appointed by the Government of Venezuela.

SUB-COMMITTEES AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES

1. Sub-Committee for Ports and Maritime Navigation.

a) Committee for Ports :

M. SMITH (Chairman).

Mr. BALDWIN.

M. BROCKMANN.

M. STIEVENARD.

M. B. FERNANDEZ Y MEDINA, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of Uruguay in Spain; former Chairman of the Ports Committee of the Second General Conference on Communications and Transit.

M. G. INGIANNI, Director-General of the Italian Mercantile Marine.

Dr. LAHR, Ministerial Counsellor to the Reichswirtschaftsministerium, Berlin.

M. P. H. WATIER, Director of Navigable Waterways and Maritime Ports in the French Ministry of Public Works.

b) Committee for Maritime Navigation :

M. DE AGUERO Y BETHANCOURT (Chairman).

M. POPESCO.

M. SUGIMURA.

Sir Alan ANDERSON, Vice-President of the British Chamber of Shipping of the United Kingdom, London.

M. G. BRETON, Director-General of the "Chargeurs Réunis."

M. D. BIANCARDI, former Expert Adviser to the Italian Delegation in the Ports Committee of the Second General Conference.

M. A. G. KRÖLLER, Member of the Council of the Economic Department of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs at the Hague.

A member to be appointed by the Greek Government.

1.) Technical Committee for Buoyage and Lighting of coasts :

M. P. H. WATIER, Director of Navigable Waterways and Maritime Ports at the Ministry of Public Works, France (Chairman).

M. P. VAN BRAAM VAN VLOTEN, Chief Engineer, Technical Lighthouse Service, Netherlands.

M. E. HAGG, Director-General of the Royal Administration of Pilotage, Lighthouses and Buoys, Sweden.

Commander G. DELANO (Chile).

M. N. NAGAOKA, Secretary at the Ministry of Communications, Japan.

Commander NORTON, Director of Lighthouses, Portugal.

Commander RAZICOTSIKAS (Greece).

Commander Luigi TONTA, Director of the Hydrographic Institute, Royal Italian Navy.

Baron G. WREDE, Director-General of Naval Administration, Finland.

2. Committee of Experts on Maritime Tonnage Measurement.

(To be formed shortly.)

II. Sub-Committee for Inland Navigation.

M. Silvain DREYFUS (Chairman).

M. BALDWIN.

- M. DOBKEVICIUS.
- M. POPESCO.
- M. REINHARDT.
- M. STIEVENARD.
- M. WINIARSKI.
- M. TSANG-OU, former Chinese delegate to the Conference of Barcelona.

I. Committee on Private Law in Inland Navigation.

- M. WINIARSKI (Chairman).
- M. HOSTIE, member of the Legal Committee of the Advisory and Technical Committee.
- M. DE JARMAY, Director of the Royal Hungarian Company for River and Maritime Navigation.
- M. MALININE, legal advisor to the River Navigation Board of the Union of Soviet and Socialist Republics.
- M. J. MILLOT, Director of the National Navigation Office, Paris.
- Professor MITTELSTEIN, President of the Hamburg Court of Appeal.
- M. NAUTA, member of the Rotterdam Bar.
- M. SITENSKY, advisor to the Czechoslovak Ministry of Commerce.

III. Sub-Committee for Transport by Rail.

- M. SINIGALIA (Chairman).
- M. AMUNATEGUI.
- M. BROCKMANN.
- M. OUANG-HANG.
- M. POLITIS.
- Sir FRANCIS DENT, former Chairman of the Railways Committee of the Second General Conference on Communications and Transit; ex-Managing-Director of the South Eastern and Chatham Railway (for whom Mr. MARRIOTT may act as substitute).
- M. SCHWOB, Director-General of Railways at the French Ministry of Public Works.
- M. R. HEROLD, Director of the Railway Division of the Federal Department of Posts and Railways at Berne.
- Dr. OTTOKAR LANKAS, Director at the Ministry of Railways at Prague.
- M. P. WOLF, Director of the German Railway Company.

IV. Sub-Committee on the Passport Regime.

- M. POLITIS (Chairman).
- M. DE AGUERO Y BETHANCOURT.
- Mr. BALDWIN.
- M. Silvain DREYFUS.
- M. REINHARDT.
- M. SINIGALIA.
- M. STIEVENARD.
- M. WINIARSKI.

V. Sub-Committee on Electric Questions.

- M. DOBKEVICIUS (Chairman).
- M. BROCKMANN.
- M. POLITIS.
- M. P. BIGNAMI, Engineer: former Under-Secretary of State (Italy).

- M. J. CHUARD, Engineer; Director of the « Banque pour Entreprises électriques » at Zurich.
- M. F. W. HANSEN, Director-General of Hydraulic Power and Canals in Sweden.
- M. P. A. HOLCK-COLDING, Director of the First Section of the Danish Ministry of Public Works.
- M. MAGNIER, Director of Hydraulic Power and Distribution of Electric Energy in the French Ministry of Public Works.

VI. Budget Sub-Committee

- Mr. BALDWIN (Chairman).
- M. Silvain DREYFUS.
- M. GUERRERO.
- M. OUANG-HANG.
- M. STIEVENARD.
- M. SUGIMURA.

VII. Legal Committee.

- M. URRUTIA (Chairman).
- M. GUERRERO.
- M. WINIARSKI.
- Jonkheer W. J. M. VAN EYSINGA, Professor at the University of Leyden.
- M. J. HOSTIE, former Legal Adviser to the Belgian Department of Marine; Secretary-General of the Central Commission for Rhine Navigation..

VIII. Special Committee of Enquiry on Road Traffic.

- M. STIEVENARD (Chairman).
- M. AMUNATEGUI.
- M. REINHARDT.
- M. O. BILFELDT, Head of Section at the Ministry of Justice of Denmark.
- M. E. CHAIX, Vice-President of the Automobile Club of France.
- M. E. DELAQUIS, Head of the Division of Police at the Federal Department of Justice and Police, Berne..
- Mr. P. C. FRANKLIN, of the Roads Department, Ministry of Transport, London.
- M. E. MELLINI, Chief Inspector of Railways, Tramways and Automobiles of the Kingdom of Italy.
- M. PFLUG, Ministerial Counsellor at the Ministry of Communications of the Reich.
- M. G. F. SCHONFELD, Administrator at the Department of Communications, The Hague.

IX. Special Committee of Enquiry on Telegraphic Questions.

- M. B. FERNANDEZ Y MEDINA, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of Uruguay in Spain, Chairman.
- M. H. GUEME, Director of Electric Communications in the Italian Ministry of Posts.
- M. E. BROIN, Director of the Telegraphic Section of the French Ministry of Posts and Telegraphs.
- M. H. L. ETIENNE, Director of the International Telegraphic Union.
- M. G. BONNET.

X. Special Committee of Enquiry into the reform of the calendar.

(In process of reconstitution.)

- Jonkheer W. J. M. VAN EYSINGA, Professor at the University of Leyden, Chairman (appointed by the Advisory and Technical Committee).
- The Rev. Father G. GIANFRANCESCHI, President of the Academy "Dei nuovi Licei" (appointed by the Holy See).
- Professor D. EGINITIS, Director of the Athens Observatory (Appointed by the Ecumenical Patriarchate at Constantinople).
- The Rev. T. E. R. PHILLIPS, Secretary of the Royal Astronomical Society of London (Appointed by the Archbishop of Canterbury).
- M. G. BIGOURDAN, former Chairman of the Calendar Committee of the International Astronomical Union (Appointed by the Advisory and Technical Committee).
- Mr. WILLIS H. BOOTH, former Chairman of the International Chamber of Commerce (Appointed by the Advisory and Technical Committee).

HEALTH COMMITTEE

(Composed of sixteen members, namely, the Chairman of the Committee of the Office International d'Hygiène Publique, nine members chosen by the Committee of the Office International, and six members appointed by the Council of the League after consultation with the Health Committee. Four assessors may be appointed by the Council. The appointments extend over a period of three years.)

- Dr. Th. MADSEN, President, Director of the State Serum Institute, Copenhagen (Danish).
- M. O. VELGHE, Vice-President, Secretary-General of the Health Department at the Ministry of the Interior and of Health, Brussels (Belgian).
- Professor LEON BERNARD, Vice-President, Professor of Hygiene at the Faculty of Medicine of the University of Paris (French).
- Dr. A. LUTRARIO, Vice-President, Late Director-General of the Health Department at the Ministry of the Interior, Rome (Italian).
- Sir George BUCHANAN, C. B. M. D., Senior Medical Officer of the Ministry of Health, London (British).
- Professor J. CANTACUZENE, Professor at the University of Bucarest (Roumanian).
- Dr. H. CARRIÈRE, Director of the Federal Health Department, Berne (Swiss).
- Dr. Carlos CHAGAS, Director of the Instituto Oswaldo Cruz, Rio de Janeiro (Brazilian).
- Dr. W. CHODZKO, Former Polish Minister of Health (Polish).
- Surgeon-General H. S. CUMMING, Director-General of the United States Public Health Service, Washington (American).
- Dr. A. GRANVILLE, Late President of the Sanitary Maritime and Quarantine Council, Alexandria (British).
- Dr. Alice HAMILTON, Associate-Professor of Industrial Hygiene, Harvard Medical School, Boston (American).
- Dr. N. M. J. JITTA, President of the Health Council of the Netherlands, The Hague (Netherlands).
- Professor Ricardo JORGE, Director-General of Public Health, Lisbon (Portuguese).
- Dr. P. MIMBELA, Professor of the Faculty of Medicine, Lima (Peruvian).
- Dr. B. NOCHT, Director of the Institute for Tropical Diseases, Hamburg (German).
- Professor DONATO OTTOLENGHI, Professor of Hygiene at the Royal University, Bologna (Italian).
- Professor Gustavo PITTALUGA, Catedratico de la Facultad de Medicina, Madrid (Spanish).
- Dr. L. RAYNAUD, Inspector-General of the Health Service, Algeria (French).
- Dr. M. TSURUMI, Representative of the Japanese Public Health Service (Japanese).

COMMITTEE ON INTELLECTUAL COOPERATION

(Appointed in accordance with a resolution of the Second Assembly.)

Members :

- M. H. A. LORENTZ, Professor of Physics at
Leyden University (Chairman). (Dutch)
- Mlle. K. BONNEVIE, Professor of Zoology at
Oslo University (Norwegian)
- Sir J. C. BOSE, Founder and Director of
the Bose Research Institute, Calcutta. . (Indian)
- M. A. DE CASTRO, Professor at the Medical
Faculty of the University of Rio de
Janeiro (Brazilian)
- Mme. CURIE-SKLODOWSKA, Professor of Physics
at the University of Paris. (Polish)
- M. J. DESTRÉE, former Minister of Science and
Arts. (Belgian)
- M. A. EINSTEIN, Professor of Physics at Berlin
University (German)
- M. L. LUGONES, Director of the National Li-
brary of the Professors of Buenos Aires. (Argentine)
- M. R. A. MILLIKAN, Director of the Norman
Bridge Laboratory of the Californian
Institute of Technology. (American)
- Professor G. A. MURRAY, Professor of Greek
Philology at Oxford University. (British)
- M. PAINLEVÉ, Member of the Institut de France
Doctor of Mathematics; former Prime
Minister (French)
- M. G. DE REYNOLD, Professor at Berne Univer-
sity (Swiss)
- M. Rocco, Professor at the Faculty of Law of
the University of Rome. (Italian)
- M. L. DE TORRES QUEVEDO, Director of the
Electro-Mechanical Laboratory of Ma-
drid. (Spanish)

Correspondents :

- M. A. DOPSCH (Austrian)
- M. RACOVITZA. (Roumanian)
- M. KALAB. (Czechoslovak)
- M. HOO-TSI (Chinese)

Sub-Committee for University Relations.

Members :

- M. DE CASTRO. (Brazilian)
- Mr. MILLIKAN. (American)
- Mr. Gilbert MURRAY. (British)
- M. DE REYNOLD. (Swiss)

Substitute Members :

- M. CASTILLEJO (Spanish)
- Mr. VERNON KELLOG (American)

A German Substitute Member (for the appointment of whom the Committee entrusts the Chairman with the necessary authority).

- M. Th. ODHNER. (Swedish)
- M. THAMIN. (French)

Sub-Committee for Sciences and for Bibliography.

Members :

- M. LORENTZ. (Dutch)
- Mlle. BONNEVIE. (Norwegian)
- Mme. CURIE (Polish)
- M. PAINLEVÉ (French)
- M. EINSTEIN (German)
- Sir J. C. BOSE (Indian)

Substitute Members :

- Mr. WRIGHT (British)
- M. GODET (Swiss)
- M. SCHRAMM (American)
- M. KRUSS. (German)
- M. ROLAND MARCEL. (French)

Sub-Committee for Literature and the Arts.

Members :

- M. DESTRÉE (Belgian)
- M. DE REYNOLD. (Swiss)
- Mr. Gilbert MURRAY. (British)
- M. LUGONES (Argentine)
- M. CASARES. (Spanish)
- M. Paul VALÉRY (French)
- M. WEINGARTNER. (Austrian)
- M. JELLINEK (Czechoslovak)
- Mlle. VACARESCO (Roumanian)
- M. FOCILLON (French)
- M. TOESCA (Italian)
- M. BAUD-BOVY (Swiss)

Sub-Committee on Intellectual Property.

Members :

- M. DESTRÉE. (Belgian)
- M. TORRES QUEVEDO (Spanish)
- M. ROCCO. (Italian)
- M. MAURETTE. (Representative of the
B. I. T.)

Substitute Members :

- M. RUFFINI. (Italian)
- M. ROTHLSBERGER (Swiss)
- M. PLAISANT (French)
- M. KNOPH (Norwegian)
- A member of Anglo-Saxon or Russian nationality.

THE PERMANENT MANDATES COMMISSION

(Constituted in accordance with Paragraph 9 of Article XXII of the Covenant, to receive and examine the annual reports of the Mandatory Powers and to advise the Council on all matters relating to the observance of the Mandates. Appointed as experts and not as Government representatives.)

Members :

M. Freire d'ANDRADE, former Foreign Minister	(Portuguese)
M. BEAU, former Ambassador.	(French)
Sir Frederick D. LUGARD, G.C., M.G., C.B. D.S.O., former Governor of Nigeria. . .	(British)
M. Pierre ORTS, Minister plenipotentiary. . .	(Belgian)
M. L. PALACIOS, Professor at Madrid Univer- sity	(Spanish)
M. O. VAN REES, former Vice-Chairman of the Council of the Dutch East Indies. . . .	(Dutch)
Marquis A. THEODOLI, President, former Un- der-Secretary of State at the Colonial Ministry	(Italian)
Mme. A. BUGGE-WICKSELL, Doctor of Laws .	(Swedish)
M. H. Chiyuki YAMANAKA, former Councillor of Legation.	(Japanese)
M. William RAPPARD, Vice-Rector of Geneva University (extraordinary member)	(Swiss)

Representative of the International Labour Office.

Mr. GRIMSHAW, Advisor on Labour Questions.

SUPERVISORY COMMISSION

(Appointed by the Council in accordance with a decision of the Second Assembly for the purpose of supervising the financial working of the League and advising the Assembly and the Council on such financial and administrative matters as they may refer to it.)

Dr. Stefan OSUSKY, President	(Czechoslovakia)
M. Luis WADDINGTON	(Chilian)
Lord MESTON OF AGRA (Vice-President). . .	(British)
M. REVEILLAUD.	(French)
Dr. NEDERBRAGT (Rapporteur)	(Dutch)

Deputy Members :

Dr. C. PARRA-PEREZ.	(Venezuelan)
M. HERLUF ZAHLE	(Danish)

Auditor of League Accounts :

M. CERESA	(Italian)
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COMMITTEE ON ALLOCATION OF EXPENSES

(Appointed by the Council in accordance with a decision of the First Assembly, for the purpose of drawing up a definite scheme for the allocation of the expenses of the League.)

M. REVEILLAUD, Chairman.	(French)
M. J. A. BARBOZA CARNEIRO.	(Brazilian)

M. JANCOVICI	(Roumanian)
M. SUGIMURA	(Japanese)
Mr. F. PHILLIPS	(British)
Signor SOLERI	(Italian)
Sir Henry STRAKOSCH	(South African)
M. HERLUF ZAHLE	(Danish)
M. Bogden MARKOVITCH	(Jugoslavian)

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON TRAFFIC IN OPIUM

(Appointed by the Council in accordance with a resolution of the Assembly, December 15th, 1920, for the purpose of securing the fullest possible cooperation between the various countries in regard to the Opium Convention of 1912, and assisting and advising the Council in dealing with any question which may arise in this connection.)

Members :

M. BOURGOIS	(French)
Sir John CAMPBELL, C.S.I., O.B.E., I.C.S.	(India)
His Highness Prince CHAROON	(Siam)
H.E.M. Chao-Hsin CHU	(China)
Dr. Manuel CUELLAR	(Bolivia)
Sir Malcolm DELEIVINGNE, K.C.B	(Great Britain)
H.E.M. Bartolomeu FERREIRA	(Portugal)
Dr. ANSELMINO	(Germany)
Dr. TSURUMI	(Japan)
M.W.G. VAN WETTUM	(Netherlands)
H. E. M. PETROVITCH	(Kingdom of Serbs, Croats and Slovenes)
Dr. CARRIÈRE	(Switzerland)
Mr. S. Pinkney TUCK	(United States of Ame- rica)

(In unofficial capacity at last session).

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON THE TRAFFIC IN WOMEN AND THE PROTECTION AND WELFARE OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

(Reconstituted in 1925, under a Resolution of the Fifth Assembly, in order to include child welfare work.)

Members appointed by Governments :

Count CARTON DE WIART	(Belgium)
Dr. Estrid HEIN	(Denmark)
S. W. HARRIS, Esq., C.B., M.V.O.	(British Empire)
Don Pedro Sangro y Ros de OLANO (Chairman).	(Spain)
Miss ABBOTT	(United States)
M. E. REGNAULT	(France)
Marquis Pauluoci DE CALBOLI	(Italy)
M. Yotaro SUGIMURA	(Japan)
M. Stanislas POSNER	(Poland)
M. P. COMNÈNE	(Roumania)
Dr. Paulina LUISI	(Uruguay)

Assessors for Traffic in Women and Children :

- Miss BAKER, International Bureau for Suppression of Traffic in Women and Children.
 Mme. AVRIL DE SAINTE-CROIX, Women's International Organisations.

Mme. DE MONTENACH, Association catholique internationale des œuvres de protection de la jeune fille.

Mme. CURCHOD-SECRETAN, Fédération des Unions Nationales des Amies de la jeune fille.

S. COHEN, Esq., Jewish Association for the Protection of Girls and Women.

M. VARLEZ, Liaison Officer with the International Labour Office.

Assessors for Child Welfare Questions :

M. Henri ROLLET, Association Internationale pour la Protection de l'Enfance.

Dr. HUMBERT, League of Red Cross Societies.

Dame Katharine FURSE, International Organisation of Boy Scouts and Girl Guides.

Miss Eglantine JEBB, Union internationale de Secours aux enfants.

Miss Eleanor RATHBONE, Women's international organisations.

Mr. Bascom JOHNSON.

Miss Julia LATHROP, National Conference of Social Work.

M. Ismael VALDES, Pan American Union.

Miss Charlotte WHITTON, Social Service Council of Canada and Canadian Council of Child Welfare.

Mlle. BURNIAUX, International Federation of Trade Unions.

M. JOHNSTON, International Labour Office.

Prof. Léon BERNARD, Health Organisation of the League of Nations.

SPECIAL BODY OF EXPERTS APPOINTED BY THE COUNCIL WITH A VIEW TO AN ENQUIRY INTO THE TRAFFIC IN WOMEN AND CHILDREN

Princesse Cristina BANDINI

M. Isidore MAUS

M. Alfred DE MEURON

Colonel William SNOW

Mr. S. W. HARRIS, C.B., M.V.O.

Dr. Paulina LUISI

M. HENNEQUIN

M. SUGIMURA

PREPARATORY COMMITTEE FOR THE CIRAOLO SCHEME

(Appointed by the Council under a Resolution of the Fifth Assembly.)

Chairman :

Senator Giovanni CIRAOLO, Deputy Delegate for Italy at the Fifth and Sixth Assemblies, former President of the Italian Red Cross.

Chairman of Meetings :

H. E. M. Fernandez Y MEDINA, Uruguayan Minister at Madrid, Rapporteur for the Ciruolo Scheme to the Fifth and Sixth Assemblies.

Members :

M. Georges WERNER, Professor of Law at the University of Geneva, Member of the International Red Cross Committee.

Sir Claude HILL, Director-General of the League of Red Cross Societies.

Colonel Robert Edwin OLDS, Jurist, delegate of the American Red Cross in Europe during the war; and Colonel Ernest P. BICKNELL, Vice-President of the American Red Cross and its representative in Europe during the war (with the right to sit alternatively on the Committee).

Mr. Algernon MAUDSLAY, C.B.E., Member of the Council of the British Red Cross, Member of the Anglo-Belgian Refugee Commission in 1914.

Dr. Anders LINDSTEDT, President of the Statens Livfrösükeringsanstalt at Stockholm
Substitute : M. P. G. LAURIN, Director-General.

Baron CARTON DE WIART, Director of La Société Générale de Belgique, delegate of the Belgian Government to the Commission for Relief in Belgium during the war 1914-1918. Substitute : Senator FRANÇOIS, Treasurer-in-Chief of the Belgian Red Cross.

Lieut.-Colonel DRAUDT, Vice-President of the German Red Cross.

Senator Maurice SARRAUT, Member of the French delegation to the Fifth Assembly.
Substitute : M. René CASSIN, Professor of Law at the University of Lille, substitute member of the French delegation to the Fifth and Sixth Assemblies.

Legal adviser :

M. André MATER, Advocate at the Court of Appeal, Paris, Technical Advisor to the French Delegation at the Fifth and Sixth Assemblies.

COMMISSIONNERS APPOINTED BY THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS

Saar Basin Governing Commission.

Constituted under the Treaty of Versailles. The members are appointed annually.)

- M. KOSSMANN. (Sarre)
- M. LAMBERT. (Belgian)
- M. V. RAULT. (French)
- Mr. G. W. STEPHENS (Canadian)
- M. VEZENSKY. (Czechoslovak)

High Commissioner of the League of Nations in Danzig.

(Appointed under Article 103 of the Treaty of Versailles.)

- Dr. van HAMEL. (Dutch)

High Commissioner of the League of Nations for Refugees.

(Appointed by the Council.)

- Dr. Nansen. (Norwegian)

Other Commissioners appointed by the League of Nations under international Conventions and Treaties.

President of the Upper Mixed Commission.

(Appointed by the Council under the German-Polish Convention on Upper Silesia [Article 564] of May 15, 1922.)

- M. Félix CALONDER. (Swiss)

President of the Upper Silesian Arbitral Tribunal.

(Appointed by the Council under the German-Polish Convention on Upper Silesia [Article 564] of May 15, 1922),

M. G. KAECKENBEECK (Belgian)

Greco-Bulgarian Emigration Commission.

(Two members, including the President, nominated by the Council, in accordance with the Greco-Bulgarian Reciprocal Emigration Convention of November 27, 1919, Article 8.)

Colonel A. C. CORFE (New-Zealander)
Commandant M. DE ROOVER (Belgian)

Greco-Turkish Exchange of Populations Commission.

(Three members, including the President, nominated by the Council in accordance with the Greco-Turkish Exchange of Populations Convention of January 30, 1923.)

M. E. E. EKSTRAND (Swedish)
General Manrique DE LARA (Spanish)
M. K. M. WIDDING (Danish)

*Commissioner of the League of Nations for the Execution
of the Provisions of Article 107 of the Treaty of Lausanne.*

(Nominated by the Council.)

M. H. STABLO (French)

Danube Hydraulic System Commission

(The Chairman is appointed by the Council.)

M. Carlo ROSSETTI, Chairman (Italian)

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THE
MONTHLY SUMMARY
OF THE
LEAGUE OF NATIONS

FEBRUARY 1926

Vol. VI. No. 2

Published on March 15th, 1926.

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MONTHLY SUMMARY OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS

FEBRUARY 1926

Vol. VI. No. 2.

Published on March 15th, 1926.

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I. — Summary of the Month.

An event of particular importance took place in February. In the first days of the month the German Government made formal application for the admission of Germany to the League of Nations. This request was considered at an extraordinary session of the Council, which decided to summon a special meeting of the Assembly on March 8th.

Other important meetings were those of the Permanent Court of International Justice—to hear the parties in cases concerning certain German interests in Polish

Upper Silesia; and of the Permanent Mandates Commission, which met in Rome to examine the French Government's reports on Syria and Lebanon.

A special committee met in Paris to consider the requirements of maritime navigation in regard to the revision of the International Health Convention.* An interchange of municipal health officers began in London.

Communications were received from the Conference of Ambassadors with regard to certain European frontiers; from the Bulgarian and Greek Governments concerning the execution of the Council's decision on the Graeco-Bulgarian frontier incident; and from the Greek, Lithuanian and Polish Governments regarding various frontier questions.

II. — Thirty-Eighth (extraordinary) Session of the Council

1. — APPLICATION OF GERMANY FOR ADMISSION TO THE LEAGUE

On February 12th, the Council, at an extraordinary session, decided to convoke a special meeting of the Assembly to consider the application of Germany for membership of the League.

* * *

On February 10th, the Secretary-General received from the German Government the following letter :

With reference to the German memorandum of September, 1924, to the Governments represented on the Council, and to the German Note addressed to you, on December 12th, 1924, and the reply thereto of the Council of the League dated March 14th, 1925, as well as to the Note of the other parties to the Locarno Treaties of December 1st, 1925, of which a copy is attached, I have the honour, in accordance with Article I of the Covenant of the League of Nations, to propose herewith in the name of the German Government the admission of Germany to the League of Nations. I beg you to put this proposal on the Agenda of the Assembly as soon as possible.

(Signed) STRESEMANN.

Acting on the instructions of the President of the Council, the Secretary-General convened a special meeting of that body, on February 12th, at Geneva, to consider the letter of the German Government, and to decide whether an extraordinary meeting of the Assembly should be held, and if so, on what date with what agenda.

The Assembly, it may be recalled, is the body to whom all applications for admission are referred. Under Article I, § 2, of the Covenant, the agreement of two-thirds of the Assembly is necessary for the admission of a new Member.

It meets at stated intervals (on the first Monday in September of each year) and from time to time as occasion may require (Article III, § 2).

Under its rules of procedure a special session of the Assembly may be convened (a) by a resolution passed at a previous meeting, (b) by a majority vote of the Council (as in the present case), (c) in accordance with a request from one or more Members of the League.

2. — MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

The Council met on February 12th with M. Garbasso (Italy) in the chair.

The President recalled that Germany had raised the question of her admission to the League; and that M. Scialoja, the Acting-President of the Council, had

accordingly convened this meeting to decide whether the Assembly should meet in special session and, if so, on what date and with what agenda.

The members were of the unanimous opinion that such a meeting should be convened, and that the Assembly should meet on the date fixed for the next ordinary meeting of the Council, viz.—March 8th. The opening meeting of the Council will take place in the morning and that of the Assembly at 3 o'clock in the afternoon.

The agenda of the special session, as unanimously approved by the Council, comprises four questions :

- 1) Request of the German Government for admission;
- 2) Decisions of the Assembly on Council proposals, if any, in application of Article 4 of the Covenant (*);
- 3) Budget questions;
- 4) Building of an Assembly Hall.

III. — The Permanent Court of International Justice⁽¹⁾.

1. — TENTH (EXTRAORDINARY) SESSION - GERMAN INTERESTS IN POLISH UPPER SILESIA

The tenth session of the Permanent Court, which commenced at the Peace Palace on February 2nd⁽²⁾, was devoted throughout the greater part of the month to the hearing of the oral pleadings on the merits in the cases "concerning certain German interests in Polish Upper Silesia". These pleadings were divided into two series, the first, from February 5th to 11th, relating to the cases known as the "cases of the large rural estates", the second, from February 16th to 26th, to the cases concerning the nitrate factory at Chorzow.

The German case was set out by Professor Kaufmann and that of Poland by M. Mrozowski and M. Sobolewski⁽³⁾.

Owing to the great complexity and very technical nature of these cases, it is only possible to indicate briefly the chief problems which appear to arise in connection with them, as brought out by the oral proceedings.

a) *Cases of the large rural Estates.*

The principle governing the provisions of the Convention of Geneva of May 15th, 1922, as regards large estates, is that Poland may expropriate properties including at least 100 hectares of agricultural land. This principle, however, is subject to certain limitations. For instance, estates, to be liable to expropriation,

(*) The Council shall consist of Representatives of the Principal Allied and Associated Powers, together with Representatives of four other Members of the League. These four Members of the League shall be selected by the Assembly from time to time in its discretion. Until the appointment of the Representatives of the League first selected by the Assembly, Representatives of Belgium, Brazil, Greece and Spain shall be Members of the Council.

With the approval of the majority of the Assembly, the Council may name additional Members of the League whose Representatives shall always be Members of the Council; the Council, with like approval, may increase the number of Members of the League to be selected by the Assembly for representation on the Council.

(1) This article has been prepared on the basis of information received from the Registrar of the Permanent Court.

(2) See *Monthly Summary*, Vol. V, p. 294.

(3) See *Monthly Summary*, January 1925.

must belong to Germans who are not entitled to retain their domicile in Polish Upper Silesia, or to companies controlled by Germans, and they must not be intended principally to supply the requirements of large industrial concerns; if they are so, they are, for the purposes of expropriation, to be regarded as subject to the same rules as those concerns. There are special rules applicable to forests, which can only in exceptional cases be expropriated together with large rural estates. Lastly, to be able to proceed to measures of expropriation, the Polish Government must before January 1st, 1925, have given notice of its intention to the owners. According to Polish domestic legislation, owners may, on receipt of notice of this kind, lodge an objection with the authorities of the country. Such an objection, if recognised to be well-founded, may have the result of preventing expropriation.

Before the decisive date, twelve landowners had received the notice in question; these twelve cases have been successively brought before the Court by Germany. During the proceedings two of them have been withdrawn; a third and, to some extent, a fourth have lost their importance, the two States concerned having recognised that the estates in question are not liable to expropriation.

During the oral proceedings in regard to the cases still contended, both Parties agreed to accept for the purposes of the argument the German view to the effect that notice could not be served in regard to a large estate unless that estate fulfilled all the conditions required for actual expropriation.

Amongst these conditions a distinction may be drawn between those relating to the persons of the owners and those relating to the estates themselves.

As regards the former, it is in most of the cases agreed that the owners are Germans or companies controlled by Germans. Germany, however, denies that municipalities fall within the latter category; the Parties are also not agreed as to the criterion to be applied to decide whether or not "control" within the meaning of the Convention exists. In one of the causes of action, the question arises whether a person has, under the Treaty of Versailles, really lost, *ipso jure*, his German nationality; the Parties are agreed that, if such is the case, the person concerned is not to be considered as a German national in the meaning of the Convention, even though he is now, without doubt, German by option. In the last place, two cases relate to the question whether a landowner whose estate is divided by the new frontier may be regarded as domiciled on both sides of the frontier.

As regards conditions relating to the estates themselves, the points in dispute concern, amongst other things, the description and extent of the estates affected by the notice given (Germany considers the particulars given in the notice to be inadequate), and the nature of these estates and the purpose served by them. In the latter respect, there is, for instance, in the case of forest land, the question whether it is so closely bound up with agricultural development as to be indispensable to it and incapable of utilisation independently of it. Then, again, the question arises whether, in the case of certain rural estates, the close connection with large industrial concerns exists which is required to render them immune from measures of agricultural expropriation. In this connection, the Court is confronted with many delicate questions; it may have, for instance, to decide whether, in consequence of damage caused by mines, land situated above mine shafts and galleries is inseparable from the mining industry, or again whether, having regard to the special conditions in Upper Silesia, dairy farming and timber-raising or deposits of sand capable of being used for the exploitation of mines, are to be regarded as indissolubly connected with industries.

b) *Case of the Factory at Chorzow.*

The construction of the factory in question was begun in 1915 under a contract concluded in that year between the Reich and the *Bayerische Stickstoffwerke*; under the terms of the contract the latter were to take charge of the construction

of the factory and of its management, whilst the Reich provided the necessary funds. Towards Christmas, 1919, that is to say after the conclusion of the Armistice, but before the coming into force of the Treaty of Peace, a new private German Company, the *Oberschlesische Stickstoffwerke*, was formed, to which the Reich sold both the factory and all its contents; the *Bayerische Stickstoffwerke* were, however, still to retain the management of the works.

The new company was entered in the land register as owner. After the partition of Upper Silesia, Chorzow was in that portion of the territory which fell to Poland. A decree having been promulgated whereby a certain Polish law of July 14th, 1920, was made applicable to this territory, the name of the company in question was struck out of the land register and replaced by that of the Polish Treasury. Shortly afterwards a representative of the Polish Government took possession of the factory.

Germany now disputes the lawfulness of this act of taking possession and cites the Convention of Geneva which, in principle, forbids the liquidation of private German undertakings before 1937. Further, as the German owner was dispossessed under the terms of the law of July 14th, 1920, Germany holds that this law is in contradiction with Polish international obligations. The Polish Government, on the other hand, argues that the measure was lawful. In Poland's contention the factory was the property of the Reich and remained so in spite of the contract of sale concluded by the Reich in 1919, this contract being regarded as null and void, firstly on the ground that it was contrary to the Armistice conditions and secondly on the ground that it was a fictitious transaction. But, under the Treaty of Peace, property of the Reich in territory ceded to Poland passes to that State; and the law of 1920, the object of which was the registration of transfers of this kind, was in accordance with the Treaty.

In the course of the arguments thus very briefly summarised, a large number of points had to be cleared up, some of which had a wide general bearing. Thus, for instance, the question of Poland's right to benefit by the Armistice Convention and the protocols connected therewith was argued, and, in this connection, there was also discussion as to the moment when Poland began to exist as a subject of international law and as an Allied Power. Similarly, the discussion bore upon the decisive date for the immobilisation of German public property as "common guarantee of the allies" for reparations and upon the degree of this immobilisation. Lastly, the conception of "liquidation" in the Treaty of Versailles and in the Convention of Geneva had to be defined in order to be able to decide whether or not the measure taken as regards the factory at Chorzow fell under that heading. In the same connection, an examination of the relation existing between the Law of July 14th, 1920, and the Convention of Geneva was necessary; in this respect, however, Poland made full reservations as, in her opinion, certain of the clauses of the Convention rendered the Court incompetent to deal with this question. Generally speaking, the question of respect for vested rights in cases of cession of territory dominated the oral proceedings, and consequently the discussion also touched upon the means of action open, either to holders of these vested rights, with a view to safeguarding them, or to cessionary States with a view to having them set aside, in cases where, being based on fictitious or fraudulent agreements, their existence is only apparent.

c) *Subsequent procedure.*

During the oral proceedings the Parties suggested the expediency of obtaining expert opinion on certain points, and of the production of additional evidence on others. Furthermore, the Court awaits a reply to certain requests for information already made to the parties. For this reason, and also in order to reserve the Court's right subsequently to put further questions, the President, at the conclu-

sion of the last series of oral pleadings, reply and rejoinder, did not declare the proceedings in regard to the cases before the Court closed.

2. — DEPOSIT OF ARBITRATION TREATIES CONCLUDED BY SWITZERLAND

In accordance with established precedent, the Swiss Minister at The Hague deposited with the Registry, on February 12th, 1926, the text of the treaty of judicial settlement concluded on December 2nd, 1924, between Switzerland and Japan.

3. — THE UNITED STATES AND THE COURT

On January 27th the Senate of the United States of America adopted by 76 votes to 17 the following Resolution (the text of which is taken from the "Congressional Record") :

Whereas, the President, under date of February 24th, 1923, transmitted a message to the Senate accompanied by a letter from the Secretary of State, dated February 17th, 1923, asking the favourable advice and consent of the Senate to the adherence on the part of the United States to the Protocol of December 16th, 1920, of signature of the Statute for the Permanent Court of International Justice, set out in the said message of the President (without accepting or agreeing to the optional clause for compulsory jurisdiction contained therein), upon the conditions and understandings hereafter stated, to be made a part of the instrument of adherence :

Therefore, be it

Resolved (two-thirds of the Senators present concurring) That the Senate advise and consent to the adherence on the part of the United States and to the said Protocol of December 16th, 1920, and the adjoined Statute for the Permanent Court of International Justice (without accepting or agreeing to the optional clause for compulsory jurisdiction contained in the said Statute), and that the signature of the United States be affixed to the said Protocol, subject to the following reservations and understandings, which are hereby made a part and condition of this resolution, namely :

(1) That such adherence shall not be taken to involve any legal relation on the part of the United States to the League of Nations or the assumption of any obligations by the United States under Treaty of Versailles.

(2) That the United States shall be permitted to participate, through representatives designated for the purpose and upon an equality with the other States Members, respectively, of the Council and Assembly of the League of Nations, in any and all proceedings of either the Council or the Assembly for the election of judges or deputy-judges of the Permanent Court of International Justice or for the filling of vacancies.

(3) That the United States will pay a fair share of the expenses of the Court as determined and appropriated from time to time by the Congress of the United States.

(4) That the United States may at any time withdraw its adherence to the said Protocol and that the Statute for the Permanent Court of International Justice adjoined to the Protocol shall not be amended without the consent of the United States.

(5) That the Court shall not render any advisory opinion except publicly after due notice to all States adhering to the Court and to all interested States, and after public hearing or opportunity for hearing given to any State concerned; nor shall it, without the consent of the United States, entertain any request for an advisory opinion touching any dispute or question in which the United States has or claims an interest.

The signature of the United States to the said Protocol shall not be affixed until the Powers signatory to such Protocol shall have indicated, through an exchange of notes, their acceptance of the foregoing reservations and under-

standings as a part and a condition of adherence by the United States to the said Protocol.

Resolved further, As a part of this act of ratification that the United States approve the Protocol and Statute hereinabove mentioned, with the understanding that recourse to the Permanent Court of International Justice for the settlement of differences between the United States and any other State or States can be had only by agreement thereto through general or special treaties concluded between the parties in dispute; and

Resolved further, That adherence to the said Protocol and Statute hereby approved shall not be so construed as to require the United States to depart from its traditional policy of not intruding upon, interfering with, or entangling itself in the political questions of policy of internal administration of any foreign State; nor shall adherence to the said Protocol and Statute be construed to imply a relinquishment by the United States of its traditional attitude toward purely American questions.

IV. — Reduction of Armaments

POSTPONEMENT OF THE MEETING OF THE PREPARATORY COMMISSION FOR THE DISARMAMENT CONFERENCE

By a joint letter to the Secretary-General, dated January 30th, the French, Italian, Japanese, Czechoslovak and Uruguayan representatives on the Council, proposed that the meeting of the Preparatory Commission for the Disarmament Conference, fixed for February 15th, should be postponed till a date not later than May 15th, to be determined by the Council in March.

The Secretary-General immediately telegraphed this proposal to the other Members of the Council and the States who had been invited to attend the meeting ⁽¹⁾.

As no objection was raised, the Acting-President of the Council, M. Scialoja (Italy), authorised the Secretary-General to announce the postponement of the meetings of the Preparatory Commission, the Permanent Advisory Commission for Military, Naval and Air Questions and the Joint Commission ⁽²⁾.

V. — General Questions.

1. — INTERNATIONAL ENGAGEMENTS

a) *Registration.*

Among the treaties and international agreements deposited with the League in February figure :

A Treaty of Commerce and Navigation, with a Final Protocol, between Iceland and Latvia, signed at Riga on November 3rd, 1924, presented for registration by Latvia;

An Arbitration and Conciliation Convention between Germany and Finland, signed at Berlin on March 14th, 1925, presented for registration by Finland;

An Extradition Convention between Finland and Norway, signed on November 10th, 1925;

A Treaty of Judicial Settlement between Japan and Switzerland, signed at Tokio on December 26th, 1924;

(1) See *Monthly Summary*, Vol. VI, No. 1, p. 3.

(2) The members of the Joint Commission are drawn from the League Technical Organisations and the International Labour Organisation.

A Franco-Polish Convention relating to private property, rights and interests, signed at Paris on February 6th, 1922, presented for registration by France;

A series of Conventions, Arrangements and Agreements between France and Panama, Italy, Greece and Austria, concerning the regulation of the oil industry, the treatment of commercial travellers, customs and trade questions, etc., presented for registration by France;

Three Treaties between Poland and Czechoslovakia concerning double taxation in regard to death duties, direct taxes and legal assistance, signed at Warsaw on April 23rd, 1925;

An Agreement between Great Britain and the Irish Free State for the amendment and completion of the Anglo-Irish Treaty of December 6th, 1921, registered at the request of the Irish Government;

A Treaty of Commerce and Navigation and two Conventions—one concerning establishment, the other consular relations—between Albania and Italy, concluded at Rome in 1924, registered at the request of the Contracting Parties;

A series of Conventions between Hungary and Italy relating to the discharge of debts, private insurance companies, the liquidation of the property of Hungarian subjects in Italy, the consolidation of coupons of the Hungarian pre-war debt etc., signed at Budapesth on March 27th 1924, registered at the request of the Hungarian Government.

b) *Accessions, Ratifications, etc.*

The Convention for the simplification of Customs Formalities and the Protocol relating thereto were ratified in February by Sweden, Hungary and China.

The Conventions for the Suppression of the Traffic in Women and Children (Geneva, December 30th 1921) and the Suppression of the Trade in Obscene Publications (Geneva, September 12th 1923) were ratified by China.

The British Government deposited with the Secretariat the instruments of ratification of the Agreement concerning the manufacture, sale and use of prepared opium and the Protocol relating thereto, signed at Geneva on February 11th 1925 at the First Opium Conference; and of the Convention and Protocol for the Suppression of the Contraband Trade and Abuse of Narcotics, drawn up by the Second Opium Conference and signed on February 18th 1925. This ratification is made on behalf of the British Empire, Australia, South Africa, New Zealand and India.

The Norwegian Government deposited the instrument of ratification of the Convention and Statute on the International Regime of Railways, and the Protocol of Signature of December 9th 1923.

c) *Amendments to the Covenant.*

The Netherlands Government ratified the amendment adopted by the Fifth Assembly to Article 16, § 1 of the Covenant (Economic Blockade).

2. — COMMUNICATION FROM THE CONFERENCE OF AMBASSADORS

The Conference of Ambassadors has forwarded to the Secretary-General of the League of Nations a series of maps and documents bearing upon all or most of the frontiers of European States which have been settled since the Peace Conference by special commissions, plebiscites, or otherwise.

In its covering letter the Conference draws attention to the fact that in many cases the descriptions of frontiers which figure in the peace treaties do not correspond to the lines established on the spot by Delimitation Commissions. Certain frontiers fixed by plebiscite are not described in the treaties; others have been modified by agreement between the interested parties, or as a result of a decision of the

League of Nations. Finally, in all cases in which the frontiers are defined by the treaties as lines to be established on the spot, they have been determined by commissions. The Conference of Ambassadors, therefore, has decided to address to the League of Nations a general description of all frontiers mentioned in the peace treaties and accompanied by map annexes. These descriptions do not greatly differ from those given by the treaties; they have, however, been completed and rectified so as to include modifications made in the course of delimitation.

These documents are not citable in cases of dispute and should not be considered as replacing the authentic, detailed originals established for each frontier and deposited with the interested Governments and the French Government.

The first despatch comprises documents relating to frontiers between Austria and Italy, Austria and Hungary, Austria and Czechoslovakia, Austria and the Serb-Croat-Slovene Kingdom, Roumania and Hungary, Hungary and Czechoslovakia, Germany and Poland, and Germany and Czechoslovakia.

At the request of the Conference, the Bulgarian Government has forwarded to the Secretary-General maps of the frontiers between Bulgaria and Greece, Bulgaria and the Serb-Croat-Slovene Kingdom, and Bulgaria and Turkey.

The descriptions of the frontiers between Austria and the Serb-Croat-Slovene Kingdom, Germany and Belgium, Germany and Denmark, which are at present being discussed by the Conference, will be communicated later to the Secretary-General.

VI. — Technical Organisations.

1. — THE HEALTH ORGANISATION

Interchange of Municipal Health Officers.

An interchange of municipal health officers, which is to last for six weeks, began in London on February 22nd.

The object of this interchange is to demonstrate the whole scheme of health administration in greater London and the adjacent counties, and to indicate the various problems, concerning the health of those who live or work in London. It is attended by members of the health services of Austria, Brazil, Canada, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Japan, Panama, Poland, Roumania, the Serb-Croat-Slovene Kingdom and the United States.

The course includes a study of the system of administration of the London County Council Health Department, of methods of food inspection, storage and distribution in the County of London, of the working of the Port of London Sanitary Authority; and visits to typical fever hospitals, sanatoria and laboratories of the Metropolitan Asylums Board and to the laboratories and works of the Metropolitan Water Board.

The interchange will begin with a visit to the Ministry of Health and will include the observation by groups of participants of the working of local departments to which they will be attached, namely, the health departments of five metropolitan boroughs, three suburban districts and three counties.

2. — COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSIT

Meeting of the special Committee on the Requirements of Maritime Navigation in regard to the Revision of the International Health Convention.

A special committee met in Paris on February 25th to consider the requirements of maritime navigation in regard to the forthcoming revision of the International Health Convention of 1912. There were present :

M. Fernandez y Medina (Uruguayan), Uruguayan Minister in Spain, member of the Sub-Committee on Ports and Maritime Navigation (Chairman);

M. A. Stievenard (Belgian), member of the Committee on Communications and Transit and the Sub-Committee on Ports and Maritime Navigation;

M. Sugimura (Japanese), chairman of the Committee on Communications and Transit, member of the Sub-Committee on Ports and Maritime Navigation;

Mr. Maurice Hill (British), assistant general manager of the Chamber of Shipping of the United Kingdom, assistant secretary-general of the International Shipping Conference.

An international conference, to be summoned by the French Government, will meet on May 10th, for the purpose of revising the International Health Convention. The League Sub-Committee on Ports and Maritime Navigation, after drawing the attention of Governments to the bearing which solutions based on purely sanitary grounds may have on the economic aspect of navigation, instructed its special committee to examine the question and prepare a memorandum.

VII. — Administrative Questions

EXTRAORDINARY SESSION OF THE PERMANENT MANDATES COMMISSION

The Permanent Mandates Commission met in Rome on February 16th to examine the reports of the French Government on the administration of Syria and Lebanon in 1924 and 1925, together with a certain number of petitions. The proceedings took place at the Colonial Ministry.

There were present :

Marquis Theodoli, Chairman	(Italian)
M. Freire d'Andrade	(Portuguese)
M. Leopoldo Palacios	(Spanish)
M. Roume (replacing M. Beau).	(French)
Sir Frederick Lugard	(British)
M. Pierre Orts	(Belgian)
M. H. van Rees, Vice-Chairman	(Dutch)
Mme. A. Bugge-Wicksell	(Swedish)
M. Chiyuki Yamanaka	(Japanese)
M. William Rappard	(Swiss)
Mr. Grimshaw, representing the International Labour Office.	

The French Government had appointed as its representative M. Robert de Caix, former Secretary-General of the Syrian High Commissariat.

In the course of the session the Chairman informed his colleagues of the death of M. Beau (French), recalling his work on the Commission and paying tribute to his memory. M. Beau had been associated with the work of the Commission from the very beginning ⁽¹⁾.

(1) As the meeting was still in progress on February 28th, a detailed account of the proceedings will be given in the March number of the *Monthly Summary*.

VIII. — Political Questions.

1. — GRÆCO-BULGARIAN FRONTIER INCIDENT

Action was taken in February on two points of the Council's decision of last December in regard to the settlement of the Graeco-Bulgarian frontier incident. The first concerns the indemnity payable to Bulgaria by Greece; the second, the cooperation of two Swedish senior officers in the re-organisation of the frontier patrols.

As regards the first point, the Bulgarian and Greek Governments informed the Secretary-General that the Greek Government had paid half the indemnity—15 million levas—on February 15th, the other half, by arrangement between the two Governments, being payable on March 1st.

In connection with the second question, the Secretary-General was notified of an agreement concluded by the Swedish Government and the Greek and Bulgarian Governments concerning the selection and the conditions of service of two Swedish officers, one of whom will be placed at the disposal of the Bulgarian Government, the other at the disposal of the Greek Government.

The officers chosen by the Swedish Government, in agreement with Bulgarian and Greek Governments, are Lieutenant-Colonel Siefert and Lieutenant-Colonel Lindh.

2. — DISPUTE BETWEEN GREECE AND TURKEY

The Greek Government, in virtue of Article XI of the Covenant, has submitted to the Council a dispute between Greece and Turkey concerning the demarcation of the frontier in the Maritza Delta, requesting it to seek the advisory opinion of the Permanent Court of International Justice.

This request has been communicated to the Members of the Council and the Turkish Government.

3. — INCIDENT ON THE FRONTIER BETWEEN POLAND AND LITHUANIA

On February 25th, the Lithuanian Government protested to the League against the alleged occupation by Poland of Lithuanian territory near Kernava. This operation, it was stated, had taken place on February 17th.

The Polish Government replied on February 26th that a detachment of Lithuanian frontier guards had entered a forest situated on Polish territory on February 19th. The status quo had two days later, after due notice, been restored by the police.

Both communications have been forwarded to the President and members of the Council.

IX. — Publications of the League of Nations.

1. — BULLETIN OF STATISTICS

In the first number of the Bulletin of Statistics for the current year a certain number of additions and changes have been made. Two diagrams are now published, the first of which shows the fluctuations of manufacturing production in the United States of America. The second is reproduced with the permission of the London and Cambridge Economic Service and contains four curves intended to portray the general trend of economic prosperity in the United Kingdom.

In addition to these diagrams the Bulletin contains two new tables, one showing the ton-kilometric figures of railway goods traffic, and the other, indices of industrial Stock Exchange securities. It is believed that both of these series of figures constitute sensitive indices of economic activity.

In recent years central banks have shown a growing tendency to hold part of their reserve against their note issue and sight liabilities in the form, not of gold, but of foreign assets. For this reason monthly statistics of the foreign exchange holdings of a number of central banks have been added to the table on gold reserves. As these foreign exchange holdings are much more actively employed than the gold reserves themselves, they give a more accurate presentation of the changes which take place in the strength of the banks' position.

The Bulletin also contains a special table supplied by the International Institute of Agriculture showing the more important grain crops during the period 1919-1923 and the years 1924 and 1925.

2. — LIST OF BOOKS ON THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS CONTAINED IN THE LIBRARY OF THE SECRETARIAT

The Secretariat of the League is receiving an increasing number of enquiries, particularly from University circles (professors and students), in regard to a bibliography on the League of Nations, its organisation and its various activities.

There is at present no scientific bibliography of the League. The Secretariat is, however, considering the preparation of an annual bibliographical bulletin which would give a list of all new publications relating to the League of Nations.

In the meantime, the Information Section has decided to publish, for the use of research workers, a list of books on the League prepared by the Library of the Secretariat. This list will appear in the form of a supplement to the present number of the *Monthly Summary*.

The list contains a reference to books dealing with the League received by the Library of the Secretariat up to December 31st, 1925. Books dealing with special aspects of a particular activity of the League are omitted, e. g., the list includes books describing the League's organisation for dealing with Minority questions, but does not include works on individual Minorities.

Articles in periodicals and year-books are not referred to, but reprints have been included when they have been presented to the Library as pamphlets.

The Library of the Secretariat would be glad to receive books and pamphlets on the League which are not included in this list.

(The rules for capitalisation followed are those recommended by the Committee of the British and American Library Associations in their Catalogue Rules, except with regard to German titles, where the German rules for capitalisation have been followed.)

X. — Forthcoming Events.

- March 22nd : West African Interchange of colonial medical officers, Dakar.
- March 22nd : Meeting of the Advisory Commission for the Protection and Welfare of Young People, Geneva.
- April 26th : Meeting of the Preparatory Commission for the Economic Conference, Geneva.
- April 26th : Meeting of the Health Committee, Geneva.
- May 12th : Passport Conference, Geneva.
- May 17th : Meeting of Experts on Double Taxation and Fiscal Evasion, Geneva.
- May 26th : Meeting of the Advisory Committee on Traffic in Opium and Dangerous Drugs, Geneva.

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MARCH 1926

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I. — Summary of the Month.

Both the Assembly and the Council met at Geneva on March 8th, the former in a special session, the latter for its thirty ninth ordinary session.

The First Committee of the Assembly adopted a report in favour of the admission of Germany. As differences of opinion had meanwhile arisen in the Council with regard to the assignment of new seats in the Council, the Assembly decided to postpone until its ordinary session in September the consideration of the report of the First Committee on the request of Germany for admission to the League. The Assembly, before separating, passed a resolution expressing the hope that the difficulties encountered at its special session might be surmounted by September so as to make it possible for Germany to enter the League at that moment.

The special session of the Assembly closed on March 17th; the Council sat two days longer.

1. — SPECIAL SESSION OF THE ASSEMBLY

Forty-eight of the fifty-five States Members of the League sent delegates to the Special Assembly. They were : Abyssinia, Albania, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, British Empire, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Esthonia, Finland, France, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, India, Irish Free State, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liberia, Lithuania, Luxemburg, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Paraguay, Persia, Poland, Portugal, Roumania, Salvador, Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes, Siam, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Uruguay, Venezuela, The Argentine, Bolivia, Costa Rica, Haiti, Honduras, Panama and Peru were not represented. Five States (Austria, France, Hungary, Luxemburg and Poland) were represented by their Prime Ministers, twelve (Belgium, British Empire, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Esthonia, Greece, Irish Free State, Lithuania, Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland) by their Ministers for Foreign Affairs.

The session was opened by Viscount Ishii, Acting President of the Council.

Election of Officers : By thirty-six votes out of forty-eight cast the Assembly elected M. Affonso da Costa (Portugal) as its President. Six Vice-Presidents : M. Scialoja (Italy), Viscount Ishii (Japan), Sir James Allen (New Zealand), M. Caballero (Paraguay), M. Titulesco (Roumania), M. Morales (Dominican Republic) were elected.

Constitution of the Committees : Two committees, composed of representatives of all delegations present, were appointed to deal with the questions on the agenda, the work being divided as follows :

• *First Committee* : Request of the German Government for admission to the League of Nations;

Second Committee : Budgetary questions and the construction of an Assembly Hall.

The First Committee elected for its Chairman and Vice-Chairman, Sir Austen Chamberlain and M. Loudon (the Netherlands) respectively; the Second Committee elected M. Loucheur (France) as Chairman and Mr. Roy (Canada) as Vice-Chairman.

a) *Question of the admission of Germany.*

The question of the admission of Germany was dealt with by the First Committee of the Assembly, which, in accordance with the established procedure, referred it to a sub-committee.

That body was informed that the Permanent Advisory Commission had reported to the Council that the question of the status of the military, naval and air forces of Germany was regulated by the Treaty of Versailles of June 28th 1919, and did not require to be examined by the Commission; and that the Secretariat had been advised by the Conference of Ambassadors that to the best of its knowledge, Germany was now giving effective guarantees of her sincere intention to discharge her obligations under the Treaty of Peace of June 28th, 1919, and the instruments connected therewith. The military, naval and air clauses of the Peace Treaty in particular, it was stated, either had been executed or were in course of realisation.

The First Committee accordingly submitted to the Assembly a unanimous report in favour of Germany's admission to the League.

At its closing meeting, on March 17th, the Assembly was officially notified of difficulties which had arisen in the Council with regard to the granting of a permanent seat to Germany.

M. de Mello-Franco (Brazil) explained the point of view of his Government regarding the enlargement of the Council. He referred to the reservations made by Brazil when answering the German Government's memorandum of December 1st, 1924. After claiming that the American continent should be more amply represented on the Council, he expressed his attachment to the principles of the League and his regret that it had not been possible to admit Germany during the special Assembly.

Sir Austen Chamberlain reminded the Assembly that Germany had made her demand "subject to one natural and reasonable condition", namely, that she should receive a permanent seat on the Council. It had, therefore, been necessary that this latter point should be settled by the Council, before the vote of admission should take place in the Assembly. Difficulties had then arisen which had made it impossible for the Council to reach an agreement. Sir Austen Chamberlain recalled that Czechoslovakia and Sweden had offered to withdraw from the Council in order to render possible a solution.

To conclude, Sir Austen Chamberlain declared that he was sure that the Assembly, whilst sharing his regret, also shared his hope and confidence that the adjournment of this request "should be an adjournment only in order to make certain that at the next meeting of the Assembly the demand would be accepted and that Germany should take her rightful place, so that the League gained all that new

importance and new influence in the world which the co-operation of that great country with those who were already members of the League would bring to them and to her".

M. Briand expressed his regret at the adjournment of Germany's admission. After passing in review the various efforts which had been made to reach a solution satisfactory to all concerned, he declared that the work of Locarno remained untouched, that it would live and develop, and that the Powers which had taken part in it had unhesitatingly given their signature to a new and solemn declaration to the above effect ⁽¹⁾.

He proposed that the Assembly should not disperse without a message to Germany.

"It is essential, he said, that she should realise our profound disappointment at our failure to accomplish all that we had hoped. It is essential that the Assembly should close with a moral admission, as it were, in anticipation of the actual realisation of our hopes."

He then submitted the following draft recommendation :

The Assembly :

Regrets that the difficulties encountered have prevented the attainment of the purpose for which it was convened.

And expresses the hope that, between now and the ordinary September, 1926, Session, these difficulties may be surmounted so as to make it possible for Germany to enter the League of Nations on that occasion.

Viscount Ishii (Japan) Acting President of the Council, informed the Assembly of his intention to submit to the Council, before the end of its session, the proposal that it should appoint a committee to study the composition of the Council and the number and mode of election of its members.

Speeches were also made by M. Unden (Sweden), M. Caballero (Paraguay), M. Motta (Switzerland), M. Loudon (the Netherlands), Dr. Nansen (Norway), M. Piip (Esthonia), M. Chao-Hsin Chu (China), M. Comnene (Roumania), M. Zahle (Denmark) and M. Medhi Frasheri (Albania) ⁽²⁾.

The Assembly unanimously adopted the recommendation submitted by M. Briand.

b) *Building of an Assembly hall and of Annexes for the Secretariat.*

The Assembly, on the report of its second Committee, raised from 11,700,000 to 12,968,000 Swiss francs (after deducting the guaranteed proceeds of the sale of the Hotel National) the credit for the construction of an Assembly Hall and offices for the Secretariat.

M. Réveillaud (France), rapporteur of the second Committee, recalled that the original sum voted of 4,500,000 francs had already been raised by the Sixth Assembly to 11,700,000 francs. It had subsequently been found that the site then contemplated did not meet all requirements, and the jury of architects dealing with the question had proposed another site, on the lake, for which a further increase of credits was necessary.

(1) "The representatives of Germany, Belgium, France, Great Britain and Italy held a meeting to-day and examined the difficulties which have arisen from questions of procedure and which render it impossible to attain the common desire. They take note that they have arrived at an agreement and have overcome all obstacles which for the moment had arisen between them. If, as there seems reason to fear, the above difficulties persist, the representatives of the Powers who signed the Protocol at Locarno would regret not to be able at this moment to reach the goal which they had in view, but they are happy to recognise that the work for peace which they had realised at Locarno and which exists in all its value and all its force remains intact. They remain attached to it to-day as yesterday, and are firmly resolved to work together to maintain and develop it. They are convinced that on the occasion of the next session of the Assembly difficulties which exist at this moment will be surmounted and that the agreement which was reached in regard to the conditions for the entry of Germany into the League of Nations will be realised."

(2) See "Special Assembly : Speeches and recommendation" at the end of this number.

The Swiss Federal Council has guaranteed the sale price of the Hotel National for 4,000,000 Swiss francs and has invested the League with the right of expropriation for the purchase of the new site ⁽¹⁾.

c) *Tribute to the Memory of M. Léon Bourgeois.*

On March 14th, the Assembly paid a solemn tribute to the memory of M. Léon Bourgeois, late permanent delegate of France to the League of Nations.

M. Urrutia (Colombia) outlined the part played by M. Bourgeois in the legal organisation of peace and compulsory arbitration. "He will always, he said, hold an honoured place in the history of our League of Nations for his noble endeavours to found it, for the unstinted support and generous assistance which he afforded it, and for all his work during a long and glorious career, on behalf of justice and international peace".

His name, the speaker said, was connected with the most important acts of the League during the first years of its existence, and in particular with the creation of the Permanent Court.

The President of the Assembly, M. da Costa, associated himself with the words of M. Urrutia, recalling that, before working for arbitration and, later, for the League, M. Bourgeois had, from 1894 onwards, "propounded the doctrine of solidarity between men and between nations".

On M. da Costa's proposal the members of the Assembly rose and stood for a few minutes in silence in honour of the memory of M. Léon Bourgeois.

M. Briand, on behalf of the French Delegation, thanked the Assembly for its tribute to the memory of his country-man, who, he said, had represented his country in the Assembly "worthily, honourably and with conspicuous ability".

2. — THIRTY-NINTH SESSION OF THE COUNCIL

The Council, at its March session, appointed a committee of fifteen members (the ten members of the Council : Belgium, Brazil, British Empire, Czechoslovakia, France, Italy, Japan, Spain, Sweden and Uruguay; and the Argentine Republic, China, Germany, Poland and Switzerland) to consider the question of the composition of the Council and the number and mode of election of its members.

It further dealt with the question of the frontier between Turkey and Iraq; the frontier between Greece and Turkey at the Maritza delta; questions in connection with the settlement of the Graeco-Bulgarian frontier incident; the Albanian minority in Greece, the reservations of the United States with regard to the Protocol of the Permanent Court; the convocation of preparatory commissions for the general conferences on disarmament and on economic questions. Other items on the agenda concerned the administration of the Saar territory; the mandated territories of Syria and the Lebanon; the financial reconstruction of Austria and Hungary, etc.

The Council approved the draft statute of the International Institute of Private Law, in Rome.

(1) *Assembly Resolution.*

The Assembly,

Deciding, in view of the unanimous opinion expressed by the Jury of Architects appointed by the Council to modify the resolution which it adopted on September 23rd, 1925, with regard to the construction of an Assembly Hall and of adjoining buildings for the Secretariat of the League of Nations :

1. Approves the report of its Second Committee concerning the construction of an Assembly Hall and of adjoining buildings for the Secretariat;

2. Adopts for this purpose the working estimates, amounting, after deduction of the sum of 4,000,000 francs (being the guaranteed sale price of the Hôtel National), to 12,968,000 francs, of which 8,000,000 will be for the construction of an Assembly Hall, 6,138,000 francs for the construction of a new Secretariat, 300,000 francs for the construction of a temporary annex, and 2,530,000 francs for the purchase of ground.

II. — The Permanent Court of International Justice ⁽¹⁾.

1. — TENTH (EXTRAORDINARY) SESSION. GERMAN INTERESTS IN POLISH UPPER SILESIA ⁽²⁾

Throughout March the Court, sitting in private, deliberated upon the cases grouped together under the above heading.

On March 22nd the Court made an order calling upon the parties to furnish, at a later hearing, the date of which was fixed for April 13th, and by any means which they might think fit, further information concerning certain of the causes included in the group before the Court.

2. — ARBITRATION TREATIES CONCLUDED BY SWITZERLAND

The Swiss Minister at The Hague handed to the Registry, for information, the message by which the Swiss Federal Council had submitted to the Federal Assembly, for approval, the Treaty of Conciliation and Arbitration concluded on September 21st, 1925, between Switzerland and Greece.

3. — ACCEPTANCE OF THE OPTIONAL CLAUSE REGARDING THE COURT'S COMPULSORY JURISDICTION

On August 16th, 1921, Sweden accepted the jurisdiction of the Court as compulsory for a period of five years. On March 18th, 1926 this acceptance was renewed for a period of ten years as from August 21st, 1926. The declaration of March 18th, 1926, which becomes effective without ratification, is as follows :

On behalf of the Royal Swedish Government, I hereby recognise as compulsory, *ipso facto* and without special agreement, in relation to any other Member or State accepting the same obligation, that is to say, on condition of reciprocity, the jurisdiction of the Court, for a period of ten years from the date on which the declaration of the Swedish Government, of August 16th, 1921, ceases to be effective.

Geneva, March 18th, 1926.

Einar Hennings.

On March 10th, 1926 was filed, in the name of the King of the Belgians, the instrument of ratification of the Declaration by which Belgium adhered to the Optional Clause of the Court's Statute.

(Declaration made at Geneva on September 25th, 1925.)

4. — PARTICIPATION OF THE UNITED STATES IN THE WORK OF THE PERMANENT COURT OF INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE ⁽³⁾

By a communication dated March 2nd, the United States Government officially notified the Secretary-General that the Senate had given its advice and consent to the adherence of the United States to the Protocol of Signature of the Statute

(1) This article has been prepared with the aid of information furnished by the Registry of the Permanent Court.

(2) See *Monthly Summary*, Vol. VI, No. 2, p. 37.

(3) See *Monthly Summary*, Vol. VI, No. 2, p. 40.

of the Permanent Court of International Justice and the adjoined Statute, subject to certain conditions, reservations and understandings.

It further informed the Secretary-General that the present signatories of the Protocol had been approached individually in order to ascertain whether they would accept the conditions, reservations and understandings formulated by the Senate as part and condition of the adherence of the United States.

This question was discussed by the Council on March 18th. Sir Austen Chamberlain pointed out that the Court Protocol of 1920 was a multi-lateral instrument to which all the signatories were parties, and that the special conditions on which the United States desired to accede to it should also be embodied in a multi-lateral instrument. In his opinion, they could not appropriately be embodied in a series of separate exchanges of notes.

Sir Austen Chamberlain added that the terms of some of the first five paragraphs of the Senate resolution affected in certain respects the rights of the States which have ratified the Protocol, and that it was not usual that rights established by an instrument which had been ratified should be varied by a mere exchange of notes.

The terms of the fifth paragraph of the Senate resolution necessitated further examination before they could safely be accepted by the States parties to the Protocol. This paragraph, he said, was capable of bearing an interpretation which would hamper the work of the Council and prejudice the rights of Members of the League, but it was not clear that it was intended to bear any such meaning. The correct interpretation of this paragraph of the resolution should be the subject of discussion and agreement with the United States Government.

The Council, on the report of Sir Austen Chamberlain, decided to propose to all the Governments approached on the subject by the United States that a reply should be made indicating the difficulty of proceeding by a mere exchange of notes and the need of a general agreement. It further decided to invite those Governments and the Government of the United States to appoint delegates to a meeting to be held at Geneva on September 1st, 1926, for the purpose of discussing the various questions raised by the terms of the Senate resolution and framing a new agreement.

5. — REQUEST FOR ADVISORY OPINION ⁽¹⁾

A request for an advisory opinion, referred to the Court by the Council at the instance of the Governing Body of the International Labour Office, will probably be dealt with by the Court at its next ordinary session.

III. — Reduction of Armaments.

1. — CONVOCATION OF THE PREPARATORY COMMISSION FOR THE DISARMAMENT CONFERENCE

At its March session, the Council, on the proposal of Dr. Benes, made definite arrangements for the meeting of the Preparatory Commission for the Disarmament Conference and the two bodies co-operating with it.

The Preparatory Commission will meet at Geneva on May 18th. Besides the States already mentioned ⁽²⁾, the Argentine Republic and Chile have been invited to send representatives to the meeting.

(1) See special chapter in this number.

(2) See *Monthly Summary*, Vol. V, No. 12, p. 309.

The Permanent Advisory Commission for Military, Naval and Air Questions will meet on May 19th. In addition to the members of the Council, whose experts are regular members of this Commission, all States represented on the Preparatory Commission will be entitled to send experts to take part in its work on a footing of absolute equality.

The Joint Commission will be convened by the Preparatory Commission. The Council decided to add to this body, which includes representatives of the League Technical Organisations and the International Labour Organisation, four members—of American, German, Japanese and Russian nationality—specially qualified to deal with questions connected with industry and transport.

The Council furthermore agreed upon the terms of a reply to the letter of the Government of the Union of Socialist Soviet Republics, of January 18th, 1926. In this communication the Soviet Government stated that it welcomed every step and every movement towards disarmament and was genuinely anxious to be represented at the Disarmament Conference and on the Preparatory Commission. Reservations were made, however, with regard to the choice of Geneva as meeting place.

In its reply the Council emphasised that it attached special importance to the co-operation of the Soviet Government, and that it was convinced, in view of the formal assurances given by the Swiss Federal Council on December 20th, 1925, that any representatives the Soviet Government might send to the meetings would receive facilities and immunities similar to those of the representatives of other States invited to take part in the work of the Commission.

The Council, finally, expressed its conviction that the Soviet Government would not wish to insist that exceptional treatment be accorded to it which would not be granted to any other state represented at the meeting.

2. — ARBITRATION AND SECURITY

On March 18th, the Council, on the report of Dr. Benes (Czechoslovakia) decided to entrust a Committee composed of the Japanese, Swedish and Czechoslovak representatives on the Council, with the preparation of two reports for next Assembly—one on potential progress in the pacific settlement of international disputes, the other on the progress in general security already brought about by the treaties of arbitration and mutual security.

Memoranda prepared by the Secretariat on these questions and submitted to the Council at its last meeting will serve as a basis for the reports.

IV. — General Questions.

1. — APPOINTMENT OF A COMMITTEE ON THE COMPOSITION OF THE COUNCIL

On March 18th, the Council, on the proposal of Viscount Ishii (Japan) decided to set up a Committee of fifteen members, including, besides the members of the Council, representatives of the Argentine Republic, China, Germany, Poland and Switzerland.

The Committee will meet on May 10th, 1926, at Geneva, to study the problems connected with the composition of the Council and the number and mode of election of its members.

In appointing this Committee, the Council bore in mind that several members of the Assembly had expressed the view that its members should include countries not at present members of the Council. Importance was also attached

to the so called geographical principle, that is, that the different continents should be represented.

In his report Viscount Ishii pointed out that, under the Covenant, the sole responsibility for any initiative in such matters was vested in the Council, and that the Committee which had been appointed would only be called upon to present a report.

The Council instructed the Committee to give particular attention to claims so far put forward by or on behalf of certain members of the League. The Committee was authorised to invite the Governments of any members of the League who so desired to communicate in writing or through an official representative their views on any of the problems to be dealt with by the Committee. The Committee will bear in mind the various proposals on the subject previously discussed by the Council or the Assembly, and, in particular, the resolution, regarding geographical and other conditions, several times adopted by the Assembly.

To enable the members of the League to proceed to a thorough examination of the question before next Assembly, the Council authorised the Committee to present majority and minority reports in the event of its not being in a position to make a unanimous report.

2. — ADMISSIBILITY OF RESERVATIONS TO GENERAL CONVENTIONS

A communication from the British Government concerning ⁽¹⁾ the question of the reservations made by the Austrian Government in signing the Opium Convention of February 19th, 1925, and the question of the admissibility of reservations to general conventions was considered by the Council on March 17th.

The question of the Austrian Government's reservations to the Opium Convention was referred for examination to the Advisory Committee on Traffic in Opium, it being understood that the Austrian Government would be entitled to send an expert to the Committee.

The second and general question of the admissibility of reservations to international Conventions the Council referred to the Committee of Experts for the Progressive Codification of International Law.

3. — INTERPRETATION OF THE COVENANT

Report of the Special Committee of Jurists. — On the proposal of Viscount Ishii (Japan), the Council on March 17 noted a certain number of observations formulated by various Governments with regard to the report of the Special Committee of Jurists appointed under the Council resolution of September 28, 1923 ⁽¹⁾.

Twenty-one Governments had expressed their opinion with regard to the report. Australia, South Africa, France, Italy, Japan, Brazil and Esthonia had intimated that they did not desire to present any observations. Cuba, Denmark, Finland, Greece, the Netherlands, Poland, Salvador, Sweden, Switzerland, Hungary, Norway, Siam and Uruguay had formulated reservations, criticisms or observations bearing upon some or all of the replies of the Committee.

The Council considered that the replies received constituted an important contribution towards the elucidation of the problems submitted to the jurists, and decided to circulate them to all Members of the League.

(1) See *Monthly Summary*, Vol. III, No. 9, p. 215.

4. — INTERNATIONAL ENGAGEMENTS

a) *Registration.*

Among the treaties and international agreements registered in March figure :
The Austro-Swiss Treaty of Commerce and Annexes of January 6th, 1926,
presented by the Swiss Government;

A provisional Germano-Swedish convention on air navigation and an exchange
of notes relating thereto (Stockholm, May 22nd, 1925), presented by the Swedish
Government;

A Conciliation Convention between Esthonia and Sweden (Reval, May 29th,
1925), presented by the Esthonian and Swedish Governments;

A Germano-Polish agreement on family property (Berlin, December 16th, 1925);
and

An Austro-Polish agreement and annex on air navigation (Warsaw, May 5th,
1925); and

An agreement between Poland and Czechoslovakia on matters of civil and
criminal law, with an additional protocol and annex (Prague, March 6th, 1925),
presented by the Polish Government;

Exchanges of Notes between Germany and Czechoslovakia and Germany and
Austria concerning respectively the publication of warrants and the exchange
of epidemiological information, presented by the German Government;

A provisional convention on air navigation between Norway and the Nether-
lands (The Hague, January 8th, 1925), presented by the Norwegian Government.

b) *Accessions, Ratifications, etc.*

The British Government has acceded to the Protocol relating to Arbitration
Clauses in Commercial Contracts (Geneva, September 24 th, 1923), on behalf of
the following colonies protectorates and mandated territories :

British Guiana.
British Honduras.
Jamaica.
Leeward Islands.
Grenada.
St. Lucia.
St. Vincent.
Gold Coast.
Kenya.
Zanzibar.
Northern Rhodesia.
Ceylon.
Mauritius.
Gibraltar.
Malta.
Falkland Islands.
Iraq.
Palestine.

This Protocol has also been signed by New Zealand.

The French Government has ratified the International Convention for the
Suppression of the Traffic in Women and Children (Geneva, September 30th, 1921).

**5. — APPOINTMENT OF A THIRD ARBITRATOR TO THE BELGO-LUXEMBURG
ARBITRAL TRIBUNAL**

The Council, on March 15th, appointed M. Edgar Milhaud, third arbitrator to the Belgo-Luxemburg Arbitral Tribunal. The nominee, a professor of political economy at Geneva University, was appointed on the report of the Spanish representative and with the agreement of the parties concerned.

The Belgian and Luxemburg Governments have agreed to submit to arbitration a difficulty which has arisen in connection with the application of Article 3 of the convention of July 25th, 1921, establishing an Economic Union between Belgium and Luxemburg.

This article provides that a Joint Committee shall endeavour to ensure equitable conditions as regards the supply of raw materials and the export of the manufactured product of both countries. In the event of any dispute arising, this adjustment shall be effected by means of tariff measures to be drawn up by an arbitral tribunal.

This body shall include, in addition to the two arbitrators chosen by the Belgian and Luxemburg Governments, a third member who, if not appointed by agreement between the two Governments, is to be chosen by the Council.

As the parties had been unable to come to an agreement on the subject, they requested the Council to appoint the third member, who, they considered, should not belong to a country which was interested, even indirectly, in the decision of the tribunal.

**6. — REQUEST OF THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE INTERNATIONAL LABOUR OFFICE
FOR AN ADVISORY OPINION OF THE PERMANENT COURT OF INTERNATIONAL
JUSTICE**

On March 17th, the Council, at the request of the Governing Body of the International Labour Office, referred to the Permanent Court of International Justice for an advisory opinion the following question :

“Is it within the competence of the International Labour Organisation to draw up and to propose labour legislation which, in order to protect certain classes of workers, also regulates incidentally the same work when performed by the employer himself.

M. Scialoja (Italy) reporting to the Council, reminded his colleagues that a precedent for such action had been established in 1922, when the Council, at the request of the Governing Body, had sought the Court's opinion on a question relating to the nomination of delegates to the Labour Conference.

The Council requested the International Labour Office to afford the Court any assistance it might require in the consideration of the question.

7. — CONVOCATION OF A MEETING OF PRESS EXPERTS

At the Council meeting of March 16th, the Belgian representative, M. Vander-velde, informed his colleagues of the results of the enquiry undertaken by the Secretary-General regarding the advisability of convening a Committee of expert pressmen of the different continents.

Press groups in more than twenty-five countries have so far replied to the enquiries addressed to them and a number of groups in the United States of America have expressed great interest in the scheme.

In these circumstances, the Council decided that a meeting of a Committee of press experts should be summoned and requested the Secretary-General

to prepare an Agenda based on the results of the enquiry. For this purpose, preparatory meetings will be held at Geneva of persons connected with the different sections of the press, such as directors of telegraphic agencies, newspaper proprietors, heads of press bureaux and journalists, who are obliged by their profession to live abroad or frequently to travel in foreign countries.

8. — REQUEST OF THE « UNION INTERNATIONALE DE LA PROPRIÉTÉ BATIE »

A request from the International Union of Building Property to be placed under the direction of the League in accordance with Article 24 of the Covenant was examined by the Council on March 11th.

The Council fully appreciated the importance of the work of the Union from an international point of view. It considered, however, that, as the Union had been founded and its work supported by private initiative, it did not fall within the category of international organisations which might be placed under the League's direction. The Council therefore, did not feel able to accede to its request.

V. — Technical Organisations.

1. — THE ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL ORGANISATION

a) *Work of the Financial Committee.*

The report of the Financial Committee on its session of March 5th to 8th was approved by the Council on March 15th.

On the proposal of M. Vandervelde (Belgium) it decided to invite the International Chamber of Commerce to be represented in an advisory capacity at the coming meeting of experts on Double Taxation.

The Financial reconstruction of Austria. — Questions in connection with the financial reconstruction of Austria were discussed in March by the Financial Committee, the Austrian Committee of the Council and, finally, by the Council itself. The Austrian Government was represented on the Council by Dr. Schuller.

The Council noted the 36th, 37th and 38th reports of the Commissioner-General. It approved proposals of the Financial Committee bearing on the disposal and investment of the balance of the reconstruction loan and authorised the Commissioner-General, subject to certain guarantees, to release a sum of six million shillings on order to finance a scheme for the organisation of dairies and local cooperative societies.

The Council approved the appointment of M. Dubois, chairman of the Financial Committee, to manage the loan account.

The financial reconstruction of Hungary. — On March 11th the Council, including representatives of Hungary, Roumania and the Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes, noted the three latest reports of the League Commissioner-General at Budapest, which had previously been examined by the Financial Committee and the Hungarian Committee of the Council. The Commissioner-General, Mr. Jeremiah Smith, and the chairman of the Financial Committee were present at the meeting.

The Council further approved a report of the Financial Committee on proposals of the Hungarian National Commission on Economics regarding a reduction in the number of State officials and the simplification of State administration; measures

the Hungarian Government proposes to take with regard to the complete centralisation of State funds; and procedure in regard to the statutes prescribing the future functions of the Central Institute of Banks.

Greek Refugees Settlement Commission. — The ninth quarterly report of the Greek Refugee Settlement Commission was noted by the Council on March 15 th, Greece was represented by M. Dendramis.

The report, which covers the period from December 6th, 1925, to February 24th, 1926, describes the situation of the refugees at the end of 1925. The work of agricultural and urban settlement was continuing. Up to December 31st, 6,938,489 stremmata of land had been handed over to the refugees, 550,635 persons had been settled, 35,825 dwellings had been built. Considerable quantities of live-stock, implements and tool, seed, grain, fodder and food grain were distributed and various cash advances were made to refugees.

Health conditions were satisfactory on the whole. For 429,990 refugees settled in Macedonia there were 11,909 births and 7573 deaths. In Thrace, where 65,915 persons have been settled, there were 1799 births and 1268 deaths.

In a chapter on the financial situation the Commission draws attention to the fact that its resources will be practically exhausted before the end of 1926. There are still large numbers of refugees to be settled, the situation of the town-dwellers being worse than that of the country people.

The Greek representative, M. Dendramis, said that he wished to express to the Council the gratitude of the Greek people for its work in favour of the refugees. Thanks to the systematic and disciplined efforts of the League, the Greek State and various foreign organizations, the refugees were gradually becoming productive elements of the population. They were providing Greece with abundant labour, with a series of new industries and were contributing to the development of the economic life throughout the country.

Armenian Refugee settlement scheme. — The Committee appointed by the Council to study the question of the settlement of Armenain Refugees in the Caucasus met in Geneva from March 12 to 13 1926, with M. Pams (French) in the Chair.

The following members were present :

Dr. Fridtjof Nansen (Norwegian)
Sir Murdoch MacDonald, K. C. M. G., C. B. (British)
Signor Conti Rossini (Italian)
Dr. Hans Meyer, representing Dr. Bergmann (German)
M. André Mater, substitute for M. Pams (French).

At its three meetings the Commission considered technical reports on the financial aspects of the proposed scheme, on the irrigation plans which had been prepared, and on the situation as regards public health.

The Commission will report to the Council at its next session.

b) *Work of the Economic Committee.*

On the proposal of M. Vandervelde (Belgium), the Council, on March 15 th, adopted the report of the Economic Committee on its eighteenth session, and requested the Secretary-General to take the necessary steps for the execution of certain measures proposed.

During this session, which was held at Geneva from March 1st to 6th, the Economic Committee continued its study of the question of *import and export prohibitions and restrictions*.

In October, 1925, the draft articles of an international agreement for the suppression of such restrictions were communicated to the various States with a request

for the observations of their principal commercial and industrial organisations. Up to the Committee meeting replies were received from twenty-three States, observations being also submitted by the International Chamber of Commerce.

As a general rule, the replies received were favourable in principle to a concerted effort for the suppression of import and export prohibitions and restrictions, though some of them expressed doubt whether, until certain conditions have been realised, it would be possible to secure the general acceptance and enforcement of an effective international convention for the purpose. Apart from these replies, most of the criticisms and suggestions offered related to questions of form, drafting and procedure. The Committee proposed to continue and, if possible, complete its study at its next session.

The Joint Committee on *Economic Crises*, after thoroughly examining the questions before it, adopted a report in which it emphasised the importance it attached to the collection and regular publication by the different States of statistical data to serve as a basis for determining the index-numbers of production and stocks, and requested the Council to draw the attention of Governments to this point.

The Joint Committee further contemplated the appointment of a committee of experts to study methods of establishing economic barometers and of using the material thus provided. It considered it important to pursue the study of periodically recurring crises and proposed to collect data which would enable it to form a more accurate idea of the laws governing such crises and of the methods of mitigating their consequences.

It also set forth a series of special factors contributing to the economic difficulties of the moment, which, it considered, would probably engage the attention of the forthcoming Economic Conference. It requested the Council to await the results of this Conference before determining the task to be assigned to the Economic Committee in this respect.

With regard to the elimination of divergencies in the various legislations on *bills of exchange*, the Economic Committee considered that it would be advisable to determine what real difficulties were encountered by international trade, owing to these divergencies, and to decide upon the relative urgency and importance of such difficulties in order to ascertain whether and in what way they could gradually be reduced or removed.

The Committee expressed its conviction that this end could only be attained with the help of experts thoroughly acquainted with the daily routine of the transactions of which bills of exchange and cheques were the principal instruments. It accordingly proposed to the Council to convene a limited number of experts.

Six States, acting in accordance with Article 9 of the Convention of November 3rd 1923, forwarded to the Secretariat general reports on the steps taken by them to bring about the *simplification of Customs formalities*. These reports will be circulated to all States which have ratified the Convention.

The Committee continued its examination of the question of the prevention of *false Customs declarations* and began that of the situation as regards the execution of arbitral awards rendered in foreign countries.

2. — COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSIT

a) *The Arad-Csanad Amalgamated Railways.*

On the agenda of the March session of the Council figured a question which had already been raised in December, 1923, that of the Arad-Csanad Railways.

The Hungarian Government recently drew the attention of the Council to this question in virtue of Article 304 of the Treaty of Trianon. On March 15th, the Council, on the report of the Uruguayan representative, and without entering into

the question of Article 304, took the view that it would be better not to intervene until the parties concerned had themselves made every effort to reach a direct agreement, and failed.

From information received, it appeared that so far no direct negotiations had taken place on the subject between the Hungarian and Roumanian Governments. The Roumanian Government, had, however, recently opened negotiations—which were still proceeding—with the Arad-Csanad Railway Company.

In order to leave the way open for a direct and final agreement between the parties, the Council postponed until a future session the examination of the question. It invited, however, the chairman of the Committee for Communications and Transit to take every step to provide the Council, should it ultimately be called upon to consider this question, with the services of qualified experts.

b) *The Special Committee of Enquiry on Road Traffic.*

The special Committee of Enquiry on Road Traffic met in Paris from March 1st to March 3rd, when it examined the agenda of the Conference to be held in Paris on April 20th for the purpose of drawing up an International Convention on Road Traffic.

This Conference, which has been summoned by the French Government, will consider a draft convention prepared by the Committee.

c) *Appointment of a Commissioner of the League of Nations to supervise the execution of Article 107 of the Treaty of Lausanne.*

The appointment of M. Paul Stablo (French), Engineer of Roads and Bridges, who in March, 1925, took up his duties as Commissioner of the League of Nations, has been renewed for one year.

3. — INTELLECTUAL CO-OPERATION

a) *Work of the Committee.*

The report of the Committee on Intellectual Co-operation on the work of its recent session ⁽¹⁾ was considered by the Council on March 15th.

Instruction in the aims and work of the League. — At its January session the Committee, at the request of the Council, decided to appoint an expert sub-committee to consider the best methods of making known the work of the League, and of instilling the principles of international co-operation in the younger generation. It proposed to the Council that the sub-committee should be formed of ten or twelve members and should include three members of the Committee, Professor Gilbert Murray, M. Destrée and M. Casares.

The Council instructed its President, after consulting the Chairman of the Committee on Intellectual Co-operation, to appoint the members of the sub-committee; the primary qualification being experience of teaching. It also suggested that the non-official organisations which played so important a part in the education of youth might be asked to give an opinion either by letter or verbally.

On the proposal of the Committee, the Council approved in principle the appointment of a Sub-Committee on Science, subject to the granting by the Assembly of the necessary funds.

(1) See *Monthly Summary*, Vol. VI, No. 1, p. 9.

b) *The International Institute for the Unification of Private Law.*

Arrangements for the working of the International Institute for the Unification of Private Law were discussed by the Council on March 15th and 18th when, on the proposal of M. Scialoja (Italy), it definitely adopted the statutes of the Institute.

According to the Council's instructions, the original draft statute had been communicated to the Committee of Experts for the Codification of International Law, the Committee on Intellectual Co-operation, the Economic and Financial Committees, the Organisation for Communications and Transit, and the Health Organisation. These bodies had, in replies, expressed certain views which had been brought to the knowledge of the members of the Council. In addition a letter from the Director of the International Labour Office, putting forward certain considerations regarding the relations between the new Institute and the Labour Organisation, was brought before the Council; as also a letter from the Netherlands Government.

In drawing up the new statutes, summarised below, due weight was given to all opinions put forward.

1. The object of the Institute is to study methods for the assimilation and co-ordination of private law as between States or groups of States, and to prepare for a gradual adoption by the various States or uniform private law legislation.

2. The Institute shall co-operate with the various League Organisations, including the International Labour Office, for all questions falling within the sphere of those bodies.

3. The Institute shall be administered by a Governing Body, composed of a President (of Italian nationality), and ten members of different nationalities. This body shall appoint as its executive organ a Standing Committee composed of its President and five of its members.

4. The Governing Body shall choose the subjects to be dealt with by the Institute. Any State, League Organisation, or International Law Association may, through the intermediary of the Council of the League, propose questions for study.

5. In order to secure expert co-operation, the Statutes provide for the reference of certain questions to commissions of jurists.

6. The Secretariat is formed by a Secretary-General and two deputies, all three of different nationalities.

7. Italian, French, English, Spanish and German are the official languages of the Institute.

* * *

After approving the Statutes, the Council considered arrangements for the conclusion of a definite agreement between the League of Nations and the Italian Government.

It was decided that there should be an exchange of correspondence between the Italian Government and the Acting President of the Council. These letters will embody arrangements for the installation and maintenance of the Institute and the remittance by the Italian Government of a yearly subsidy of one million lire. They will also contain details as to the length of the engagements to be entered into.

The Institute will be invested with legal personality and its staff will enjoy advantages similar to those contemplated in Article 7 of the Covenant for the staff of the League of Nations.

VI. — Administrative Questions.

1. — THE SAAR

On March 18th the Council dealt with questions concerning the development of the Saar gendarmerie, the presence of French troops in the Saar territory and measures in view of the Saar plebiscite. It also appointed the Chairman and members of the Governing Commission.

Development of the Local Gendarmerie and the Presence of French Troops in the Territory. — The Council took note of a report submitted by the Governing Commission in compliance with its request of March, 1925, on the development of the local gendarmerie and on the manner in which it would be possible, in the absence of troops, to ensure the protection of persons and property on the Saar territory.

The Commission stated that the execution of the programme for the development of the local gendarmerie would be terminated on March 31st, 1926, on which date the corps would number 1005 men. This force, to which should be added the Saarbruck town police — 221 men — and 338 policemen in other localities, appeared to the Commission to be strong enough to perform in ordinary circumstances the duties of gendarmerie and municipal police.

The Commission nevertheless considered that, to meet all emergencies and to maintain order in all circumstances it would be necessary to increase to three thousand the number of gendarmes. This increase however, was, impossible, owing to the heavy expenditure involved and the budgetary and economic conditions of the territory. In these circumstances the Commission submitted that, in order to be in a position to provide for the protection of persons and property, it should be entitled at any time and immediately to call upon military forces stationed outside the territory and near its frontiers.

This possibility was contemplated by the Council in its resolution of March 14th, 1925, and the Governing Commission considered that it was also foreshadowed by the stipulations to the Peace Treaty.

With regard to the presence of French troops in the Territory, the Commission declared that, since the 250 gendarmes recruited in 1925-1926 would take up their duties on March 31st, 1926, it had asked the French Government to withdraw from the Territory a battalion of light infantry stationed at Saarbruck. The garrison, therefore, would only consist of one infantry and one cavalry regiment.

The French Government announced that the withdrawal of the troops stationed in the Territory was proceeding by degrees. The Council considered that, pending the completion of this operation, the attention of the Governing Commission should be drawn to the fact that it was its duty to ensure, in all cases, freedom of transport and transit on the Saar railways. It accordingly invited the Commission to submit proposals on the subject at its next session.

Measures in view of the Saar Plebiscite. — On the proposal of the rapporteur (Italy), the Council adopted recommendations submitted by the Records Commissioner for the Saar Plebiscite, Colonel de Reynier in his report.

Appointment of the Chairman and Members of the Governing Commission. — The Council appointed as members of the Saar Governing Commission :

M. Kossmann.	(Saar)
M. Lambert.	(Belgian)
M. Morize.	(French)
Mr. Stephens, and.	(Canadian)
M. Vezensky	(Czechoslovak)

Mr. Stephens was appointed Chairman of the Commission. These appointments were made for one year as from April 1st, 1926.

On this occasion the Acting President of the Council, Viscount Ishii, thanked the former Chairman and member of the Governing Commission, M. Rault, for the services he had rendered during his six years of office.

2. — MANDATES

a) *The french mandate for Syria and Lebanon.*

Extraordinary Session of the Permanent Mandates Commission.

The Permanent Mandates Commission met in Rome from February 16th to March 6th. It examined the report of the French Government on the situation in Syria and Lebanon in 1924, a provisional report for 1925 and a certain number of petitions.

Observations of the Commission on the report for 1924. — After hearing the accredited representative of the Mandatory and requesting explanations with regard to certain points of the report for 1924, the Commission asked the Mandatory to furnish supplementary information, in particular, on the national status of the inhabitants in the different parts of the mandated territory; the number of French officials and the posts they occupy, distinguishing those in the pay of the Mandatory and those employed by the native Governments; the relations between army officers and the civil Government; regulations concerning the appointment of native officials; the success of the system of introducing French judges into the native courts of Great Lebanon; progress in the training of teachers for primary and secondary schools; the economic development of the mandated territory; public health; the antiquities law; the Hedjaz Railway; customs; public finance and demographic statistics. The Commission further requested the Mandatory to embody in its next report a complete account of all legislative or administrative decrees applying to labour levies paid or unpaid; of the number of workers so employed and of the number of days of work during the year.

Recalling the terms of Article 17 of the Mandate, according to which copies of all laws and regulations promulgated during the year should be attached to the annual report, the Commission voiced its regret that the texts in question had not been communicated to it with any of the reports of the Mandatory, and that it had in consequence experienced some difficulty in understanding the situation in the mandated territories. In the course of the session one copy of the administrative Acts of the High Commissioner during the period 1920-1924 was received from the accredited representative, but no similar texts were communicated for 1925.

Observations of the Commission on the report for 1925. — Before submitting its observations to the Council on the report for 1925, the Commission made a point of stating the conception it had formed of its mission, in order to dissipate, as far as lay in its power, the misunderstandings which existed on the subject.

It recalled that, by the last paragraph of Article 22 of the Covenant, it was instructed "to receive and examine the annual reports of the Mandatories and to advise the Council on all matters relating to the observance of the Mandates." Basing its opinion also on its Charter, adopted by the Council on December 1st, 1920, and completed in 1922, the Commission considered that its constitution and duties possessed two salient characteristics: the Commissioner was a purely advisory organ and its deliberations were simply the result of the sum of the individual convictions of its members. The Commission, therefore, considered that its task was one of supervision and co-operation.

It is its duty, when carefully examining the reports of the mandatory Powers, to determine how far the principles of the Covenant and of the Mandates have been truly applied in the administration of the different territories. But at the same time, it is its duty to do the utmost that lies in its power to assist the mandatory Governments in carrying out the important and difficult tasks which they are accomplishing on behalf of the League of Nations, and on which they render reports to the Council.

The procedure followed by the Commission and the character of the observations which it has the honour to submit to the Council have been dictated by its desire to carry out, so far as the circumstances enable it to do so, this double mission of supervision and cooperation. As it is anxious not to make the task of France in Syria and the Lebanon impossible of performance, it does not in the present instance recommend the Council to set up a Commission of enquiry independent of the mandatory Power. Nevertheless, recognising its duty of supervision, it has not felt able to abstain from expressing certain criticisms.

From the outset, the Commission refrained from examining petitions claiming complete independence for Syria and also those protesting against the mandate for that country being assigned to France, for the reason that this mandate was assigned to France at San Remo, in 1920, in virtue of a decision of the Supreme Council in which the League took no part. In this connection it observed " that any attempt to infer from this circumstance that these claims and protests had encountered tacit or indirect approval from the Commission would be singularly ill-inspired. "

* * *

The Commission noted that the provisional report of the Mandatory, which it expected would constitute its principal source of information, contained *lacunae* not only in its statement of the immediate causes of the present risings, but also in regard to the underlying causes of an unrest which had in no way been brought out in previous reports. This document, it added, was not accompanied by any reports of enquiries into the general situation, nor on the extent to which the various representatives of the Mandatory in Syria might have incurred responsibility. No observations had been received from the Mandatory on petitions, which, in conformity with the procedure adopted by the Council, had been communicated to the French Government. The Commission considered that the inadequacy of the written documentation had had the effect of prolonging its debates. It nevertheless pointed out, that the accredited Representative had, on many points, supplied information which made up for the deficiencies in the report.

* * *

Before examining the provisional report, the Commission considered it desirable to afford the accredited Representative of the Mandatory a opportunity of explaining the conception formed by his Government of its mission in Syria.

M. de Caix spoke as follows :

The idea which has governed, if not the whole exercise of the mandate, at any rate all the efforts made to organise it, is the following : The mandate is a provisional system designed to enable populations which, politically speaking, are still minors to educate themselves so as to arrive one day at full self-government. This presupposes that the mandatory Power will gradually create native organisations in the mandated territory such as may, when complete, be able to ensure entirely the government of the country and such as may, if they carry out their duties in a proper manner, render the intervention of the Mandatory unnecessary. It appears from this that there should not be any intervention on the part of the organs of the mandatory Power in the internal affairs of the native governments.

The Commission heard this declaration with very great satisfaction. It considered that the conception of the Mandate, as thus defined, was in strict harmony

both with the letter and the spirit of Article 22 of the Covenant and also of the Mandate for Syria and the Lebanon.

* * *

The Commission then considered whether Syria presented a favourable field for applying the doctrine of the Mandate as above defined.

It noted that, from the time when the Mandate was first introduced, there had been in Syria, side by side with parties favourable to France, other parties which were hostile to French influence and to the mandatory system itself. In its opinion,

An upper class consisting of elements some of whom clung to a policy of systematic opposition and the remainder of whom were insufficiently prepared to play an effective part in the working of a modern State, and a majority which, for the most part, was passive and in a state of dependency—such was the environment amid which France, as the Mandatory of the League of Nations, had to establish an efficiently conducted native government and organise the machinery of representative institutions.

In addition, the Commission noted that, although the population with which the Mandatory had to deal numbered only 2 1/2 millions, it was nevertheless composed of various races, with no fewer than 18 different creeds more or less mutually antagonistic.

While rendering this tribute to facts, the Mandates Commission was far from aiming any reproach at peoples who,

Submissive during centuries to a regime which had never prepared them, to quote the words of the Covenant "to stand by themselves under the strenuous conditions of the modern world", and who, in virtue of the sufferings they had endured and of the justice of some of their present aspirations, were deserving both of interest and of sympathy".

After reviewing the principal difficulties inherent in the administration of Syria, the Commission proceeded to examine the methods applied by the Mandatory.

On this occasion, it examined some of the grievances voiced by various petitioners.

The external policy followed by France on behalf of the Mandated territories had given rise to two principal complaints: first, that the inhabitants of Syria and the Lebanon had not been more closely associated with the action taken in this field, secondly, that the Mandatory had unjustifiably abandoned certain Territorial rights of the mandated territories.

The Commission considered that the Mandatory, in virtue of Article 3 of the Mandate, was alone responsible for the foreign relations of the mandated territories, and that in consequence the complaints of the petitioners on this head were devoid of any legal foundation. It noted with satisfaction that representatives of the local authorities had several times been called upon to cooperate in international negotiations of a technical character. As regards the political agreements concluded by the Mandatory, the Commission was not of the opinion that they had "unjustifiably affected the territorial integrity of Syria and the Lebanon".

The Commission noted with satisfaction M. de Caix's statement to the effect that the conventions recently concluded by M. de Jouvenel and the Angora Government would be communicated to the League Dr. approval, in so far as they affected the boundaries of the mandated territory, before being put into force.

Complaints had also been received with regard to the territorial organisation of Syria and Lebanon. The Commission pointed out that Article 1 of the Mandate provided that the Mandatory should enact measures to facilitate "the progressive development of Syria and the Lebanon as independent States and should, as far as circumstances permitted, encourage local autonomy."

In the opinion of the Commission it was clear that these passages, far from forbidding the Mandatory to set up a system of widest local self-government, actually required it to do so, and the statements of the accredited representative showed that it was not the intention of the Mandatory to encourage a separatist policy. It nevertheless observed that "disadvantages might have resulted, during the last few years, from the alterations effected in the territorial organisation; and that a stable and definitive régime would be advantageous both for the Mandatory and the inhabitants of the mandated territories".

As regards the organisation of the judicial system, the Commission came to the conclusion that some degree of uncertainty and confusion had been created in the minds of the population owing to the multiplicity of civil, penal, administrative and military courts — native and French — and that it would be in the interest of good administrative order that the competence of the different courts should be clearly defined.

With regard to the Moslem Wakfs the Commission took note of declarations of the accredited representative to the effect that the administration was conducted by the Mandatory in complete accordance with religious law and the dispositions of the founders. It also noted with interest that a scheme was being considered under which the members of the Councils of the Wakfs would be appointed in a Moslem electoral college which would have the right to choose the general comptroller.

Certain petitioners, in particular, the Executive Committee of the Syro-Palestinian Congress, having criticised the operations of the Bank of Syria, as tending to extract and export the greater part of the gold of the country, the Commission pointed out that

Considerable quantities of gold still remained in the country, although the bank had been at work for several years. As there were no regulations or statistics which gave colour to the idea that its operations had resulted in an appreciable export of gold, the Commission felt that it should not attach any weight to the complaint of the petitioners on the last point.

The Commission considered that the allegation that the Mandatory was attempting to drain Syria of its gold currency was without foundation. It felt, nevertheless, that a monetary system based on the parity of the Syrian and French currencies had a two-fold disadvantage for the mandated territories. It was to be feared, in the first place, that the fluctuations of the French franc might have unfortunate results on economic conditions in Syria and the Lebanon; in the second place, that the Mandatory, by bringing the Syrian pound into close relations with a foreign currency, would run the risk of impeding the development of its own policy.

Complaints regarding the disbandment of the old Syrian Army were not taken into consideration, the Commission being of the opinion that the Mandatory, by disbanding an army which was animated by a spirit clearly hostile to its authority, had in no wise violated the terms of the Mandate.

Finally, the Commission noted a declaration of M. de Caix to the effect that the present High Commissioner in Syria had been instructed by the French Government

To institute a searching inquiry into the causes of the present situation in the territory considered in all its aspects, and to extend this inquiry to all the facts alleged in the petitions received by the Permanent Mandates Commission in regard to which it had not been in a position to form an opinion.

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The events which had their origin in the Jebel Druse received special consideration by the Commission. The fact that nothing in the previous reports of the Mandatory gave any grounds for anticipating the revolt which broke out in July 1925, led the Commission to conclude that the occurrence was due to immediate

causes of recent origin. At the same time, it considered that, in order to gain an intelligent view of this insurrection, account must be taken of the very peculiar environment in which it broke out.

The Druse mountaineers are profoundly attached to their independence, a characteristic which was so clearly recognised by the representatives of the Mandatory that as early as March, 1921, a special agreement was concluded with the Druse chiefs, according their country a very large measure of autonomy.

The Commission considered that one of the causes of the revolt was the failure of certain representatives of the Mandatory in the Jebel Druse to understand the peculiar conditions which led to the agreement of 1921, as illustrated in the too hasty pursuit of far-reaching reforms in regard to land tenure and public works.

The Commission considered that

There was no doubt that such circumstances might have given rise in the minds of the Druses, who had been disturbed in their traditional habits and subjected to excessive demands in the form of forced labour, to a deep feeling of resentment.

It was particularly impressed by the story of the gathering discontent, the repeated—and disregarded—warnings, the obstinacy of General Sarrail, growing more intense till it culminated, after the curt dismissal of another Druse delegation, in the arrest, on July 11th, of a delegation of notables who had been summoned on the pretext of hearing their complaints. These proceedings had, however, received their fitting penalty by the recall—perhaps too long deferred—of General Sarrail, and the Commission did not think it should dwell any further upon them.

The spread of the disorders to Damascus and other parts of Syria appeared to have been due to the failure of the first attempts at repression; the intervention of unruly bands, eager for plunder; the propaganda carried on by inhabitants hostile to the Mandate, assisted by the social influences at their disposal; and, above all, the unrest and latent discontent prevailing in different parts of Syria — more particularly at Damascus.

The Commission reserved its opinion on the measures of repression till able to examine them in the light of a report on the investigation to be conducted by the High Commissioner.

It confined itself to pointing out that it was part of the duty of the Mandatory to maintain order in the mandated territories, the governing consideration in such circumstances being to preserve its moral authority free from all blemish and to do nothing which might compromise the future success of its policy.

The Commission added :

Although the execution of this duty may oblige it to adopt measures which are particularly painful when they are taken by a guardian against his ward, such measures are only defensible in so far as they are necessary for the restoration of peace and do not create unnecessary suffering or arouse justifiable resentment.

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The Commission then endeavoured to form an opinion on the extent to which mistakes in policy, due to the incompetence and inexperience of certain officials, might have contributed to the unrest and discontent which had developed in Syria.

It was particularly struck by the lack of continuity which appeared to have marked the policy followed by the mandatory administration in Syria in certain questions of primary importance, characteristic examples being the successive changes which had taken place within a period of five years in the territorial organisation of the country; in the internal administration of the different States; in the number of judicial bodies and in the competence and composition of the courts.

From 1919 to 1925 there had been five High Commissioners —exclusive of acting High Commissioners. In the Commissions' opinion, inconsistency in the higher direction prevented continuity of policy and inevitably produced instability throughout all grades of the organisation. In this connection, the Commission queried whether the conception of the Mandate as defined by M. de Caix had invariably guided the French administration in Syria. It recognised the various difficulties inherent in the application of a political system so novel as that of the Mandate; it considered nevertheless that the spirit of this institution emerged with sufficient clearness from the Covenant and from the Mandate itself :

Pending the coming into force of the Organic Law, the Government of Syria and the Lebanon should be conducted in accordance with the spirit of this Mandate.

The preamble of the mandate indicates that the Mandatory 'shall be charged with the duty of rendering advice and assistance' and alludes to 'the degree of authority, control or administration to be exercised by the Mandatory'. According to Article 11, the latter may impose taxes and Customs duties. These provisions obviously assign to the Mandatory an active rôle in the Administration and it is natural that it should have been led to intervene with particular energy in the earlier years of the mandate; but it seems clear that the French advisers have shown a too pronounced tendency to take the place of the native authorities.

In this way the mandate has appeared to the Syrians to be gradually transforming itself into a system of direct administration.

The Commission, nevertheless, pointed out that the apathy and inefficiency of the native organisations accounted in a large measure for this departure of the French advisers from the role assigned to them. It expressed its regret that the staff which was at the disposal of the Mandatory for the most delicate and highest duties, even for those of State governors, did not constitute, owing to the diversity of its origin, a sufficiently coherent and experienced body of officials.

The Commission noted that the condition of public opinion had led the authorities to maintain a military intelligence service whose officials might in certain cases have been beyond the control of the local authorities. Further, the proclamation at intervals of martial law, with all that it implied, was bound to impede both the action of the civil power and the regular establishment of the mandatory regime. The result, the Commission considered, had been a certain degree of confusion, the evidence of which was particularly apparent when the duties of High Commissioner and Commander of the occupying troops were vested in one and the same person.

The Commission concluded as follows :

If the present events appear to be attributable in a certain measure to the representatives of the mandatory Power in Syria, it would be unjust not to refer, in noting this fact, to the sacrifices made by France on behalf of the country. But for these sacrifices, amounting to thousands of human lives and milliards of francs, the inhabitants of the mandated territories would probably have long since fallen again under a foreign yoke, from which their unaided efforts would never have sufficed to free them. Their protests would have had more weight if they had appeared to be more aware of this elementary truth.

France proclaims that she is not pursuing in Syria and the Lebanon any other aim beyond that of assisting nations which from henceforth are recognised as sovereign to acquire the capacity to exercise this sovereignty themselves. It must be admitted that a refusal to collaborate in carrying out the mandate, far from hastening the day of complete emancipation, can only postpone it. The impatience of the Syrian patriots, which sometimes takes the form of an attitude indifferent and even hostile to the mandate, should henceforth find expression in a loyal and trustful collaboration. The Commission ventures to hope that the energy hitherto shown by certain Syrian parties in preventing the success of the policy of the mandatory Power within the country and in denouncing this policy outside will henceforth be devoted to supporting it.

Since the mandatory Power affirms solemnly and quite clearly that its policy has no other aim beyond the establishment of a free Government in Syria

and the Lebanon, and since the new High Commissioner, Senator de Jouvenel, has conspicuously shown by his declarations and acts that he entirely adheres to this policy, it will be easy for those living under its administration, by associating themselves with the mandatory Power, to show proof of their wisdom and their maturity; and, since their ideal is bound up with that of the country which is provisionally exercising a political guardianship over them, their efforts should tend to encourage and to hasten the realisation of this ideal. Henceforth, persistence in rebellion must be deprecated, not only by the mandatory Power and by the League of Nations, but by all those in Syria, in the Lebanon, or outside, who desire to see peace, prosperity and freedom prevailing in a country which is now divided by sterile bloodshed and strife.

Comments submitted by the Accredited Representative of the Mandatory Power. — In accordance with the established procedure, the observations of the Commission were communicated to the Accredited Representative of the Mandatory for his comments.

M. de Caix, after expressing his appreciation of the conscientious work of the Commission, replied to certain criticisms formulated with regard to the French administration.

Referring to a passage of the Commission's report concerning the :

Deeper causes of an unrest which had in no way been brought out in the reports for preceding years.

M. de Caix observed that the silence of the previous reports on this point was due to the fact that :

No unrest had existed to which they could have "draw" attention, nor had there been anything to point to the existence of deeper causes which might have led up to and given warning of the events of 1925.

To the Accredited Representative, these events appeared to be the result much less of fundamental causes of discontent denounced by the petitioners than of the purely incidental cause of the Druse rebellion which the systematic opponents of the Mandate had endeavoured to exploit by extending a disturbance which nevertheless had remained comparatively restricted.

As regard international relations, the Accredited Representative pointed out that

He was unable to declare that the Conventions which had been concluded or which were to be concluded by the mandatory Power with Turkey and which made purely local modifications in territorial boundaries, would be communicated "for approval" to the League of Nations. Such a communication, which is not provided for in Article 3 of the Mandate, could only be the communication stipulated in Article 18 of the Covenant of the League of Nations.

He said that the report very rightly drew attention to the moderating influence to be exercised on group rivalries and personal ambitions by a permanent and stable régime, particularly as regards the territorial organisation of the Mandated countries. He pointed out, however, that the delay in the establishment of such a régime could hardly be imputed to vacillation or lack of continuity in the policy of the Mandatory. In his opinion there appeared to be :

Little evidence of sudden reversals or changes of policy; rather had there been gradual development and the adaptation, with due regard to the wishes of the parties concerned, of an organisation which—as the High Commissioner had been careful to point out during the whole of the first period—was of a provisional character and subject to subsequent amendment.

Similarly, M. de Caix, drew attention to the fact that the necessary modifications introduced in the judicial organisation of the mandated countries were not

the outcome of changes of policy, but of the necessity of providing for the transition of Syria and the Lebanon from a régime of capitulations to a régime of sovereignty in judicial affairs. He considered that these countries now possessed a judicial organisation which was much simpler than that of the Ottoman régime or of the period immediately following the war, and one which was beginning to afford them much surer guarantees than those given by the courts to which they could formerly apply.

While abstaining from dealing with all criticisms, the Accredited Representative felt bound to point out that :

The sequence of events did not justify the statement that the Mandate appeared in the eyes of the Syrians to be gradually changing into a system of direct administration. The evolution that was taking place—characterised as it was by the steady growth in the organisation of native powers and the gradual transference to the national governments of the services common to all which were at first administered by the High Commissioner—was moving rather in the opposite direction.

Moreover, although it might be true that the officials appointed to execute the mandate had not always held that community of traditions and of policy which would have helped them in their task, yet it should be remembered how new that task was and how little time there had been for the function to create the organ.

To conclude, M. de Caix declared that the Commission had shewn that in its work a spirit of supervision went hand in hand with one of co-operation, on which, as it had staded, its work should in part be based. It was this spirit of co-operation, he said, which inspired the Mandatory Power itself in its relations with the League.

Debates of the Council. — The Council, on March 17th, took note of the observations of the Permanent Mandates Commission, of the comments of the Accredited Representative and of a report which the Swedish representative submitted on the subject. The Chairman of the Permanent Mandates Commission was present at the meeting.

a) *Report of the Swedish representative.* — The Swedish representative outlined in his report the work of the Commission, drawing special attention to the minutes of the session. He expressed the hope that the observations which the Commission had unanimously adopted would serve to enlighten public opinion on the recent happenings in Syria and assist the Mandatory in solving the problems which lay before it.

The rapporteur added that the Council would appreciate the future efforts of the Mandatory to keep the Commission fully informed with regard to developments in the Mandated territory by forwarding promptly all possible material, including the results of M. de Jouvenel's enquiry.

Referring to the observations of the Accredited Representative in respect of the communication to the League of the Convention recently concluded by M. de Jouvenel, the rapporteur thought that the Commission must certainly have had in mind not only Article 3 of the Mandate, but also Article 4, which reads :

The Mandatory shall be responsible for seeing that no part of the territory of Syria and the Lebanon is ceded or leased or in any way placed under the control of a foreign power.

The rapporteur considered that the powers vested in the Mandatory by Article 3 of the Mandate did not include the right to cede or lease on its sole authority any part, however small, of the territory.

He pointed out that the insurrectionary movement had not come to an end, and that the Council could only regard the situation with grave concern and trust that it might soon be brought to an end by the efforts of all concerned.

The rapporteur drew particular attention to those passages of the Commission's report which described the spirit in which the Mandatory performed its task and suggested that the latter should distribute this text in the mandated territories as an indication of the views of the competent League organs on the policy they most whole-heartedly supported. He also urged that all groups should loyally co-operate with the Mandatory in the restoration of peace and a normal régime.

b) *Decision of the Council.* — The Council adopted the Swedish representative's report and decided, according to the usual procedure, to forward it, together with the observations of the Commission, to the French Government with a request for the necessary action.

The French representative, M. Paul-Boncour, said that he fully adhered to the invitation to circulate among the Syrian population the passage of the report defining the spirit in which the French Government exercised its mandate. He explained certain points in connection with the negotiations which were being conducted, stating that they concerned only the final settlement on the spot of the frontiers between Turkey and Syria fixed by the Agreements of 1921 and confirmed by the Treaty of Lausanne. He thanked the League for its invitation to the Syrian population to enter into a loyal co-operation with the High Commissioner.

c) *Procedure in regard to petitions.* — The rapporteur, Sir Austen Chamberlain, Dr. Benes, M. Paul-Boncours, M. Scialoja and the Chairman of the Permanent Mandates Commission, Marquis Theodoli, then proceeded to an exchange of views on the question of replies to petitioners. The Council postponed its decision.

On this occasion Sir Austen Chamberlain made express reservations in respect of that part of the Commission's report in which it explained its method and the spirit in which it interpreted its duty. The British representative said that he proposed to consider the matter further and, if necessary, to bring it before the Council at some later stage.

b) *Appointment of a new member of the Mandates Commission.*

The Council appointed M. Merlin (French) former Governor-General of Indo-China, to succeed M. Paul Beau, deceased, as member of the Permanent Mandates Commission.

On this occasion, M. Uden (Sweden) paid a tribute to the memory of M. Beau, former Ambassador and Governor-General of Indo-China, recalling the important part he had taken in the work of the Commission from its very first session in 1921.

VII. — Protection of Minorities.

1. — MINORITIES IN UPPER SILESIA

Two minority petitions, submitted under the Germano-Polish Convention on Upper Silesia (Geneva, May 15th 1922), were considered by the Council on March 17th; one from the Board of the Association of Poles in Germany, the other from M. Karl Michalik.

(1) *Petition from the Association of Poles in Germany.* — On May 26th, 1925, the Board of the Association of Poles in Germany addressed to the Council a petition, from Oppeln, with regard to payment by the German Government of compensation in Upper Silesia. The German Government, to whom the petition was communicated, submitted its observations on November 31st, 1925.

The Council referred the question, for detailed examination, to its rapporteur, M. de Mello-Franco, assisted by the Spanish and Swedish representatives.

(2) *Appeal addressed to the Council by M. Karl Michalik.* — This petition consists of an appeal against a decision of the administrative authorities of German Upper Silesia in respect of a claim by M. Karl Michalik for compensation and for the allotment of a domicile at his former place of residence.

On the report of M. de Mello-Franco, the Council, while deciding, for the time being, not to pronounce upon the preliminary question of the nationality of M. Michalik or on the merits of his case, instructed the Secretary-General to draw his attention to certain articles of the Germano-Polish Convention, which laid down the proper procedure for the solution of problems relating to nationality.

2. — MOSLEMS OF ALBANIAN ORIGIN IN GREECE

The question of Moslems of Albanian origin in Greece and, in particular, the situation of the Albanians of Chamuria, were examined by the Council on March 16th.

This matter was brought to the notice of the Council in December, when, after hearing the interested parties and General de Lara, chairman of the Mixed Commission for the Exchange of Greek and Turkish populations and Mandatory of the Council for the protection of the Albanian minorities in Greece, it decided to forward the minutes of the proceedings to the other Mandatories and to the Greek Government.

The mandatories replied that they entirely concurred with the statement made before the Council by General de Lara. They further submitted a report stating that, on the basis of enquiries on the spot and of information collected, they considered the Moslem population of Chamuria as being of Albanian origin, and, consequently—with the exception of certain individual cases,—as not exchangeable.

The Greek Government informed the Council that it considered the exchange as practically terminated in Chamuria, and that it had decided not to demand the exchange of eight hundred inhabitants of certain villages specially mentioned in the debates. The persons who remained would enjoy the same treatment *de jure* and *de facto* as other Greek citizens. Any exceptional measures which the Government might have applied would be abrogated.

The Council expressed its satisfaction at this decision.

3. — EXCHANGE OF GREEK AND TURKISH POPULATIONS

The Council appointed M. Hans Holstad (Norwegian) to succeed M. Ekstrand (Sweden) as member of the Mixed Commission for the Exchange of Greek and Turkish Populations.

M. Ekstrand has been appointed Swedish Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to the Argentine, Chilian, Paraguayan and Uruguayan Governments.

VIII. — Political Questions.

1. — THE IRAQ FRONTIER

On March 11th the Council, after noting the new Treaty concluded by Great Britain and Iraq, pronounced definitive its decision of December 16th, 1925, with regard to the Iraq frontier. Arrangements for the demarcation on the spot of the new frontier line will be considered at a later session.

At its December session the Council had fixed as the frontier between Turkey and Iraq the provisional boundary known as the Brussels line. This decision, however, was only to become final if, within six months the British Government undertook by treaty to ensure the continuance for twenty-five years of the mandatory régime in Iraq.

On March 2nd the British Government communicated to the Council a new Anglo-Iraq Treaty, according to which the Treaty of Alliance of October 10th, 1922—the terms of which had at that time been approved by the Council as constituting a mandatory régime in conformity with Article 22 of the Covenant—and the various subsidiary agreements remain in force for twenty-five years from December 16th, 1925, unless Iraq becomes a member of the League before the expiration of that period.

In these circumstances, the Council, on the report of M. Uden (Sweden), decided to confirm its decision.

In compliance with a request of the Council for information as to measures contemplated to afford the Kurdish population certain guarantees recommended by the League Commission of Enquiry, the British Government forwarded a memorandum on the administration of the Kurdish districts. This document the Council referred to the Permanent Mandates Commission, requesting it to submit any observations it might deem desirable.

The Turkish Government which had been advised that the question of the Turco-Iraq frontier would be considered at this meeting, had informed the Council that it would not be represented.

2. — DELIMITATION OF THE GRAECO-TURKISCH FRONTIER

The question of the delimitation of the Graeco-Turkish frontier at the Maritza delta, which had been raised by the Greek Government was examined on March 16th and 18th by the Council, including representatives of the Greek and Turkish Governments, M. Dendramis and Chukri Kaya Bey.

By its telegram of February 26th, 1926, the Greek Government requested the Council to seek the advisory opinion of the Permanent Court of International Justice on the interpretation of a clause in the Treaty of Lausanne relating to the demarcation of the Graeco-Turkish frontier. The Greek Government is of the opinion that the waestern arm of the Maritza delta, known as the " lesser Maritza ", and the territory enclosed by the two arms of the delta are part of Greek territory, and, therefore, should not be included in the work of the Delimitation Commission.

The Turkish Government, on being invited to send a representative to the Council, stated that, while accepting the Council's invitation, it opposed the Greek request on grounds of competence since, in its opinion, the Mixed Delimitation Commission was, under Article 5 of the Treaty of Lausanne, the only competent authority, and could decide by a majority vote.

On March 16th the Council requested the Brazilian representative, M. de Mello Franco, to study the question with the assistance of jurists attached to the delegations then present in Geneva, and to present a report later on in the session.

The jurists considered that, before examining the arguments put forward by the parties, and before discussing the possibility of referring the question to the Court, the Council would have to take a decision on the plea of competence urged by the Turkish Government.

With regard to this plea the jurists were of opinion that it was for the Commission itself to delimit the frontier in accordance with the indications given in the Treaty; and that it was its duty to seek the advice of persons qualified to deal with any special questions which might arise. Only when the Commission had exhausted all these sources of information, or had announced that it had such serious doubts as to render a decision impossible, or had flagrantly exceeded its

powers, would the parties be justified in attempting to settle their difficulties in accordance with international law.

The jurists further considered that, in the absence of the circumstances indicated above, it was not possible for the Council to deal with the question under Article 11, paragraph 2, of the Covenant, on which the Greek Government had based its request.

On March 18th, the Council, adopting this opinion, requested the Greek and Turkish Governments to take note of it and to communicate it to the Chairman of the Delimitation Commission for his guidance. It further expressed its conviction that the Chairman would doubtless proceed according to the indications given in the opinion, and would, if he deemed it necessary, seek advice to assist him in removing such difficulties or doubts as might hamper the Commission in its work,

3. — THE GREECO-BULGARIAN FRONTIER INCIDENT

On March 15th, the Council noted reports from the Bulgarian and Greek Governments on the progress made in the execution of its recommendation of December 14th, 1925, concerning the question of refugees of Bulgarian race, in Bulgaria, who were entitled in virtue of the Greek minority treaty to return to Greece.

On the proposal of Sir Austen Chamberlain, the Council noted the progress accomplished, thanked the two Governments for their reports, and requested them to continue to keep it informed as to the execution of the programme approved in December, 1925.

4. — THE POLISH-LITHUANIAN FRONTIER INCIDENT

The Polish-Lithuanian frontier incident of February 17th was dealt with by the Council on March 18th. Representatives of Lithuania and Poland, M. Zaunias and M. Sokal, were also present.

Viscount Ishii (Japan) recalled that M. Scialoja (Italy), President of the Council at the time of the incident, had immediately taken steps to bring about a friendly settlement of the matter. His recommendations with regard to the repatriation of prisoners had been acted upon and formal assurances had been given that the *statu quo ante* would be restored.

The Council concluded that it was not advisable to discuss the matter further at a moment when a solution had been almost completely reached.

IX. — Social and Humanitarian Questions.

1. — FIFTH SESSION OF THE ADVISORY COMMISSION FOR THE PROTECTION AND WELFARE OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

The Advisory Commission for the Protection and Welfare of Children and Young People met on March 22nd at Geneva, with M. Sangro y Ros de Olano in the chair.

The Commission is composed of two committees, one dealing with the question of traffic in women and the other with child welfare.

There were present :

A. *Government Delegates* : Count Carton de Wiart (Belgium); Dr. Estrid Hein (Denmark); Mr. Maxwell (British Empire); M. Sangro y Ros de Olano (Spain); M. Bourgeois (France); Marquis Paulucci di Calboli (Italy); M. Sugimura (Japan); M. Posner (Poland); M. Ciuntu (Roumania).

B. Assessors on the Committee on Traffic in Women : Madame de Montenach (Association catholique internationale des œuvres de protection de la jeune fille); Mr. Cohen (Jewish Association for the Protection of Women and Children); Miss Baker (International Bureau for the Suppression of the Traffic in Women and Children); Madame Curchod-Secretan (Fédération des Unions Nationales des Amies de la Jeune Fille); M^{me} Avril de Sainte-Croix (International Women's Organisations).

C. Assessors on the Child Welfare Committee : M. Henri Rollet (International Child Welfare Association); Miss Julia Lathrop (National Conference of Social Work, United States of America); Miss Charlotte Whitton (Canadian Council on Child Welfare and Social Service Council of Canada); M^{lle} Hélène Burniaux (International Federation of Trades Unions); Dr. Humbert (League of Red Cross Societies); Dame Katherine Furse (International Boy Scouts and Girl Guides Organisations); Miss Eleanor Rathbone (International Womens' Organisations); Miss Eglantyne Jebb (International Union : Save the Children).

Dr. Norman White and Mr. Johnstone attended the meeting in the capacity of liaison officers of the Health Organisation and the International Labour Office for questions of Child Welfare. Mr. Varlez and M. Ferenczi, of the International Labour Office, was liaison officer for questions concerning the Traffic in Women.

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An account of the work of the Session will be published in the next number of the Monthly Summary.

2. — TRAFFIC IN OPIUM⁽¹⁾

The Council appointed as assessors to the Advisory Committee on Traffic in Opium M. Henri Brenier (France) and Mr. Arthur Woods (United States); the former for his knowledge of the commercial side of the opium question, the latter, a former Police Commissioner, of New-York City, as an expert on the police side of the administration of the laws dealing with the subject.

The third assessorship—reserved for an expert on conditions in the Far East—the Council decided to leave unfilled for the time being.

Departure of the Commission of Enquiry on Opium Production in Persia. — The Commission of Enquiry on Opium Production in Persia after a preliminary meeting at Geneva, embarked on March 12th at Trieste, *en route* for Persia, where it will proceed with its investigation.

The members of this body, which was set up by the Council under a resolution of the Sixth Assembly, are Mr. Delano, a well-known American railway engineer, M. Cavara (Italian), professor of botany and Mr. Victor Cayla (French), expert on colonial agriculture.

3. — SLAVERY

The question of the procedure to be adopted for the conclusion of an international slavery convention was considered by the Council on March 11th, when, on the proposal of Sir Austen Chamberlain, it decided to postpone its decision until its June session.

It instructed the Secretary-General to remind the different States whose views had been requested on a draft convention recommended by the Sixth Assembly, that it was desirable that their replies should reach Geneva by June 1st at the latest.

(1) See also the article in this number on the admissibility of reservations to Conventions.

X. — Forthcoming Events.

- April 23rd : Meeting of the Governing Body of the International Labour Office, Geneva.
- April 26th : Meeting of the Preparatory Commission for the Economic Conference, Geneva.
- April 26th : Meeting of the Health Committee, Geneva.
- April 28th : Meeting of the Supervisory Commission, Geneva.
- May 3rd : Meeting of the Sub-Committee for Port and Coast Signals, Paris.
- May 10th : Meeting of the Committee on the Constitution of the Council, Geneva.
- May 12th : Passport Conference, Geneva.
- May 17th : Meeting of Experts on Double Taxation and Fiscal Evasion, Geneva.
- May 18th : Meeting of the Preparatory Commission for the Disarmament Conference, Geneva.
- May 19th : Meeting of the Permanent Advisory Commission for Military, Naval and Air Questions, Geneva.
- May 26th : Meeting of the Advisory Committee on Traffic in Opium and other Dangerous Drugs, Geneva.
- May 26th : Eight Session of the International Labour Conference, Geneva.
- May 27th : Interchange of Health Officers, Denmark.
- May 31st : Meeting of the Economic Committee, Geneva.

XI. — Special Session of the Assembly.

THIRD PLENARY MEETING

(Wednesday, March 17th, 1926.)

Speeches and Recommendation.

Request of the German Government for Admission to the League.

M. de MELLO-FRANCO (Brazil) :

Mr. President, ladies and gentlemen—Replying to the memorandum sent by the German Government to the Governments of the States represented on the Council, the Brazilian Government stated that it earnestly desired and, indeed, considered it essential that all States which were still not Members should join the League, reaffirmed our devotion to the spirit and letter of the Covenant, of which Brazil was one of the signatories, and proceeded as follows : "The Brazilian Government is of opinion, however, that the concrete questions arising out of the desires expressed by Germany are such as cannot be dealt with by individual Government as between themselves; they should rather be stated and discussed as a whole by the Members of the League and within the League in order that the various aspects of these questions and the views of the other Members should be fully made known. The German Government may be sure, however, that we shall examine impartially and in a conciliatory spirit the desires it expresses in its memorandum dated September 29th, 1924, and that we are resolved to find satisfactory solutions for all questions and all just claims, without prejudice to the engagements undertaken by Brazil and to the true doctrine of international law, so far as the latter is applicable in each individual case."

It is upon the principles enunciated in the above reply that the Brazilian representative on the Council has acted during the arduous and painful discussions at the secret meetings of the past few days.

We took no part in the difficult work of negotiating a solution acceptable to the various political interests at stake. We merely avoided compromising the principles laid down in our reply of December 1st, 1924, which I have just quoted.

We still maintain that the reform of the present constitution of the Council is not a matter which concerns certain European States only; we think that this question is of such vital importance to the League that it cannot be solved by means of special agreements between individual Members, but that every State without exception must be heard in order that, before a solution is adopted, the views of all may be known.

These principles, which we are proud to have championed, are based on the foundations of the Covenant itself and on the juridical equality of sovereign States.

The Brazilian nation followed the work of the Locarno Conference with deep interest and rejoiced when it learnt of the conclusion of the great work of the Treaty of Guarantee and the Arbitration Conventions, which will help so greatly towards the establishment in Europe of peace based on justice.

How, indeed, could it be otherwise, in view of public opinion in an idealistic and peace-loving country like Brazil, which has placed arbitration among the cardinal principles of its political constitution?

Nevertheless, despite the great value of these agreements, which so gratefully redound to the honour of the distinguished statesmen who concluded them, we must not forget that it is the admirable work done at Locarno which must be brought within the framework of the League of Nations and not the League which should be brought within the political framework of Locarno.

It would be a most unfortunate mistake to assume that our policy during recent events was actuated by any merely selfish consideration or by misguided national pride.

That, I repeat, is utterly untrue. I desire to reaffirm in this Assembly what I have always maintained in the Council: that, in virtue of our right as an American nation, we claim that America should be represented more equitably and more fully on the Council. As an integral part of America, Brazil has an equal right with the other American countries to formulate this claim; for it is the logical consequence of a community of interests, as of an abstract condominium, that a joint owner may defend joint property as if it were his own—*res sua propria agitur*.

We sincerely regret that the great German nation has not been at once admitted to the League. We regret it not only because of the value of her contribution to the common task but also because her entry would represent an immense advance towards the universalisation of the League, to which, I would add, Brazil has on all occasions afforded her modest yet unflinching support.

The distinguished representatives of the States-Members of the Council cannot in justice refuse to acknowledge that our conduct has been loyal and based upon considerations of the highest order.

I have the honour to inform the Assembly that my Government's instructions are irrevocable and final.

Sir Austen CHAMBERLAIN (British Empire), Chairman and Rapporteur of the First Committee :

Mr. President, ladies and gentlemen—The report of the First Committee has been in your hands for some time. It answers in the affirmative the questions which it has been customary to put when examining a request from any nation for admission to the League, and it recommends the acceptance of the German request and an approval of her entry into the League. But, ladies and gentlemen, it is known to us all that, from the first, the German Government has made its demand subject to one natural and reasonable condition: that, if when she entered the League, she should receive a place on the Council consonant with her great position and influence. It was necessary, therefore, that, before I could propose to you to give a vote which, by itself, would make Germany a Member of the League, we should be assured that this further and most reasonable request would receive satisfaction.

The declaration which has just been made by the honourable representative of Brazil shows that the members of the Council are not in a position to give that assurance and, under those circumstances, it is impossible for me, having regard to the duty of loyalty that I owe to Germany herself, to propose that, at this moment, you should make her a Member of the League.

Ladies and gentlemen, when we all came to Geneva, we found that there had risen suddenly, and owing to a regrettable misunderstanding—I might even say owing to a regrettable failure on either side to mention a point which was of critical importance—many difficulties in the way of the immediate acceptance of Germany.

At one moment those difficulties existed in the ranks of the Powers which signed the Protocol of Locarno. I am profoundly happy to be able to say that all the difficulties which existed within the ranks of the seven Locarno Powers have been removed and that, if they had been the only obstacle, we might at this moment vote the entry of Germany

into the League, to-day she might receive her permanent seat upon the Council, and this new acquisition of force and strength to the League, this new pledge for the stability of peace, would have been realised, as we all earnestly trusted that it might be.

Moreover, I cannot merely record that those difficulties have been removed. I must add that they were removed by the generosity of two members of the Council and the States which they represented. One of them was numbered among the Locarno Powers, and one of them had no occasion to participate in the Locarno meetings. I can only say that it was with profound emotion that I listened to the offer which they made and which solved our difficulties—an offer which shows, if any proof were needed, how deeply both are, attached to the cause of world peace, how profound is the devotion of both to the interests of this great League and of all for which it stands, and how keen must have been their sense of the disaster which menaced us all, if the entry of Germany were not now accomplished.

I desire on behalf of the British delegation—and I know I speak the mind of all my colleagues from the Dominions and from India—here from this tribune to express our deep appreciation of the generous, unselfish and, indeed, noble conduct of Sweden and of Czechoslovakia.

It is indeed a tragedy that when these difficulties had been removed, when there was no longer any danger that Europe might again be divided into the two camps of a few years ago, when, by surmounting these difficulties, we had not only not injured or impeded the work of reconciliation that was in progress but had given new proof how deeply its roots had struck and had shown that even under such a strain that work of reconciliation had continued and would continue, another obstacle has arisen in our path and the unanimity of the Council is not secured.

Ladies and gentlemen, I am obliged to speak not only—perhaps least of all, in the circumstances—as Rapporteur of the First Committee but also in the name of Great Britain. Permit me, therefore, to say that we, the seven Powers who signed the Treaty of Locarno and its accompanying Pacts, are determined that the good work done there shall not be interrupted, that those Pacts shall go forward to their fulfilment and their ratification, and that the policy of peace, of reconciliation and of co-operation which was there begun shall not be interrupted.

Now, ladies and gentlemen, I have discharged my task. It is a bitter disappointment to me that that which I have so earnestly striven to accomplish, that which seemed well within our grasp and capable of realisation here and now, must be postponed; but I am sure that the Assembly, whilst sharing my regret, will share my hope and confidence that an adjournment of this request, if adjournment there must be, shall be an adjournment only in order to make certain that at the next meeting of the Assembly the demand is accepted and that Germany shall take her rightful place, so that the League gains all that new importance and new influence in the world which the co-operation of that great country with us who are already Members of the League will bring to us and to her.

M. Aristide BRIAND (France) :

Mr. President, ladies and gentlemen—I come before you on behalf of the French delegation to associate myself wholeheartedly with the lofty and eloquent words of my colleague and friend Sir Austen Chamberlain, first delegate of Great Britain.

Like him, I have to express both regret and hope. When this Assembly met, certain serious difficulties had arisen among the members of the Council, and I may say that between the representatives of France and the representatives of Germany who had come here to negotiate with them there were certain serious misunderstandings, aggravated by polemical discussions, which might have appeared difficult to remove. Both the German and the French representatives, however, attacked these problems resolutely in a spirit of conciliation and compromise, and I can say that, in the light of the explanations given by both parties, these misunderstandings were gradually dispelled, until at length an agreement was reached between us which it was thought would be confirmed by the Assembly and Council: the admission of Germany into the League and the satisfaction of her legitimate desire.

This agreement was not reached without certain sacrifices, to which Sir Austen Chamberlain has just paid a tribute. I desire to endorse what he has said. The Members of the League are imbued with the League spirit—a spirit of conciliation and peace. When means had to be found to attain the end for which this special Assembly was summoned, a spirit of generosity and self-sacrifice, to which fitting reference has already been made, was at once displayed to smoothe away difficulties. My colleagues M. Undén and M. Benes, representatives of two countries have already rendered signal service to the League, at once came forward, and, thanks to their unselfishness, final agreement appeared to have been reached. All that was needed was the confirmation of that agreement.

Owing, however, to difficulties, upon which it is not for us to pass judgment—difficulties based on considerations and principles which the League traditionally respects—we now find the path to agreement blocked. I cannot believe that because of this fact, regrettable though it may be, we need give up all hope. It has not produced the disastrous results which might have been anticipated. It has been contemplated by the principal parties concerned with exemplary equanimity—and in saying this I desire to express my appreciation of their attitude. It showed us that we might, after all, have to postpone the fulfilment of our hopes, but not that they were finally destroyed.

I am convinced—profoundly convinced—that we shall emerge from this difficult situation without having impaired the work of peace which we have jointly accomplished and without harm to this great Assembly—to this League of Nations, which has already rendered such great service to the world.

I already hear the criticisms of the League eagerly uttered by those pessimists and sceptics who cannot bear to see it growing year by year in strength, nobility and splendour; I hear them proclaiming disaster and final ruin.

Gentlemen, it has often been said that I am an incurable optimist. I confess that I am. Even amid the difficulties with which we are confronted, even in the grave circumstances in which we find ourselves—circumstances which have brought about a postponement veritably distressing for us all—I say that the League of Nations remains untouched.

It has already rendered mankind too many services, its achievements are too great and too glorious, to be marred by mere passing events which are rather in the nature of growing pains and can leave no lasting injury.

When we glance at the work that is behind us, when we consider the serious conflicts which were brought before the League and which it settled, thereby perhaps preventing still graver and more deadly conflicts, we may rightly point to such a record and say that the League can meet transient difficulties, however serious, in the certainty of solving them.

It is in this spirit that I regard the difficulties which face us at the present moment.

As the representative of France, I may say frankly that I feel more deeply than anyone else the turn that events have taken. I am more grieved than anyone that Germany cannot at this Assembly become one of us and work on the Council with us.

France and Germany, in common with five other great nations, have signed a loyal and sincere pact of peace. We know that it cannot become wholly effective, that it cannot develop to the full, except under the ægis of the League of Nations. To the League, therefore, we have entrusted it. In the League, through the League, it will come to fruition, for the League provides the atmosphere favourable to the settlement of all the acrimonious disputes which may arise between two nations which appear in the blood-stained pages of their history so frequently arrayed against each other on the battlefield.

Only in the peculiarly serene atmosphere of the League, of which I was so profoundly conscious when, as President of the Council, I was called upon in difficult circumstances to settle a dispute—only in this atmosphere of peace and strength, which leaves its mark on us all, can an agreement such as ours come into being and attain its ends.

It is therefore a profound disappointment to me, who put my whole heart into this work, to find that it cannot yet receive the final consecration which we had planned.

The League of Nations was born of an idea, lofty indeed, yet, it must be owned, somewhat limited. Through the course of events it came about that, though aided and encouraged by the peoples of the world—for it has struck its main roots among the peoples and has grown strong through them—the League was received by those who are termed the elect with a scepticism which would certainly never have warmed it into life.

The higher instinct of the peoples, their horror of war, their desire to find an organisation that would ensure peace—this it was that gave birth to the League and brought it to the prominent position it occupies in the world to-day.

The League has grown. From all quarters of the world peoples have turned to it; social problems, the settlement of disputes, have been referred to it; it has been appointed as arbitrator, it has been nominated as the proper body to take humanitarian endeavours under its protection; an ever-growing number of serious and complex problems have been referred to it.

And now its duties have outgrown its constitution. It is beginning to encounter difficulties which it cannot solve, and for the sake of its future the causes of this powerlessness must be removed.

For this purpose we must attack the problem of reform. It will be a difficult and complex task, for we must go down to the fundamental principles upon which the League was originally based. We must act warily; we must take care to destroy nothing, but we must achieve something. We must take to heart the lesson taught us by present experience.

It is inconceivable that we should be unable to solve a problem such as the one now before us or that a great organisation like the League should again suffer such a humiliating paralysis.

We must therefore turn our thoughts to the future and, far from being discouraged by this experience, we must draw from it strength to reform and rebuild, and we must reaffirm still more strongly our faith in the future of the League.

Turning to Germany, I feel bound to say that, in spite of all, her representatives have met the difficulties which have arisen with a certain serenity of spirit and true generosity, for which I, a Frenchman, desire to pay tribute.

Far from being disheartened, far from feeling any bitterness or ill-will, they have from the outset seen the difficulty in its true light. They said : It is inconceivable that an obstacle of this kind, which after all merely postpones the ultimate settlement of these problems, should endanger the spirit of peace in which we jointly signed the Pact of Locarno.

The pact once joined with us in proclaiming before the world that this work of peace remains untouched, that it is still intact, that it will live on and develop; and we have unhesitatingly given our signature to that noble declaration of which—I acknowledge it and congratulate them upon it—they were the originators.

But it is essential that in the near future they should join us and take the place rightfully due to a great nation like Germany. Germany will understand that equality is the essence of the League spirit; that antagonisms between nation and nation cannot be countenanced, that the individual is merged in the collectivity, for equality is the motto inscribed upon the charter of our brotherhood.

Germany will understand this and to-morrow the difficulties of to-day will be overcome if we set our hearts and minds to accomplish the work of reconstruction of which I have spoken.

Yet this Assembly must not disperse without a message to Germany. It is essential that she should realise our profound disappointment at our failure to accomplish all that we had hoped.

It is essential that the Assembly should close with a moral admission, as it were, in anticipation of the actual realisation of our hopes. Accordingly, as delegate of France, I venture to submit to you the following draft recommendation :

“The Assembly :

“Regrets that the difficulties encountered have prevented the attainment of the purpose for which it was convened,

“And expresses the hope that between now and the ordinary September session of 1926 these difficulties may be surmounted so as to make it possible for Germany to enter the League of Nations on that occasion.”

Viscount ISHII (Japan), Acting President of the Council of the League :

Mr. President, ladies and gentlemen —After the eloquent words of the distinguished speakers who have preceded me, I need not dwell upon the deep regret I feel at the postponement of the admission of Germany to the League or upon my profound admiration and gratitude for the chivalrous and Bushido-like action of my two colleagues of Sweden and Czechoslovakia.

I will merely say that the Japanese delegation desires to associate itself fully with the tribute paid to M. Undén and M. Benes and to the two countries which these distinguished colleagues represent.

The Japanese delegation also wholeheartedly seconds the recommendation which the first delegate of France has just submitted to you.

As President of the Council, I think I should inform the Assembly that I shall submit to my colleagues on the Council—and I am sure they will give it their approval—the proposal that before the end of the present session the Council should appoint a committee to study the composition of the Council and the number and mode of election of its members. This Committee will be asked to issue its report in time to enable the Members of the League to consider it before the opening of the ordinary session of the Assembly in September 1926.

The terms of reference and composition of this Committee will be decided upon by the Council during its present session.

M. UNDÉN (Sweden) :

Gentlemen—This Assembly was summoned for the purpose of admitting Germany to the League of Nations. All friends of the League had long ardently desired to see Germany within its fold. Her admission, it was held, would mark a great step forward. It would mean the beginning of a new era in the life of the League; it represented the

first stage towards universality—a condition which is essential to enable the League to accomplish its lofty mission : the preservation of peace. We are therefore profoundly disappointed to find that Germany cannot at once be admitted to the League.

The sole object of this special Assembly was to admit Germany to the League with a permanent seat on the Council. Unfortunately, her admission was brought into relation with other and irrelevant issues. National claims were advanced in various quarters; individual interests came into conflict with the general interest, the common good of the League.

In order to surmount the difficulties raised by these new questions, great efforts were made and arduous negotiations took place.

To our profound regret we have to admit that these efforts and negotiations have produced no positive result and that it has been found impossible to reach a solution compatible with the fundamental principles which underlie the constitution and organisation of the League.

Nevertheless, however keen our present disappointment, we must still hope—as M. Briand has urged—that the League, in a broader and more universal spirit, will shortly admit Germany to its ranks.

M. CABALLERO (Paraguay) :

Mr. President, ladies and gentlemen.—as Vice-President of this Assembly, I have been asked to make the following statement :

I desire, on behalf of the delegations of Chile, Colombia, Cuba, Guatemala, Nicaragua, Paraguay, the Dominican Republic, Salvador, Uruguay and Venezuela, to express profound regret that this Assembly should be obliged to adjourn without having completed its agenda.

The American delegations which I have named have simply followed on this occasion their traditional policy of conciliation : pacification and friendly collaboration in the permanent interests of universal peace and of all that can contribute towards the true and lasting reconciliation of the peoples of Europe, which is essential to the peace of the world.

These delegations have given fresh proof of this spirit during the course of the present Assembly by the unanimous decisions they have forwarded to the head of the Brazilian delegation, in the hope of obtaining unanimity in the Council.

I would ask your permission to read the text of the decision taken on Tuesday morning by the American delegations present at this Special Session of the Assembly of the League :

“The American delegations present at the Special Session of the Assembly of the League of Nations, having exchanged their views in a spirit of the utmost cordiality and solidarity, and, having heard the information which M. Guani and M. de Mello-Franco, members of the Council, have been good enough to give them, have decided as follows :

“The American delegations, conscious of the gravity of the League's present situation, regardful of the interests of world peace, and realising how essential it is that the American States should exert their influence to bring about the reconciliation of the peoples of Europe, desire to express to His Excellency M. de Mello-Franco the hope that Brazil will take such steps as she may consider most opportune to bring about unanimity in the Council and so remove the difficulties which stand in the way of its decision.”

I desire to add, on behalf of the delegations I have named, that we associate ourselves with the proposal put forward by M. Briand.

M. MOTTA (Switzerland) :

Mr. President, ladies and gentlemen. — It is with profound emotion that I mount this platform. That phrase is constantly on the lips of public speakers, but to-day the emotion I feel is very real and is shared, I know, by all the delegates in this Assembly. The words I have heard during this morning's debate, however, have somewhat reassured me. I might perhaps have indulged in recriminations—and I should have been wrong. This is no longer the time for recriminations, after the noble declarations we have heard from most of the speakers who have preceded me.

We were summoned to this special session of the Assembly for one purpose : the admission of Germany to the League of Nations. Everyone knew that this admission also meant that she would be given a permanent seat on the Council.

The First Committee of this Assembly unanimously accepted the German Government's proposal; no objection was raised, as that request was held to be legitimate and in order.

I know that many difficulties had arisen, but they had all been removed except one. It is not for me to make a formal complaint or to seek, however remotely, to bring pressure to bear on behalf of the delegations who are met here. I know that all the States are equal before the law and are equally possessed of sovereign rights.

I had hoped—this I will say—that the vision of stricken bleeding Europe, ready at last to extend the hand of reconciliation, would have touched all hearts. I had hoped that that great and noble country which has contributed so much to the promotion of international justice and arbitration would have lent its aid to bring about reconciliation in Europe. It was not to be. I would not now make any criticism. Let me assure the Council, however, that, if the Assembly had been called upon to second it in its difficult task, the Council would have found the Assembly unanimously desirous to aid it in overcoming the difficulty. If the Assembly was really to represent public opinion throughout the world, it must be placed in a position to carry out this essential duty.

I was wondering a few minutes ago whether, from the point of view of form, the proper procedure would not have been for us to refer back to the First Committee, which had unanimously arrived at a favourable conclusion, that problem the solution of which has to-day encountered difficulties. I do not propose, however, to raise this question of procedure, as it seems to me petty and even somewhat narrow compared with the gravity and complexity of the present situation. Nevertheless, the Council can count to-day on the support of the whole Assembly.

I desire to add my tribute of respect to Sweden and Czechoslovakia, and to the Governments of both those countries. I wish also to pay special tribute to the British Government and to that of France. If there is one glowing record of this Assembly which will remain, if there is one gesture the memory of which will be graven in our hearts, it is that of M. Aristide Briand, who on this occasion truly deserves to be hailed as wise and just. M. Briand has recognised the serene spirit in which the delegates of Germany awaited the decision and realised the necessity for the adjournment of their admission to the League. I wish to emphasise the significance of this act. It is my most earnest hope that at the autumn session of the Assembly Germany may be admitted to the League and may obtain the permanent seat on the Council to which she is entitled, and that, thanks to a spirit of justice and conciliation on all sides, all the present difficulties will be removed. With that hope I leave the platform.

The crisis through which we are passing is a grave one. If the League surmounts it, it will have given proof of its vitality. I trust that it will survive it. If this present crisis, which I hope may be safely surmounted, were really the crisis preceding the downfall of the League, the noise of that downfall would be drowned in the cry of despair, anger and indignation which would arise from all peoples.

M. J. LOUDON (Netherlands) :

Mr. President, ladies and gentlemen. — My purpose in speaking now is not to offer opposition to the proposal so eloquently voiced by the first delegate of France; I desire, on the contrary, to give that proposal my cordial support.

As a member of this Assembly, however, I feel it my duty to express the consternation which we all felt yesterday on learning that the question which we had been summoned to Geneva to decide was settled and that the decision was to be adjourned until September.

For ten days the Assembly had been awaiting a solution with growing impatience. At the beginning of this session it instructed its First Committee to examine Germany's request for admission. That request, however, although unanimously approved by the Committee, could not be complied with, because the members of the Council were unable to agree as to the allocation of the permanent seat which had been promised to Germany.

For ten days the members of the Council have tried, by means of private and unofficial conversations—fragments of which have reached the various delegations—to arrive at an agreement, but—alas! —the spirit which ought to govern the League, the spirit which places the welfare of the community before the *amour-propre* of each of its Members, has not prevailed. Certain of those Members, however, while in no way departing from the principles they advocated, have displayed a spirit of disinterestedness to which it behoves us to pay—and by your applause you have already paid—a heartfelt tribute.

Is it surprising that the delegations of the forty-eight nations which were summoned here to decide a question of vital importance to the League should have shown impatience, followed by profound dissatisfaction, on finding that the object for which they had met had not been attained? As M. Motta very rightly says, we all know that the Assembly would have given its unanimous support to Germany's request for admission to the League.

Does this failure to find a solution for the burning question now before us mean the downfall of the League? No, a thousand times no! In the eyes of the general public and of sceptics the League will, for some time to come, have lost something of its glory and even of its prestige. But to those who care to think, who see and understand the work it has done in the seven short years of its existence, to Governments and men who realise that a number of disputes—most of which, it is true, though by no means all, were bloodless—have been settled through its intervention, to those who recognise its success in bringing about the financial restoration of certain countries, the League, as M. Briand has so truly pointed out, has given incontestible proof of its power to live, and difficulties such as those with which we are faced to-day are but of minor importance. At the same time, whether of minor importance or not, these questions have, in the eyes of the masses—who are still sceptical as to the work which is being accomplished by the League in furtherance of world peace—a significance of which we must never lose sight. The more the Council is criticised, the more the public shrugs its shoulders—with a smile of compassion, perhaps—the more clearly does it become our duty to restore a prestige which has suffered so rude a shock.

What we ask of the Council, therefore, is that, since adjournment has been found necessary, the Council will neglect no steps to have the forthcoming discussion next September fully prepared in advance in order that there may be no risk of a fresh setback, which would be unpardonable—perhaps even fatal.

We ask the Council to use the utmost impartiality in choosing the members of the Committee of Enquiry of which His Excellency Viscount Ishii has just spoken; we ask that there shall be entire freedom from political considerations, that the Assembly, and not the Council alone, shall be largely represented, and, I repeat, that the *amour-propre* of individual States shall not be allowed to play a dominant part.

Only in this way will our resolution of adjournment be accepted with confidence by public opinion. If M. Léon Bourgeois—that great Frenchman to whose memory we paid a tribute a few days ago, and who, better than anyone, personified the spirit of the League—were still among us, he would, I think, say what I am now saying. Let us act as he would have acted. I make an urgent appeal to the Council. Our honour—the very future of the League—is at stake.

Dr. NANSEN (Norway) :

Mr. President, ladies and gentlemen. — We know that the eyes of the world are anxiously turned towards Geneva at this moment. The resolutions which we are taking here are of very great importance for the whole future of the League and of the world. Unfortunately, questions have arisen which are of such difficulty that it has been proposed that we shall adjourn our meeting, and that the decision for which we hoped shall be postponed until September.

Let us hope that that adjournment is really only a postponement, and that in September Germany will come into the League with all the honours of a Great Power and with a permanent seat on the Council.

We also know, however, that, having met here for the one purpose of admitting Germany, and not having succeeded in doing so during our time here, we are exposed to criticism throughout the world. I am afraid, as M. Loudon has said, that the League may have lost or may lose some of its prestige on account of what has happened, but it should be said here—and the attention of the world ought to be drawn to the fact—that, under the circumstances, owing to recent developments and to the difficulties that unexpectedly arose, the machinery of the League has not been used at all, and therefore the League itself cannot be blamed for what has happened. The machinery of the League did not even begin to work; no use has been made of it. What has happened is that there have been private conversations. There has been no meeting of the Council and no meeting of the Assembly to discuss the question. No record at all has been kept for the future of what happened in Geneva in March 1926.

I think that public opinion throughout the world should appreciate this fact and should realise that the methods of the League cannot be blamed. We who have worked in the League for many years know its methods and know them to be efficient and good, and we hope that recent happenings will not damage too much what has been built up in past years.

It has been proposed that the Council should appoint a committee to consider the composition of the Council. I realise—and I think we all realise—that there are very complicated questions which have to be studied carefully before any important decisions are taken in this matter. As, however, this is such a very important question for the League, I venture to propose to the Council that the Committee should include as many impartial members as possible, representing the different views of the Assembly and of

the League of Nations. I think that this point is of the very greatest importance in view of what will happen in September, when the League meets again.

Let me close my speech by saying that I am sure we are all willing to co-operate to the utmost of our power and ability in seeking a happy solution of the difficulty which has arisen, and we all look forward to the future success of the undertaking which has been begun here but which unfortunately has had to be postponed. We all hope sincerely that no new difficulties will be placed in the way of the entry of Germany into the League and her permanent seat on the Council.

M. PIIP (Esthonia) :

Ladies and gentlemen. — The Esthonian delegation regrets very much that the main object of this Assembly has not been attained and that Germany has not been admitted into the League and is not yet a permanent member of the Council. When my Government instructed our delegation to vote in favour of both these matters, we considered that the entry of Germany into the League meant a further stabilisation of peace in general and particularly in Eastern Europe, as we also hope that some day we may have the pleasure of welcoming here another great European Power which is still outside the League.

Very fortunately, the question of the admission of Germany is only postponed. The Esthonian delegation hopes that by the time of the meeting of the Assembly in September all those difficulties of procedure that have made the efforts of this Assembly fruitless will be eliminated. It is evident that the present construction of the organs of the League and its present procedure are not sufficiently elastic to carry out the unanimous wish of the Members of the League as expressed in the First Committee, especially as the difficulty arose on the part of a member of the Council elected by the Assembly, which procedure seems to us quite abnormal.

We therefore welcome and heartily support the proposal of the Council, referred to by Viscount Ishii, for an examination of the League machinery with a view to removing existing defects and establishing an effective *modus vivendi* for the election of members of the Council.

We consider that the League of Nations is of such importance for the peace and welfare of humanity that minor defects ought not to endanger its work. Up to the present, all the decisions of the League of Nations have been carried out by all States practically without exception, and there is no doubt that the League has sufficient internal power to overcome the present temporary difficulties. The great declarations made by Sir Austen Chamberlain and M. Aristide Briand, and the great and noble sacrifice of Sweden and Czechoslovakia, are the best guarantees of the vitality of this great organisation for peace which has been the dream of centuries for humanity. Fortunately, this crisis is, in our opinion, not a crisis of the League of Nations but only a crisis of procedure.

M. CHAO-HSIN CHU (China) :

Ladies and gentlemen. — I am asking for permission to speak at this critical moment, but I can assure you that I am not going to add more difficulties on this controversial subject which the Assembly has been discussing.

What I have to say is this : in order to make the League a more successful organisation for international usefulness, two wrong conceptions should be corrected. In the first place, people now a days generally recognise a Power by reason of its military strength. This is a wrong conception. From my humble point of view, in considering a nation as a great Power we should take into account solely its economic potentialities and geographical position. If we still take a narrowminded point of view and consider a Power as a military Power, it will tend to encourage military preparations. Such encouragement will, in the long run, endanger the peace of the world. We should form an international public opinion which would entirely discourage and look down on militarism. It is our duty, Gentlemen, for the sake of humanity, to work out, without further delay, a practical programme of general disarmament and mutual security in order to save world civilisation from being once more ruined.

Another wrong conception of the League which people generally take is that the League is dominated by European affairs. We all admit that European affairs nowadays seem more vital of the peace of the world, but we, as Members of the League, should not forget that the League is a League of the whole and has to fulfil a world-wide expectation. The League should be in no wise dominated by European politics. It should have its eye on all parts of the world and we should encourage all nations to take an equal part in the great work of its international organisation.

In conclusion, I wish to support the proposal just put forward by M. Loudon, the first delegate of the Netherlands, that the Council should appoint an absolutely impartial committee to consider the whole question of the enlargement and composition of the Council. Furthermore, let me urge that in the allocation of seats on the Council the Committee should pay full attention to the geographical principle has which been emphasized by the Chinese delegation and reaffirmed annually by the previous Assemblies.

M. COMNÈNE (Roumania) :

On learning late on Monday, March 15th, of what was expected, during the present Assembly, of the member of the Council representing the Little Entente, the Roumanian delegation immediately did all in its power to prove its sense of international responsibility in regard to the solution of the grave problems which had arisen.

We desire, therefore, to proclaim that Roumania, conscious not only of her rights but of her duties, gladly undertook her part, side by side with her Czechoslovak and Serb-Croat-Slovene allies, in the great work of peace which we had hoped to consummate.

The Roumanian delegation takes this opportunity of urging that new methods, more democratic in character and more in keeping with the spirit of modern times, should be adopted to enable the League, in the wider interests of humanity, to develop smoothly.

The Roumanian delegation believes that, by dint of combined effort and by the manifestation of that spirit of conciliation which is the very essence of the League, it will become possible for Germany to take the place in the League and on the Council which is her due.

M. ZAHLE (Denmark) :

Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen. — I shall be very brief. After the eloquent words uttered from this platform by those of my colleagues who have already spoken, there is very little for me to add.

I desire, on behalf of my country, to associate myself wholeheartedly with the expressions of dismay and regret, and also hope, which have been voiced in this Assembly. I desire also to second the remarks of the Netherlands delegate concerning the constitution of the committee suggested by the Council. I venture to emphasise the desirability of including on that committee a number of representatives of States which are not members of the Council.

I specially appreciated the few words uttered by M. Motta. With his characteristic wisdom he advised us to make no effort at this juncture to apportion responsibility for the present state of affairs. I entirely agree. It is clear that the time has not yet come to fix this responsibility, but it is only right to proclaim from this platform that that responsibility does not, at any rate, rest upon the Assembly.

M. MEHDI FRASHERI (Albania) :

Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen. — After having heard the utterances of so many distinguished statesmen, I have no intention of making a speech myself. I think, however, that every member of the Assembly has the right to express an opinion on the question under discussion : namely, whether we are competent to take a decision immediately or whether we must adjourn it to the meeting of the Assembly in September.

With your permission I propose to present the question from a somewhat different standpoint from that adopted by previous speakers.

The Council is, as you know, composed of two kinds of members : the permanent and the non-permanent. The non-permanent members receive their mandate from the Assembly and not from their own Governments.

If, as the result of the action of a non-permanent member, the Council fails to agree, on a question which does not directly affect the interests of the League and the Assembly but concerns the interests of the country which that member represents, the position is quite different : the non-permanent members of the Council, not having received a direct mandate, are free to express their individual convictions. If, however, a non-permanent member of the Council opposes the settlement of a question directly affecting the interests of the League—a question for the specific settlement of which a special session of the Assembly has been convened—the Assembly, in virtue of its sovereign powers, possesses full competence to take an immediate decision.

I beg to propose, therefore, that you declare that the Assembly, in virtue of this sovereignty, is entitled, despite the disagreement of one of the non-permanent members of the Council, to give a final decision on the admission of Germany to the League and the allocation to Germany of a seat on the Council.

STATEMENT BY PRINCE ARFA, FIRST DELEGATE OF PERSIA

Almost every year I am impelled to make certain very frank observations, which may perhaps give the Assembly the impression that I am a somewhat sharp critic of the League. I must crave pardon for this. Nevertheless, the League cannot progress unless it has the courage to recognise its defects and correct them.

Like the honourable delegates for Sweden and the Netherlands, I regret that the Council sometimes, at critical moments, neglects to consult or seek help from the Assembly. This is perhaps one of the chief reasons for the anxious struggle to obtain seats on the Council. I trust that the Committee which is to be appointed will be recommended to study very carefully the problem of the relations between Council and Assembly.

It is unfortunate that the delegates of more than forty countries have been vainly waiting day after day without knowing exactly what is taking place. Are we ultimately to have everyone on the Council or are we to have a small Council, which, however, will always be ready to co-operate with the Assembly and take due note of its views? That should be one of the main points for the Committee to study.

We have come long distances to admit Germany to the League. We have not been permitted to do so on account of difficulties which have arisen on the Council. We all deeply deplore this, but it proves the urgent need for a change of system. That, I think will be the conclusion reached by the nations of the world, whose earnest desire for peace should be our law.

RECOMMENDATION ADOPTED BY THE ASSEMBLY

The Assembly,

Regrets that the difficulties encountered have prevented the attainment of the purpose for which it was convened,

And expresses the hope that, between now and the ordinary September session of 1926, these difficulties may be surmounted so as to make it possible for Germany to enter the League of Nations on that occasion.

M. da COSTA (Portugal), Président of the Assembly :

Ladies and gentlemen—It is my duty to close this session, but before I do so you must allow me to explain in a few words the meaning and purpose which I attribute to the resolution just adopted by the Assembly.

Sir Austen Chamberlain, as Chairman and Rapporteur of the First Committee, has told us how that Committee reached a unanimous agreement and what were the reasons which prevented us from giving effect to its proposals during the present session.

Our decision to adjourn the question is, however, a sign of strength; it shows primarily that the League of Nations is completely confident that at the next ordinary Assembly in September the difficulties which have arisen will be overcome, and that we shall then be able to accomplish the work which was entrusted to us at this session.

The League of Nations will thus be in a position to assert itself very shortly as the essential, if not the only, organ for giving expression to the international aspirations and tendencies of all peoples. It will do so through its work in developing conceptions of understanding and fraternity and in settling in an equitable manner all differences—even the gravest—which may from time to time arise and imperil the peace of the world. The adjournment is itself a means of achieving the most satisfactory solution of the differences—peaceful though they are—which have recently arisen with regard to the best method of supplementing or reorganising the Council of our League.

Every great work has been achieved with difficulty and has involved suffering, and the League of Nations, although it has not immediately attained the result announced and hoped for, will be entitled to seek consolation in the fact that its work has not been useless, and that its foundations remain unshaken despite the long discussions, hesitations, and even anxiety which it has experienced during the brief period of this Assembly.

Now that all the Governments have had the problem clearly set before them, they are bound henceforth to accept their responsibilities, because in the short space of time between now and the September session all causes of dispute or misunderstanding must be removed. From the point of view of mankind, and consequently of the League of

Nations, the essential consideration, in every aspect, of this matter is the advance actually accomplished along the road of progress, and not the obstacles encountered on the road. We only dwell upon the obstacles with the view of overcoming them now and avoiding them in the future.

When we survey the whole evolution and the present position of the League of Nations, we are bound to admit this : whatever prejudices there may be against the League, and, however great may be the temporary disappointment at the adjournment of the greatest problem which has ever come before us, our institution is now in readiness to take its chief step forward towards the attainment of the object for which it was created, the object which is defined in the Preamble to the Covenant. It is perhaps actually on the eve of taking this step.

This proves, in the first place, that the League is now conscious of its own value; and if we get down to essentials we must also realise that, owing to force of events and public feeling, it was very different in the early days of its existence from what it will become when the decision postponed to-day is taken in September.

From this summit which we have reached, and on which we desire to establish ourselves firmly, we cannot allow ourselves to descend. Anyone who in a moment of madness, or by a reversion to obsolete principles, dared to attempt it would be condemned to failure, to universal reprobation, and more than that, he would see himself, however great might be his importance, obliged by the force of circumstances to retrace his steps and do full penance to regain his lost position.

The greatness that the League of Nations has thus achieved and secured does not prevent it, like all human organisms, from endeavouring to improve itself and to adapt itself better to the requirements, every day more complex, of the aims it pursues. It seems to me—and in saying this I give my personal impression—that the League of Nations will have to modify some of its organs and render them more elastic, more effective and more powerful. The example supplied by the democratic evolution of countries with a parliamentary system leads me to think that a similar gradual transformation will take place in the structure, attributions and working either of our Council or of our Assembly. Every circumstance is favourable to-day for the study of these reforms to be undertaken without loss of time, each of us offering his contribution in the spirit of the Covenant in order that the reforms may be introduced in due course by the general will of the States which belong or may belong in future to the League.

For the present, as President of this Assembly, and in the name of all my colleagues, I only wish to express the earnest hope that the work of the League of Nations may not cease but may, on the contrary, be strengthened in all its fields of activity for the welfare of humanity and for the permanent and immutable maintenance of peace among all the peoples of the world.

During the period which lies immediately before us, the various organisations of the League will have to deal also with problems of special importance. I need only refer to the preparations for an Economic Conference and for a Conference on the Reduction of Armaments. It is most desirable that, in carrying these tasks to a satisfactory conclusion, the League should be inspired with the completest confidence in itself and with the certainty that the results of its work will increase its reputation and prestige and enable it to meet calmly, and with the certainty of success, the inevitable political differences, which can only gradually, and through the daily activity of the League itself, be attenuated and eventually overcome.

In paying my tribute to the spirit of co-operation which has, in spite of everything, been displayed in the course of these difficulties, I do not address myself exclusively to the delegations represented in this building but also to that of the great nation which, though not immediately associated with the work of this Assembly, is directly interested in it and will soon take its proper place, the place which we desire to see it occupy, among us.

Ladies and gentlemen, I declare the special session of the Assembly of the League of Nations closed.

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APRIL 1926

Vol. VI. No. 4

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MONTHLY SUMMARY OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS

APRIL 1926

Vol. VI. No. 4.

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to the Information Section, League of Nations, Geneva.

I. — Summary of the Month.

April was marked by considerable activity in the technical and humanitarian fields of the League's work.

The Preparatory Committee for the Economic Conference met at Geneva on April 26th and was still in session at the end of the month. The work of the Health

Committee, whose sixth plenary session began on the same date, also continued into May.

The fifth session of the Advisory Commission for the Protection and Welfare of Children and Young People came to an end on April 1st, after substantial progress had been made in certain questions referred to the Commission, in particular, in those relating to child welfare.

Meetings of the Council Committee on the private manufacture of arms and of representatives of the 'international students' organisations were also features of the month. The Permanent Court of International Justice continued in session. The Governing Commission of the Saar Basin sent in its twenty-fifth quarterly report.

The Secretary-General paid a short visit to Greece at the invitation of the Greek Government.

II. — The Permanent Court of International Justice.

1. — TENTH SESSION (EXTRAORDINARY) (1). GERMAN INTERESTS IN POLISH UPPER SILESIA (2)

During the month of April the Court continued its private deliberations on the cases grouped together under the above heading. Furthermore, it heard in public session on April 13th, 14th, 15th, and 16th the additional information which the Parties, namely, the German and Polish Governments, submitted at its request on two of the cases in question. This information was given in the form of evidence furnished by expert witnesses. Those called by the German Government (Claimant) were :

Herr Buntzel, President of the Bergwerksdirektion Hindenburg (Upper Silesia); Herr Goeppert, former Under Secretary of State; Herr Zorn, Professor of Agricultural Sciences at the University of Breslau; and Herr Matthes, legal member of the administration of one of the big estates (Ballestrem), the fate of which is in question. The Polish Government (Defendant) called only one expert witness, namely, Mr. Alfred Patryn, Engineer and Inspector-General of Agriculture in Polish Upper Silesia.

The Witnesses, after having made the solemn declaration provided for in the Rules of Court, "to speak the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth", were heard one by one by the Agent of the Government which had called them; they were then cross-examined by the Agent of the other Government, and had to answer further questions put to them by certain Members of the Court. At the last hearing the records of the statements made by the expert witnesses were read out to them and signed by them in token of approval.

2. — ARBITRATION TREATIES CONCLUDED BY SWITZERLAND (3)

The Swiss Minister at The Hague has handed to the Registry, for information, the French text of the message by which the Swiss Federal Council has recommended to the Federal Assembly the approval of the Conciliation Treaty concluded between Switzerland and Holland on December 12th, 1925.

3. — ACCEPTANCE OF THE OPTIONAL CLAUSE REGARDING THE COURT'S COMPULSORY JURISDICTION (4)

The instrument establishing the ratification by His Majesty the King of Denmark and Iceland of the Optional Clause referred to in the protocol of signature

(1) This article has been prepared with the aid of information furnished by the Registry of the Permanent Court.

(2) See *Monthly Summary*, March 1926, p. 52.

(3) See *Monthly Summary*, Vol. VI, No. 3, p. 52.

(4) See *Monthly Summary*, Vol. VI, No. 1, p. 2.

of the Statute of the Permanent Court was deposited with the Secretary-General of the League of Nations on March 28th, 1926. The acceptance of this clause by Denmark was renewed on December 11th, 1925; the ratification now deposited constitutes the confirmation of this renewal.

4. — QUESTION OF THE ADHESION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE PERMANENT COURT OF INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE

The Secretary-General, on behalf of the Council and in accordance with its decision of March 18th, 1926 ⁽¹⁾, has addressed invitations to the States Signatories of the Protocol of the Permanent Court of International Justice, and to the Government of the United States of America, to appoint delegates to a meeting to be held at Geneva on September 1st next to discuss the questions raised by the resolution of the United States Senate.

Replies have so far been received from four Governments.

The Czechoslovak and Latvian Governments have accepted the invitation of the Council to send delegates to the conference.

The Government of the United States has acknowledged the Council's invitation, stating that, if the signatories of the Court Statute wish to confer among themselves, it would have no objection to such a procedure, but that under the circumstances, it does not seem appropriate that the United States should send a delegate to the conference.

The Belgian Government has accepted the Council's invitation and has informed the Secretary-General that it has notified the United States Government of its willingness to consider, in agreement with the other signatories, an amendment of the Court Statute which would enable the United States to adhere to it with the reservations that Government has formulated.

III. — The Reduction of Armaments.

1. — THE PREPARATORY COMMISSION FOR THE DISARMAMENT CONFERENCE

By letter of April 13th, M. Chicherin, People's Commissary for Foreign Affairs of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, informed the Secretary-General that his Government would not take part in the forthcoming meeting of the Preparatory Commission for the Disarmament Conference.

2. — THE PRIVATE MANUFACTURE OF ARMS

By its resolution of December 9th, 1925, the Council requested a Committee of Inquiry to begin to prepare a draft convention on the private manufacture of arms, munitions and implements of war, while awaiting the replies of Governments to the circular addressed to them on the subject ⁽²⁾.

The Committee, composed of M. Guani (Uruguay), M. Cobian (Spain), and M. Veverka (Czechoslovakia) met in Paris on April 12th, when, on the basis of proposals submitted by M. Veverka it prepared a preliminary draft convention. This draft will serve as a groundwork for the future proceedings of the Committee, which will further have at its disposal the material constituted by the replies of Governments to the circular on the private manufacture of arms, which should reach the Secretariat before June 1st, 1926.

(1) See *Monthly Summary*, Vol. VI, No. 3, p. 52.

(2) See *Monthly Summary*, Vol. V, No. 12, p. 312.

IV. — Legal and Constitutional Questions.

1. — THE COMMITTEE ON THE COMPOSITION OF THE COUNCIL

Eight States Members of the Council—Belgium, the British Empire, Czechoslovakia, France, Italy, Japan, Spain and Sweden—have communicated to the Secretary-General the names of their representatives on the Committee on the Composition of the Council, which meets on May 10th at Geneva. They are, respectively, M. de Brouckère, Viscount Cecil of Chelwood, Dr. Benes, M. Paul-Boncour, M. Scialoja, M. Matsuda, M. de Palacios and M. Sjöborg.

Of the States not members of the Council, invited to send representatives to the Committee, the Argentine Republic, China, Germany and Switzerland have so far replied. They have accepted the Council's invitation and appointed as their representatives M. Thomas Lebreton, M. Chao Hsin Tchu, M. Von Hoesch and M. Motta respectively.

2. — INTERNATIONAL ENGAGEMENTS

a) *Registration.*

Among the treaties and international agreements registered in April figure :

A series of treaties, agreements and exchanges of notes presented by the British Government, including the new Anglo-Iraq Treaty, signed at Bagdad on January 13th, 1926; an agreement between the United Kingdom and Hungary, signed at Budapest on October 17th, 1925, and amending that of December 11th, 1923, covering periodical payments to be made by Hungary; and notes exchanged by the United Kingdom and Portugal, the United Kingdom and Italy and Great Britain and Finland;

A series of conventions, agreements and exchanges of notes presented by the Finnish Government, including two agreements between Finland and Soviet Russia; a commercial treaty between Finland and Spain, signed at Madrid on July 16th, 1925; and notes exchanged by Finland and the United States of America, constituting a provisional navigation and a provisional commercial agreement;

A Convention between France and Czechoslovakia on protection and legal assistance, signed at Paris on October 7th, 1922, presented for registration by the Czechoslovak Government;

A commercial Convention between France and Hungary, signed at Budapest on October 13th, 1925, presented for registration by the Hungarian Government;

Notes exchanged by Norway and Turkey, constituting a provisional commercial agreement, presented for registration by the Norwegian Government.

b) *Adhesions, Ratifications, etc.*

The Government of San Marino has informed the Secretary-General of its adhesion to the International Convention for the Suppression of the Traffic in Obscene Publications (Geneva, September 12th, 1923).

c) *Amendments to the Covenant.*

The Danish Government has deposited with the Secretariat the instrument of its ratification of the amendment to Article XVI (Economic Blockade) of the Covenant adopted by the Sixth Assembly.

V. — Technical Organisations.

I. — THE HEALTH ORGANISATION

a) *Sixth Session of the Health Committee.*

The Health Committee met at Geneva on April 26th. There were present :

Professor Th. Madsen (Danish), President.
Dr. O. Velghe (Belgian), Vice-President.
Dr. N. M. Josephus Jitta (Dutch), Vice-President.
Dr. Carlos Chagas (Brazilian), Vice-President.
Professor Léon Bernard (French).
Sir George Buchanan (British).
Professor Jean Cantacuzene (Roumanian).
Dr. H. Carrière (Swiss).
Dr. Chodzko (Polish).
Surgeon-General H. S. Cumming (American).
Dr. A. Granville (British).
Professor Ricardo Jorge (Portuguese).
Dr. A. Lutrario (Italian).
Professor B. Nocht (German).
Professor Gustavo Pittaluga (Spanish).
Dr. L. Raynaud (Algerian Health Service).
Dr. Tsurumi (Japanese).

The agenda included a report from the Medical Director of the Health Section on his voyage to the Far East, reports on interchanges in Japan, Mediterranean ports and West African territories, the account of the First Session of the Advisory Council of the newly-established Far Eastern Bureau, at Singapore, the report of the League Epidemiological Intelligence Service, the world-wide extension of the Health Organisation's Intelligence Service, and the investigations of the League Malaria Commission which will eventually be conducted in several continents.

A full account of the work of the Committee during its sixth session will be given in the May number of the Monthly Summary.

b) *The West African Interchange of Medical Officers of Health.*

An interchange of medical officers chosen by the health administrations of African colonies and dominions, namely, the Union of South Africa and Belgian, British, French, Portuguese and Spanish Colonies, as well as one Central American state, Guatemala, began on March 22nd at Dakar and will last until June 1st. The participants, who are all senior officers of their respective medical services, will study health problems in the colonies along the west coast of Africa as far south as Nigeria. The interchange gives practical effect to a wish long expressed, and adopted in the form of resolutions by the Congress of Tropical Medicine held before the war at Saint-Paul in Loanda, that the health administrations of African colonies should cooperate more closely in the improvement of sanitary conditions and the anti-epidemic campaign.

Towards the end of the interchange a general Conference will be held at Freetown to consider the possibility of establishing, in accordance with a proposal of the French delegation to the Sixth Assembly, an epidemiological bureau in West Africa similar

to the Epidemiological Intelligence Bureau set up by the League Health Organisation at Singapore.

c) *The International Commission on Sleeping Sickness in Equatorial Africa.*

The Portuguese Government has informed the Secretary-General that it has decided to contribute the sum of five hundred pounds towards the general expenses of the International Commission on Sleeping Sickness in Equatorial Africa.

2. — ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL ORGANISATION

*Meeting of the Preparatory Committee of the
International Economic Conference.*

The Preparatory Committee of the International Economic Conference met at Geneva from April 26th to May 1st.

After examining in a general discussion what questions should be studied, the Committee appointed three committees — A, B, and C. Each drew up a programme of work and general recommendations, the execution of which was entrusted to the Secretariat and the International Labour Office working in collaboration with the members of the Preparatory Committee, the International Chamber of Commerce, the Institute of Agriculture at Rome and other organisations.

The main feature of the programmes is the collection of information on the questions selected by the committees. This material, which is to form the basis for the agenda of the Economic Conference, will be examined by the Preparatory Committee at a second session, to be held in October.

Composition of the Preparatory Committee. — M. Gustave Ador, who had presided at the Brussels Financial Conference in 1920, and had been appointed by the Council to the Chairmanship of the Preparatory Committee, was prevented by ill-health from attending. M. Georges Theunis, former Prime Minister of Belgium, was unanimously elected chairman. There were also present :

M. Antonio Carlos RIBEIRO DE ANDRADE (Brazilian), Former Financial Minister, Senator, President of the State of Minas Geraes.

Sir Arthur BALFOUR (English), Member of the Royal Railway Commission in 1913; Member of the Advisory Industrial Committee of the Treasury during the war; Director of the British Trade Corporation 1922; President of the Association of British Chambers of Commerce 1923, etc.; President of the Trade and Industry Committee, etc., etc.

M. Ernesto BELLONI (Italian), Specialist in the Chemical Industry, Member of the Interallied Committee for Reparations in kind; Italian Assistant Delegate to the Assembly of the League of Nations; Rapporteur on the Economic Conference of the Second Committee of the Sixth Assembly.

M. Carlos BREBBIA (Argentine), Former President of the Chamber of Commerce of Rosario de Santa Fé; Argentine Delegate to the International Agricultural Institute in Rome.

M. F. CAMBO (Spanish), Barrister; Former Financial Minister and Minister of Public Works; Legal Adviser to various banking institutes in Spain and abroad.

M. Alphonse COSTA (Portuguese), Former Prime Minister and Financial Minister; Former Professor of Political Economy; President of the Special Assembly of the League of Nations, March 1926.

Sir Atul Chandra CHATTERJEE, High Commissioner for India in London.

M. Leopold DUBOIS (Swiss), Chairman of the Financial Committee of the League of Nations; President of the Swiss Banking Corporation.

M. W. EGGERT (German), Member of the Committee of the General Federation of German Trade Unions.

M^{me} Emmy FREUNDLICH (Austrian), President of the International Guild of Co-operative Societies.

Mr. Arthur WITTER GILBERT, Agricultural Commissioner for the State of Massachusetts; President of the International Agricultural Committee in Rome.

M. GLIWIC (Polish), Director in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

Dr. F. HODAC, Secretary-General of the Association of Czechoslovak Industries; Member of the Temporary Mixed Commission for the Reduction of Armaments; Member of the Employers' Group of the Governing Body of the International Labour Office.

The Hon. David HOUSTON (American), Former Secretary of State for Finance; Former Secretary of State for Agriculture.

M. JOUHAUX (French), Secretary-General of the General Labour Federation; French Delegate to the Assembly of the League of Nations; Member of the Workers' Group of the Governing Body of the International Labour Office.

M. A. G. KRÖLLER (Dutch), Shipowner, Member of the Economic Council of the Dutch Foreign Ministry; Dutch Member of the Central Commission for Rhine Navigation; Member of the Sub-Committee on Ports and Maritime Navigation of the League of Nations; Member of the Special Committee on the jurisdiction of the European Danube Commission.

Dr. Clemens LAMMERS (German), Member of the Council of the German Industry Federation; Legal Adviser of various financial concerns and economic groups.

Mr. W. T. LAYTON (British), Director of the "Economist"; Former Member of the Munitions Board; Former Director of the International Iron and Steel Federation.

M. Bogdan MARKOVITCH (Serb), Director-general of the Crédit foncier of the Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes; Member of the Supervisory Commission of the League of Nations.

M. Kengo MORI (Japanese), Expert and Agent of the Japanese Government in Europe.

M. Anders OERNE (Swedish), Postmaster-General. Former Minister of Communications; Director of the Swedish Central Co-operative Organisation; Member of the Governing Body of the International Co-operative Union.

M. J. OUDEGEEST (Dutch), Member of the Workers' Group of the Governing Body of the International Labour Office; Secretary of the International Federation of Trade Unions.

M. H. PAUWELS (Belgian), Secretary-General of the Belgian Federation of Christian Trade Unions.

M. Henri DE PEYERIMHÖFF DE FONTENELLE (French), President of the Central Coal-mines Commission.

M. Alberto PIRELLI (Italy), Member of the League Economic Committee; Member of the Supreme Economic Board in Italy; Former Member of the Governing Body of the International Labour Office.

Mr. SHAW (British), Secretary-General of the National Weavers' Union (substitute for Mr. Pugh, President of the General Council of the Trade Union Congress).

M. Armando QUEZANA (Chilian), Minister Plenipotentiary of Chile in Paris; Former Financial Minister; Former Minister of Foreign Affairs; Former Senator; Professor of Political Economy at the University of Santiago; Author of works on political economy; Former Member of the Governing Body of the International Labour Office.

M. Estaban JARAMILLO (Colombian), Senator; Former Minister of State (Substitute for M. Salazar).

M. D. SERRUYS (French), Member of the League Economic Committee; Director of Commercial Agreements in the Ministry of Commerce.

Mr. Adam SHORTT (Canadian), Former Commissioner of the Canadian Civil Service; Former Professor of Political Science at "Queen's University".

Sir Hubert Llewellyn SMITH (British), Member of the Economic Committee of the League of Nations; Economic Adviser of the British Governments; Labour Commissioner of the Board of Trade 1893; Permanent Secretary of the Board of Trade from 1907 to 1919; Comptroller-General of the Trade, Labour and Statistical Departments of the Board of Trade from 1903 to 1906; Secretary-General of the Ministry of Munitions in 1915.

M. DE STEFANI (Italian), Professor of Political Economy; Former Minister of Finance.

M. Y. SUGIMURA (Japanese), President of the Committee on Communications and Transit of the League of Nations; Chief of the Japanese League of Nations Office in Paris; First delegate of Japan at the Second Conference on Communications and Transit.

M. ERNEST TRENDELENBURG (German), Secretary of State in the German Economic Ministry; Participant in the Brussels Financial Conference in 1920. Economic expert of the Committee that organized the system of industrial obligations of the Dawes Scheme; Negotiator of the Franco-German Commercial Treaty.

Professor Allyn YOUNG, Professor of Political Economy at Harvard University; President of the American Economic Association.

In appointing the members of the Preparatory Committee the endeavour was made to make this body, both from an international and technical point of view, representative of the economic life of the present day. As shewn by the above list, the Committee includes members with personal experience of business and industrial affairs; qualified representatives of the workers' and consumers' classes; former ministers and high officials experienced in dealing in their own countries with the various interests represented; scientists and experts who have already taken part in the work of the League technical organisation or the International Labour Office.

The Proceedings. — In M. Ador's opening speech, which was read at the beginning of the meeting, he alluded to the aim which the Assembly and the Council had in view when convening the Committee; he emphasised that they both desired to make an effort to reduce the number of opportunities for international conflict afforded by rivalry between economic interests and, in view of the present crisis, to examine the possibility of an international discussion on the most effectual methods for restoring general prosperity.

He drew attention to the necessity for methodical preparation, in order that the discussions should only begin when a perfectly clear programme of carefully defined questions admitting of practical solutions had been established.

He then defined the task of the Committee. In his opinion it was not called upon to furnish a solution for the various theoretical or practical problems which might arise out of the present economic situation of the world, but, when it considered its conclusions sufficiently well grounded, to submit to the Council—which would follow its work sitting in special committee—a report on the programme, the composition, the rules of procedure and the date of meeting of the Economic Conference.

During the first two days the various members expressed their views as to the subjects which they considered should be studied and the procedure subsequently to be adopted.

The chairman then drew up a list of questions, whose inclusion in the programme had been suggested in the course of the general discussion, and divided them into three groups. For each group of questions a special committee was constituted—including representatives of the various classes represented on the plenary Committee (business men, workers and consumers; persons with administrative experience; financiers and economists). The Chairman drew attention to the fact that this

division of work and the composition of the committees did not in any way commit the Preparatory Committee in its ulterior proceedings.

To Committee A was entrusted the study of questions bearing upon agriculture, finance and population. It elected as chairman M. Belloni (Italy) and set up two sub-committees; one, under the chairmanship of Mr. Witter Gilbert to deal with agricultural questions, the other for financial questions. M. de Andrade, who was elected chairman of the second sub-committee, was replaced towards the end of the session by M. Dubois.

Committee B (Chairman : M. Hodac) dealt with problems of industrial production; Committee C (Chairman : Professor Allyn Young) with questions relating to trade and markets.

Each of the three committees drew up a programme of work for the coming months and instructions regarding the information to be collected.

The Programme. — The reports of the three committees, which were unanimously adopted, were approved at a plenary meeting of the Preparatory Committee. Each of the reports contains a list of questions upon which the League Secretariat and the International Labour Office, collaborating with various international organisations, are to collect information which will serve as a basis for the programme of the Economic Conference.

The material to be furnished in regard to problems concerning *industrial production* includes a memorandum giving, in a general form, a table showing the economic situation of the entire world with regard to production and international trade; and a series of special papers on a number of key industries, including those particularly affected by the present crisis—coal, iron and steel, engineering, ship-building, cotton—and certain industries which are of special interest from an international point of view—wool, chemical products (particularly potash, electrical engineering, silk and artificial silk, petroleum. A special investigation will be made of the following questions :

• The position in the various countries as regards legislation and administrative action affecting industrial and international agreements.

Rationalisation and standardisation in industry.

Technical scientific progress and research.

Recruiting and training of technical staff.

Improvement of conditions of labour.

Delimitation.

Arbitration.

With regard to *commerce and markets*, information will be collected on questions relating to freedom of trade, tariffs and commercial agreements, direct and indirect subsidies, the distribution of goods, unfair commercial practices, juridical obstacles to international trade, etc.

The statistics to be drawn up on *agricultural questions* will bear upon production, prices, consumption and stocks, as well as on the successive links in the chain which connects production with consumption.

In regard to *finance* the documentation will concern public finance, monetary systems and credits, the balances of payments.

The information to be collected on population questions bears upon the natural movements of population (births, deaths, marriages); the artificial movements of population (emigration in its various forms); the fluctuations of population arising out of the worldwar, and fluctuations in potential labour forces; the population density in relation to cultivable areas, natural resources on the surface and underground; data concerning economic development and the standard of life; legislation on the movement of labour and international migration in general.

The work, in which the members of the Committee have been invited to co-

operate, will be performed under the guidance of the Chairmen of the Preparatory Committee, the Committees A, B, C, and the sub-Committees.

With regard to certain questions of commercial policy it was decided that memoranda should be drawn up by experts. The International Institute of Agriculture at Rome will be requested to supply information on agricultural questions. The International Chamber of Commerce and the Office of the Emigration Conference at Rome will also be invited to co-operate.

The Chairman of the Preparatory Committee and the Committees A, B and C will remain in communication with one another in order to be able to take any action which may be necessary between the sessions.

The general trend of the work and the methods to be employed were clearly outlined by the Chairman of the Committee on Industrial Production, M. Hodac, and, in his closing speech, by M. Georges Theunis, Vice-Chairman of the Preparatory Committee. M. Hodac pointed out that for the moment all that was necessary was to ascertain the facts of the situation, the investigation of their causes being reserved for the next session of the Preparatory Committee and the seeking of remedies for the Economic Conference itself. He added that at the next session of the Committee the second stage of the enquiry might be reached. At that moment the Committee proposed to make a wider appeal to the co-operation of private producing circles, a factor which was one of the characteristic features of the Conference.

M. Theunis drew attention to the fact that the collection of the necessary statistical information was only part of the preparatory work necessitated by the Conference.

"By preparatory work", he said, "three things are meant. In the first place, and this is perhaps not the most important point, it means the collection of statistical and other information.

"Secondly, we need to examine the implications of this information, its meaning and the conclusions to be drawn from it, bearing in mind the points of view of all concerned. The composition of our committee affords every guarantee that this will be done.

"The third point is the preparation in the widest sense of world public opinion, without the support of which the Economic Conference cannot succeed.

"Working separately, each of our committees has drawn up instructions for those who in the months to come will have to collect information. One committee has given detailed instructions; another has confined itself to sketching the main outlines of the enquiry. In each case the recommendations are practical ones, which will be understood by those who, after taking part in our discussions, will be called upon to take charge of the enquiry. and each question will keep its relative importance in the general scheme.

"The task of collecting the information required will be a heavy one, but the essential thing if the Economic Conference is to open with good prospects of success, is not an accumulation of detailed information; what is wanted is an effort to pick out the main factors of the vital problems for which satisfactory solutions may be found by means of an international discussion.

"I have no doubt that this principle will be acted upon by all those who take part in the work of collecting information, and that we shall thus be in a position at our next session to select the points on which our attention and our efforts can usefully be concentrated."

3. — COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSIT

Road Traffic.

The Special Committee on Road Traffic of the League Organisation for Communications and Transit has for some time been working at the revision and

adaptation to present-day conditions of the Motor Traffic Convention of 1909. Its efforts were recently crowned with success at a conference summoned by the French Government, which met in Paris from April 20th to 24th and embodied in a new convention the principal clauses of a draft drawn up by the Committee and forwarded to the conference by the French Government.

Fifty-three countries—Austria, Belgium, Brazil, the British Empire, Bulgaria, Chile, China, Colombia, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Danzig, Denmark, Ecuador, Egypt, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Haiti, Hungary, the Irish Free State, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Lichtenstein, Lithuania, Luxemburg, Mexico, Monaco, Morocco, the Netherlands, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Persia, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Roumania, the Saar Territory, the Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes, Siam, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Syria and the Lebanon, Tunis, Turkey, the Union of the Socialist Soviet Republics, the United States and Uruguay—were represented. The French Government had also invited the Secretariat of the League of Nations to take part, in an advisory capacity, in the work of the Conference.

Two conventions were adopted. The first dealt with the international motor traffic in the light of the various new facilities provided for the traffic, and will replace the convention of 1909. The second dealt with road traffic in general.

4. — INTELLECTUAL CO-OPERATION

Meeting of Representatives of the International Students' Organisations.

A Committee of representatives of the International Students' Organisations met at Geneva from April 5th to April 10th. This meeting had been summoned by the Committee on Intellectual Co-operation for the purpose of co-ordinating the work of the associations.

In his opening speech, the Chairman of the Committee, M. de Reynold, said that the Committee on Intellectual Co-operation—of which he was a member—considered that the system of exchanges of students should be developed and that, as the international students' organisations had already obtained substantial results in various domains of international co-operation, their efforts might usefully be co-ordinated in order to fill up certain gaps and avoid duplication. This meeting, he said, had been convened by the Committee in order to facilitate such steps as the Associations might be willing to take in this direction.

The meeting adopted several resolutions, aiming at the co-ordination of the work of the associations in regard to travelling facilities for students, exchanges, international scholarships, the equivalence of studies and degrees, the creation of students' hostels and financial measures for the purpose.

It was proposed that the work and responsibility should be divided among the various organisations and that the Institute of Intellectual Co-operation should lend its assistance. These resolutions will be communicated to the Committee on Intellectual Co-operation.

The possibility of meeting once a year was considered by the Committee. Arrangements were made to begin at once to study various questions which might figure on the agenda of a later session, *inter alia* that of an international students' bureau.

The meeting was attended by M. Sohlman, Mr. Judd (International University Federation for the League of Nations), Mr. Leo Steinig, M. Swiatsky, M. Hershon (World Union of Jewish Students), Dr. Ellen Gleditsch, Miss Bosanquet (International Federation of University Women), Mr. Conrad Hoffmann, Dr. Reinhold Schairer, Mr. Norman Mackenzie (International Students' Service), Dr. Tisington Tatlow, M. M. H. L. Henriod, Mr. G. S. Troup (World Student Christian Federation) Dr. Palmieri, Mlle. Muriset (Pax Romana : International Secretariat of Catholic

Students' Associations), M. Balinski-Jundzill, Mr. I. S. Macadam, M. J. Baugniet (International Students' Confederation) and M. Frank (Auslandsamt der deutschen Studentschaft), invited in an advisory capacity.

The International Institute of Intellectual Co-operation was represented by Professor Zimmermann and Professor Halecki, Chiefs of Section.

VI. — Administrative Questions.

TWENTY-FIFTH REPORT OF THE SAAR GOVERNING COMMISSION

The report of the Governing Commission of the Saar Territory for the period from January 1st to March 31st, 1926, which has been received by the Secretary-General, shows the following main features :

1. *Economic and Social Position.* — The Commission hopes that the difficulties in connection with the Customs *régime* which were mentioned in its former report will shortly be removed, at least in part, in spite of the fact that the Franco-German agreement on the Saar Customs system has not yet come into force. Meanwhile the Department of Economic Affairs has pursued negotiations with the French Customs authorities with a view to facilitating, so far as possible, the application of the new economic *régime* to the Territory.

The labour market improved notably during the first three months of 1926 and the number of unemployed decreased.

The Saar mines produced 1,233,877 tons of coal in January, and 1,221,003 tons in February.

The Advisory Council and the Technical Committee held their usual sessions, the principal questions discussed relating to fiscal legislation.

2. *Administration.* — During the period under review the recruitment of the local gendarmerie was completed, as the numbers of the gendarmerie attained the required figure of 1,005 by March 31st. The battalion of French light infantry will be withdrawn from the Saar territory within two months from March 31st, 1926. The report mentions a number of measures taken by the Commission on behalf of civil servants and workmen employed by the State; a proposed reduction of the tax on earned income; amendments contemplated with regard to the tax on property, turnover and certain articles of consumption; amendments of freight and postal rates.

General discussions raising questions of principle took place in January between representatives of the German Ministry of Labour and the Board of Social Insurance in the Saar Territory, concerning their mutual relations as regards social insurance in Germany and the Saar.

The Labour Exchange established by decree of the Governing Commission held its first meeting on March 2nd, 1926.

1,537,000 francs were distributed in the form of special assistance to the poor and a further sum of 610,000 francs was spent by the Department of Public Assistance in the interests of public health and the protection of children.

The readjustment of the pension-rates of the war-disabled was completed.

The report concludes in the following terms :

“The first three months of 1926 have shown a notable diminution in the number of unemployed and an improvement in the economic position which there is reason to hope will be consolidated by a speedy solution of the customs difficulties mentioned in the preceding report.

"The principal care of the Governing Commission has been to balance the budget of the territory, for which reason the various proposals mentioned in the present report have been framed and submitted to the Advisory Council. These proposals aim at a considerable reduction of the tax on earned income and at an increase of revenue from taxes on business turn-over and articles of consumption. The Governing Commission hopes that the application of these proposals will cover the extra expenditure incurred by increasing wages and salaries. In the Saar more than in any other territory it is necessary the budget should be balanced."

VII. — Social and Humanitarian Questions.

FIFTH SESSION OF THE ADVISORY COMMISSION FOR THE PROTECTION AND WELFARE OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

The Fifth Session of the Advisory Commission for the Protection and Welfare of Children and Young People took place at Geneva from March 22nd to April 1st, 1926, with M. Sangro y Ros de Olano in the Chair. This body, it may be remembered, is composed of two Committees, one dealing with the question of the Traffic in Women and Children, the other with that of Child Welfare.

The Committee on Traffic in Women and Children sat from March 22nd to March 25th. It examined a summary of the annual reports from Governments for 1924, noting with satisfaction the continually increasing number of Governments which submit detailed reports of great value for its work. It was also noted that all States Members represented on the Committee were now parties to the Convention of 1921. The general report of the Secretariat and annual reports from charitable organisations affording ample proof of co-operation between national authorities and private associations were also examined.

The Committee noted information to the effect that the American Social Hygiene Association had undertaken to prepare a collection of the laws and regulations of all countries in respect of the traffic in women and expressed its appreciation of this work, which it considered would be of great assistance to it.

A considerable number of Governments had sent in reports on the question of licensed houses, which shewed that there was a divergence of opinion as to the necessity of maintaining the system. The Committee accordingly requested the Secretariat to prepare for its next session an abstract of the reports, shewing the present position of the question.

In pursuance of a resolution adopted last year with regard to assistance to be given to foreign prostitutes expelled from a country, the Committee decided, on the proposal of Dr. Estrid Hein and Madame Avril de Sainte-Croix, to circulate to the central authorities and private organisations a list of the charitable societies in various countries willing to assist expelled prostitutes. It appointed M. Posner (Poland) as rapporteur on the subject.

With regard to the employment of women police, and the traffic in obscene publications, the Committee asked the Council to instruct the Secretariat to apply to all States for full information, to be submitted at its next session.

It also invited the Secretariat to proceed with the study of the relation existing between the abuse of alcohol and prostitution.

The question of propaganda was adjourned to the next session of the Committee.

* * *

On account of the large number of subjects under consideration, and in view of the technical and legal difficulties inherent in some of them, the Child Welfare

Committee decided at this meeting—the second since its constitution—to set up a legal sub-committee to report to its next session. It appointed as members : Count Carton de Wiart, Mr. Harris, M. Rollet, Miss Jebb, Miss Whitton and a representative of the International Labour Office.

To this body the Committee referred the question of the assistance or repatriation of abandoned, neglected or delinquent children of foreign nationality, and the consideration of two draft conventions submitted by the International Association for the Protection of Children, one on the above, subject, the other on the execution of judgments.

As, further, several items on the agenda concerned also the International Labour Office and other League bodies (such as the Health Organisation, and the Committee on Intellectual Cooperation) a liaison Sub-Committee was set up to deal with such questions of this kind as might be referred to it, and to report thereon to the Child Welfare Committee. This body is composed of a representative of the Health Organisation, a representative of the International Labour Office and a representative of the Child Welfare Committee—Count Carton de Wiart or Dr. Estrid Hein. The Committee on Intellectual Cooperation will also be invited to send a representative. The chairman of the Child Welfare Committee is *ex-officio* member of both sub-committees.

The following questions were immediately referred to the Liaison Sub-Committee: the possibility of investigating the problem of education for adolescents and its relation with the normal family and social life of the adult; and proposals submitted by Miss Whitton concerning maternal mortality, visiting teachers, the movement of juvenile immigrants, etc.

The Committee noted reports by the Secretariat on the steps taken to give effect to resolutions adopted at its first session on legislation relating to the age of marriage and the age of consent, and on the protection of life and health in early infancy. It considered a memorandum from the International Labour Office on family allowances and their effect on child welfare, and asked that body to continue its study of the subject in collaboration with the League Secretariat and voluntary associations.

Questions relating to the effect of the cinematograph on the mental and moral well-being of children were also examined by the Committee. Recommendations were adopted to the effect that in each State offices for control or preliminary censorship should be established; and that each State should prescribe the necessary measures of hygiene and security in connection with the ventilation, the cubic capacity, the exits and emergency exits of cinema-theatres, and should take steps as soon as possible to prohibit the exhibition of inflammable films.

A report having been submitted by Dame Katharine Furse on the importance of recreation for the physical and moral development of young people, the Committee expressed the wish that in all future town planning or improvement schemes provision should be made for recreation grounds, both open and covered, as well as for swimming baths.

The session came to an end with examination of a report submitted by the International Bureau for the Suppression of alcoholism on the dangers which the wrong use of alcohol presented for the well-being of the child. The discussion of the questions of the biological education of the child and of the neglected and delinquent child were postponed.

VIII. — Miscellaneous Questions.

1. — VISIT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL TO GREECE

At the invitation of the Greek Government, the Secretary-General of the League, accompanied by M. Attolico, under Secretary-General, and M. Mantoux, Director

of the Political Section, paid a visit to Greece from April 11th to April 16th. He was officially received by the President of the Greek Republic, General Pangalos, and the Foreign Minister, M. Roufos, and conferred with them on questions concerning Greece which for some time past had been dealt with by the League of Nations. He visited two refugee centres and noted that substantial progress had been made in the work of settlement, the funds for which had been provided by a loan contracted by the Greek Government on the recommendation of the Council.

At a meeting on April 14th, organised by the Greek League of Nations Union, the Secretary-General described the present position of the League. M. Mantoux explained the procedure of the Council in regard to disputes.

The President of the Republic and the Foreign Minister accompanied the Secretary-General and two colleagues on a visit to the ruins of Delphi.

The Secretary-General returned to Geneva on April 19th.

2. — MEETING OF THE SUPERVISORY COMMISSION

The Supervisory Commission met at Geneva from April 26th to May 1st to examine the accounts for 1925, the draft budgets for 1927 of the Secretariat, the International Labour Organisation and the Permanent Court of International Justice and various budgetary and administrative questions.

There were present, M. Osusky (Czechoslovakia), Chairman; Lord Meston (India); M. Nederbragt (Netherlands); M. Réveillaud (France) and M. Waddington (Chile).

IX. — Forthcoming Events.

-
- May 17th : Meeting of Experts on Double Taxation and Tax Evasion, Geneva.
- May 18th : Meeting of the Preparatory Commission for the Disarmament Conference, Geneva.
- May 19th : Meeting of the Permanent Advisory Commission for Military, Naval and Air Questions, Geneva.
- May 21st : Meeting of the Legal Sub-Committee of the Child Welfare Committee, Paris.
- May 26th : Meeting of the Advisory Committee on Traffic in Opium and Other Dangerous Drugs, Geneva.
- May 26th : Eighth International Labour Conference, Geneva.
- May 27th : Interchange of Health Officers in Denmark.
- May 31st : Meeting of the Economic Committee, Geneva.
- June 3rd : Meeting of the Financial Committee, Geneva.
- June 7th : Fortieth Session of the Council, Geneva.
- June 7th : Ninth International Labour Conference, Geneva.
- June 8th : Meeting of the Permanent Commission, Geneva.
- June 9th : Meeting of the Preparatory Committee on Economic Statistics, Geneva.
- June 21st : Interchange of Sanitary Engineers in Great Britain.

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MAY 1926

Vol. VI. No. 5

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MONTHLY SUMMARY OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS

MAY 1926

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I. — Summary of the Month.

The work of the League in May was marked by two very important meetings — those of the Committee on the Composition of the Council and the Preparatory Commission for the Disarmament Conference. The activity of the Technical Organisations manifested itself in an international Passport Conference and a meeting of Government experts to consider the question of double taxation and tax evasion. The Advisory Committee on Traffic in Opium and other Dangerous Drugs met towards the end of the month.

The Committee on the Composition of the Council held its first session from May 10th to May 18th at Geneva, when it adopted on a first reading a certain number of draft regulations with regard to the non-permanent membership of the Council.

The Preparatory Commission for the Disarmament Conference, which sat from May 18th to May 26th, proceeded to a general exchange of views on the questions

referred to it and then organised its work, appointing a military, and a non-military sub-commission to study these questions in detail. The military sub-commission was still in session at the end of the month.

The question of the private manufacture of arms and war material was considered by a Committee of the Council meeting on May 22nd, when a preliminary draft convention on the supervision of the private arms manufacture was submitted by a special Committee.

The Second International Passport Conference, which comprised representatives of thirty-eight Governments, met from May 12th to May 18th. It adopted a certain number of recommendations with regard to passport and visa facilities and requested the League to prepare two draft conventions, offering facilities to emigrants and persons without nationality.

Preliminary draft conventions on double taxation and tax evasion were drawn up by a committee of Government experts. These drafts will be considered at a later meeting and may finally come before an International conference.

The Permanent Court of International Justice, meeting in extraordinary session, gave judgment in the cases of certain German interests in Polish Upper Silesia.

The Acting President of the Council convened the Seventh Assembly of the League of Nations to meet on September 6th at Geneva.

II. The Permanent Court of International Justice.

1. — TENTH (EXTRAORDINARY) SESSION (1) GERMAN INTERESTS IN POLISH UPPER SILESIA

At the public hearing held on May 25th, 1926, by the Permanent Court of International Justice, judgment was given in the cases of certain German interests in Polish Upper Silesia. After the judgment and—attached to it—the individual opinions of two judges had been read, the President, M. Max Huber, declared the tenth (extraordinary) session of the Court closed. This session was entirely devoted to the proceedings on the merits of the numerous causes of action.

As will be remembered, the Court had, by its judgment no. 6, dated August 25th, 1925, decided on the preliminary objections raised by Poland in the proceedings instituted by the Application of the German Government of May 15th of the same year. The Court had dismissed these pleas, in particular the objection to its jurisdiction, and reserved for judgment on their merits the causes of action submitted to it by the German Government. On the same day, the German Government filed with the Registry of the Court a second Application instituting proceedings as to two further claims, so that finally the causes of action submitted to the Court amounted to thirteen.

The introductory part of the judgment contained a summary of the submissions of the Parties, which underwent certain amendments in the course of the proceedings.

The facts upon which the Applications of the German Government were founded were the following (2). The Polish Government had, in July, 1922, taken possession of the nitrate factory situated at Chorzow, in Polish Upper Silesia. This seizure took place by application of a Polish law dated July 14th, 1920, introduced into Polish Upper Silesia in 1922, which ordered the substitution *ex officio* in the Land Register of the Polish Treasury for the German Reich; in the views of the

(1) This article has been prepared on the basis of information received from the Registry of the Permanent Court.

(2) See *Monthly Summary*: Vol. V, No. 8, p. 186; Vol. VI, No. 1, p. 2; Vol. VI, No. 2, p. 37; Vol. VI, No. 3, p. 54.

Polish Government this law was to be considered as made in execution of Article 256 of the Versailles Treaty, by which Powers to which German property was ceded acquired all property and possessions therein belonging to the German Empire or to the German States. According to the contention of the Polish Government, which was disputed by the German Government, the factory did not actually belong to the *Oberschlesische Stickstoffwerke*, inscribed as owner in the Land Register, but to the German Reich, the latter having in fact exercised all rights of ownership until December, 1919, when it had drawn up a contract with the above-mentioned Company for the sale of the factory. The Polish Government, however, regarding the contract as fictitious and as contrary to the obligations imposed upon Germany by the Versailles Treaty and by the Armistice Conventions, held that this alienation was null and void. The seizure of the Chorzow factory therefore raised a number of questions regarding the interpretation of international instruments, in particular of the Geneva Convention, signed on May 15th, 1922, by Germany and Poland.

On the other hand, the Polish Government, in December, 1924, had notified its intention to expropriate a certain number of big estates belonging to twelve landowners. The German Government held that these notifications were contrary to the terms of the Convention concluded at Geneva on May 15th, 1922, between Germany and Poland.

In a chapter dealing with the legal aspects of the Chorzow factory case, the Court examined the terms of the various submissions of the Parties while considering the reasons for which the Respondent had disputed its competence to give judgment upon the first submission of the German Government, which was couched in very general terms, and asserted its competence to give general interpretations of Treaty clauses. Reference was made to Article XIV of the Covenant which gave the Court power to "hear and determine any dispute of an international character which the Parties thereto submit to it". The judgment further drew attention to the fact that there were numerous clauses giving the Court compulsory jurisdiction in questions of the interpretation of treaties and clauses which appeared also to cover interpretations unconnected with concrete cases, and that in this respect the Court might fulfil one of its most important functions.

After considering the question whether, generally speaking, Articles 2 and 5 of the Law of July 14th, 1920 were or were not compatible with Articles 6 to 22 of the Geneva Convention, the Court arrived at the conclusion, that the application of these Articles was not in conformity with the system of Part I, Head III of the Geneva Convention. The Court further dealt with the contention of the Respondent that the above-quoted provisions of the Polish Law had no connection with Part III of the Geneva Convention. According to the Polish Government, these provisions merely gave effect to rights which Poland derived from the Treaty of Versailles and other international instruments connected with that Treaty—rights which were not affected by the Geneva Convention. In the second place, even supposing that this was not the case, the measures taken in application of Articles 2 and 5 of the above-mentioned law could not, in the view of the Respondent, be regarded as measures of liquidation within the meaning of Articles 6 to 22 of the Geneva Convention.

On the first point, the Court observed, however, that Poland, not having been recognised as a belligerent by Germany at the time of the conclusion of the Armistice Convention or of the Protocol of Spa, was not a contracting party to either of these Conventions. The Court also set aside the possibility for Poland to found her claims on the Treaty of Versailles, and arrived at the conclusion that no title of international law had been cited by Poland which permitted Articles 2 and 5 of the law of July 14th, 1920 to be regarded as the exercise of a right overriding her obligations under Head III of the Geneva Convention.

As to the Polish contention that the suppression of private rights effected by the law of July 14th, 1920, could not be regarded as a measure of liquidation within

the meaning of Articles 6-22 of the Geneva Convention, the Court laid stress on the fact that expropriation, in the cases and under the conditions mentioned under Head III of this Convention, was the only measure not allowed by generally accepted international law, which might be taken in regard to German private property in Polish Upper Silesia. It considered that expropriation without indemnity was certainly contrary to Head III of the Convention; and that a measure prohibited by the Convention could not become lawful under this instrument by reason of the fact that the State applied it to its own nationals.

In dealing with the submission of the German Government which concerned more particularly the Chorzow Factory, the Court stated, in the first place, that the Chorzow factory had been taken over by the Polish Government under the Polish law of July 14th, 1920. Now, if, as had been already established, the application of this law, in so far as it affected the property contemplated in Art. 6 of the Convention was contrary to Article 6 and the following articles of that instrument, the point which the Court had to decide was whether the *Oberschlesische Stickstoffwerke* and the *Bayerische Stickstoffwerke* were really the owners of the rights which together constituted the Chorzow enterprise. For if this point was established, it automatically followed that these rights were protected by Article 6 of the Geneva Convention, the other conditions required by the Article being fulfilled in the present case.

After examining the contracts or other legal instruments passed in Berlin on December 24th, 1919—with a view to the formation of the *Oberschlesische Stickstoffwerke* and the sale by the Reich to this company of the Chorzow factory—the Court arrived at the conclusion that nothing could be adduced to prevent the application of the Geneva Convention to the rights of the *Oberschlesische Stickstoffwerke* in respect of the Chorzow factory. For the Court set aside the possibility for Poland of relying, as against Germany, on the contention that there had been a misuse of the right possessed by the latter to alienate property situated in the plebiscite area, before the transfer of sovereignty. In the Court's opinion such misuse had not taken place in the present case. The act in question did not overstep the limits of the normal administration of private property and was not designed to procure for one of the interested parties an illicit advantage and to deprive the other of an advantage to which it was entitled. In the same connection, the Court observed that, contrary to what Poland had maintained, there were not, in its opinion, sufficient grounds for regarding the business transacted by means of the above-mentioned instruments as other than a genuine transaction.

The Court also expressed the view that it could not regard the alienation as an act calculated to prejudice Poland's rights.

Lastly, the Court had to consider the rights of the *Bayerische Stickstoffwerke*, a company controlled by German nationals. The Court observed that the factory had always constituted an economic entity under the management of this company. If, as the Court held, the *Oberschlesische* Company was to be regarded as lawful owner of the Chorzow factory, the contracts concluded by it in regard to that factory must likewise be regarded as valid.

The Court, therefore, arrived at the conclusion that the attitude of the Polish Government towards the *Bayerische* Company, as well as towards the *Oberschlesische* Company was not in conformity with the provisions of Article 6 and of the following articles of the Geneva Convention.

It must be added that the German Government in one of its submissions had requested the Court—if it should decide that the attitude of the Polish Government towards the two above-mentioned companies was contrary to the provisions of the Geneva Convention—to state what attitude should have been adopted by the Polish Government in order to conform with the provisions of Article 6 and of the following articles of this Convention. The Court, however, considered that it was not in a position to give judgment on this submission.

The Court then considered the cases of the big rural estates. It examined in the first place, from a general point of view, the legal problems common to all, or

to certain of these cases. It observed that, in accordance with the desire expressed by both parties, it had not only to decide whether the notices were regular in form, but also, and mainly, whether they had been served in respect of estates liable to expropriation under Article 6 and the following articles of the Geneva Convention. As the Court pointed out, the notice must embody the indications necessary for the identification of the large estate which the Polish Government intended to expropriate : but, a notice which included both land not liable to expropriation, and land liable to expropriation, though ineffective as regards the former, remained effective as regards the latter.

The rural estates covered by the notices referred to in the German Government's submissions were, in some cases, estates, the exclusively agricultural character and use of which have not been disputed, and in others, estates which, in the contention of the Applicant, were principally devoted to serving the needs of industrial enterprises. In regard to estates of the latter category, the Court construed the Geneva Convention as laying down that the economic and social needs of the workers should be taken into account, as well as the technical requirements of the enterprise as such.

One point which had been debated at some length between the parties, and which was also fully considered by the Court in its judgment, related to the so-called question of subsidence and to the problem whether the possession of the ground situated above mines and seams might be considered, by reason of the possibility of such damages, as fulfilling a need of an enterprise. The Court admitted that it was of the greatest importance to mining enterprises to have the surface at their disposal, in order, amongst other things, to avoid its being used in a manner which would aggravate the economic consequences of collapse or subsidence. It would then be sufficient, in some cases, to observe that estates in respect of which a notice had been served were situated over mines, in order to decide that such estates were principally devoted to serving the needs of mining enterprises and, consequently, that they were not liable to expropriation.

The individual causes of action which had been submitted to the Court concerned partly estates belonging to private persons, partly estates owned by companies, and, in one case, the property of a commune (the City of Ratibor).

With regard to estates belonging to private persons, one of the causes of action, that relating to the landed property of Madam *Hedwig Voigt*, had been withdrawn at an early stage in the proceedings; in the case of Baroness *Maria Anna von Goldschmidt-Rothschild* the Court thought it sufficient to observe that the German Government's claim had no longer any object, as the notice published in respect of the estates of the Baroness had been rectified by the Polish Government. In the case of *Count Nikolaus Ballestrem*, the Court decided that, as the lands covered by the notice were situated over mines or seams, the notice served in respect of them was not in conformity with the Geneva Convention. The Court also granted the request of the German Government with regard to estates belonging to *Karl Maximilian, Fürst von Lichnowsky*, who, at the decisive date, possessed Czechoslovak nationality. On the other hand, the Court dismissed the Applicant Government's claims regarding the estates of *Christian Kraft, Prince of Hohenlohe-Oehringen*, of the *Duke of Ratibor* and of *Count Saurma-Fetsch*.

All the rural estates belonging to the three companies mentioned in the first application of the German Government are, under the judgment of the Court, exempted from expropriation. Among these are a number of big rural estates owned by the *Giesche Company Ltd.*, a company controlled by German nationals, and having its registered office at Katowice; the circumstances of each of these estates were separately considered by the Court on the basis of the contentions of the parties. The Court held also that the rural estates of the *Godulla Company Ltd.* were devoted principally to serving the needs of industrial enterprises.

With regard to the landed property of the *Vereinigte Königs- und Laurahütte Company*, which is mainly situated over the Company's mines, the Court based its

decision on the fact that this company, although having its registered offices in Berlin, is not, and was not at the decisive date, a company controlled by German nationals within the meaning of the Convention, the majority of its shares being in the hands of nationals of countries other than Germany. The Court, in this respect, expressed the opinion that the conception of control, in the Geneva Convention, was an essentially economic one, and that it contemplated a preponderant influence over the general policy; that criteria of external nature, which had long been applied by the legislation and jurisprudence of the different countries seemed to have been replaced in the Geneva Convention, and in so far as concerns the liquidation régime, by a more elastic criterion which made it possible, in spite of appearances, to reach physical persons of a particular nationality.

The German Government's claim was dismissed, in regard of the City of Ratibor (with the exception of land recognised by the Polish Government as not being liable to expropriation). The Court's opinion was that the term "German national", used in the Geneva Convention, equally applied to communes such as the City of Ratibor, *i. e.* to corporations on a territorial basis formed by national inhabitants.

Article 35 of the Statute provides that "when a State which is not a Member of the League is a party to a dispute, the Court will fix the amount which that party is to contribute towards the expenses of the Court". According to the jurisprudence of the Court, this provision has not been applied to States non-Members of the League holding the position of Respondents. On the other hand, as Germany, in the present case, appeared as Applicant before the Court, the Court fixed at 35,000 Dutch guilders the amount to be paid by Germany to the Registry of the Court.

2. — QUESTION OF THE ADHESION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE PERMANENT COURT OF INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE

Besides the States mentioned in the last number ⁽¹⁾, the Finnish, Greek, Netherlands, Norwegian and Roumanian Governments have so far accepted the Council's invitation to attend a conference of the signatories of the Statute of the Permanent Court, to be held at Geneva on September 1st next, for the purpose of discussing the questions raised by the resolution of the United States Senate ⁽²⁾.

III. — The Reduction of Armaments.

1. — FIRST SESSION OF THE PREPARATORY COMMISSION FOR THE DISARMAMENT CONFERENCE

The first session of the Preparatory Commission for the Disarmament Conference, which met at Geneva from May 18th to May 26th, was devoted to the organisation of its work.

It elected as Chairman, M. Loudon (Netherlands); as Vice-Chairman, M. Cobian (Spain), and M. Buero (Uruguay).

Twenty countries were represented on the Commission, namely, the Argentine Republic (M. F. Perez), Belgium (M. de Brouckère), Brazil (M. de Mello Franco), the British Empire (Viscount Cecil), Bulgaria (M. A. Bouroff), Chile (M. E. Bello-Codesido), Czechoslovakia (M. Veverka), Finland (M. Erich), France (M. Paul-Boncour), Germany (Count Bernstorff), Italy (General de Marinis), Japan (M. Matsuda), the Netherlands (M. Loudon), Poland (M. Sokal), Roumania (M. Comnène),

(1) See *Monthly Summary*, Vol. VI, No. 4, p. 91.

(2) See *Monthly Summary*, Vol. VI, No. 2, p. 40.

the Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes (M. L. Markovitch), Spain (M. Cobian), Sweden (M. Hennings), the United States of America (Mr. Gibson), and Uruguay (M. Buero).

After a general examination in first reading of the questionnaire drawn up by the Council last December (1), the Commission, while reserving for itself all decisions as to the specifically political aspect of this document, instructed a Drafting Committee to state what points in the various questions to be considered were more especially a matter for study by technicians. The Council resolution of December 12th, 1925 actually provided for the reference to technical commissions attached to the Preparatory Commission of the examination of the military and economic aspects of these questions.

The Drafting Committee was composed of M. Perez (Argentine), M. de Brouckère (Belgium), Viscount Cecil (British Empire), M. Paul-Boncour (France), Count Bernstorff (Germany), General de Marinis (Italy), M. Matsuda (Japan), M. Sokal

(1)

Question I.

What is to be understood by the expression "armaments"?

(a) Definition of the various factors—military, economic, geographical, etc.—upon which the power of a country in time of war depends.

(b) Definition and special characteristics of the various factors which constitute the armaments of a country in time of peace; the different categories of armaments—military, naval and air—the methods of recruiting, training, organisations capable of immediate military employment, etc.

Question II.

(a) Is it practicable to limit the ultimate war strength of a country, or must any measures of disarmament be confined to the peace strength?

(b) What is to be understood by the expression "reduction and limitation of armaments"?

The various forms which reduction or limitation may take in the case of land, sea and air forces; the relative advantages or disadvantages of each of the different forms or methods; for example, the reduction of the larger peacetime units or of their establishment and their equipment, or of any immediately mobilisable forces; the reduction of the length of active service, the reduction of the quantity of military equipment, the reduction of expenditure on national defence, etc.

Question III.

By what standards is it possible to measure the armaments of one country against the armaments of another, e. g., numbers, equipment, expenditure, etc.?

Question IV.

Can there be said to be "offensive" and "defensive" armaments?

Is there any method of ascertaining whether a certain force is organised for purely defensive purposes (no matter what use may be made of it in time of war), or whether, on the contrary, it is established for the purposes in a spirit of aggression?

Question V.

(a) On what principle will it be possible to draw up a scale of armaments permissible to the various countries, taking into account particularly:

- Population;
- Resources;
- Geographical situation;
- Length and nature of maritime communications;
- Density and character of railways;
- Vulnerability of the frontiers and of the important vital centres near the frontiers;
- The time required, varying with different States, to transform peace armaments into war armaments;
- The degree of security which, in the event of aggression, a State could receive under the provisions of the Covenant or of separate engagements contracted towards that State?

(b) Can the reduction of armaments be promoted by examining possible means for ensuring that the mutual assistance, economic and military, contemplated in Article XVI of the Covenant shall be brought quickly into operation as soon as an act of aggression has been committed.

Question VI.

(a) Is there any device by which civil and military aircraft can be distinguished for purposes of disarmament? If this is not practicable, how can the value of civil aircraft be computed in estimating the air strength of any country?

(b) Is it possible or desirable to apply the conclusions arrived at in (a) above to parts of aircraft and aircraft engines?

(c) Is it possible to attach military value to commercial fleets in estimating the naval armaments of a country?

Question VII.

Admitting that disarmament depends on security, to what extent is regional disarmament possible in return for regional security? Or is any scheme of disarmament impracticable unless it is general? If regional disarmament is practicable, would it promote or lead up to general disarmament?

(Poland) and Mr. Gibson (United States). The Chairman of the Commission, M. Lou- don, presided at its meetings and the two Vice-Chairmen were invited to attend.

On the report of this body, which was presented by M. de Brouckère (Belgium), the Commission laid down principles for the guidance of the technical sub-commissions. Several important additions were made at the request of certain delegations. One of these, proposed by the Belgian delegate, concerned the supervision of disarmament and the organisation of the exchange of information provided for under Article VIII of the Covenant ⁽¹⁾. Another, submitted by the British delegate, related to chemical warfare.

The Commission further referred to its sub-commissions, for their information, memoranda submitted on behalf of the Greek and Hungarian Governments, in so far as they concerned questions referred by the Commission to its sub-commissions.

It forwarded to the Council a proposal of the French delegation concerning the methods and machinery best calculated to give help to a State when attacked; a proposal of the Polish delegation with regard to the special organisation of regional assistance, and a proposal of the Finnish delegation concerning the situation as regards disarmament of States unfavourably placed owing to geographical or other exceptional circumstances.

* * *

Two technical sub-commissions were appointed.

Sub-Commission A (Military, Naval and Air Questions) was composed of a military, a naval and an air expert of each of the countries represented on the plenary Commission.

Sub-Commission B (Non-Military Questions) included a representative of each delegation. Its terms of reference were all non-military questions forwarded to it by the Preparatory Commission. It was authorised to ascertain the opinion of organisations or persons it might deem advisable to consult on these matters, in particular that of the Joint Commission set up by the Council.

The meetings of the sub-commissions were presided over by the Vice-Chairmen of the Preparatory Commission.

I. *Questions referred to the technical sub-commissions.*

As a general indication for its sub-commissions, the Preparatory Commission stated that it considered "that the work entrusted to it by the Council should be undertaken on the understanding that every Government should have in view for the proposed Conference for the preparation of a disarmament agreement definite and quantitative proposals accompanied by reasons in support calculated with reference to the degree of security existing at the date when the Conference meets."

The various points of the questionnaire drawn up by the Committee of the Council were referred to the sub-commissions in the following form :

Question I.

The Commission refers Question No. 1 to Sub-Commission A.

Question II (a).

With regard to Question II (a) the Commission is of opinion that it would not be practicable at the present time to limit the ultimate war strength of a

(1) "The Members of the League undertake to exchange full and frank information as to the scale of their armaments, their military, naval and air programmes, and the condition of such of their industries as are adaptable to warlike purposes."

country. On the other hand, it affirms that it is possible to limit the land, sea and air forces permanently maintained in peace-time by the various countries or capable of immediate use without preliminary mobilisation measures. This principle is in any case without prejudice to the conditions of such limitation as determined by an examination of the remaining questions, notably Question V.

The Commission refers to Sub-Commission A the definition of the forces mentioned in the preceding paragraph and the study of the possibility of a wider limitation than that referred to above.

Questions II (b) and III.

The Commission refers to Sub-Commission A the two following questions for its opinion :

(a) What are the standards by which it is possible to measure the (a) military, (b) naval, (c) air armaments of one country against the corresponding armaments of another country?

(b) What are the methods by which the reduction and limitation of (a) land, (b) naval, (c) air armaments can be effected, and what are the comparative advantages and disadvantages of each?

Note. — The following methods, amongst others, have been suggested : the reduction of the larger peace-time units or of their establishment and their equipment, or of any immediately mobilisable forces; the reduction of the length of service; active the reduction of munitions of war.

It has also been suggested that a limitation of armed forces might be effected by the reduction or limitation of expenditure on national defence.

The Commission wishes to have the opinion of the two Sub-Commissions on this last subject and on the conditions in which the above method might be applied, should they consider that it is practicable.

Question IV.

The Commission refers to Sub-Commission A the following questions :

Are there any armaments (and, if so, what) which are only capable of being used for the defence of a State's territory?

Is there any method of ascertaining whether a certain force is organised for purely defensive purposes (no matter what use may be made of it in time of war), or whether, on the contrary, it is established in a spirit of aggression?

Question V (a).

As the armaments to be maintained in each country cannot be determined on the basis of mathematical considerations alone, the Commission, in order to allow of a profitable examination of the basis on which the reduction and limitation of armaments is possible, requests the two Sub-Commissions to investigate how far armaments in general are affected by factors 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 7 enumerated in Question V (a) and refers factor 6 to Sub-Commission A.

Question VI.

The Commission refers Question VI to Sub-Commission A for its opinion.

Question VII.

The Commission asks Technical Sub-Commissions A and B to consider whether regional military, naval and air disarmament can be regarded as an important step towards general disarmament, and, should general disarmament not prove immediately practicable, what regions could be considered separately, from the point of view of the limitation of armaments.

Sub-Commissions A and B are requested to consider what factors the term "region" should connote from the point of view of security and from the point of view of disarmament.

Proposal submitted by the Belgian delegate.

The Commission referred to the Technical Sub-Commission the following proposal submitted by the Belgian delegate :

The last paragraph of Article VIII of the Covenant of the League stipulates that "the Members of the League undertake to interchange full and frank information as to the scale of their armaments, their military, naval and air programmes and the condition of such of their industries as are adaptable to war-like purposes".

With a view to organising this exchange of information, Sub-Commission A has been requested to consider the advantages and disadvantages from the military point of view of the various methods which might be employed and in particular :

(a) The organisation at Geneva of a permanent service for the collection of information received from the different Governments;

(b) The conclusion of an international convention making it compulsory to publish all inventions which can be used in chemical or bacteriological warfare and in general all forms of warfare which are condemned by the opinion of the civilised world.

Sub-Commission A is requested to investigate what would be the consequences from the military point of view of inserting in the Convention relative to disarmament, or in that regarding the prohibition of certain forms of warfare, of provisions similar to those contained in the statute of the International Labour Office (Articles 411 to 420 of the Treaty of Versailles).

Sub-Commission B is requested to ascertain the consequences of such insertion from the economic point of view.

Sub-Commission A is requested to consider to what extent the experience acquired regarding the supervision of disarmament points to the possibility from the military point of view of general supervision.

Sub-Commission B is requested to state if such supervision offers any difficulties from the economic point of view and, if so, what difficulties."

Without expressing a definite opinion regarding the measures suggested in this proposal concerning which certain delegations reserved their decision, the Commission decided to refer this matter to the Technical Sub-Commissions, on the understanding that such reference did not prejudice the question in any way, either as regards the practicability of these measures or as regards any subsequent decision which the Preparatory Commission itself might take when examining the question from the general and political point of view.

The delegate of Italy expressed his opinion that supervision would be ineffective and was inadmissible, and asked to have his view placed on record.

On the proposal of the delegate of the British Empire, the Commission decided to refer to the competent Sub-Commissions the following questions :

To Sub-Commissions A and B.

1. (a) Can factories normally and legitimately employed for chemical purposes, including dyeworks, be quickly adapted to manufacture poison gases?

(b) If the answer to the above is in the affirmative, how long would it take to effect the change?

(c) Can any proposals be made to prevent or hinder chemical factories from being used for the production of poisonous gases?

To Sub-Commission A.

2. (a) What are the means which would probably be employed for spreading gas and what would be the apparatus required?

(b) How long would it take to manufacture this apparatus, and how long would it take to superimpose this apparatus on the normal equipment of an aeroplane?

(c) Would the length of time referred to immediately above vary in the case of military or civilian aircraft?

3. (a) What is the information in existence as to the effect of the distribution of poisonous gas over closely populated districts?

(b) Have any experiments been carried out on this subject?

(c) Apart from the difficulty of equipping the entire population of a city with gas masks, are there any gases known against which a gas mask affords no protection?

Sub-Commission A is invited to consider what effective sanctions can be proposed for the enforcement of the international undertaking not to employ poison gas or bacteria in warfare.

II. Questions referred to the Council.

The Commission referred to the Council the following proposal of the French delegation, several of its members considering that constructive proposals of this kind belonged rather to the competence of the League organs than to that of the Commission.

With reference to Question V (a) 8 and V (b), the Commission considers that, in order that a State should be able to calculate to what extent it can consent to the reduction or limitation of its armaments, it is essential to determine what method and what machinery are best calculated to give help to that State when attacked.

The Commission therefore proposes to suggest to the Council :

1. That *methods or regulations* should be investigated which would :

(a) Facilitate the meeting of the Council at very brief notice in case of war or threat of war ;

(b) Enable the Council to take such decisions as may be necessary to enforce the obligations of the Covenant as expeditiously as possible.

2. That the Permanent Advisory Commission should be instructed :

(a) To define the measures necessary to comply with paragraph (a), No. 8;

(b) To investigate the procedure which would allow of the rapid drafting of recommendations regarding the military assistance provided for in the second paragraph of Article XVI of the Covenant, *when the Council shall have decided to make such recommendations;*

(c) To investigate what measures should be taken in case of a conflict of which the Council shall have been notified, *and when the latter shall have taken a decision*, in order to prevent the development or preparation of hostilities according to the precedent of the Greco-Bulgarian dispute.

3. That the Joint Commission should be instructed :

(a) To investigate the question of the improvement of the telegraphic communications of the different countries with the Secretariat of the League;

(b) To study what measures would be most appropriate, *when the Council shall have so decided*, to give most rapidly such economic and financial help as may be necessary to a State which has been attacked;

(c) To determine the composition and procedure of the Committees for the supply and allocation of resources which the League might set up for that purpose.

The following proposals, submitted by the Polish and Finnish delegations, were also forwarded to the Council :

Proposal of the Polish Delegation.

The Commission suggests to the Council that it would be well to consider whether a special organisation of regional assistance within the scope of the Covenant of the League would be likely to give the organs of the League effective help in supplying the assistance required and would thereby render the execution of the relevant articles of the Covenant easier and more expeditious (study of the machinery, form and procedure of regional assistance).

Proposal of the Finnish Delegation.

The Commission proposes that the Council should undertake the examination of special arrangements whereby a reduction of armaments agreed to by States unfavourably placed, owing to geographical or other exceptional circumstances, might be compensated in order to meet their requirements for security.

* * *

The United States delegation stated that it was anxious to favour every effort made with a view to disarmament, and that it therefore had no objection to certain proposals being discussed in connection with the obligations entered into by the Members of the League of Nations; but it naturally could not be bound in any way by such discussions in which it could not properly take part. This observation referred, in particular, to certain phases of the proposals reproduced in Nos. 1, 2 B and 3 above.

* * *

The German delegation stated that its exceptional position did not at present allow of its being heard before the Council, and therefore desired to be in a position to submit an opinion to the Council on the proposals which were referred to it in regard to Questions V (a) 8, V (b).

The suggested examination of the methods likely to bring rapid assistance to a country attacked should not, in the opinion of the delegation, be based on the present position of armaments, which was only temporary. This examination should have as a starting-point a state of disarmament resulting from the Conference such that no country would be powerful enough to be in a position to assert its strength against that of the League of Nations. The examination of Questions V (a) 8 and V (b) could only give provisional results if it took as a starting-point the present position of armaments.

* * *

Sub-Commission B (Non-Military Questions) met on May 26th, with M. Buero (Uruguay) in the Chair.

It referred to the Joint Commission, for its opinion, questions concerning chemical warfare; the possibility of establishing a comparison of the scale of the armaments of the different States, based upon the comparison of their military expenditure; the examination of the obstacles, if any, which might arise in connection with the supervision of disarmament by economic methods.

It postponed its examination of the other questions referred to it until it should be in possession of the conclusions reached by Sub-Commission A with regard to the military aspect of the same questions.

* * *

Sub-Commission A met on May 28th, with M. Cobian (Spain) in the Chair, and was still in session at the end of the month.

**2. — THE PRIVATE MANUFACTURE OF ARMS, MUNITIONS
AND IMPLEMENTS OF WAR**

The Committee of the Council met at Geneva on May 22nd, 1926, to consider a preliminary draft convention on the supervision of the private manufacture of arms prepared by a Committee of Enquiry, composed of M. Cobian, M. Guani and M. Veverka.

As only a very small number of replies had up to then been received to the questionnaire addressed to Governments, the Committee of the Council considered that it did not possess the information necessary for preparing a final draft for submission to the Council and the Assembly.

It accordingly proposed to the Council that all replies received from Governments should be referred to the Committee of Enquiry in order that that body might be able to make any alterations it considered advisable in the preliminary draft. This draft, thus amended, would be considered anew by the Committee of the Council with a view to making a report to the Council.

IV. — Legal and Constitutional Questions.

1. — CONVOCATION OF THE SEVENTH ASSEMBLY

The Acting President of the Council, Viscount Ishii (Japan), has convened the Seventh Assembly of the League of Nations to meet at Geneva on September 6th.

The most important questions on the agenda are those of the composition of the Council and the admission of Germany to the League.

The Assembly will also examine the work of the Council and the Secretariat since last Assembly, and the steps taken to execute the decisions of that body.

The various League organisations (the Economic and Financial Organisation, the Organisation for Communications and Transit, the Health Organisation, the Opium Committee, the Commission for the Protection and Welfare of Children and Young People, the Committee on Intellectual Co-operation, etc.) will submit reports on their activity during the year.

Among other questions on the agenda are the pacific settlement of international disputes (report of the Council on proposals, declarations and suggestions made in this connection), arbitration, security and the reduction of armaments (report of the Council on the progress in general security brought about by the conclusion of conventions and treaties), the preparation of the International Economic Conference and of the Disarmament Conference.

2. — COMPOSITION OF THE COUNCIL

The Committee appointed by the Council to study its composition, the number of its members and the method of election of non-permanent members, met in Geneva from May 10th to May 18th. This Committee consists of fifteen members, including, besides representatives of the States members of the Council, those of the Argentine, China, Germany, Poland and Switzerland. There were present :

M. Motta, Chairman	(Switzerland)
M. Le Breton, Vice Chairman	(Argentine)
M. de Brouckère	(Belgium)
M. Montarroyos	(Brazil)
Viscount Cecil	(British Empire)
M. Chao-Hsin-Chu	(China)
M. Veverka	(Czechoslovakia)
M. Paul-Boncour	(France)
M. von Hoesch	(Germany)
M. Scialoja	(Italy)
M. Matsuda	(Japan)
M. Sokal	(Poland)

M. de Palacios	(Spain)
M. Sjöborg	(Sweden)
M. Guani	(Uruguay)

The Committee decided that in principle its meetings should take place in public, and at the close of the proceedings the Chairman drew attention to what he described as a fact of historic importance that negotiations of so delicate a character had been conducted with complete candour and harmony in public session.

The task of the Committee was to consider all claims for seats on the Council and to make any suggestions to the Council as to the course which should be pursued. The basis of its work was the Council's resolution of March 18th, 1926, and the report of the Acting President, Viscount Ishii. It also had at its disposal a number of documents containing suggestions put forward by various Governments—Australia, Austria, Cuba, Esthonia, Norway, Persia, and the Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes—in response to the invitation addressed to all Members of the League.

The session began with a general debate where the various aspects of the problem were examined and in which all the delegates took part. The States presenting claims for representation on the Council explained in detail the grounds upon which their claims were based and there was a full discussion covering these and other points, such as the total size of Council membership. No decision was taken in either of these directions, but more precise consideration was given to the question of the increase in the number and method of election of non-permanent members. This was based on specific proposals submitted by Lord Cecil and the Committee's report to the Council on the provisional results of its first session was almost wholly confined to this subject.

Accepting the principle of the increase of non-permanent members, it adopted on a first reading the following draft regulations with regard to their number and the method of their election :

1. The non-permanent Members of the Council shall be elected for a term of three years. They shall assume office immediately on their election. One third of their number shall be elected each year.
2. A retiring Member may not be re-elected for three years commencing with the date of expiration of its mandate unless the Assembly shall so decide, either at that date or in the course of the three years, by a majority of two thirds; the number of members thus re-elected shall not, however, exceed one third of the total number of the non-permanent members of the Council.
As a transitional measure the decision provided for in the preceding paragraph may at the elections of 1927 be taken not only with respect to the Members whose mandates expire at that time, but also with respect to those whose mandates expire in 1928 and 1929.
3. Notwithstanding the above provisions, the Assembly may at any time by a two thirds majority decide to proceed, in application of Article IV of the Covenant, to a new election of all the non-permanent Members of the Council. In this case the Assembly shall determine the rules applicable to the new election.
4. The non-permanent Members shall be increased to nine in number.
5. In order to bring the above system into operation there shall be elected nine Members as soon as possible in the next Assembly. Three of them shall be elected for a term of three years, three for two years and three for one year.

These draft regulations are subject, by common agreement, to any modifications which may be made at a second reading in consequence of conclusions reached with regard to the number of the permanent members. They were adopted, with reservations in regard to the whole draft by the Spanish and Brazilian representatives; with reservations in regard to paragraph 2, by the Polish and Chinese representatives; and with reservations in regard to the principle of the increase of the non-permanent members by the Swedish representative, who was prepared to accept it on condition that it led to a solution of the crisis which arose in March.

The German delegate, while reserving the right of his Government to arrive at a definite conclusion on the ultimate proposals, said he would not oppose the general feeling of the Committee if the proposals for non-permanent seats were unanimously presented, though he hoped the number would be as restricted as possible. He interpreted the proposals as meaning that the choice of members to be exempted from rotation would lie with the Assembly in the free exercise of its duties and enjoying complete liberty of action, an opinion which was shared by the whole Committee.

It was decided to proceed to a second reading at a Session provisionally fixed for June 28th. The Committee adjourned to this later meeting all decisions as to an increase of the permanent seats, as to the claims made in this connection by Brazil, China, Spain, Persia and Poland, and, therefore, as to the total number of the members of the Council.

The Committee was of the opinion that the increase of the number of the non-permanent Seats on the Council would enable the Assembly to take account in a more comprehensive and equitable measure of the principle of geographical distribution of seats, as recommended by the third, fourth, fifth and sixth Assemblies. It considered that three of the non-permanent Seats should be allotted to Latin America and that Asia should be adequately represented. On this occasion the Chinese representative strongly urged that at least two seats should be allotted to Asia and other parts of the world outside America and Europe.

3. — INTERNATIONAL ENGAGEMENTS

a) *Registration.*

Among the treaties and international agreements registered in May figure :
A Convention on Commerce and Navigation (1925) between Finland and Hungary;

A Treaty of Conciliation and Arbitration (Prague, January 2nd, 1926) between Sweden and Czechoslovakia;

A provisional Commercial Treaty (July 22nd, 1924) between Esthonia and the Netherlands;

A Treaty of Commerce and Navigation (January 18th, 1926) between Great Britain and Esthonia;

A Declaration with regard to the reciprocal recognition of tonnage certificates (Oslo, April 9th, 1926) between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and Norway, presented for registration by the Norwegian Government;

The Treaty of Peace (Budapest, August 27th, 1921) between the United States and Hungary;

An Exchange of Notes (Angora, March 22nd, 1926) constituting a provisional Commercial Agreement between Turkey and Denmark, presented for registration by the Danish Government;

A Convention between France and Poland concerning the despatch of legal documents and commissions to take evidence;

A provisional Commercial Agreement (Paris, February 12th, 1926) between France and Germany, presented for registration by the French Government.

b) *Ratifications and Adhesions.*

The Government of San Marino has adhered to the International Convention for the Suppression of the Circulation of and Traffic in Obscene Publications (Geneva, September 12th, 1923).

c) *Amendments to the Covenant.*

On May 19th the French Government deposited with the League Secretariat the instrument of its ratification of the Protocol relating the amendment adopted by the Second Assembly to Article IV (Election of the non-permanent members of the Council) of the Covenant.

V. — Technical Organisations.

I. — THE HEALTH ORGANISATION

Sixth Session of the Health Committee.

The Sixth Session of the Health Committee, which was held at Geneva from April 26th to May 1st, revealed the constantly increasing scope of the work of the Health Organisation, recorded the development of the Epidemiological Intelligence Service and carried a stage further the investigations on which the Committee is engaged in pursuance of requests from individual Governments or on the basis of resolutions of last Assembly. Certain aspects of the Committee's work were considered by the International Conference for the revision of the World Sanitary Convention of 1912, which met in Paris, on May 10th.

Liaison with Japan. — The Health Committee adopted the report of the Medical Director on his voyage to the Far East at the end of 1925 and beginning of this year, when he attended the first interchange of medical officers of health in Japan, and was present at the first session of the Advisory Council of the Singapore Bureau of Epidemiological Intelligence.

The report describes the high efficiency and modern organisation of the Japanese Health Service both in Japan and in Korea and South Manchuria, where the Health Service of the South Manchurian Railway has produced in a short space of time most remarkable results among the population under its charge.

Much valuable and original information, the report states, is contained in the records of the Japanese Health Service which, being all in the Japanese language, have hitherto been practically a sealed book to western medical science. The Japanese health and medical authorities have now formed a commission, under the chairmanship of the first Japanese member of the League Health Committee, Professor Miyajima, to strengthen the contacts between the League Health Organisation and applied medical science in the Far East. Under the auspices of this commission monographs, based on recent original Japanese research work on public health problems of international importance, will be presented to and published by the Health Committee. Corresponding members from various Japanese institutes, medical schools and the Imperial Statistical Bureau will be invited to work in connection with the respective commissions of the League Health Committee, such as those on public health instruction, cancer, sleeping sickness, leprosy, malaria, smallpox and vital statistics.

The system of individual fellowship, started by the Health Organisation in connection with group interchanges, is to be extended to the Far East so as to allow western public health and medical research workers to study at Japanese institutes and bring Japanese public health and research workers to the West in order to study problems of special importance to Japan.

The Epidemiological Intelligence Service. — The Epidemiological Intelligence Service now covers nearly the whole world. Periodical reports on the prevalence

of notifiable diseases are received, mostly in advance of publication in the countries concerned, from 116 national and colonial administrations, which together are responsible for the public health of more than two-thirds of the world's population. Reports are received from a number of cities of certain countries not possessing a national system of notification. An even prompter reception and distribution of this information is being arranged, and steps are being taken to secure greater uniformity in the periods of time covered by the various reports so as to facilitate the comparative study of the data. Special attention has been given in the past few months to developing current statistical information from large cities.

The Singapore Epidemiological Intelligence Bureau. — During the past six months, the Singapore Bureau of the Epidemiological Intelligence Service has greatly developed its work and now receives telegraphic weekly reports from 104 ports in an area extending from Alexandria and Capetown in the west, to Honolulu in the east, including Australia, New Zealand and the whole southern coast of Asia. The information is worked up into a weekly bulletin, which is broadcast in code from Saigon every Friday, and repeated by the wireless stations at Bandoeng in Java, at Bombay, Calcutta, Madras, and Karachi, and at Sandakan in British North Borneo, to be picked up by Far Eastern Administrations. It is cabled to the Geneva head office, where it is published on the same day as a leaflet and sent by post to all European Health Administrations, which thus receive information from the Far East within a week of the termination of the period covered by the report. A weekly record of reports on the prevalence of plague, cholera, yellow fever, typhus and smallpox received both through the Singapore Bureau and from other sources has been started.

In the words of the report adopted by the Committee :

“The Bureau has already rendered notable services to Eastern Health Administrations, especially in having kept them promptly informed with regard to the serious cholera outbreak which has occurred in several Asiatic ports during the past twelve months. In this and in other ways it has demonstrated its great practical utility from the point of view of all Port Health Administrations.”

The Question of a West African Sanitary Bureau. — In accordance with a decision of the October session of the Health Committee steps were taken through the Health Section of the Secretariat to enquire into the desirability and practicability of establishing a sanitary bureau for the countries on the west coast of Africa. A member of the Health Section, who accompanied the West African interchange of medical officers of health, used this opportunity to obtain information from each country or colony visited regarding the methods employed for locating and reporting cases of the more important communicable diseases and the extent to which public health measures for the prevention of the spread of infection are handicapped by the difficulties of obtaining prompt and reliable information. At the final conference of the West African interchange, which will take place in Freetown early in June, these questions will be discussed with special reference to the rôle that a centre of epidemiological intelligence in West Africa might play in facilitating anti-epidemic work. The discussion will be of an unofficial character and the health administrations concerned will in no wise be bound by the opinions expressed by their medical officers. A report on the subject will be submitted to the Health Committee, presumably at its October session.

The System of Interchanges. — The Committee reviewed the interchanges held since its last session in October, namely, the general interchange in Japan, an interchange of Port Health Officers in Mediterranean ports, an interchange of municipal medical officers in Great Britain and an interchange of officers in colonial health administrations in West Africa, and adopted a programme for the rest of 1926 and

part of 1927. This programme comprises notably general interchanges in Denmark, Great Britain, and Germany, a small special interchange combining the features of individual missions and collective study taking place in Western Europe (principally France, Belgium, Holland and Switzerland), a number of individual fellowships for health officers from Japan and Australia as well as European countries, a further interchange of port medical officers either in the Baltic and North Sea or in the ports of the Far East, and various extensions of the system of interchanges, such as an interchange for sanitary engineers to take place in Great Britain, and possibly interchanges for teachers of hygiene and doctors from National Health Insurance organisations.

Report of the Malaria Commission. — The Health Committee adopted the proposals of its Malaria Commission, concerning :

1. The continuation of the Commission's study of anti-malarial methods.

In a series of journeys during the last two years the Commission has surveyed the methods by which malaria is combated in Russia, South Eastern Europe and the Mediterranean countries. It will continue this survey in the course of the next year by a visit to Sicily and to America, where some of its members will study the methods used by the States in the Mississippi Basin. The United States Public Health Service and the Rockefeller Foundation are kindly cooperating in arranging a programme for the latter visit;

2. Specialist studies of local problems such as the influence on malaria of river deltas and drainage works;

3. Laboratory researches on the mechanism of infection (the way the mosquito becomes infected and transmits infection. Various problems connected with the disease itself, and so forth).

4. The continuation of the tests made as to the relative efficacy of alkaloids of cinchona other than quinine, and of the total extract of cinchona bark. If more of the bye-products and raw materials used in manufacturing quinine could be utilised for producing febrifuges, the treatment of malaria would become less costly than it is at present. Tests are being carried out in a series of hospitals in Italy, Yougoslavia, Spain, Roumania, and Algeria, on a common programme framed by the Malaria Commission. By the end of the year a report will be issued on the results obtained in these experiments.

5. Courses of study for malariologists along common lines, organised by the Malaria Commission in certain selected institutes in London, Paris, and Hamburg, followed by a period of practical work and observation in malarial areas in Corsica, Italy, Yougoslavia, and Spain.

On the completion of its survey and study of special problems the Commission will issue a final report on malaria in Europe, covering its three years' work. This, it is considered, will be of use to health administrations grappling with this problem, which has become exceedingly serious as a result of the conditions created by the world war. The Malaria Commission itself will also be able to give technical advice and assistance to Governments that may so desire.

Reports and Investigations. — The Committee adopted a number of reports, notably that of its Tuberculosis Commission, the Public Health Training Commission, an account of the sleeping sickness investigation now in progress, and reports of various members of the Committee on trachoma, leprosy, smallpox, etc. It decided to convoke an international conference on rabies (hydrophobia) in 1927 at the Pasteur Institute in Paris, to which the directors of the chief Antirabic Institutes of the world will be invited. The proposal that such a conference should be held has been made on several occasions by many of the institutes concerned.

2. — THE ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL ORGANISATION

a) *Double Taxation and Tax Evasion.*

The experts appointed by the Council to study the questions of double taxation and tax evasion and to make practical suggestions with a view to their solution, met at Geneva, from May 17th to May 22nd.

Of the twelve countries invited to nominate experts, the majority had sent senior officials of their financial administration. There were present: Professor Pasquale d'Aroma (Italy), Chairman; Dr. Salvador Oria (Argentine); M. Clavier (Belgium); Dr. Valnicek (Czechoslovakia); M. Borduge (France); Dr. Herbert Dorn (Germany); Sir Percy Thompson (Great Britain); M. Kengo Mori (Japan); Dr. J. H. R. Sinninghe Damste, and Dr. van der Waals for colonial questions (the Netherlands); Professor Zaleski (Poland); M. Hans Blau (Switzerland) and Dr. F. Alvarez Feo (Venezuela).

In response to an invitation of the Council, the International Chamber of Commerce had appointed two delegates to attend the meeting in an advisory capacity, namely, M. Robert Julliard, President of the Comptoir d'Escompte, Geneva, and Mr. George O. May, Senior partner of Price, Waterhouse and Co., New York.

The Committee for Communications and Transit was represented at debates on double taxation in the case of maritime and inland navigation companies by Mr. Cleminson, General Manager of the Chamber of Shipping of the United Kingdom, M. Palanca, Director of the Navigazione Generale (Italy), and M. Weinbrenner, Financial Director of the Donau-Dampfschiffahrt-Gesellschaft in Vienna.

The experts, several of whom had not taken part in the previous work of the League on the subject, had before them the resolutions of the smaller Committee which had up to then dealt with double taxation. After a careful examination these resolutions were approved as a whole. The experts then divided themselves into three sub-committees dealing respectively with double taxation, tax evasion and administrative assistance, and legal assistance. Each of these bodies—which were presided over by M. Clavier, M. Borduge and M. Sinninghe Damste—prepared a preliminary draft convention on the subject assigned to it. These drafts will be considered by the experts at a later meeting—possibly next autumn—and may finally provide a basis of discussion for an international conference.

b) *The Settlement of Bulgarian Refugees.*

The Bulgarian Government has asked the League to lend its assistance in a scheme of settlement for Bulgarian refugees.

This request, which is embodied in a letter to the Secretary-General, has been communicated to the members of the Council and placed on the agenda of the next Council session.

3. — COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSIT

a) *The Second Passport Conference.*

The Second Passport Conference, convened by the Council, met at Geneva from May 12th to May 18th.

Thirty-eight Governments were represented, namely, the Argentine Republic, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, China, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Danzig, Denmark, Esthonia, Finland, France, Germany, Great Britain, Greece, Hungary, India, the Irish Free State, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liberia, the Netherlands, Nicaragua, Norway, Poland, Roumania, the Saar Basin Governing Commission, the King-

dom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes, Siam, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, the Union of South Africa, and Uruguay. Representatives of the International Labour Office, the International Chamber of Commerce, the Committee of the International Emigration and Immigration Conference, the International Shipping Conference, the Passport and Postal Reform Committee and the International Railway Union attended the Conference in an advisory capacity.

The Conference elected as President M. Pusta (Esthonia) and as Vice-Presidents M. Aguero y Bethancourt (Cuba) and M. Politis, Chairman of the Passports Sub-Committee of the Committee for Communications and Transit.

The programme of the Conference had been drawn up by a special sub-committee of the Committee for Communications and Transit. It was based largely on a resolution of the Sixth Assembly, recommending that steps should be taken with a view to the abolition, to the widest extent possible, of the passport system, and to mitigating the disadvantages and expense entailed by that system.

The Second Conference, like that of 1920, adopted a series of recommendations aiming principally at technical improvements in passports of the international type and in methods of establishing passports; the prolongation of the duration of their validity, and its extension to all foreign countries, or to as large groups of countries as possible; the reduction of passport fees, which should in no case exceed the expenditure entailed by their issue; and the simplification of frontier control.

The Conference was in favour of the total abolition of exit visas and recommended that the suppression of entrance and transit visas should be made as general as possible by means of inter-State agreements. It also recommended that facilities should be granted to travellers, enabling them to break their journey in the countries through which they passed, more especially in ports of call, even though their passport should bear no transit visa; that visas should be valid for two years, or for a period equal to that of the validity of the passport, and that they should be good for an unlimited number of journeys and for all frontiers.

It was further recommended that the visa fee should not exceed :

- (1) 5 gold francs for entrance visas valid for a single journey;
- (2) 10 gold francs for entrance visas valid for several journeys;

(3) 1 gold franc for transit visas of unlimited validity. The Conference considered that fees should not vary according to the nationality of the passport-holder, his itinerary, or the flag of the ship upon which he embarked. It recommended that the issue of passports, identity papers and visas should be organised so as to simplify formalities and to spare travellers and emigrants long and expensive journeys. Visas should be delivered within the shortest possible time.

With regard to frontier control, the Conference recommended that it should be carried out, whenever possible, when the trains were in motion; should this be impossible, during the stoppage of trains at one of the two frontier stations, and that police inspection by the two countries concerned should be effected simultaneously or follow rapidly upon one another. It drew the attention of States to the fact that these improvements would be of little value unless agreements were also concluded for the accomplishment of customs formalities in the same conditions of time and place.

The Conference requested the League to prepare two draft agreements : one, based upon the system of transit cards to replace the consular visa, to facilitate the passage in transit of emigrants leaving Europe for overseas countries; the other, on the introduction of an internationally recognised identity document, to facilitate the movements of persons without nationality.

In his closing speech the President made the following statement on the work of the Conference :

“The abolition of passports, the restoration of pre-war conditions, such were the instructions of the Sixth Assembly and the Council of the League of Nations. The Passport Conference, comprising fully qualified experts of thirty-eight States and of important economic bodies, was called upon to consider whether these ins-

tructions could be carried out and if so, in what conditions. At the risk of becoming unpopular, the Conference, mindful of the responsibilities of the Governments it represents, has replied by the decisions we have just adopted, that it does not consider that the time is ripe for the total abolition of passports. "

b) *Port and Coast Signals.*

The Sub-Committee for the Unification of Port and Coast Signals met at Paris from May 3rd to May 6th. There were present : M. van Braam van Vloten, Chief Engineer of the Technical Lighthouse Service at The Hague; M. Meyer, Chief of the Maritime Signal Department of the Transport Ministry, Berlin; M. de Rouville, Chief Engineer of the French Central Lighthouse and Buoy Service; and Admiral Niblack, Director of the International Hydrographic Bureau.

The Sub-Committee reached an agreement with regard to a certain number of coast signals which it proposes that the Buoyage Committee should adopt (storm, ice, tide and high sea signals; signals indicating the presence of submarines, diving operations, gunnery practice, mine and hydrographic dredging, the presence of fishing nets, timber floating, etc.; pilotage signals, signals to guide ships at a distance, signals affecting the movements of ships entering or leaving a harbour, subject or not to restrictions).

Exhaustive material, of great assistance to the Sub-Committee, had been prepared by the International Hydrographic Bureau.

VI. — Social and Humanitarian Questions.

EIGHTH SESSION OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON TRAFFIC IN OPIUM AND OTHER DANGEROUS DRUGS

The eighth session of the Advisory Committee on Traffic in Opium and Other Dangerous Drugs opened on May 26th at Geneva. There were present :

M. Bourgois, Chairman	(France).
M. Anselmino, Vice-Chairman	(Germany).
M. Chao-Hsin-Chu	(China).
Sir Malcolm Delevingne	(Great Britain).
Sir John Campbell	(India).
M. Sugimura	(Japan).
M. van Wettum	(Netherlands).
M. Ferreira	(Portugal).
M. Fotitch	(Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes).
Prince Charoon	(Siam).
M. Dinichert	(Switzerland).
Mr. S. Pinkney Tuck	United States of America, appointed by this Government to attend the meeting in an unofficial capacity).

Assessor :

Colonel Arthur Woods.

The agenda includes the examination of the question of the ratification and application of the Hague Opium Convention, the question of the illicit drug traffic,

the question of the cultivation of the opium poppy in China, the question of smuggling, etc.

A full account of the meeting will be given in the next number.

VII. — Forthcoming Events.

- June 15th : Meeting of the Economic Committee, Paris.
- June 21st : Interchange of Sanitary Engineers, Great Britain.
- June 23rd : Meeting of the Committee of Enquiry into the Reform of the Calendar, Geneva.
- June 28th : Second Session of the Committee on the Composition of the Council, Geneva.
- July 7th : Meeting of the Special Body of Experts on Traffic in Women and Children, Geneva.
- July 9th : Meeting of the Sub-Committee on Inland Navigation, Geneva.
- July 10th : Special Interchange of Health Officers in Holland, Belgium, France and Switzerland.
- July 12th : Meeting of the Advisory and Technical Committee for Communications and Transit, Geneva.
- July 15th : Meeting of the Sub-Committee on Intellectual Property, Geneva.
- July 17th : Meeting of the Sub-Committee on University Relations, Geneva.
- July 20th : Meeting of the Sub-Committee on Arts and Letters, Geneva.
- July 23rd : Meeting of the Sub-Committee on Bibliography, Geneva.
- July 26th : Plenary Session of the Committee on Intellectual Cooperation, Geneva.

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MONTHLY SUMMARY OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS

JUNE 1926

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Communications concerning the *Monthly Summary* should be addressed to the Information Section, League of Nations, Geneva.

I. — Summary of the Month.

The fortieth session of the Council was held at Geneva from June 7th to June 10th under the presidency of M. Guani (Uruguay).

The presidency of this session would normally have fallen to Sweden. As, however, the Swedish representative, M. Uden, was detained in Sweden by the ministerial crisis, his deputy, M. Sjoborg, requested that the representative another State should exercise the presidency.

The Council was composed as follows :

M. Vandervelde	(Belgium)
M. de Mello Franco	(Brazil)
Dr. Benes	(Czechoslovakia)
Sir Austen Chamberlain	(British Empire)
M. Briand, replaced in the course of the session by M. Paul-Boncour.	(France)
M. Scialoja	(Italy)
Viscount Ishii	(Japan)
M. Quer Boule	(Spain)
M. Sjoborg	(Sweden)
M. Guani	(Uruguay)

For the discussion of certain questions the Council included representatives of the South African Union, Australia, Austria, Bulgaria, Greece, Hungary, Roumania and the Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes.

The interest of the session centred upon four questions : the question of the composition of the Council with the declarations of the Spanish and Brazilian representatives, and a communication of the British representative on the conclusion of a British and Turkish negotiations regarding the Iraq frontier; the success of the League's work of financial reconstruction in Austria and Hungary.

The development of the question of arbitration, security and the reduction of armaments also formed the subject of comprehensive reports to the Council.

Other questions dealt with at this session concerned the settlement of refugees in Greece, Bulgaria and Armenia; international measures to prevent the forging of currency; the preparation of the World Economic Conference and various social and humanitarian matters.

Other meetings in June were those of the Permanent Mandates Commission, the Advisory Committee on traffic in Opium and other dangerous drugs, the Economic, the Health Committee and the Committee on the Reform of the Calendar.

The fifth ordinary session of the Permanent Court of International Justice opened on June 15th.

II. — The Permanent Court of International Justice ⁽¹⁾.

1. — ELEVENTH SESSION (ORDINARY)

In conformity with Article 23 of its Statute, the Permanent Court of International Justice met on June 15th at the Peace Palace, The Hague, for its ordinary session of 1926. For this session, which is its fifth ordinary one, the Court is composed of all its regular members, namely :

M. Huber (President)
M. Loder (Former President)
M. Weiss (Vice-President)
Lord Finlay
M. Nyholm
M. Moore
M. de Bustamante
M. Altamira
M. Oda
M. Anzilotti
M. Pessôa

On the agenda figures the question submitted to the Court for an advisory opinion by the Resolution of the Council of the League of Nations of March 17th, 1926 ⁽²⁾.

The Court has further decided to undertake, during the present session, the consideration of a certain number of amendments, proposed by its members, to various articles of the Rules of Court adopted on March 24th, 1922.

Hearings. — According to the ordinary procedure, the request for an opinion referred to above was notified to the Members of the League and to such States not members as were entitled to appear before the Court. It was further communicated, under Article 73 of the Rules of Court, to the International Labour Office, the International Organisation of Industrial Employers, the International Federation of Trade Unions, and the Confederation of Christian Trade Unions, as likely to be able to furnish information on the question submitted to the Court. These organisations, at the same time, were informed that the Court would accept memoranda submitted by them before June 10th; it was also intimated that the Court would consider any requests for permission to furnish oral information before it.

Memoranda were filed by the International Labour Office and by the International Federation of Trade Unions, whilst the International Organisation of Industrial Employers submitted legal opinions signed respectively by M. H. Berthélémy, M. L. le Fur and M. J. de la Morandière, by Sir Leslie Scott, K. C. and M. E.-J. Rimmer, and by M. Eugène Borel.

All the four organisations referred to above requested to be heard orally. The Court decided to accede to this request and fixed the beginning of the hearings for Monday, June 28th. The International Federation of Trade Unions having suggested that certain experts on the situation in the baking industry should be heard, the Court informed the Federation that it would decide, after hearing the representatives of the various organisations, whether such experts should be heard.

(1) This article has been prepared with the aid of information supplied by the Registrar of the Permanent Court.
(2) See *Monthly Summary*, Vol. VI, No. 3, p. 52.

The experts appointed by the Federation are :

M. Banfield, representing English working bakers;
M. Savoie, representing French working bakers;
M. Mueller, Master-Baker (Germany); and
M. Zaalberg, Director General of Labour (Netherlands).

At the hearings, which began on the afternoon of June 28th and finished in the evening of June 29th, the International Labour Office was represented by its Director, M. Albert Thomas, the Chiefs of the Diplomatic and Legal Sections of the Office, MM. Phelan and Morellet, being also present. The International Organisation of Industrial Employers was represented by Maître Eugène Borel, of Geneva, and by its Secretary-General, Maître Lecocq, whilst the International Federation of Trade Unions had as its spokesman Maître Mendels, of Amsterdam, and the International Confederation of Christian Trade Unions its Secretary-General, M. Serrens, of Utrecht.

The representatives of the organisations spoke in the order now indicated, M. Albert Thomas's statement occupying the whole of the afternoon of the 29th.

This statement being finished the Court withdrew to consider the decision referred to above concerning the possible hearing of the experts nominated by the International Federation of Trade Unions. The decision arrived at, which was communicated to the representatives of the interested organisations, was to the effect that the Court was prepared to hear the experts, provided the Federation still wished that they should be heard. Maître Mendels, on behalf of the Federation and in agreement with the experts themselves, having stated that it would not seem to be necessary that the experts should be heard, since the Court appeared to have already obtained all the necessary information, no hearing was fixed, and the Court withdrew to consider its advisory opinion.

2. — APPOINTMENT OF AN ARBITRATOR UNDER THE DAWES PLAN

The German Government and the Commissioner of controlled revenues appointed under the Dawes Plan have, in conformity with the provisions of the Protocol of London dated August 9th, 1924, requested the President of the Court to appoint an arbitrator to decide a dispute concerning the interpretation of that Protocol. The President has accepted this task and has appointed as arbitrator Count van Lynden van Sandenburg, Doctor of Law and Political Science, formerly Queen's Commissioner for the Province of Utrecht, Member of the Advisory Committee for International Affairs at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and of the Dutch Committee of International Law, Delegate for the Netherlands at the Assembly of the League of Nations. Count van Lynden van Sandenburg has declared his readiness to accept the arbitral functions in question.

The question for the determination of the arbitrator is the following :

Under the terms of Article 11 of Chapter III of the Control protocol, as read in conjunction with the Protocol as a whole, is the Commissioner of Controlled Revenues without power to decline to consent to a reduction in the rate of an assigned revenue proposed by the German Government unless and until the special conditions of fact set forth in Article 7 of Chapter III of the Control Protocol are in existence, i.e. a falling off in the yield of the revenues as such falling off is defined in the first paragraph (a), (b) and (c) of said Article 7, and unless, in addition, there is a decrease in the returns from the particular revenues as to which a reduction in rate is proposed?

3. — ARBITRATION TREATIES CONCLUDED BY SWITZERLAND

The Swiss Minister at The Hague has handed to the Registry, for information, the French text of the message by which the Swiss Federal Council has recommended to the Federal Assembly the approval of the Treaty of conciliation, judicial settlement and compulsory arbitration concluded between Switzerland and Roumania on February 3rd, 1926.

4. — ACCEPTANCE OF THE OPTIONAL CLAUSE REGARDING THE COURT'S COMPULSORY JURISDICTION

Acceptance by Switzerland. — The acceptance by Switzerland of the jurisdiction of the Court as compulsory was renewed for a period of ten years on March 1st, 1926. The declaration of March 1st, 1926, which was ratified on April 15th, 1926, is as follows :

On behalf of the Swiss Confederation and subject to ratification, the undersigned recognises, in relation to any other Member of the League of Nations or State accepting the same obligation, that is to say, on the sole condition of reciprocity, the jurisdiction of the Court as compulsory, *ipso facto* and without special convention, for a period of ten years to be reckoned as from the deposit of the instrument of ratification. Geneva, March 1st, 1926.

MOTTA.

Acceptance by Denmark ⁽¹⁾. — The acceptance by Denmark, for a further period of ten years, of the compulsory jurisdiction of the Court will, according to information given by the Danish Government, take effect only as from June 13th, 1926.

5. — QUESTION OF THE ADHESION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE PERMANENT COURT OF INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE

The Council, on June 10th, definitely confirmed September 1st as the opening date of the Conference to discuss the question raised by the resolution of the United States Senate ⁽²⁾.

Fourteen States (Belgium, China, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Finland, Great Britain, Greece, Italy, Latvia, Liberia, the Netherlands, Norway, Roumania and Sweden) have so far accepted the Council's invitation to take part in the Conference.

III. — Reduction of Armaments.

1. — WORK OF THE PREPARATORY COMMISSION FOR THE DISARMAMENT CONFERENCE

a) *Resolution of the Council.*

The Council, on June 10th, noted the decisions reached by the Preparatory Commission for the Disarmament Conference ⁽³⁾. It adjourned to its September

(1) See *Monthly Summary*, Vol. VI, No. 4, p. 90.

(2) See *Monthly Summary*, Vol. VI, Nos. 2, 3, 4 and 5, p. 40, 52, 91 and 110.

(3) See *Monthly Summary*, Vol. VI, No. 5, p. 110.

Session the consideration of the French proposal which involved the examination of some rather complicated questions of an administrative character concerning arrangements for the meeting and work of the Council in times of crisis, and also of measures to prevent the development of hostilities and to afford economic and financial assistance to a State attacked.

The Polish and Finnish proposals, which were closely connected with the French proposal, were also postponed till September.

b) *First session of Sub-Commission A* ⁽¹⁾.

The first session of Sub-Commission A (military, naval and air questions) of the Preparatory Commission for the Disarmament Conference was held from May 28th to June 21st under the chairmanship of M. Cobian (Spain), replaced later by M. Buero (Uruguay).

The sub-commission considered several of the questions referred to it by the Preparatory Commission : in particular, that of the various factors upon which the power of a country in time of war depends; the definition and special characteristics of the various factors constituting the armaments of a country in time of peace; the definition of the different kinds of armaments, of forces immediately adaptable to military purposes, methods of recruiting and instruction. It established a definition of the land, sea and air forces, permanently maintained in peacetime by the various countries or capable of immediate use without preliminary mobilisation measures, which the Preparatory Commission considered it was possible to limit. It also examined what other forces it might be possible to limit.

The question of the standards of comparison of the military, naval and air armaments of different countries was after a general discussion divided between a military, a naval and an air committee, presided over by Colonel Nygren (Sweden), Admiral Surie (the Netherlands) and General Dumesnil (France) respectively.

These three bodies, which began work on June 22nd, will submit a report to the Sub-Commission. The latter will then adjourn for three weeks, after which it will continue its examination of the questions referred to it.

c) *First Meeting of the Joint Commission.*

The Joint Commission, which was set up by the Council to advise the Preparatory Committee for the Disarmament Conference on the economic aspect of the questions under discussion, met at Geneva on June 28th under the chairmanship of M. Buero (Uruguay).

This body comprises two members of each of the following technical organisations of the League, Economic and Financial Organisation, and Organisation for Communications and Transit; two members of the Workers' Group and two members of the Employers' Group of the Governing Body of the International Labour Office; and two members chosen on account of their special knowledge of industry and transport questions.

The Commission is further authorised by the Council Resolution of March 18th, to consult other experts.

The following members took part in the first meeting :

For the Economic Committee :

Mr. Wills (British).

M. J. Barboza-Carneiro (Brazilian).

(1) See *Monthly Summary*, Vol. VI, No. 5, p. 110.

For the Financial Committee :

M. Bianchini (Italian); M. Pospisil (Czechoslovak).

For the Committee on Communications and Transit :

M. Kroller (Dutch) and M. Schwob (French).

For the Workers' Group of the Governing Body of the International Labour Office :

M. Jouhaux (French), M. Oudegeest (Dutch).

For the Employers' Group :

M. Hodac (Czech), M. Oersted (Dane).

Experts appointed under the Council Resolution of March 18th.

M. von Moellendorf (Germany), M. Sugimura (Japan).

The agenda includes the following questions :

1. Is it possible to compare the scale of the armaments of the different States by comparing their military expenditure, if so by what method?

2. (a) The examination of the consequences, from the economic point of view, of the insertion in the Convention relative to disarmament, or in that regarding the prohibition of certain forms of warfare, of provisions similar to those contained in the Statute of the International Labour Organisation (Articles 411 to 420 of the Treaty of Versailles).

(b) Does the supervision of disarmament offer any difficulties, from the economic point of view, and if so, what difficulties?

3. (a) Can factories normally and legitimately employed for chemical purposes including dye-works be quickly adapted to manufacture poison gases?

(b) If the answer to the above is in the affirmative, how long would it take to effect the change?

(c) Can any proposals be made to prevent or hinder chemical factories from being used for the production of poison gases?

2. — ARBITRATION AND SECURITY

In accordance with instructions of the Sixth Assembly, reports on the questions of arbitration, security and the pacific settlement of international disputes were submitted to the Council by the Czechoslovak, Japanese and Swedish representatives.

Endorsing the conclusions of the reports, the Council noted that the movement for the pacific settlement of disputes by means of special treaties was daily gaining ground in international politics. This was no mere movement of ideas, it could be seen in actual facts, for it was resulting in an increasing number of conciliation and arbitration agreements. The Council saw no advantage in laying down too definite rules for the form in which this tendency was to find expression in the many different and complicated situations to which international political life gave rise. It merely wished to record that this movement, already so vigorous in the case of special agreements, was a sure sign of the goodwill of the different States to establish peace on a solid footing. Such agreements concluded within the framework of the Covenant of the League were perhaps the best solution that could be found in the present circumstances and the Council expressed the hope that their development would help to bring about the general solution which the Assembly had so often endeavoured to find. In any event the conclusion of such special agreements, far from being an obstacle to such a general solution, could do nothing but assist it.

3. — PRIVATE MANUFACTURE OF ARMS, MUNITIONS AND IMPLEMENTS OF WAR.

At its June session, the Council, on the proposal of Dr. Benes (Czechoslovakia), referred to its Committee of Enquiry the replies of Governments to the questionnaire on the private manufacture of arms, munitions and implements ⁽¹⁾.

It drew the attention of Governments to the importance it attached to their opinions on this subject, which it regarded as the essential basis for drawing up an international convention for the supervision of the private manufacture of arms, and asked those Governments which had not already replied to the questionnaire to do so as soon as possible.

IV. — Legal and Constitutional Questions.

1. — COMPOSITION OF THE COUNCIL

The proposals adopted on first reading by the Committee on the Composition of the Council and embodied in a report on its first sessions were submitted to the Council on June 10th. The latter, while abstaining from any discussion as to the merits of the report, recognised that the proposals were of the greatest importance and decided to communicate the report to all States Members of the League. As regards the second session of the Committee, provisionally fixed for June 28th, the Council authorised its President, if necessary, to adjourn it, after consulting the Chairman of the Committee.

On this occasion, the Italian representative reminded the Council that, at the Committee meetings, he had expressed his opinion that the maximum number of the members of the Council should not exceed fourteen. If, therefore, the number of permanent members were increased to more than five, there would have to be a corresponding decrease in the number of non-permanent members, nine being the number proposed by the Committee.

The Spanish representative made two declarations to the Committee. In the first place, he announced that it was for reasons of courtesy only that his Government had sent to this session a representative, who moreover would be compelled to observe a purely passive attitude. Secondly, he informed the Council that his Government had decided to ratify the amendment to Article IV of the Covenant, but was unable to accept a classification which would place Spain among Powers of the second rank.

The Members of the Council congratulated the Spanish representative on his Government's decision to ratify the amendment to Article IV—a measure which would make it possible to introduce regulations for elections to Council seats. They also expressed the hope that Spain might continue to cooperate in the work of the Assembly and the Council.

The Brazilian representative handed to the Council a communication from his Government and read a declaration summing up the various points of his Government's views in regard to the composition of the Council. Brazil, he said, supported the principle of equality of treatment for the different continents, and, if it were necessary to maintain a distinction between permanent and non-permanent members he demanded that the American continent, together with the other continents, should be recognised as having a right to be permanently represented on the Council. The object of the Brazilian claim, M. de Mello Franco said, was essentially

(1) See *Monthly Summary*, Vol. VI, Nos 4 and 5, p. 91 and 116.

continental in character, based on the *co-imperium* of the territory of which Brazil was a part and on the indissolubility of certain interests, without there being any question of a political representation of the other States of the continent.

M. de Mello Franco concluded with a statement to the effect that his Government had decided to renounce its non-permanent seat on the Council in order to facilitate by its sacrifice the solution of the problem of the permanent seats, a question which had been pending since the First Assembly.

The Council was unanimous in regretting the decision of the Brazilian Government and expressed the hope that Brazil would not deprive the League of her further cooperation. The President, M. Guani (Uruguay) drew attention to the position of Brazil in South America and to her devotion to the cause of the League. He said that, although Brazil and Uruguay differed as regards the question of the permanent seats, they were at one in their demand that the American continent should be granted stronger and more equitable representation on the Council.

Sir Austen Chamberlain, referring to the difference between permanent and non-permanent Members, said : "It is true that we arrive here by different routes, but once we have entered the Council Chamber no difference exists between us. We all speak with an equal authority. The assent of every one of us is equally necessary to a decision by the Council. We sit here, from whatever source we derive our right to our seats, as equals, as colleagues and as friends, discharging to the best of our ability and in the spirit of comradeship, friendship and equality, the great tasks with which we are entrusted."

The Italian representative, M. Scialoja, emphasised the fact that Brazil had, ever since the beginning of the League, occupied a seat on the Council. Brazil, he said, had clearly strong reasons for a seat on the Council as facts, which were stronger than any arguments, had proved—Brazil had had a seat on the Council since the constitution of the League of Nations. This fact should have convinced Brazil that the Council could not forego her collaboration.

Certain members of the Council advanced the view that, constitutionally, resignation did not free a Member until it had been accepted, and that the Assembly alone had power to accept such a resignation, to appreciate the motives for it and to take such action as it saw fit.

On the proposal of its President, the Council decided to circulate to all Members of the League the minutes of the meeting and the communication of the Brazilian Government. This, the President said, would enable the States Members to appreciate the feelings of sympathy and friendship expressed by all the Members of the Council towards Brazil and her distinguished representative.

2. — RELATIONS OF THE BRAZILIAN GOVERNMENT WITH THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS

The Secretary-General has received from the Brazilian Government and forwarded to the States Members of the League the following telegram :

"As you are aware, in the statement forwarded to M. Mello-Franco, which has doubtless already been published *in extenso* by the Secretariat and communicated to the Members of the League, Brazil resigned her temporary seat on the Council. At the end of the document it was stated that Brazil was awaiting the opportunity to complete her action by abandoning the honour of membership of the League. Having now received an invitation to the ordinary Assembly in September, which she can no longer attend, she feels bound to state that this circumstance obliges her to announce at once, in this communication, her decision to withdraw from the League. This telegram is to be regarded as a preliminary notification in accordance with the final paragraph of Article I of the Covenant.

(Signed) Felix PACHECO, Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs.

3. — INTERNATIONAL ENGAGEMENTS

a) *Registration.*

Among the treaties and international engagements registered in June figure :

A Convention for the Pacific Settlement of Disputes, concluded by Finland and Sweden on January 29th, 1926;

Two Conventions concluded in February, 1925, by Finland and Norway, the one on the international regime of the rivers Pastik and Jakobseli, the other on timber-floating on the Pastik;

A Commercial Convention between Esthonia and Switzerland (October 14th, 1925);

An Extradition Treaty between the United States of America and Venezuela, registered at the request of the latter;

A Treaty of Friendship, Commerce and Consular Relations between the United States of America and Esthonia (Washington, December 23rd, 1925);

Postal and Telegraphic Conventions between Belgium and the Netherlands (The Hague, March, 1926);

A Treaty of Conciliation and Arbitration between Poland and Czechoslovakia (Warsaw, April, 1925);

A Convention on Commerce and Navigation between Great Britain and Finland (Helsingfors, December 14th, 1923);

A Extradition Treaty between the United States of America and Czechoslovakia (Prague, July 2nd, 1925).

b) *Adhesions and Ratifications.*

The New Zealand Government has ratified the Protocol relating to Arbitration Clauses in Commercial Contracts (Geneva, September 24th, 1923).

The Roumanian Government has ratified the International Convention for the Suppression of the Traffic in Obscene Publications (Geneva, September 12th, 1923).

4. — THE LEGAL STATUS OF GOVERNMENT EMPLOYED IN COMMERCE

On June 7th the Council considered a report of the Committee of Experts for the Progressive Codification of International Law ⁽¹⁾ submitting as ripe for an international solution the question of the legal status of Government ships employed in commerce.

The Committee stated that this subject had already been studied by two international conferences called by the International Maritime Committee and that the Belgian Government had been requested to summon a diplomatic conference for the conclusion of an international agreement. It considered that such an agreement was both desirable and feasible at the present moment, either as proposed by the International Maritime Committee, or, if that body's initiative remained without effect, in such other manner as the Council might deem appropriate.

The Belgian Government having meanwhile informed the Council that a convention on the subject under discussion had been concluded at Brussels on April 10th, 1926, the Council, on the proposal of M. Sjobord (Sweden), confined itself to noting this information and congratulated the Belgian Government on its successful work in the domain of international law.

(1) See *Monthly Summary*, Vol. VI, No. 1, p. 3.

5. — REPORT OF THE STRAITS COMMISSION

On June 10th, the Council considered the questions of its relations with the Straits Commission, as defined in Article 15 of the Convention relating to the Straits Régime (Lausanne, July 24th, 1923), which reads :

“The Straits Commission will carry out its functions under the auspices of the League of Nations, and will address to the League an annual report giving an account of its activities, and furnishing all information which may be useful in the interests of commerce and navigation.”

On the report of Viscount Ishii (Japan), the Council formally accepted the duties assigned to it by this article. The President of the Straits Commission had already, on several occasions, been in correspondence with the League Secretariat, and in September last year the Council had authorised the Secretary-General to forward to the Powers concerned information supplied by the Commission on the passage of naval or air forces through the Straits.

It then took note of the first report submitted by the Commission on its work in 1925, which it decided to circulate together with the minutes of the debate, to the signatories of the Straits Convention, and to any technical organisation of the League, which might be interested in the information contained in the Report.

The report concluded with the following passage :

“In drawing up the present report, the Straits Commission has sought to carry out the intentions of Article 15 of the Convention of Lausanne. The information it contains may be summarised as follows :

“The first part shows that the Commission has almost completely organised the services necessary for its work, but that these services do not possess that full independence which is essential if the Commission's neutrality and power of initiative are not to become illusory in matters in which the Turkish Government's own interests are concerned.

“The information contained in the second part shows that commercial navigation through the Straits does not as yet enjoy the unrestricted freedom granted to it by the Treaty of Lausanne.

“Older systems and provisional regulations resulting from the war still weigh heavily upon the administrations, which have difficulty in freeing themselves from the shackles of traditional practice.

“In this direction the duty of the Commission is limited by the Straits Convention to reporting the facts to the League of Nations. It is for the latter to adopt any means which may seem to it effective to hasten the application in their entirety of the principles laid down in the Treaty of Lausanne.”

With regard to these observations, the rapporteur pointed out that Article 15 of the Straits Convention merely placed the Commission under the auspices of the League, and suggested that it should be left to the signatory Powers to judge for themselves what if any further action should be taken.

V. — Technical Organisations.

1. — THE HEALTH ORGANISATION

Work of the Health Committee.

The Council, on June 7th, concluded its examination of the work of the sixth session of the Health Committee by congratulating the latter on its large output of work, which, it said, was doing so much for international public health, and was engendering a spirit of real international solidarity and understanding in matters of public health.

The report and resolutions of the Committee were adopted, and particular attention drawn to the development of its relations with the Far East through an

improved liaison with Japan and the work of the Singapore Epidemiological Intelligence Bureau. Note was also taken of the world-wide extension of the Epidemiological Service, of the development of the system of interchanges, of the work of the Sleeping Sickness Commission in Africa and the reports and investigations of the various commissions of the Health Committee.

2. — THE ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL ORGANISATION

a) *Work of the Financial Committee.*

The Council took note of the report of the Financial Committee on the work of its twenty-second session, which was held from June 3rd to June 9th.

Besides dealing with questions in connection with the financial reconstruction of Austria and Hungary ⁽¹⁾, the settlement of Greek refugees ⁽¹⁾, and a loan to finance the settlement of Bulgarian refugees ⁽¹⁾, the Committee considered the first report of the Trustee for the Danzig Municipal Loan and noted that the system of supervision over the expenditure of loan funds had proved entirely satisfactory. It also noted and forwarded to the Council the report of the experts on double taxation and tax evasion.

The Financial Reconstruction of Austria.

At a public meeting on June 9th, the Council, including the Austrian representative, Dr. Ramek and in the presence of the Chairman of the Financial Committee and the League Commissioner-General at Vienna, formally put an end to the control of the Commissioner-General over the Austrian finances. This measure signifies that the work of financial reconstruction, which began on October 4th, 1922, with the signature of the Geneva Protocols, has been crowned with complete success.

The suppression of the control had been contemplated by the Council in September, 1925, when it decided little by little to restrict the powers of the Commissioner-General. It then laid down that two conditions must be fulfilled before it could authorise the departure of the Commissioner-General from Vienna; first, that the Austrian Government should present satisfactory closed accounts for 1925; secondly that the general economic situation of Austria should be such as to warrant the removal of the control.

At its June meeting, the Financial Committee arrived at the conclusion that these conditions had been fulfilled. It had received full assurances that the Austrian Government was fully aware of the necessity of vigilance and prudence in its administration. The budget, it noted, was, and had been, balanced for over a year; the currency had been stabilised and well assured for over three years. In these circumstances the Committee did not hesitate to recommend that the Council should declare the financial stability of Austria assured, and suppress the office of the Commissioner-General, subject to its re-instatement, if necessary, under the conditions specified in the Council resolution of December 9th, 1925.

The Committee further recommended the Council to authorise the Austrian Government to issue, subject to certain conditions, Treasury bills for a total not exceeding 75 million schillings, and to devote 27 million schillings of the reconstruction loan balance to the construction of international telephone cables.

The report of the Committee was discussed by the Council in June. On this occasion Sir Austen Chamberlain, speaking on behalf of the Austrian Committee of the Council, said that the work of financial reconstruction, accomplished in Austria by the co-operation of the Austrian Government and the League, was an achievement of the first order, and now that it had been successfully effected, it

(1) See special chapters in this number.

was difficult to realise how very nearly hopeless the situation had been when the League first took it in hand.

In the words of Lord Balfour, the League had then had to deal with a nation in which the currency had undergone the most rapid and the most disastrous depreciation, a nation in which production was falling behind consumption; in which the deficit was great and was growing; in which there were vast numbers of Government employees whom it would be difficult to prove were required for the services of the State, and in which even what had been before the war the most productive sources of revenue were then not merely no longer sources of revenue, but sources of serious deficit.

After recalling the circumstances in which the League had first intervened, what it had asked, what hard necessity had required of the Austrian Government and people, Sir Austen Chamberlain rendered homage to the courage, the firmness and good faith with which both Government and people had executed their obligations. He then said that the day had now come when, as Mgr. Seipel had predicted, an Austrian Chancellor could once again appear before the League and announce that Austria was re-established on a solid financial basis, and concluded with a tribute to the Commissioner-General, Dr. Zimmerman.

M. Scialoja (Italy) said that when the League first undertook its work of reconstruction the task seemed an almost hopeless one. The results achieved were admirable, and he expressed his own and his country's satisfaction for a success to which Italy, after a long and arduous war with the Austro-Hungarian Empire, had contributed in no small degree.

Dr. Benes (Czechoslovakia) declared that at a certain moment the problem of Austria's financial reconstruction had been a serious one for Central Europe, and indeed for the whole continent. The League had succeeded in solving that problem, and the Czechoslovak Government was glad to have been able to take part in the work. He expressed his opinion that the intimate and friendly co-operation between the Austrian and Czechoslovak Governments had played a very large part in the development of relations between the two countries. He associated himself with Sir Austen Chamberlain's tribute to the Austrian Government and the Commissioner-General.

M. Paul-Boncour noted that, thanks to the League, friendly relations had been established between neighbouring countries, which had in the past been separated by long and terrible misunderstandings. In the name of his Government, he sincerely congratulated Austria on the loyalty with which she had fulfilled her international obligations.

Viscount Ishii (Japan) and M. Vandervelde (Belgium) associated themselves with the statements of their colleagues.

The Commissioner-General, Dr. Zimmerman, said that the concrete results achieved fully justified the optimism and foresight of those who, in the autumn of 1922, had laid the foundations of Austria's recovery. After a brief technical survey of the present situation, he declared that Austria had so far recovered from her desperate condition of a few years ago that she was now leading a normal life and was in a better financial position than many other countries. For these results, he said, congratulations were due both to the Austrian Government and the directors of the Austrian National Bank.

The Austrian Chancellor, Dr. Ramek, said that the date of June 9th would be a historic one for Austria. On this solemn occasion, he desired to thank most warmly the League, all its organs, and, in particular, the Commissioner-General, who had devoted his energy, zeal and valuable experience whole-heartedly to the task. He assured the Council that Austria would endeavour not only to maintain intact the results of the work of reconstruction, but to develop them still further in the future. All the parties in Austria and the public were, he said, united in the conviction that the stability of Austrian finances must be permanently maintained and protected from every risk.

The Financial Reconstruction of Hungary.

The Council, in the course of a discussion on the financial situation in Hungary, which took place on June 10th, decided to suppress the office of the League Commissioner-General at Budapest as from June 30th, 1926. The Council included at this meeting the representatives of Hungary (Count Bethlen), Roumania (M. Comnène) and the Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes (M. Yovanovitch). Mr. Jeremiah Smith, Commissioner-General of the League at Budapest, and M. Léopold Dubois, Chairman of the Financial Committee, were also present.

The decision of the Council to terminate the functions of the Commissioner-General was based on a recommendation of the Financial Committee, founded on purely technical considerations, namely, the continued equilibrium of the Hungarian budget and the stability of the Hungarian currency.

At the close of the first half-year of 1924, the budget had shewn a surplus, and had since remained in equilibrium. The closed accounts for 1925-26, the Committee stated, were not yet available; it was nevertheless almost certain that there would be a surplus of about 60 million gold crowns. The budget for 1926-27, which had been approved by the Council, was based on conservative estimates which indicated the continuance of equilibrium with a surplus.

The currency, the Committee said, was now on a gold basis. The reserves and the general position of the National Bank were entirely satisfactory, the gold cover and foreign monies amounting to 55 % as compared with a minimum of 20 % required in the statutes.

The Committee did not consider that such circumstances as the franc forgeries—entirely deplorable as they were—had affected the financial position of the country. With regard to the economic situation, it was of opinion that, although there was some depression, there was nothing to suggest any danger to the financial position of the country, the equilibrium of its budget or the stability of its currency.

In regard to the termination of the office of the Commissioner-General, the chairman of the Financial Committee, M. Dubois, made the following statement to the Council :

According to Article 6, paragraph 3, of Protocol No. II, it is the duty of the Commissioner-General to watch over the execution of the whole programme of reforms and to exercise the powers conferred upon him by the said Protocol in order particularly to ensure that the budget is balanced. He discharges this function with the aid of monthly estimates, but (paragraph 5 of the same article) if the progress achieved in carrying out the reforms corresponds to or is in advance of the programme, the Commissioner-General cannot oppose any specific expenditure on the part of the Hungarian Government and cannot request any change in the fiscal system, unless the expenditure in question or the fiscal system is such as in his opinion to compromise the future progress of the reform scheme.

In practice the budget has been balanced since the end of the first half of the budgetary year 1924-25 and has remained balanced since then. Consequently, the Commissioner-General while exercising a general supervision over the programme of reforms and the budget, has not had to concern himself in detail with either expenditure or the fiscal system; by the operation of this fact, control in accordance with Protocol No. II has already been reduced to some extent, and one of the principle duties of the Commissioner-General has been to supervise the revenues from the assets for the service of the loan balance and the reconstruction loan.

The termination of the Commissioner-General's functions does not involve the suppression of supervision over the revenues from the assets for the service of the loan or from the balance of the loan. There is therefore no foundation for the belief occasionally entertained that the departure of the Commissioner-

General would involve the suppression of all control by the League of Nations. What does disappear is the general supervision of the reform scheme and the general and special supervision of the budget. But this special supervision is already no longer in force. What remains, together with a change of names, is control over the revenues from the assets assigned for the service of the loan, which is entrusted to the Trustees and their representative in Budapest, as well as control over the balance of the loan which cannot be disposed of in whole or in part in accordance with the plan recommended by the Financial Committee and approved by the Council; an official will watch over the expenditure of these funds to see that it is made strictly in accordance with the objects thus approved. He will act in the name of the Financial Committee, and his activity will consist in seeing that the Government observes the required conditions. Control will continue as strictly as in the past on these two points, namely, revenues from assets assigned from the services of the loan and the balance of the loan.

After a brief statement by the Commissioner-General, the Chairman of the Hungarian Committee, M. Scialoja, expressed the Council's appreciation of the competence and devotion shewn by Mr. Smith in the execution of his difficult task. Coming, he said, not only from a distant country, but from another continent, which had been spared in great part the thousand difficulties resulting from the war, Mr. Smith had been able, thanks to his sympathy and understanding, to face successfully a new and difficult situation.

Count Bethlen thanked the Council and the League organisations for their valuable assistance in the financial reconstruction of Hungary. The results obtained, he said, were due, above all, to the firm determination of the Hungarian people who, in order to succeed, had made every sacrifice, but it was necessary to emphasise that, if it had been possible completely to execute the programme, it was also thanks to the League of Nations, which had repeatedly given Hungary proofs of its solicitude.

The consideration of the question whether the loan balance should be placed at the disposal of the Hungarian Government, as it had requested, was postponed.

The Settlement of Greek Refugees.

The report of the Greek Refugee Settlement Commission for the period February 26th to May 25th, 1926, was considered at the June meetings of the Council and the Financial Committee. The Greek Government was represented by M. Dendramis and the Refugee Settlement Commission by Sir John Campbell.

The report dealt in particular with the financial position of the settlement work. The recovery of sums owing to the Commission by refugees formed the subject of an enquiry during the past quarter, the payments so far made amounting to £ 28,345. The sale of the tobacco and corn crops will, it is hoped, enable a large number of farmers to pay part of their debts during the summer.

Only in a very few cases was it possible for the Commission to undertake new settlements. The available funds being strictly limited, it mainly confined itself to extending and improving the settlements already made. At the end of the period under discussion, about half of the 1,400,000 refugees then in Greece had been established, and, in order to complete the entire work, a further loan of about £ 5,000,000 would be required.

The Commission drew the attention of the Council to an agreement which had been concluded between it and the Greek Government transferring to the former all the land, in town or country, on which it had established refugees or built houses.

The Council, at the suggestion of M. Paul Boncour (France), confined itself to noting the report of the Commission, considering that its September session would furnish a better opportunity for the consideration of a comprehensive report on the progress and future of the settlement work.

Settlement of Armenian Refugees (1).

The question of Armenian refugees was considered by the Council in June in the form of a report from the Commission set up by the Sixth Assembly to examine the prospects of settling refugees in the Caucasus, and the technical and financial aspects of a proposed scheme of irrigation.

This body met for the first time towards the end of last October, when it dispatched to Armenia a mission composed of an engineer and a liaison officer, with instructions to supervise the preparation of the irrigation plans and to establish relations with the Governments concerned.

The Commission arrived at the following conclusions :

In order to settle the 25,000 refugees who urgently required repatriation an area of about 88,625 acres would have to be irrigated. The plans for this work had been carefully drawn up, and were sufficiently detailed for the immediate purpose of deciding, first, as to the probable final cost of the schemes and subsequently, as to whether they were sound. The total cost would amount to about 13,500,000 roubles. The Commission considered that as this was only an estimate, the total should be fixed at 15,000,000 roubles, or about £ 1 1/8 million to cover all unforeseen expenses. It estimated that if interest on the final cost were taken at 10 % and maintenance at 150,000 roubles per annum there should be no difficulty in meeting the charges of the debt and amortisation of capital within a reasonable period of years out of the cultivation of the lands newly irrigated. The Commission finally recommended the scheme as technically sound and commercially possible.

The Commission also examined possibilities of obtaining the funds required to carry out this work and methods of guaranteeing a loan, but was not in a position to make positive recommendations as to methods of financing the scheme.

In these circumstances, the Council, on the proposal of Dr. Benes, referred the report of the Commission to the Financial Committee for its advice on the financial aspects of the scheme, while expressing its appreciation of the Commission's work.

The Settlement of Bulgarian Refugees.

On June 10th the Council considered a request from the Bulgarian Government for the League's assistance in carrying out a scheme of settlement for Bulgarian refugees. M. Bouroff, the Bulgarian Minister of Foreign Affairs, and the Chairman of the Financial Committee attended the meeting.

The Financial Committee had, at the request of the Council, proceeded to a preliminary examination of the proposal, which raised the question of a loan to finance the construction of houses, the provision of equipment and the preparation of land and communications for purposes of settlement. It stated, in its report, that the Bulgarian Government had since 1913 had to receive about 52,000 families, representing roughly 200,000 persons. Thirty thousand refugees had been or could be established by the Government, which had already spent 160 million leva on general settlement work. There remained about 60,000 workers to be settled on the land, that is to say, some 120,000 persons. These refugees were in serious distress and the death-rate among them was very high. They were at present wandering between town and country, as chance or passing opportunities of work might direct.

The Committee was of the opinion that the settlement of these refugees would present great advantages, both from the point of view of Bulgaria's internal politics and from that of her external relations. It would add to the economic resources of the country and would assist the Government in its work of reconstruction.

(1) See *Monthly Summary*, Vol. V, No. 9, p. 263.

Examining the financial aspect of the scheme, the Committee submitted that a loan of a net yield equivalent to £2,250,000 would be sufficient for the purpose in view. The product of the loan, it considered, should be paid into an account independently controlled by an agent of the League, who would supervise the expenditure and be empowered to stop advances if not satisfied that money released had been properly employed. Assistance from the loan would be limited to Bulgarian citizens.

The Committee suggested that the Bulgarian Government might find it necessary to come to an agreement with the bond-holders of pre-war loans and, in general, to make arrangements in respect of previous liens; and to bring the statutes of the National Bank into conformity with the best principles of central banking. Certain revenues would have to be assigned for the loan service and, for this purpose, an arrangement would have to be made with the Reparations authorities respecting the raising of the general charge on such revenues established under the Treaty of Neuilly. In regard to future reparation payments, these authorities would have to take measures to protect loan securities against loss of value, through instability of currency.

M. Vandervelde (Belgium), reporting to the Council said that he had recently had an opportunity of comparing on the spot the present situation of the Bulgarian refugees with that of the Greek refugees, who, before the League action, had been in no better plight and were now well on the road to prosperity. He was, therefore, happy to note that the Financial Committee had made practical recommendations which, he hoped, would allow of assistance being given to the refugees before the winter.

The Council declared that it was ready to associate itself with the scheme. Recognising the importance of securing an early solution of the problem, it authorised its President to take such measures as might be necessary to obtain immediate advances for urgent needs, such as the provision of seed for early autumn sowing. It agreed that there must be a strict and effective control of the employment of the loan and of the choice of the land for settlement. It agreed, before finally determining the details of the system of control, to consult the representatives of States Members of the League bordering on Bulgaria.

The Bulgarian representative, thanking the Council and the Financial Committee, said that his Government would at once take the necessary steps to act on the recommendations of the Financial Committee.

Question of forged Currency.

The question of forged currency was discussed by the Council on June 10th, pursuant to a communication from the French Government.

In this letter, M. Briand stated that his Government's attention had been drawn to numerous cases during the past few years in which the national currency of various countries had been forged. In its opinion, such forgeries were not only an attack upon the financial strength of the country whose currency was counterfeited; they might also, as a direct consequence, disturb international public order.

"In these circumstances", M. Briand continued, "it would seem to be the interest and duty of all States, in order to strengthen the means of defence which they individually possess, and to enable them to assist each other, to consider jointly treaty stipulations by which they might more effectively repress the "international crime" of counterfeiting the currency."

This joint work, he thought, might take the form of co-operation on the part of the courts and the police of the various countries, of an agreement regarding the amendment of penal laws and the infliction on all persons guilty of forging foreign currencies penalties comparable with those imposed on forgers of national currencies; and of the creation of an international office, which would collect accurate information as to the origin of forged notes and the methods of forgers.

At the Council meeting, the French representative, M. Paul-Boncour, explained the reasons which had moved his Government to formulate a general proposal "born of actual experience in particular cases". Dr. Benes (Czechoslovakia) supported the proposal, giving the reasons for his Government's special interest in the matter.

Sir Austen Chamberlain (Great Britain) said that the subject raised by the French Government was unquestionably one of international interest—of grave international concern when endeavour was made to excuse forgeries by reason of political considerations which certainly did not contribute to good relationship between States or to international peace.

The Council referred the French Government's proposal to the Financial Committee, indicating that it should subsequently be studied by a Committee of Jurists.

b) *Work of the Preparatory Committee for the International Economic Conference.*

The work of the Preparatory Committee for the Economic Conference at its first session was considered by the Council on June 9th.

On the proposal of M. Vandervelde (Belgium) the Council approved the report of the Chairman of the Committee, congratulating the Committee on the results obtained at its first session and on the method followed in organising its work. It appointed M. Theunis (Belgium) Chairman of the Committee in the place of M. Ador, and expressed its regret that the state of M. Ador's health prevented him from continuing in office.

The task of the Committee was defined as consisting in the preparation of the programme of the Conference—eliminating, if necessary, certain questions—to be submitted to the Council for its approval; and in the collection of material for its discussions.

The Council invited M. Theunis to fix the date of the next meeting of the Committee in agreement with the Secretary-General.

3. — COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSIT

a) *The Reform of the Calendar* (1).

The Special Committee of Enquiry into the Reform of the Calendar held a short session at Geneva, on June 23rd and 24th, under the chairmanship of Professor van Eysinga, of Leyden University.

There were also present Professor Eginitis, Director of Athens Observatory; the Reverend T.E.R. Phillips, Secretary of the Royal Astronomical Society of London; M. Bigourdan, former Chairman of the Calendar Committee of the International Astronomical Union; and Mr. Willis H. Booth, Chairman of the International Chamber of Commerce.

The Committee examined the replies of Governments to a questionnaire which had been addressed to them on October 28th, 1921, with a view to completing the material already received in regard to the question of a fixed Easter. It drew up for the Committee on Communications and Transit a final report on the above question and on the various systems proposed for a general reform of the Calendar.

b) *Creation of New Waterways in Poland.*

A Commission of Experts set up by joint agreement between the Polish Government and the Committee on Communications and Transit, has left for Poland,

(1) See *Monthly Summary*, Vol. V. No. 2, p. 52.

where it will help to examine plans for the creation of important navigable waterways.

The League Sub-Committee on Inland Navigation, which has been entrusted with a general investigation into the situation as regards inland navigation in Europe, decided at its last session to authorise its Chairman to appoint experts to conduct inquiries on the spot, should the Governments concerned consider such a measure desirable. It is owing to an agreement between the Polish Government and the Chairman of the Sub-Committee that a mission of this kind has been sent to Poland.

The Commission is composed of Major Case, of the American Company Ulan; M. Nyhoff, consulting engineer, former engineer of the Dutch Waterstaat; M. Watier, chief engineer for Roads and Bridges, and Director of Navigable Waterways and Seaports at the French Ministry of Public Works.

4. — INTELLECTUAL COOPERATION

On June 9th the Council considered certain questions in connection with the composition of the Committee on Intellectual Cooperation.

In 1922, when the Committee was first constituted, its members were appointed for an indefinite period. As the Council felt that the Committee might now be regarded as a permanent organ of the League, it decided that the term of office of its members should be for five years (from June 9th, 1926) and should be subject to renewal.

The Council appointed M. Casares, member of the Spanish Royal Academy, to succeed M. Torres-Quevedo. It decided to increase the number of experts to sit on the Sub-Committee on the Education of Young People in the Aims and Work of the League, in order to give wider representation to Latin America and in order that there might be at least one woman on the Sub-Committee.

VI. — Administrative Questions.

MANDATES

a) *Ninth Session of the Commission.*

The Ninth Session of the Permanent Mandates Commission was held at Geneva from June 8th to June 25th. There were present :

M. Freire d'Andrade.	(Portuguese).
Sir Frederick Lugard	(British).
M. Merlin.	(French).
M. de Palacios	(Spanish).
M. Pierre Orts	(Belgium).
M. William Rappard.	(Swiss).
M. van Rees	(Netherlands).
Marquis Theodoli	(Italian).
Mme. Wicksell	(Swedish).
M. Yamanaka.	(Japanese).
Mr. Grimshaw.	(Representative, in an advisory capacity, of the International Labour Office).

Complying with the frequently expressed desire of the Commission, several Mandatory Powers had delegated senior officials holding responsible administrative posts in the mandated Territories to furnish explanations to the Commission or to assist their accredited representatives. In this way the Commission heard M. Marchand, Commissioner of the French Republic in the Cameroons; M. Marzorati, Royal Belgian Commissioner in Ruanda-Urundi; Colonel Symes, Chief Secretary of the Palestine Government; Mr. John Scott, Chief Secretary of the Tanganyika Government; Mr. Carrodus, Secretary of the Home and Territories Department or the Australian Government.

The Commission also heard a statement by M. Henry de Jouvenel, High Commissioner of the French Republic in Syria, on the general situation in Syria and the Lebanon since his arrival.

The agenda comprised (1) the examination of the annual reports of certain Powers on the administration of territories under their Mandate (2), the examination of certain petitions (3), various questions of general interest.

Before entering upon the discussion of the items on its agenda, the Commission took note of a report by M. van Rees, acting as Chairman, on the recent decision of the Council on Mandates questions and of a statement by the chief of the Mandates Section on the work of the Section and on documentation recently received for the use of the Commission. It re-elected Marquis Theodoli as Chairman and M. van Rees as Vice-Chairman.

I. ANNUAL REPORTS.

The Commission examined in the presence of accredited representatives of the Mandatories, annual reports on the following territories: Nauru and New Guinea (Sir Joseph Cook, Australian High Commissioner in London, assisted by Mr. Carrodus for the report on New Guinea); South West Africa (Mr. J. Smit, High Commissioner of the South African Union in London); the French Cameroons (M. Duchene, Director of Political Affairs in the French Colonial Ministry, assisted by M. Marchand); French Togoland (M. Duchene); Ruanda-Urundi (M. Halewyck, Director-General in the Belgian Colonial Ministry, assisted by M. Marzorati); Palestine (Colonel Symes) and Tanganyika (Mr. Scott, assisted by Mr. Clauson).

It adjourned to its autumn session the examination of the reports on the Administration of Iraq in 1923-1924 and 1925 in order that it might be conducted in the presence of Sir Henry Dobbs, High Commissioner for Iraq, who was unable to come to Geneva for the June session. It also postponed until November its consideration of the final report of the French Government on the administration of Syria in 1925, in order to examine it together with the results of the enquiry instituted by the French Government, which is now proceeding, and which, it is hoped, will furnish the Commission with information on certain questions.

II. STATEMENT BY M. DE JOUVENEL.

A general statement on the situation in Syria and the Lebanon was made at a public meeting of the Commission by M. Henry de Jouvenel, who described the situation since his arrival in the four States (the Alaouites, the Jebel Druse, Greater Lebanon and Syria) indicating the progress that had been made, and replying to criticisms of the French administration, contained in certain petitions addressed to the League.

On this occasion, M. de Jouvenel handed to the Commission the text of the Convention he had negotiated with the Turkish Government at Angora. This instrument, he said, would be registered, in accordance with Article XVIII of the Covenant, as soon as it had been ratified. It was a pact of friendship and non-aggression.

Information supplementary to his public statement and bearing upon the reasons underlying the petitions, their authors, the chiefs of the opposition, the elections of last January, military law, local forces and currency, was given by M. de Jouvenel at a private meeting.

- The Chairman thanked M. de Jouvenel for his statement and expressed his appreciation of the efforts made during the past six months. He added that the Commission, in order usefully to co-operate with the Mandatory, wished to obtain as accurate information as possible.

III. PETITIONS.

1) *Examination of Petitions.* — At its June session the Commission examined five petitions together with the observations submitted thereon by the Mandatories.

The petitions had been addressed to the Commission by the Palestine Arab Congress, the Aguda Israel Organisation, the Jewish National Council in Palestine (the Waad Leumi), the Zionist Organisation and certain members of the Adjigo clan (French Togoland).

Each of these petitions formed the object of a report which was adopted by the Commission and transmitted to the Council.

2) *Procedure.* — The Commission transmitted to the Council its views on certain questions regarding the procedure to be followed in regard to petitions.

IV. QUESTIONS OF GENERAL INTEREST.

The Commission dealt with a certain number of general questions arising out of the application of the Mandates system. On the basis of experience gained during the last few years, it revised the questionnaires on B and C Mandates drafted at its first session and addressed to Mandatories in order to assist them in preparing their annual reports.



In accordance with its usual procedure, the Commission transmitted to the Council, together with the report on its ninth Session, its observations on the annual reports examined at that session ⁽¹⁾.

b) *Resolutions of the Council.*

The Council, at its fortieth session, dealt with several questions concerning the administration of the mandated territories. It examined a certain number of points of general interest to which the application of Article XXII of the Covenant had given rise, and stated its opinion in regard to the procedure to be followed in replying to petitions.

1. *Problems of general interest.* — On August 29th, 1924, the Council asked the Mandatory Powers for their views on a certain number of questions of general interest to which its attention had been drawn by the Permanent Mandates Commission, namely, (1) the military recruiting of inhabitants of mandated territories outside such territories, (2) State domain (rights of the Mandatory Powers in virtue of Articles 120 and 257, § 2 of the Treaty of Versailles); and (3) the definition of certain terms concerning the liquor traffic. The Council renewed its request in

(1) A summary of the Commission's observations will be published next month.

December, 1925, and in June—the replies having meanwhile been received—adopted, on the proposal of M. Sjöborg, the views of the Permanent Mandates Commission on the first two points.

a) *Military Recruiting.* — With regard to the question of recruiting, the Permanent Mandates Commission, at its third session (1923), expressed the opinion that :

The spirit, if not the letter, of the mandate would be violated if the Mandatory enlists the natives of the mandated territory (wherever they may present themselves for engagement) for services in any military corps or body of constabulary which is not permanently quartered in the territory and used solely for its defence or the preservation of order within it.

b) *State Land.* — In regard to this question the Permanent Mandates Commission had adopted the following text :

The Mandatory Powers do not possess in virtue of Articles 120 and 257 (paragraph 2) of the Treaty of Versailles any right over any part of the territory under mandate other than that resulting from their having been entrusted with the administration of the territory.

If any legislative enactment relating to land tenure should lead to conclusions contrary to these principles, it would be desirable that the text should be modified in order not to allow of any doubt.

The Council also approved the observations submitted by its rapporteur, as constituting, in its opinion, an official interpretation of the text drafted by the Commission.

c) *Liquor Traffic.* — The Council requested the Permanent Mandates Commission to consider the views expressed by the Mandatories on this subject and to inform the Council of such conclusions as it might reach as the result of this further examination of the question.

2. *Procedure in replying to Petitions.* — The question of the procedure to be followed in replying to petitions was raised by the British representative in March 1926, and placed on the agenda of the fortieth session of the Council.

On the proposal of M. Sjöborg (Sweden), the Council approved the procedure actually followed in replying to petitions, adding that it would be more satisfactory if the Commission would in every case prepare its observations in such a way that it would be possible to transmit them to the petitioners without sending them its general observations on the report of the Mandatory.

VII. — Protection of Minorities.

MOSLEMS OF ALBANIAN ORIGIN IN GREECE

The question of Moslems of Albanian origin in Greece came before the Council on June 9th (1), when it noted that the compulsory emigration provided for by the Lausanne Convention was practically terminated throughout Greece and that the Mandatories for the protection of the Albanian minority had withdrawn all their local representatives.

The Council decided, on the proposal of Viscount Ishii (Japan), to invite the Mandatories, considering that their work was at an end, to forward for the information of the Council a final report on certain cases which were still pending before the Mixed Commission for the Exchange of Greek and Turkish Populations.

(1) See *Monthly Summary*, Vol. VI, No. 3, p. 73.

VIII. — Political Questions.

1. — THE IRAQ FRONTIER

On June 7th, Sir Austen Chamberlain announced to the Council that negotiations entered into on its recommendation of December 18th, 1925, by the British and Turkish Governments had been brought to a completely successful issue.

On the occasion to which reference was made, the Council, in giving its decision on the question of the Iraq frontier, had urged the British and Turkish Governments to endeavour, by friendly agreement, to put an end to the tension existing between them owing to the Mosul dispute, which had just been settled.

The British representative said that the agreement which was the outcome of the negotiations involved a very small cession of territory. He was therefore compelled formally to communicate it to the Council and to ask it to approve a measure which, the British and Iraq Governments were satisfied, did not prejudice the interests of Iraq. The delimitation of the frontier, he added, would take place on the spot. The agreement would, in due course, be registered with the League Secretariat by the British Government in accordance with Article XVIII of the Covenant.

M. Scialoja (Italy) said that, as Acting-President of the Council at the time when its decision had been given on the question of the Iraq frontier, he wished to congratulate the British representative and the British and Turkish Governments on the agreement which had been reached. He felt that this settlement was a further proof of the value of the League's intervention in international disputes, the delay often attendant upon its procedure being in reality the best means of arriving at definite and peaceful solutions.

The President of the Council, M. Guani (Uruguay), expressed his satisfaction that a problem which had at one moment imperilled the peaceful relations between two States had finally been solved.

The Council, on the proposal of its President, noted the communication of the British representative.

2. — MEMORANDUM FROM THE DIET OF MEMEL

The British, French, Italian and Japanese representatives on the Council have requested that a memorandum from the Diet of Memel, alleging violations by Lithuania of the Memel Convention (May 8th, 1924) and demanding the application of the procedure outlined in Article 17 of the Convention should be placed on the Council agenda for September. The Secretary-General has notified the Lithuanian Government of this request.

By Article 17, the signatories (France, Great Britain, Italy and Japan and Lithuania) agree that any Member of the Council shall be entitled to draw the attention of the latter to any infraction of the provisions of the Convention. The procedure for the application of this Article was settled by the Council on September 28th, 1925, when it authorised the Secretary-General, should he receive spontaneous communications of a serious character, addressed to the Council and hearing on infractions or alleged infractions of the Convention, to forward the same, as a matter of information and without comment, to the Members of the Council.

In their joint letter to the Secretary-General, the Council representatives of France, Great Britain, Italy and Japan, signatories of the Convention, state that they have studied the Diet's Memorandum with particular care, but without forming any opinion upon the merits of the case, and consider that the statements therein contained should be examined by the Council. They also suggest that the

Lithuanian Government should be invited to present any observations it may desire to make with regard to the memorandum in time for them to be circulated to Members of the Council before its September session.

IX. — Social and Humanitarian Questions.

1. — TRAFFIC IN OPIUM

a) *Eighth session of the Advisory Committee on Traffic in Opium and Other Dangerous Drugs.*

The eighth session ⁽¹⁾ of the Advisory Committee on Traffic in Opium came to an end on June 8th, when it adopted a certain number of resolutions dealing with the question of the ratification of the Geneva Opium Convention (1925), the application of the Hague Convention and the question of its ratification by Turkey, the position in the Persian Gulf, police measures for the supervision of the traffic, statistics of confiscated drugs and the communication of legislation in regard to the drug traffic.

A careful examination of the various documents submitted to it led the Committee to form the conclusion that the situation with regard to the clandestine drug traffic was extremely serious. The seizures reported concerned very large quantities of opium and manufactured drugs, and there was no doubt that the output of narcotics was considerably in excess of that required for medical and scientific purposes.

In these circumstances, the Committee, considering that the entry into force of the Geneva Convention of 1925 was the first condition of the effectual supervision of the traffic, strongly urged that Governments should ratify this Convention as soon as possible, in order that the machinery of control thereby instituted might be brought into operation. Ratification by States Members was of special importance, as the coming into force of the Convention depended upon it.

The Committee noted with satisfaction that the Austrian Government had decided to withdraw the reservations it had made when signing the Convention.

Pending the ratification of the Geneva Convention the Committee proceeded to a general examination of the position in regard to the application of the Hague Opium Convention (1912). It considered the annual reports of Governments on the traffic and measures for its suppression, and urged signatories of the Convention to send in their reports with more regularity.

As regards the export of opium from the Persian Gulf the Committee considered that the situation had become more serious and addressed to the Governments concerned special recommendations on the subject. It took note of information supplied by the Indian representatives on the policy pursued by his Government in regard to the opium question, and of the fact that the agreement drawn up by the first Opium Conference would come into force between three of the signatory countries (Great Britain, France and India) on July 28th, 1926.

A series of special recommendations concerned the measures of control applied in certain countries. The Committee asked the Council to draw the attention of Governments to measures taken in connection with maritime insurance policies and with smuggling by post in the direction of the Far East. It emphasised the value of direct communication between the authorities entrusted with the task of enforcing the laws for the suppression of the illicit traffic, and the need for direct contact between the said authorities. In this connection the American assessor,

(1) See *Monthly Summary*, Vol. VI, No. 5, p. 125.

Colonel Arthur Woods—in a statement concerning the enforcement of the provisions regulating drug traffic in the United States—proposed that international conferences of police authorities and drug manufacturers should be convened.

The Committee, considering that the data at its disposal was insufficient, requested the Secretariat to take measures to complete its collection of documents, particularly in regard to the legislation of the various countries and in regard to free ports.

b) *Opium Production in Persia* (1).

The Commission of Enquiry on Opium Production in Persia returned to Geneva in June, when it prepared a report for the Council on the results of its journey.

This body, which was composed of Mr. Delano (United States), Professor Cavara (Italy) and M. Cayla (France) was set up by the Council last December and left for Persia last March. It visited the greater part of the country—almost all the larger towns, studying the question of the cultivation of the poppy, market, labour and transport conditions, etc., and was able to ascertain the views of the Persian Government, of members of the American Financial Mission and of numerous other authorities.

During its stay in Persia, the Commission was the guest of the Persian Government from which it received all possible assistance for the accomplishment of its task.

* * *

The Council, on the proposal of M. Guani (Uruguay) accepted with thanks an offer of the American Bureau of Social Hygiene to contribute 50,000 gold francs towards expenditure incurred by the Commission of Enquiry into Opium Production in Persia, over and above the total sum (200,000 francs) voted by the Sixth Assembly and the first grant made by the American Bureau.

2. — PROTECTION AND WELFARE OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

a) *Traffic in Women and Children.*

On June 7th the Council considered the report of the Committee on Traffic in Women and Children on the work of its fifth session (2).

On the proposal of the British representative it instructed the Secretary-General to enter into relations with Governments in order to give effect to the resolutions adopted by the Committee.

b) *Child Welfare.*

The report of the Child Welfare Committee on its March session was considered by the Council on June 9th.

Child Welfare, Sir Austen Chamberlain (rapporteur) said, was not primarily a matter for international action and, as the resolution of the Assembly indicated, the purposes which the League could serve in this direction were limited. Child Welfare was a vague term which might be held to include a large number of widely different subjects, and it was not unnatural that the Committee faced with so wide a field of investigation should be tempted to transgress at times the limits fixed for its activities by the Assembly. The Committee, which included a number of

(1) See *Monthly Summary*, Vol. VI, No. 3, p. 76.

(2) See *Monthly Summary*, Vol. VI, No. 4, p. 101.

men and women who were keenly interested in these problems, had evidently given a great deal of time and attention to the matters before it and had produced an interesting report. But some of the subjects dealt with in that report seemed to be matters of national rather than international concern, and outside the scope of the Committee as defined by the Assembly. Such for instance was the desire expressed by the Committee in connection with Recreation. The same criticism might apply to other items, as, for example, Biological Education. These subjects were certainly of high importance but they do not call for international regulation. Sir Austen Chamberlain considered that there was danger for the League in thus invading the purely national sphere of its Member States lest those States should be indisposed by the interference and the real purpose of the League be obscured.

The rapporteur noted that a large variety of questions had been brought up and referred to a Liaison Sub-Committee for consideration and report. There could be no objection to this step, but one might venture to hope that the Committee, before adding to its programme, would take care to see that any new subject was strictly within its competence and, when in doubt, would consult the Council before proceeding to discuss fresh questions.

In regard to the question of Juvenile Courts, he was informed that the International Prison Commission was contemplating a general enquiry into the subject, and in these circumstances he felt that the Council might await further information before taking a definite decision on the resolution of the Committee dealing with this question.

Endorsing this statement, the Council expressed its hopes that the Committee would bear most carefully in mind the limits of its competence as defined by the Sixth Assembly, and would endeavour so to narrow the field of each particular enquiry as to produce results of practical value to Governments. It asked Governments which had not furnished information required by the Committee on the subject of the age of marriage and of consent to consider the possibility of doing so.

The Council thanked the Committee for its report and expressed its approval of the steps taken for the better organisation of its work, requesting it to submit in due course a report on the organisation now set up.

3. — SLAVERY

At its June session, the Council definitely agreed upon the procedure to be followed in regard to the conclusion of an international convention for the suppression of slavery.

A draft convention on the subject had been recommended for approval by the Sixth Assembly, and, shortly after, the Council had asked the Members of the League and nine other States (Afghanistan, Ecuador, Egypt, Germany, Mexico, Russia, the Sudan, Turkey and the United States) to forward not later than June 1st any observations they might wish to make in regard to this document. Replies were received from twenty-two countries, namely, Abyssinia, Australia, Austria, Bulgaria, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Egypt, Esthonia, Finland, Great Britain, India, Japan, Latvia, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, San Salvador, the Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes, the Sudan, Switzerland and the United States. A memorandum was also received from the Vatican, by the intermediary of the Apostolic Nuncio in Switzerland which the Council decided should be communicated in the same way as the observations of the Governments.

The Council, after noting these recommendations, decided to place on the agenda of the Seventh Assembly the question of the conclusion of an International Convention on Slavery, and to suggest that States Members should empower one of their delegates to the Assembly to sign such a convention.

4. — RUSSIAN AND ARMENIAN REFUGEES

On June 10th, the League High Commissioner for Refugees, Dr. Nansen, submitted to the Council a report on an Inter-Governmental Conference on Refugee Questions convened in May, in accordance with instructions of the Sixth Assembly.

The Conference, whose mandate was to improve the system of identity certificates and make arrangements for the creation and administration of a revolving fund for the transport and settlement of refugees, drew up an arrangement which was signed by twenty-two of the twenty-four States represented.

The Council, after noting the report of the High Commissioner and the arrangement concluded, decided to place this question on the agenda of the Seventh Assembly and invited the Members of the League to authorise their delegations to acquaint the Assembly with any measures taken in their territories to give effect to the arrangement.

X. — Miscellaneous Questions.

1. — CONVOCATION OF A COMMITTEE OF PRESS AGENCIES

At its June meeting the Council, noting that the preparatory work for the convocation of a Committee of Press Experts was sufficiently advanced, decided, on the proposal of M. Vandervelde (Belgium), to invite a certain number of news agencies to send representatives to a meeting at Geneva in August.

The Council was of the opinion that this Committee, from which it hoped to obtain useful suggestions for a programme of work, should be small enough to allow of rapid work; it should nevertheless include a sufficient number of members to be fully representative of these great world organisations. It therefore requested the Secretary-General to invite the following agencies :

Americana (Agencia).	(Brazil)
Associated Press.	(America)
Avala (Agence)	(Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes)
Exchange Telegraph.	(British Empire)
Havas (Agence).	(France)
Nippon Dempo Tsushin Sha	(Japan)
Nippon Shimbun Rengosha.	(Japan)
Radio (Agence)	(France)
Reuter's Limited.	(British Empire)
Stefani (Agenzia).	(Italy)
Suisse (Agence Télégraphique).	(Switzerland)
Tass (Telegrafnoe Agenshvo Sovietskavo Soyuza).	(Russia)
Telegraphen Union.	(Germany)
Tidningarnas Telegrambyra.	(Sweden)
United Press	(America)
Wolf Bureau	(Germany)

2. — ERECTION OF AN ASSEMBLY HALL AND OFFICES FOR THE SECRETARIAT

The Council, at its June meeting, decided to open on July 23rd, 1926, an international competition for the selection of a plan for the construction of an Assembly Hall and offices for the League Secretariat. The competition will be open to architects nationals of States Members of the League, and of Germany, the Free City of Danzig and the Saar Territory.

The purchase of a site on the northern shore of Lake Geneva was decided upon by the Special Assembly of March, 1926, which, on the same occasion, voted the credits for the building.

A sum of 165,000 Swiss francs will be divided among the architects submitting the best plans. The cost of construction should in no case exceed 13 million Swiss francs.

In regard to the purpose to be kept in view by the competitors, the international jury expresses itself as follows :

The League of Nations throws this competition open to architects in order that the building may be designed not only to provide accommodation of the most modern and practical kind for all the organisations essential to the League's work but also to symbolise in style and outline the pacific ideals of the twentieth century.

The site on which this building is to be erected is a magnificent one; its highest part adjoins the route de Lausanne, and it slopes gently, with lawns and shady avenues, to the shores of the lake. The grounds border the lake for more than 400 metres, and a path (which can be widened) on the property makes an admirable walk by the lake-side and has a marvellous view, including Mont-Blanc.

It is in surroundings of this magnificence and beauty that the League of Nations Building is to be planned.

XI. — Forthcoming Events.

- July 15th to 23rd : Meetings of the sub-committees of the Committee on Intellectual Cooperation, Geneva.
- July 26th : Plenary session of the Committee on Intellectual Cooperation, Geneva.
- July 26th : Meeting of the Committee on Private Law in Inland Navigation, Hamburg.
- August 3rd : Meeting of the Technical Committee for Buoyage and Lighting of Coasts, Stockholm.
- August 3rd : Meeting of the Committee of Experts on the Education of Young People in the Ideals and work of the League, Geneva.
- August 19th : Preliminary Meeting of Press Agencies Committee, Geneva.
- August 30th : Meeting of the Economic Committee, Geneva.
- September 1st : First Conference of States Signatories of the Protocol of the Permanent Court of International Justice, Geneva.
- September 2nd : Meeting of the Financial Committee, Geneva.
- September 3rd : Forty-first session of the Council, Geneva.
- September 6th : Seventh Assembly of the League of Nations, Geneva.

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I. — Summary of the Month.

With July began a period of relative calm, devoted as in preceding years to the preparation and completion of reports for the Assembly. The only plenary meetings were those of the Committee for Communications and Transit and of the Committee on Intellectual Co-operation.

As a new subject, the first-named committee, which met in the middle of the month, decided to include in its programme the question of the international regulation of broadcasting. It considered certain questions in connection with air navigation and made definite recommendations to the Assembly in view of a settlement of the question of the fixing of Easter. It decided that the Third General Conference on Communications and Transit should be convened before the 1927 Assembly.

The meeting of the Committee on Intellectual Co-operation, which also sat as the Governing Body of the International Institute of Intellectual Co-operation, was mainly devoted to the examination of reports from its sub-committees (Bibliography, Arts and Letters, etc.).

As regards the work in view of a general disarmament conference, the Joint Commission appointed to consider the economic factors in questions before the Preparatory Commission and the Military, Naval, and Air Sub-Commission drew up replies to a certain number of questions referred to them.

In the political field, a communication was received from the Abyssinian Government concerning correspondence between the British and Italian Governments on certain proposed concessions in Abyssinia.

The Permanent Court of International Justice delivered its advisory opinion on a question concerning the competence of the International Labour Organisation.

The competition for the selection of designs for a new League building was declared open from July 25th, 1926, to January 25th, 1927.

II. — The Permanent Court of International Justice⁽¹⁾.

1. — ELEVENTH SESSION (ORDINARY)

At a public hearing held on July 23rd, the Permanent Court of International Justice delivered its advisory opinion on the following question, transmitted to it for this purpose by the Council of the League of Nations :

Is it within the competence of the International Labour Organisation to draw up and to propose labour legislation which, in order to protect certain classes of workers, also regulates incidentally the same work when performed by the employer himself?

The origin of this question was as follows :

On the agenda of the Sixth Session of the International Labour Organisation, held in 1924, was included, amongst other subjects, "night work in bakeries". On this question the International Labour Office had prepared a draft Convention according to which no work might be done in bakeries at night; thus no distinction of persons was made. The report of the Committee instructed by the Conference to examine the draft arrived at the same conclusion; but this report was accompanied by a minority report raising serious objections to the application of the prohibition of night work to the employer himself. The version expressing the view of the majority was provisionally adopted at a full meeting of the Conference and was referred to the Seventh Session of the Conference for a final vote. In the course of that Session, in 1925, the preceding decision was confirmed in spite of the strenuous opposition of members of the Employers' Group. The version finally adopted expressly states that the prohibition of night work in bakeries "applies to the work of all persons, including proprietors as well as workers".

At the Thirtieth Session of the Governing Body of the International Labour Office, held in January, 1926, the Employers' Group proposed that the Court should be consulted on the question whether "the International Labour Organisation was competent to draw up and propose regulations applying to the work of the employer himself". In the course of the discussion, the question was restricted to the competence of the International Labour Organisation "to draw up and propose regulations which, whilst primarily and essentially intended to deal with

(1) This article has been prepared with the aid of information furnished by the Registry of the Court.

the work of employed persons, incidentally affected the work of an employer considered himself as a worker". The wording of the question finally put to the Court by the Council of the League at the request of the Governing Body was doubtless intended to express the same idea.

In its opinion, the Court first of all analysed the terms of the question upon which its opinion had been asked. It was thus led to observe that the question, being general, did not relate to any particular branch of industry; the Court therefore did not specifically consider the conditions of the baking industry. It went on to show that it was not called upon to deal with the work of the employer in general—competence to regulate this had not been claimed on behalf of the International Labour Organisation—but, only in so far as work done by the employer was the same as that of the worker and as its regulation was incidental to a regulation proposed in order to protect certain classes of workers. Under the terms of reference, the proposed regulation of the work of the employer was to be assumed to be really incidental to labour legislation for the protection of wage-earners, admittedly within the competence of the International Labour Organisation. The question was: Could the International Labour Organisation exercise this competence in a case where the legislation proposed for the protection of the wage-earner would incidentally regulate the same work done by the employer himself, seeing that the employer, when performing the same work which was performed by the wage-earner, did not normally fall within the competence of the International Labour Organisation?

This question was, in the Court's opinion, a question of law, the answer to which depended on the terms of Part XIII (labour) of the Peace Treaty of Versailles. The Court therefore proceeded to analyse the provisions of this Part, especially those defining the programme and objects of the International Labour Organisation. This led to the observation that the measures adopted for the attainment of these objects might affect the rights and interests of employers as well as of the employed, and also that the competence of the Organisation was very wide, but, at the same time, limited to proposing the adoption of national or international labour legislation. Again, by means of provisions in regard to the right of Governments to object to the inclusion on the agenda of Conferences of a particular item, and in regard to the majority of two-thirds required for the adoption of any draft, the High Contracting Parties had, quite apart from the reference of any question or dispute to the Court, taken precautions against the undue extension of the sphere of activity of the International Labour Organisation. Nevertheless, it was not conceivable that the High Contracting Parties intended to prevent the International Labour Organisation from proposing measures essential to the protection of wage-earners; but, in the Court's opinion, it would be prevented from doing so if it were not competent to propose regulations which, in order to attain their legitimate object, must necessarily apply to some extent to work done by employers. Moreover, in the treaty were to be found special provisions in the application of which the incidental regulation of the personal work of the employer was potentially involved. The Court mentioned as a contemporary and practical interpretation of the limits placed by Part XIII on the competence of the International Labour Organisation, the inclusion in the agenda of the First Labour Conference, under the actual terms of Part XIII, of the extension and application of the Convention concerning white phosphorus; this Convention prohibited the use of white phosphorus in the manufacture of matches without making any distinction as to persons. The Court also considered in a similar connection, the Convention prohibiting the use of white lead in painting; it did so in virtue of the principle that, in determining the extent of a particular governmental power, resort might be had to practice, national and international. Lastly, the Court referred to some of the arguments developed by it in Advisory Opinion No. 3 which, applied to the present question, would seem to prove that the International Labour Organisation could not be precluded from proposing regulations for the protection of workers,

on the ground that such regulations might have the effect of incidentally regulating, at the same time, the work of the employer.

No doubt the question whether, in a particular case, the regulation of the personal work of the employer were primary rather than incidental, might give rise to controversy.

The Court allowed it to be understood that the International Labour Organisation had, in regard to this point, discretionary powers to exercise judgment in the circumstances of each case; these powers, however, were not unlimited, but existed subject to the right of recourse to the Court itself provided for in regard to "any question or dispute relating to the interpretation" of Part XIII. For this reason, moreover, the Court, while replying to the question put in the affirmative, abstained from considering "controversial cases" in regard to which its opinion had not been sought and from indicating how such cases should be dealt with.

The Court will continue to sit in private in order to finish the revision of the Rules of Court published on March 29th, 1922, which it began during the present session.

2. — QUESTION OF THE ADHESION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE PERMANENT COURT OF INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE (1)

During the past month letters accepting the Council's invitation to attend the Conference of Signatories of the Court Protocol, to be held on September 1st next, were received from the Indian, Japanese, Luxemburg and Polish Governments.

III. — The Reduction of Armaments

1. — WORK OF THE JOINT COMMISSION

The first Session of the Joint Commission appointed to advise the Preparatory Commission on the economic aspect of questions under discussion, which was held at Geneva from June 28th to July 1st, was devoted to a preliminary examination of the matter referred to it. In connection with the first question submitted :

Can the magnitude of the armaments of the various States be compared by comparing their military expenditure, and if so, what method should be followed?

the Commission requested its financial experts, M. Mauro and M. Pospisil, to prepare a report on the following points :

1. The principle that the Commission should consider the question submitted to it not in the abstract, but bearing in mind the object for which it is submitted, *i.e.* the preparation and application of a Convention for the reduction and limitation of armaments;
2. The lack of comparability of the military expenditure of the various countries, especially at the present time, in view of :
 - (a) existing conditions governing the drawing up of the military budgets and the accounting systems of the various countries,
 - (b) fluctuations in the exchanges and different levels of prices;
3. Differences in the comparability between the various classes of military expenditure (material, personnel, etc.);

(1) See *Monthly Summary*, Vol. VI, No. 6, p. 131.

4. Impossibility, under present circumstances, of introducing a uniform schedule for drawing up the budgets of the various States;

5. Possibility of making the military expenditure of the various countries more comparable by adopting certain measures to be considered in due course—in particular the adoption of a uniform scheme for the statement of the accounts of military expenditure, both estimated and effected;

6. Subject to improvements in the general conditions such as those referred to under No. 2 (b) and to the adoption of the measures referred to under 5 :

(a) the necessity of taking into account other factors affecting the figures for military expenditure for the purpose of deducing the relative strength of armaments from a comparison between the figures for military expenditure;

(b) considering that these factors are particularly difficult to estimate at the initial stage when the Convention is being prepared and concluded, the greater utility of a comparison between military expenditure for the purposes of the application of the Convention than of its preparation;

(c) consideration of the possibility—should an agreement be reached to adopt certain technical standards of disarmament (effectives with the colours, material, etc.)—of determining the amount of expenditure necessary to maintain the armaments agreed upon, having due regard to the particular conditions affecting each country.

With regard to the first part of the second question :

What would be the consequences, from the economic point of view, of inserting in the Convention relative to disarmament, or in that regarding the prohibition of certain forms of warfare, provisions similar to those contained in the Statute of the International Labour Office (Articles 411-420 of the Treaty of Versailles) ?

the Commission requested a sub-commission composed of M. Jouhaux, M. von Moellendorff, M. Ørsted, M. Sugimura and Mr. Wills to prepare a reply based on the discussions held at the meeting. As for the second part of the same question :

• Does the supervision of disarmament offer any difficulties from the economic point of view, and if so, what difficulties?

it decided that it could not reply before the Military, Naval and Air Sub-Commission (1) had formulated its conclusions with regard to the limitation of armaments.

The first part of the third question :

Can factories normally and legitimately employed for chemical purposes, including dye-works, be quickly adapted to the manufacture of poison gases?

was referred to a sub-commission composed of M. Hodac, M. Jouhaux, M. von Moellendorff and M. Schwob, who will seek expert advice for their report.

The Joint Commission then adjourned until its sub-commissions and Sub-Commission A of the Preparatory Commission should have terminated their reports.

2. — WORK OF THE MILITARY, NAVAL AND AIR SUB-COMMISSION OF THE PREPARATORY COMMISSION FOR THE DISARMAMENT CONFERENCE

The first session of the Military, Naval and Air Sub-Commission of the Preparatory Commission for the Disarmament Conference came to an end on July 6th, when the Sub-Commission, in plenary Session, adopted on first reading the replies of its experts to the two first and part of the third of the nine questions put to it by the Preparatory Commission.

The Sub-Commission, which had been in Session since May 28th, then adjourned until August 2nd.

(1) See following article.

Reply to the First Question. — To the first question—“what is to be understood by the expression armaments?—definition of the various factors constituting the peace-time armaments of a country and upon which its power in time of war depends”—the Sub-Commission replied by a comprehensive report.

In this document “armaments” were defined as :

- (1) The forces in service in peace-time (permanently organised armed forces and the materials and establishments which they use);
- (2) The forces prepared for war-time (reserves of trained personnel, stocks of materials and preparations of every description undertaken with a view to war);
- (3) The ultimate war forces created during hostilities by means of all the general resources at the disposal of a country.

In the opinion of the Sub-Commission, the power of a country in war-time depended on those factors which constituted its power in peace-time and on the conditions of time and preparedness under which all its available resources might be employed in war-time. A list of the factors of main importance in war was given, grouped under military, human, geographical, financial and political heads.

Peace-time armaments were then defined and special characteristics of their three main categories given, namely :

- (a) *Naval armaments*, which include units, the nature of which is clearly defined and the value of which diminishes with time; these units are particularly costly and generally slow of construction; their existence is difficult to conceal;
- (b) *Air armaments*, requiring costly material which involves long periods before mass construction can begin, and which is fragile, rapidly wears out and rapidly becomes obsolete; the personnel is almost entirely specially trained;
- (c) *Land armaments*, which are particularly suitable for the effective occupation of territories. They are indispensable to guarantee national security of territories both at home and overseas, to maintain order there, as well as to occupy enemy territory. They are necessary to all, and especially to countries insufficiently protected by land or sea, geographical obstacles or by naval forces.

Attention was drawn to the fact that it was necessary to study these three categories in combination in order to judge of the effects that a measure directed against one of them might have upon the others.

The characteristics of the various systems of military organisation, recruiting and training methods were then described and the following conclusion drawn :

For any given country, peace-time armaments are characterised by

- (1) The size of its constantly available effectives, which depends on the method of recruiting, geographical distribution of effectives and period of service;
- (2) The degree of advancement reached in the training of these effectives, which depends on the period of service and on the money exclusively expended on training;
- (3) The number and quality of the materials (land, naval and air) and the organisations in connection with them (fortifications, arsenals, etc.), which depend on the circumstances and extent of their purchase-price, construction, operation, upkeep and geographical distribution;
- (4) The organisation of the command, general staff, and the various naval, land and air formations.

Reply to the Second Question. — The Preparatory Commission, after stating its opinion that it would not be practicable to limit the ultimate war strength of a country, but that it was possible to limit standing peace-time forces, had requested Sub-Commission “A” to furnish a definition of such forces and to consider whether further restrictions were practicable.

For the required definition, the Sub-Commission referred the Preparatory Commission to that given in its answer to the first question. It affirmed that, theoretically, it was possible to limit—besides the standing peace-time forces of a country—its trained reserves (by measures affecting their number, efficiency, and the rapidity with which they may be employed), its stocks of material and industrial preparations in general.

Reply to the Third Question. — The third question before the Sub-Commission—a combination by the Preparatory Commission of questions II *b* and III of the original questionnaire—read as follows :

(a) What are the standards by which it is possible to measure the : (a) military, (b) naval, (c) air armaments of one country against the corresponding armaments of another country?

In order to prepare its answer, the Sub-Commission broke up into military, naval and air sections, sitting separately; the reports of these bodies were subsequently combined in a single document containing chapters on military, naval and air armaments, and auxiliary criteria relating to armaments as a whole.

In the first part of the report, entitled "General Principles", the Sub-Commission drew attention to the fact that the results of comparisons between the armaments of different countries could only be approximate and that it was necessary to take into account elements which could not be expressed in figures, such as demographic, economic, financial, political and geographical circumstances.

The basic standard proposed in the case of naval armaments was the total tonnage. A minority report submitted by four delegations strongly supported the comparison of tonnage by classes as a preparatory method.

For land armaments, the Sub-Commission proposed as principal standard of comparison the number of peace-time effectives, taking into account their organisation, their period of service and degree of training, and the war material in service. It further underlined the importance, as factors of comparison, of trained reserves, stocks of war material and preparations of all kinds undertaken with a view to war.

As regards air armaments, it was proposed, subject to certain conditions, to take as standards of comparison for the personnel, the total effectives and the number of pilots. As far as the material was concerned, dirigibles and aeroplanes were dealt with separately. For the former, volume was suggested as a principal factor of comparison, horse-power coming second. For the latter, the principal standard proposed was the total horse-power, the number of machines being a secondary factor. The Sub-Commission emphasised moreover that the criteria relating to material must be considered as more important than those relating to personnel.

The Sub-Commission concluded by pointing out that expenditure on national defence did not in present circumstances, given the different methods by which budgets were drawn up, appear to constitute a standard of comparison for armaments as a whole. It recommended that an enquiry should forthwith be made as to the most suitable means of placing the national defence budgets of the various countries on a comparable basis.

IV. — Legal and Constitutional Questions.

INTERNATIONAL ENGAGEMENTS

a) *Registration.*

Among the treaties and international agreements registered in July figure :

A conciliation treaty between Norway and Switzerland (Oslo, August 21st, 1925), presented by Switzerland;

Notes exchanged by the United States and Roumania, constituting a commercial agreement based on the most-favoured-nation clause (Bucarest, February 26th, 1926). This correspondence, which was communicated to the League Secretariat by both parties, was registered at the request of the Roumanian Government;

An extradition treaty between the United States and Lithuania (Kovno, April 9th, 1924), presented by Lithuania;

A treaty of commerce and navigation between Germany and Sweden (Berlin, May 4th, 1926), presented by Sweden;

Notes exchanged by Italy and Latvia, constituting an agreement for the mutual suppression of entrance and transit visas (Rome, May 27th and June 12th, 1926), presented by both parties;

A Convention relating to the seaworthiness and equipment of vessels (Copenhagen, January 28th, 1926), concluded by Denmark, Iceland, Finland, Norway and Sweden, presented by Norway;

A Convention between Esthonia and Finland (April 20th, 1925), concerning the upkeep and use of submarine cables, presented by Esthonia;

A postal and telegraphic convention (Moscow, May 24th, 1923), between Poland and Russia, presented by Poland.

b) *Amendments to the Covenant.*

The Spanish Government has deposited with the League the instrument of its ratification of the amendment to Article IV of the Covenant adopted by the second Assembly (1).

This amendment is now in force as it has received the requisite number of ratifications provided for in the Covenant (all members of the Council and the majority of the members of the Assembly).

V. — Technical Organisations.

1. — THE ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL ORGANISATION

The Settlement of Bulgarian Refugees.

The Financial Committee held a special session in London from July 19th to July 23rd.

The primary object of the meeting was to bring into operation a scheme for the settlement of Bulgarian refugees and, in particular, to enable the Bulgarian Government to obtain advances not exceeding £400,000 for the most urgent need (e.g. early autumn sowing) without waiting for the public issue of the Bulgarian Refugee Settlement Loan of £2,250,000 which it proposed to issue later in the year. The first condition of these advances was that the reparation authorities should release from the general reparation charge the revenues required as security for the loan and should provide safeguards against the depreciation of the leva. The second was that the Bulgarian Government should proceed to certain modifications of

(1) The Assembly shall fix by a two-thirds majority the rules dealing with the election of the non-permanent Members of the Council, and particularly such regulations as relate to their term of office and the conditions of re-eligibility.

the statute of the National Bank. Satisfactory assurances having been received from the Inter-Allied Commission at Sofia, the Reparation Commission, the Bulgarian Government, and the Governor of the National Bank, the Committee recommended the President of the Council to authorise the Bulgarian Government to proceed with the negotiations for the advances, pointing out that it believed that the Bulgarian Government would find it necessary to arrive at a satisfactory arrangement with the bond-holders of pre-war loans. This authorisation is expected shortly.

The detailed arrangements with regard to the control and expenditure of the advances were also made. The Committee recommended that the Council should appoint M. René Charron, who had previously made a special enquiry in Bulgaria, to supervise the expenditure of the sums advanced. He will proceed to Sofia as soon as the advances are obtained.

In the course of its meeting the Committee heard statements by the Bulgarian Financial Minister, M. Moloff, and by the Governor of the National Bank, M. Ivanoff. It also had an exchange of views with the diplomatic representatives in London of Greece, the Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes, and Roumania. A representative of Czechoslovakia was also present.



Other questions dealt with at this meeting concerned the financial situation of Danzig and the problem of the suppression of the crime of counterfeiting currency.

2. — COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSIT

Ninth Session of the Committee.

The ninth session of the Committee for Communications and Transit took place at Geneva from July 12th to 17th. There were present :

M. Aristides de Agüero y Bethancourt (Cuba);
M. Francisco Amunategui (Chile);
Mr. J. G. Baldwin (Great Britain);
M. Guillermo Brockmann y Abarzuza (Spain);
M. Gaetan Dobkevicius (Lithuania);
M. Silvain Dreyfus (France);
Dr. Gustavo Guerrero (Salvador);
M. Wang-Hang (China);
M. A. Politis (Greece);
M. G. Popesco (Roumania);
M. H. Reinhardt (Austria);
M. G. Sinigalia (Italy);
Mr. G. Smith (Norway);
Dr. A. Stiévenard (Belgium);
M. Yotaro Sugimura (Japan);
M. Bodhan Winiarski (Poland);
M. Hostie (Secretary-General of the General Commission for Rhine Navigation)

The Committee elected as Chairman M. de Agüero y Bethancourt, and as Vice-Chairman Dr. Stiévenard and M. Popesco.

Its agenda comprised the examination of the work of the various sub-committees during the past year on the questions of inland navigation, transport by rail, maritime navigation, road traffic, and the reform of the calendar. The Committee also discussed the work of the Passport Conference held last May in Geneva, and

the annual report of the Memel Harbour Board. It further considered various questions connected with its own internal organisation, and discussed the programme and date of the next General Conference on Communications and Transit.

Inland Navigation. — The Committee considered the work of its Sub-Committee on Inland Navigation ⁽¹⁾. It noted that as an outcome of the enquiry into the situation of inland navigation in Europe, undertaken in pursuance of resolutions of the Genoa Conference, efforts had been made with a view to the material improvement of navigable waterways, which in most cases had almost completely restored them to their pre-war condition. It observed that the fact that traffic, though increasing on the whole, had not yet regained the 1914 level, was due to the economic position in the various countries, and noted that works for the improvement of the various systems and the construction of new waterways were being carried out in most countries.

As regards the system of international co-operation contemplated by the Genoa Conference, the Committee had already been able to place at the disposal of one Government (that of Poland) the services of a committee of experts to give an opinion upon a scheme for hydraulic works and the construction of new waterways. It considered that co-operation on these lines would be of use in other cases, particularly for the purpose of co-ordinating the programmes of different countries.

Maritime Navigation. — The Committee requested the Assembly again to draw the attention of the States signatories of the conventions concluded at the Second General Conference on Communications and Transit, in particular, the General Convention on the International Regime of Maritime Ports, to the desirability of ratifying these conventions as soon as possible.

Combined Transport. — The Committee, after noting the discussions of its Sub-Committee for Transport by Rail and for Inland Navigation on the subject of combined transport, decided to appoint a special committee to study and report on this question. This committee would consist of experts on rail transport, inland navigation, maritime navigation and aerial navigation.

Passport Conference. — After noting the recommendations of the Passport Conference regarding transit cards for emigrants and identity papers for persons without nationality, the Committee decided to entrust its Chairman with the duty of selecting experts to study the question and to draw up the agreements recommended by the Conference.

Broadcasting. — The Committee decided to place on its agenda the question of the international regulation of broadcasting, which it regarded as falling definitely within its competence, and to collaborate in this matter, as far as might seem expedient, with the Committee on Intellectual Co-operation and its organs. It was understood that its work must not in any way duplicate that of the "Union Radiotélégraphique Universelle".

As regards telegraphic questions, it requested its Chairman to take all steps to ensure the maintenance of effective contact with the international bodies dealing with such matters.

Air Questions. — The Committee requested its Chairman to take all steps to ensure that effective contact should be maintained with the international organisations dealing with air questions, in particular, the *Commission Internationale de*

(1) See *Monthly Summary*, Vol. VI, No. 1, p. 6.

Navigation Aérienne, the International Air Traffic Association, and the Committee of Legal Experts set up by the Paris Conference.

The possibility of forming temporary bodies of experts to consider questions in regard to which—on account of their specific character or of their connection with other transport problems—such a procedure might seem suitable, was not excluded.

Reform of the Calendar. — The Committee considered the work of its Special Committee of Enquiry into the Reform of the Calendar, and came to the conclusion that the next step should be to make this work known in the various countries. For this purpose it suggested the formation of international organisations to study the questions, to include representatives of the principal interests involved.

As it had ascertained that none of the religious authorities upon whom the settlement of this question depended, had formulated objections to the principle of the fixing of Easter, and that no objections had been raised in lay circles, the Committee decided to direct the attention of the Assembly to this aspect of the problem, and requested it to urge the authorities concerned to settle the question as soon as possible.

General Conference on Communications and Transit. — With regard to the convocation of the next General Conference on Communications and Transit, the Committee decided, subject to the Council's approval, that this meeting might be held in the interval between one of its plenary sessions and the Eighth Assembly.

General Organisation. — The Committee decided that the examination of questions connected with transport by rail, inland navigation, ports and maritime navigation, road traffic, and electric power should be referred to five standing committees. A permanent legal committee was also set up.

It was decided that all resolutions passed by these committees must be endorsed by the Transit Committee in plenary session before being transmitted to Governments, the Council, or the Assembly. In certain exceptionally urgent cases, the endorsement might be given by the Chairman on behalf of the Committee.

3. — INTELLECTUAL CO-OPERATION

Eighth Session of the Committee.

The eighth plenary session of the International Committee on Intellectual Co-operation was held at Geneva from July 26th to July 29th. It was preceded by meetings of its sub-committees and followed by a session of the Governing Body of the International Institute of Intellectual Co-operation.

Professor Lorentz (Netherlands) and professor Gilbert Murray (British) were respectively re-elected Chairman and Vice-Chairman.

Intellectual Property. — The Committee examined the present position of the question of scientific property (study of means of securing for scientists profits in the industrial application of their discoveries) and was able to form an idea of the ground gained by the underlying principles of Senator Ruffini's scheme. For example, a congress at Helsingfors, which was attended by five or six hundred Scandinavian jurists, had recognised unanimously that the cause supported by Senator Ruffini merited serious consideration and had formulated interesting proposals as to the means of executing the scheme.

The Committee also noted observations of the Economic Committee, which were submitted by a member of that body, and decided that the enquiry of the

Institute of Intellectual Co-operation regarding scientific property should henceforth be pursued in co-operation with the Economic Committee.

Other questions dealt with by the Committee concerned the legal status of international associations and the suppression of artistic forgeries. The latter question was referred to a sub-committee studying means of identifying works of art.

University Relations. — The Committee had before it a memorandum from Madame Curie on international scholarships for the promotion of science and the perfecting of scientific laboratories.

This document recommended a preliminary enquiry regarding national and international post-graduate scholarships, the constitution of a committee of experts to study the most suitable means of organising an international system of scholarships and the publication of the results of these studies with a view to encouraging donations for scholarships.

The Committee was in complete agreement with Madame Curie's suggestions. The proposed committee of experts, it considered, would also be able to enter into relations with national and international organisations for the distribution of scholarships to young scientists and endeavour to co-ordinate the work of these bodies.

It then proceeded to an exchange of views with regard to a scheme submitted by Professor Barany, of Upsala University, for the foundation of an international university for the training of statesmen, diplomats, politicians, political writers, professors of political science, etc. The Committee was of opinion that the Institute of Intellectual Co-operation should study the possibility of founding an international school of political studies, if practicable, by the co-operation of certain national institutions.

The Committee discussed questions relating to the publication of university year-books and considered measures to facilitate the collection of the necessary material. It approved the conclusions reached by the representatives of international student organisations, who met in April at Geneva under the chairmanship of M. de Reynold in order to co-ordinate their work. It also approved a report on a meeting (Paris, July 1926) of the Directors of the National University Information Offices, emphasising the necessity of setting up similar offices in all countries and developing the relations between them.

Bibliography. — The Committee noted the stage reached in the work undertaken for the purpose of co-ordinating scientific bibliography in various fields (physical science and its different branches; economics; Græco-Latin archaeology; biology).

For certain branches the Committee noted that the work was still at its beginnings (convocation of experts to determine what publications or bibliographic organisations should be called upon to co-operate in order to facilitate scientific work). For other branches it noted that negotiations were already in course concerning the division of work among the different publications and organisations and the changes considered necessary.

The question of copyright called forth an exchange of views as a result of which the Committee requested the Institute of Intellectual Co-operation to prepare a draft model law and a draft international convention based on the national laws at present in force on the subject. It asked the Institute to make a preliminary study of the so-called *droit de suite*—artists' rights in regard to an increase of the value of their works—and of measures to prevent works of art from being mutilated or transformed without the author's consent, or from damage resulting from misunderstanding of the author's intentions. The Institute was also asked to continue its investigation regarding the possibility of organising, in autumn 1927, a congress of popular art which might take place at the same time as an international exhi-

bition of popular art. The Committee, finally, proposed that an International Museum Office should be set up to improve the international organisation of catalogues and to develop the relations between the different museums for purposes of mutual assistance, loans, exchanges, distribution of photographic collections, etc.

With regard to musical art, the Committee noted a report submitted by M. Felix Weingartner on the international organisation possible in this domain. It asked the Institute to study the question of the exchange of concert programmes (measures to keep executants in touch with musical life in foreign countries) as well as that of the standardisation of pitch. It noted recommendations with regard to the study of the national *Lied* and the development of musical performances for children.

As regards literary matters, the Committee was of the opinion that the advice of an expert body should be sought on international co-operation in regard to translations, knowledge of contemporary literature and the theatre. It was in favour of the establishment by the national committees of an annual list of literary works in languages not commonly spoken and of the creation of an autonomous international translation office to promote work in this field.

International Meteorological Office. — The Committee heard a report on the work of the Committee instructed to study a proposal regarding the foundation of an international meteorological Office. The conclusions reached will be forwarded to the Council for its decision as to the action to be taken in this matter, which is of considerable importance from a scientific point of view, but at the same time involves other factors, principally of an economic kind. Meanwhile, the investigation will be pursued.

National Committees. — On several occasions the Committee and its sub-committees laid particular stress on the effective assistance already given by the National Committees of Intellectual Co-operation and on their future possibilities. The Committee decided to study the possibility of convening in 1927 a meeting of representatives of these bodies which already exist in a large number of countries and whose opinion will be sought in this connection.

The International Institute. — The Committee, sitting as Governing Body of the Institute, heard a report by the Director of this Organisation on its activity during the past months. Reports on the work of certain sections were discussed by the corresponding sub-committees. The work of the Institute was approved as a whole, its programme adopted, and its budget drawn up. This year the Institute will have at its disposal the French Government's subsidy of 2,000,000 French francs, the Polish Government's grant of 100,000 French francs and a new subsidy of 15,000 gold francs which the Czechoslovak Government has decided to grant yearly.

Certain reforms, based on the experience gained during the first months, were effected in the organisation of the Institute, their main object being to bring it into line with the work of the Committee.

Professor Zimmern was appointed Assistant-Director of the Institute.

The plenary meetings were attended by : Professor Lorentz (Netherlands), Chairman; Professor Gilbert Murray (British), Vice-Chairman; Mlle Bonnevie (Norwegian); Sir J. C. Bose (Indian); M. Casares (Spanish); M. de Castro (Brazilian); M. Destrée (Belgian); Professor Einstein (German); Professor de Reynold (Swiss); Professor Rocco (Italian); M. Émile Borel (French), replacing M. Painlevé; Mr. Vernon Kellogg (American), replacing Mr. Millikan; M. Kovalski (Polish), replacing Mme. Curie; M. Unsain (Argentine), replacing M. Lugones; M. Luchaire, Director of the International Institute of Intellectual Co-operation; M. Murette, representative of International Labour Office.

The Governing Body of the Institute of Intellectual Co-operation is composed of the members of the Committee, presided over by its French member.

* * *

M. Destrée took the Chair at meetings of the Sub-Committee on Intellectual Property. There were also present : M. Ruffini (Italian); M. Knoph (Norwegian); M. Marcel Plaisant (French); M. Serruys, representative of the Economic Committee of the League of Nations; Mr. Johnston, representative of the International Labour Office, and M. Luchaire, Director of the Institute.

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M. de Castro (Brazilian) presided at meetings of the University Sub-Committee. There were also present : Mr. Vernon Kellogg (American); M. Castella (Swiss); replacing M. de Reynold; and M. Castillejo, Secretary-General of the "Junta para ampliacion de Estudios" of Madrid; M. Thamin, Professor at the Sorbonne; M. von Goetl-Ottlilienfeld, Professor at the University of Berlin, and M. Luchaire, Director of the Institute.

On special subjects the Sub-Committee heard Professor Barany of Upsala University, and M. Montessus de Ballore, Director of the Index Generalis.

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The Sub-Committee on Bibliography sat under the Chairmanship of Professor Lorentz (Netherlands). The meetings were also attended by Mlle. Bonnevie, Sir J. C. Bose, M. Kovalski (replacing Mme. Curie), Professor Einstein, Professor Gilbert Murray, M. Destrée and Mr. Vernon Kellogg; M. Godet, Director of the Swiss National Library; M. Kruss, Director-General of the Prussian State Library; M. Roland Marcel, Director of the Paris National Library; Dr. Hagberg Wright, Director of the London Library, and M. Luchaire.

Professor von Goetl-Ottlilienfeld was heard on the question of the co-ordination of economic bibliography.

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The meetings of the Sub-Committee on Arts and Letters were attended by M. Destrée, Chairman, M. de Reynold, M. Unsain (replacing M. Lugones), M. Casares; Professor Focillon, of the Sorbonne, M. Jelinek, a well-known Czechoslovak writer; Professor Toesca, of Rome University; M. Felix Weingartner, the Austrian composer and conductor; Mlle. Vacaresco (Roumanian); M. Paul Valéry, member of the French Academy, and M. Luchaire.

VI. — Administrative Questions

MANDATES

Work of the Ninth Session of the Permanent Mandates Commission.

The Permanent Mandates Commission has forwarded to the Council its observations on the annual reports and petitions examined at its ninth session (1). The following is a brief summary of its remarks.

(1) See *Monthly Summary*, Vol. VI, No. 6, p. 145.

I. OBSERVATIONS REGARDING CERTAIN TERRITORIES UNDER A, B AND C MANDATES.

a) *Territories under A Mandate.*

Palestine and Transjordan. — The Commission notes with satisfaction that the situation has improved in Palestine, that order has been maintained in all parts of the territory, and that the policy adopted by the Mandatory is calculated to encourage local autonomy in accordance with Article 3 of the Mandate. It expresses the hope that the next report will contain additional information on this subject, and urges that every effort be made to complete the land survey, an operation which it considers as extremely important for the general development of the country.

With regard to labour conditions, the Commission recognises the difficulties with which the Mandatory has to cope. It nevertheless expresses its belief that well-conceived legislation is now necessary and would prove highly beneficial. It therefore welcomes the announcement of a forthcoming regulation of labour conditions.

For the next report, the Commission asks that additional information be furnished on educational matters, public finance and the text of the agreement concerning the frontier between Nejd and Transjordan.

b) *Territories under B Mandate.*

The French Cameroons. — Satisfaction is expressed with regard to a statement of the accredited representative of the French Government concerning the effective co-operation of British and French officials in preventing slave-trading on the northern frontier of the territory. The Commission notes that the road system has been developed, and, in this connection, requests additional information on the remuneration of workers employed for road construction. It also asks for details concerning labour conditions in native plantations and measures contemplated to improve the sanitary conditions of labourers working on the Central Railway. It expresses the hope that it will be possible rapidly to develop the health services of the territory, and pays a tribute to the efforts of the Mandatory in this connection. Each financial year, it notes, has ended with a considerable surplus, and this has enabled the Mandatory to undertake the execution of an extensive programme of public works. It expresses its intention of continuing to follow with interest the policy of the Mandatory in this connection.

As regards educational work, it notes that a Public Education Commission has been appointed in order to develop co-operation between the various educational establishments of the territory.

French Togoland. — The Commission notes with satisfaction that negotiations are being conducted with a view to the final determination of the frontier between British and French Togoland, and expresses the hope that efforts will be made to avoid separating natives of one and the same tribe.

The territory, it remarks, is prosperous from a financial point of view, the reserve fund having considerably increased in 1925. It expresses some anxiety with regard to the depreciation of the franc, a factor which might undoubtedly affect the fund, and states its intention of following with interest any measures taken by the Mandatory to cope with the situation. It notes with satisfaction the intention of the Mandatory not to requisition labour for the construction during the next three years of the ninety kilometre railway from Agbonou to Agbandi, and asks for supplementary information on the system of land tenure and the liquor traffic.

Ruanda-Urundi. — The Commission notes with interest the endeavours of the Belgian Government to make the native chiefs its paid agents, and thus to reduce or abolish the customary labour levies. For the next report, it asks for certain explanations concerning the working of the Customs Union between Ruanda-Urundi and Belgian Congo and the part of the profits from the coinage of currency (currency of Belgian Congo) assigned to Ruanda-Urundi.

Tanganyika. — Satisfaction is expressed that the Mandatory, with the agreement of chiefs and tribesmen, has prohibited the tribute and compulsory labour formerly exacted by the former, replacing them by a poll-tax. Part of the proceeds is paid into the native treasuries, from which the chiefs receive a salary. The Commission asks the Mandatory to include in its next report supplementary information on the administrative organisation of the country, the liquor traffic, economic equality, education, public health and finance.

c) *Territories under C Mandate.*

South-West Africa. — The Commission is happy to note an improvement in labour conditions in the mining camps, owing to public health measures taken by the administration, and awaits with interest further information on the subject.

Having again considered the question of the interpretation and application of the South West Africa Railways and Harbours Act (1922) it states that it has been unable to form a clear idea of the financial position and management of these works, which were formerly German State property. It therefore asks the Mandatory for a full statement on the subject in its next report. It also requests supplementary information on the general administration of the territory, the liquor traffic and education.

Referring to a statement in the annual report to the effect that certain missions have been required *a*) to furnish a written undertaking to assist and support the policy of the Mandatory, and *b*) to encourage natives to seek employment in South West Africa proper, the Commission asks for further information in order to be assured that these requirements are in conformity with the Mandate.

New-Guinea. — After expressing the hope that the Mandatory will endeavour to bring under its effective control and administration a greater portion of the territory, the Commission asks for information with regard to long-term labour contracts and public finance, in particular, the loans, advances and grants made by the Mandatory to the territory and the obligations of the territory as resulting from these transactions.

II. OBSERVATIONS ON PETITIONS.

In the course of its ninth session, the Commission examined, together with observations from the Mandatories concerned, petitions from the Executive Committee of the Palestine Arab Congress, the Agudath Israel Organisation, the National Council of the Jews of Palestine, the Zionist Organisation and certain natives of the Adjigo tribe (French Togoland). It adopted the conclusions of the reports submitted on the subject by its members, a summary of which is given below.

Petition of the Palestine Arab Congress. — The authors of this petition protest against certain concessions granted by the British Government and facts which they consider as contrary to the terms of the Mandate.

As regards the Rutenberg Concessions, the Commission agrees with the Mandatory that the importance of enterprises of this type and the advantages of all kinds which they entail for all classes of the population justify the Mandatory in reserving its full liberty of action. It nevertheless considers that in future the widest publi-

city should be given and definite regulations observed in regard to concessions. As far as the complaints in the matter of elections, local autonomy and representative bodies are concerned, the Commission is happy to note that the Arabs are gradually abandoning their attitude of non-co-operation with the Mandatory.

The Commission expresses the hope that the Jewish immigration will remain in proportion to the country's power of absorption.

Memorandum from the Agudath Israel. — The object of this memorandum is to support a petition from the Jewish Askhenasic community of Palestine, which was dealt with by the Commission at its seventh session. As the text of the regulations for the Jewish community has not yet been promulgated, the Commission is unable to come to any conclusion, and confines itself to noting the memorandum and the observations of the Mandatory, reserving its right to re-open the question when the proposed regulations have been put into force and communicated to it.

Memorandum and Letter from the Zionist Organisation. — The memorandum gives interesting information on the work of this organisation in its capacity as Jewish agency for the development of the Jewish National Home in Palestine in 1925-26. The letter contains complaints regarding the allotment of land, education and the formation of a frontier defence corps.

The Commission considers that the explanations furnished by the Mandatory are satisfactory.

Memorandum from the National Council of the Jews of Palestine. — This memorandum deals with the situation of the Jewish population in Palestine and its present needs.

After a brief historical survey, the National Council states that the Mandatory has in general adopted a negative policy and a passive attitude with regard to the Jews of Palestine. It then submits several definite complaints concerning State lands; expenditure on education, Jewish hospitals and health institutions; the industrial development of the country; liberty of conscience; labour; and the use of the Hebrew language.

In regard to these complaints, the Commission considers that the Mandatory has acted wisely in not precipitating events and in endeavouring to avoid serious conflicts between two sections of the population. It states its general view that the Mandatory has given Palestine a remarkable degree of peace and tranquillity, and that the country has developed under its administration. It hopes that the understanding which appears to be gaining ground among the various sections of the population will increase as rapidly as possible under the auspices and with the support of the Mandatory, as this is an essential condition of the swift development and progress of the country.

Petition from the Adjigo tribe. — This petition is from a barrister in Accra, acting on behalf of a group of Togoland natives belonging to the Adjigo tribe and forced, since 1924, to reside at a place distant from their homes.

In the opinion of the Mandatory, this measure is justified by the persistent refusal of the petitioners to abstain from political agitation if allowed to return to their native district.

The Commission in its report asks the French Government for additional information as to the reasons for deporting these natives and the existing circumstances which justify the maintenance of this measure and the treatment complained of by the petitioners.

VII. — Political Questions.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE ABYSSINIAN GOVERNMENT

The Secretary-General has received from the Abyssinian Government a Note dated June 19th, accompanied by copies of correspondence exchanged by the British and Italian Governments and by them communicated to the Abyssinian Government, copies of the replies of the latter to this notification and the text of its protest against the agreement resulting from the above correspondence.

The Abyssinian Government has requested that these documents may be forwarded to all States Members of the League in order that the question may be considered.

The Secretary-General has communicated these documents to the Members of the League, and has also enquired of the Abyssinian Government whether it desires the question to be placed on the agenda of the Council.

VIII. — Miscellaneous Questions.

1. — COMPETITION FOR THE SELECTION OF DESIGNS FOR A LEAGUE OF NATIONS BUILDING

The competition organised by the League of Nations for the construction at Geneva of new buildings for the Assembly and Secretariat opened on July 25th.

In 1924, the Assembly decided to build a Conference Hall on the site adjoining the present Secretariat (Hotel National) offered by the Canton and City of Geneva. A Jury of Architects, appointed to organise an international competition and fix the conditions, after a minute study of the question, proposed to the Assembly to purchase a site on the lake-shore, which appeared to it more suitable for the construction of a League building than the one previously contemplated. The Special Assembly of March, 1926, adopted this proposal and voted a sum of 16,000,000 francs (including the proceeds from the sale of the Hotel National, guaranteed at 4,000,000 Swiss francs by the Swiss Government).

In June, 1926, the Council decided that the competition organised by the Jury should be open from July 25th, 1926, to January 25th, 1927, to architects from all States Members of the League, from Germany, the Free City of Danzig and the Saar Territory. Prizes are offered to the amount of 165,000 Swiss francs.

The site chosen covers a total area of 66,406 square metres. The building will consist of two principal parts, which may be arranged either in separate buildings connected by galleries or colonnades, or in a single building with lobbies, galleries and special exists. These two parts are intended, one for the Assembly Hall, the Council rooms and their dependencies, the other for the use of the Secretariat. The cost of construction must not exceed 13,500,000 Swiss francs.

Rules of Competition. — No competitor or firm may submit more than one design. No award will be made in respect of any design if it is incomplete, or if the Jury is of opinion that the cost of executing such a plan would exceed the amount indicated, or if it does not comply with the conditions of the specification.

No person employed by the League of Nations or associated with or employed by a member or substitute member of the Jury may compete. Every arrangement has been made to keep the identity of the competitors absolutely secret until the moment of the Jury's decision.

These arrangements, as well as the detailed conditions of the competition and the programme of work to be carried out, have been communicated to the different governments who will make them known to those interested.

Prizes, Awards, Execution of the Design, Exhibition of Designs. — The sum of 165,000 Swiss francs will be placed at the Jury's disposal for awards in respect of those designs which it considers the best. The prizes and supplementary awards will be as follows :

First Prize	30,000 Swiss francs
Second Prize A.	25,000 " "
Second Prize B.	25,000 " "
Third Prize.	20,000 " "
Fourth and Fifth Prizes.	15,000 " "
Sixth and Seventh Prizes	5,000 " "

The Jury will also have at its disposal 25,000 Swiss francs to be distributed in the form of supplementary awards, of not less than 2,500 Swiss francs each, for the best designs which have not been awarded prizes.

The drawings, estimates and descriptions of the designs awarded the first, second and third prizes will become the property of the League of Nations.

The League of Nations reserves the right to publish the designs obtaining prizes and supplementary awards.

Execution of the design. — The League of Nations may require the author of the design placed first on the list by the Jury and accepted by the League of Nations to make changes in his design.

Fees. — The fees payable to the architect selected to erect the building will be at the rate of 5 per cent of the total cost of erection and of any furniture which the architect may be asked to design.

Public Exhibition of Designs. — After the prizes and supplementary awards have been given, all the designs accepted will publicly exhibited for not less than a fortnight.

Composition and Duties of the Jury. — The Jury consists of nine members : M. H. P. Berlage (The Hague); Sir John J. Burnet (London); M. Charles Gato (Madrid); M. J. Hoffmann (Vienna); M. Victor Horta (Brussels); President; M. Charles Lemaesquier (Paris); M. Karl Moser (Zurich); M. Attilio Muggia (Bologna); M. Ivar Tengbom (Stockholm).

Should any member of the Jury be unavoidably prevented from taking part in the deliberations, his place will be taken by a substitute member of the same nationality.

Substitute members. — M. W. Kromhout (Renkum-Arnhem); Mr. H. S. Goodhart-Rendel (London); M. Pascal Bravo (Madrid); M. Eugen Steinhof (Vienna); M. Franz de Vestel (Brussels); M. Gabriel Héraud (Paris); M. Camille Martin (Geneva); M. G. B. Milani (Rome); M. Erik Lallerstedt (Stockholm).

The duties of the Jury are :

1. To examine the designs and choose those which comply most fully with the conditions of the specification and which are considered the most satisfactory from the artistic and practical points of view;
2. To assign the prizes and supplementary awards;
3. To decide whether, on the results of the competition, it is justified in recommending any plan for execution;

4. To draw up a report which will be published and communicated by the Secretary-General to the Governments of all States Members of the League of Nations;

5. To ensure that names of competitors are not divulged.

The Jury's decision will be final.

2. — VISIT OF KING BORIS OF BULGARIA

On July 29th the King of Bulgaria, who was travelling in Switzerland in strict incognito, paid a visit to the Secretariat of the League of Nations, where, in the absence of the Secretary-General, he was received by the Deputy Secretary-General, M. Avenol. The King was accompanied by his brother, Prince Cyril of Bulgaria.

The members of the Committee on Intellectual Co-operation, which was in session at the moment of the visit, were presented to the King at his request.

IX. — Forthcoming Events.

- August 17th : Meeting of the third Sub-Commission of the Joint Disarmament Commission, Geneva.
- August 19th : Preliminary meeting of the Committee of Press Agencies, Geneva.
- August 27th : Meeting of the Liaison Sub-Committee of the Child Welfare Committee, Geneva.
- August 30th : Meeting of the Economic Committee, Geneva.
- September 1st : Conference of the States Signatories of the Protocol of the Permanent Court of International Justice, Geneva.
- September 2nd : Meeting of the Financial Committee, Geneva.
- September 3rd : Forty-first Session of the Council, Geneva.
- September 6th : Seventh Assembly of the League of Nations, Geneva.
- September 13th : Meeting of the Supervisory Commission, Geneva.
- September 26th : Meeting of the Malaria Commission, Palermo.

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I. — Summary of the Month. — August 1926.

The principal meetings in August were those of the Committee on the Composition of the Council, the Economic Committee, the Technical Committee on Buoyage and Lighting of Coasts, the Committee of Press Agencies and the Committee of Experts on the Instruction of Young People in the Aims and Work of the League. Sub-Commissions of the Preparatory Commission for the Disarmament Conference and of the affiliated Joint Commission continued in session throughout the month.

The Saar Governing Commission sent in its twenty-sixth quarterly report on the situation in the Saar Territory. Communications were received from the British and Italian Governments concerning the note sent to the League last month by the Abyssinian Government.

II. — The Permanent Court of International Justice ⁽¹⁾.

1. — ELEVENTH (ORDINARY) SESSION

The Eleventh (ordinary) Session of the Permanent Court of International Justice was declared closed by the President on July 31st.

During the last private meetings, the Court continued to discuss the revision of the Rules of Court established on March 24th, 1922, and adopted certain amendments to these Rules.

The Rules of Court, as amended, came into force on July 31st, 1926. The amended text has been published by the Registry of the Court (Series D. No. 1. of the Court's publications) and distributed to the Governments of the States Members of the League, to the States mentioned in the Annex to the Covenant as well as to other States entitled to appear before the Court.

2. — SUMMARY OF THE AMENDMENTS TO THE RULES OF COURT

To a considerable extent, the amendments inserted in the Rules of Court may be considered as a codification of the practice followed by the Court during the first four years of its existence. On some points, however, the Court has introduced new principles into the system of its rules. Article 62 as amended contains, for instance, a new rule to the effect that the judgment shall state the number of the judges constituting the majority contemplated in Article 55 of the Statute; it has also been laid down in the same article that dissenting judges may, if they so desire, attach a mere statement of their dissent instead of delivering separate individual opinions. In a similar manner, advisory opinions given by the Court shall, according to the new wording of Article 71, mention the number of judges constituting the majority, whilst the dissenting judges have again the right either of attaching to the Court's opinion an exposition of their individual opinion or of simply expressing their dissent.

The sections dealing with contentious procedure, summary procedure and advisory procedure have, in general, been revised in view of the experience gained by the Court. Amongst other things, Article 35, as amended, specifies that the agents appointed by the parties for the purposes of a case should, whenever possible, remain at the seat of the Court pending the trial and determination of the cases. An important new principle is contained in Article 38 of the revised Rules. By virtue of this Article, when proceedings are begun by means of an application, any preliminary objection must be filed after the filing of the Case by the applicant and within the time-limit fixed for the filing of the Counter-case. The further proceedings shall, as a rule, be oral. It may be added that the modified wording of Articles 59 and 60 contains some detailed provisions relating to intervention. In conformity with the Statute of the Court, the revised Rules also deal not only with the revision but also with the interpretation of judgments (Article 66).

The articles regarding summary procedure have also been somewhat amplified. Article 69 lays down that summary proceedings are to be opened by the presentation

(1) This article has been prepared with the aid of information from the Registry of the Court.

of cases according to the provisions adopted in regard to contentious procedure in general. Should the Chamber for Summary Procedure consider that the documents do not furnish adequate information, it may, in the absence of an agreement to the contrary between the parties, institute oral proceedings.

The provisions relating to advisory procedure before the Court are also somewhat more detailed in the amended Rules. It has been expressly laid down in Article 74 that advisory opinions shall be read in open Court, notice having been given to the Secretary-General of the League of Nations and of international organizations immediately concerned.

It may be finally mentioned that the Court has adopted in Article 13 a new rule as to the exercise of the presidential functions in special cases. Whenever, according to the rules in force, the functions of President should be exercised by a national of one of the parties to a suit, they shall pass, for the purposes of the case in question, in the order of seniority established by the Rules of Court, to the first judge not similarly situated.

3. — THE CHAMBER FOR SUMMARY PROCEDURE

In conformity with Article 29 of the Statute and Article 14 of the Rules, the Court proceeded, before the session was declared closed, to the election of three Members of the Chamber for Summary Procedure.

The judges selected to form this Chamber for the year 1927 were Mr. Huber, President, M. Weiss and M. Loder, Lord Finlay and M. Altamira being appointed as substitute Members. The Chamber formed to hear and determine cases by summary procedure will, therefore, be the same as during the last years.

4. — APPOINTMENT OF A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE COURT TO THE ASSEMBLY OF THE LEAGUE. — ADMINISTRATIVE DECISIONS

By a special decision of the Court, the Registrar, M. Ake Hammarskjöld was appointed, following the practice of previous years, as representative of the Court before the Seventh Assembly, the Budget and Financial Committee of the Assembly and the Supervisory Committee of the League.

The Court finally took a series of decisions on administrative matters which are as a rule considered by the Court as its annual ordinary session.

5. — QUESTION OF THE ADHESION OF THE UNITED STATES TO THE PERMANENT COURT

The invitation of the Council to take part in the Conference of the signatories of the Statute of the Permanent Court, to discuss the questions raised by the resolution of the United States Senate has been accepted by the following thirty-nine signatories : South Africa, Albania, Australia, Austria, Belgium, British Empire, Bulgaria, Canada, China, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Irish Free State, Finland, France, Greece, Hungary, India, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liberia, Lithuania, Luxemburg, Netherlands, Norway, New Zealand, Panama, Persia, Poland, Portugal, Roumania, Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes, Siam, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Uruguay and Venezuela.

III. — The Reduction of Armaments.

1. — WORK OF THE JOINT COMMISSION

The Joint Commission, at its July meeting, set up three sub-commissions to prepare the replies to the questions referred to it ⁽¹⁾.

The first of these Sub-Committees (M. Pospisil and M. Mauro) met in London on July 20th and will hold a further session in September to prepare its final report.

The second (M. Jouhaux, M. von Moellendorff, M. Oersted, M. Sugimura and Mr. Wills) which met in Paris on July 28th; and the third (M. Jouhaux, M. von Moellendorff, M. Schwob, M. Vanek and five experts—M. Cambi (Italy), M. Frossard (France), M. Just (Germany), M. Zanetti (United States) and M. de Mouilpied (British Empire) which met at Geneva on August 18th, and 19th drew up the final text of their conclusions.

The replies will be examined at a future meeting of the Joint Commission.

2. — WORK OF SUB-COMMISSION A OF THE PREPARATORY COMMISSION FOR THE DISARMAMENT CONFERENCE

The Military, Naval and Air Sub-Commission of the Preparatory Commission for the Disarmament Conference resumed work on August 2nd under the chairmanship of M. Cobian (Spain) ⁽²⁾, when it pursued its examination of the questionnaire referred to it by the Preparatory Commission.

The Sub-Commission will continue in session until September 9th, when, on account of the Assembly meeting, it will adjourn until September 27th.

3. — THE PRIVATE MANUFACTURE OF ARMS ⁽³⁾

The Committee of Enquiry appointed to prepare a draft convention for the supervision of the private manufacture of arms, munitions and implements of war met in Paris, on July 30th and 31st. It gave detailed consideration to the replies of Governments to the circular addressed to them on the subject and drew up a report dealing with the various points raised therein. It came to the conclusion that this correspondence did not render necessary an amendment of the preliminary draft.

The Committee is composed of M. Cobian (Spain), M. Guani (Uruguay), and M. Veverka (Czechoslovakia).

IV. — Legal and Constitutional Questions.

1. — THE COMPOSITION OF THE COUNCIL

The second session of the Committee on the Composition of the Council opened on August 30th, at Geneva, under the Chairmanship of M. Motta.

(1) See *Monthly Summary*, Vol. VI, No. 7, p. 132.

(2) See *Monthly Summary*, Vol. VI, No. 7, p. 132.

(3) See *Monthly Summary*, Vol. VI, No. 5, p. 116.

There were present : M. Von Hoesch (Germany), M. Cantilo (Argentine), M. de Brouckère (Belgium), M. Chao-Hsin-Chu (China), Viscount Cecil (British Empire), M. de Palacios (Spain), M. Fromageot (France), M. Scialoja (Italy), M. Sato (Japan), M. Sokal (Poland), M. Sjöborg (Sweden), M. Motta (Switzerland), M. Veverka (Czechoslovakia), M. Guani (Uruguay).

The Brazilian Government had intimated that it would not be represented at this session.

2. — INTERNATIONAL ENGAGEMENTS

Registration.

Among the treaties and international engagements registered in August figure :

A series of treaties, conventions and arrangements concerning commercial and consular arrangements, air navigation, damages to be granted to German subjects for losses due to the Mexican revolution, co-operation between courts of law and administrations, etc., concluded by Germany with Lithuania, Guatemala, Mexico, Austria, the United States, Italy, Russia, Spain, Turkey and Portugal, presented by the German Government;

The conventions, one concerning the financial statute of Italian insurance companies (Rome, July 22nd, 1925), concluded by Poland and Italy; the other, on air navigation (Stockholm, October 1st, 1925) concluded by Poland and Sweden, presented for registration by the Polish Government;

A Treaty of Friendship; a Protocol relating to an arrangement concerning the property of Turkish nationals in Bulgaria, expropriated under the Labour Land Law; and an Establishment Convention (Angora, October 18th, 1925), concluded by Turkey and Bulgaria, presented for registration by the latter;

An Extradition Treaty (Caracas, January 19th, 1922), concluded by Venezuela and the United States, presented for registration by Venezuela;

A series of conventions and agreements concluded by the United States with Mexico, Latvia, Cuba, Lithuania and the Dominican Republic, concerning Extradition, commercial relations, smuggling, etc., communicated to the Secretariat by the United States Government.

V. — The Technical Organisations.

1. — THE HEALTH ORGANISATION

Interchange of Medical Officers of Health.

The first of a new type of interchanges arranged by the League Health Organisation closed in August with a two-days conference at Geneva.

This interchange, which was designed to combine the advantages of individual study with those of the regular group interchanges and lasted from July 10th to August 26th, was attended by ten medical officers drawn, four from the Belgian, three from the Dutch and three from the French Health services.

The six weeks were divided into a preliminary period of individual study of subjects within the province of the health services, a period of group lectures, and a second period of individual study of the subjects chosen. In other words, the participants formed groups of three or four members, which again broke up for purposes of individual study. The group lectures given in Holland, Belgium,

France and Switzerland were attended by all participants. The subjects studied were disinfection and prophylaxis against tuberculosis, disinfection, child welfare and health insurance in its relation to preventive medicine and school infection, etc.

2. — THE ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL ORGANISATION

a) *Meeting of the Economic Committee.*

The Economic Committee met on August 30th at Geneva. It elected as Chairman M. Dvoracek (Czechoslovakia).

Among the questions on its agenda figured the abolition of import and export prohibitions and restrictions, the suppression of false customs declarations, the execution of foreign arbitral awards in commercial matters, the unification of legislation on bills of exchange.

There were present :

M. Brunet (Belgian), Mr. Campion (Australian), M. Dvoracek (Czechoslovak), M. Jensen (Danemark), M. di Nola (Italian), M. Matsuyama (Japanese), M. Neculcea (Roumanian), M. Herr (Swiss), M. Serruys (French), M. Wieniawski (Polish), Sir Hubert Llewellyn Smith (British). M. Ador, Chairman of the Economic and Financial Committee, was present at the meeting.

b) *The Financial Situation of Danzig.*

At the request of the League High Commissioner at Danzig and the express desire of the Danzig Senate, a preliminary study of the financial situation of the Free City was made by the Financial Committee at its July session (1).

The Committee had before it a report by one of its members, M. Janssen, who, from July 10th to July 15th, had visited Danzig for the purpose of conducting an enquiry on the spot. It also heard the High Commissioner, Dr. van Hamel, and a delegation from the Free City, headed by the President of the Senate, Dr. Sahn. On questions concerning Poland, it heard the Polish Commissioner-General in Danzig, Dr. Strasburger, and several Polish experts.

On the basis of these investigations it drew up a report for the Council, giving a brief survey of the financial position of the Free City, and suggesting certain measures to cope with the present situation, which the Senate considered as serious.

The monetary reform, which Danzig carried out in 1923 with the aid of the League was a complete success. The stability of the gulden the Committee stated had been maintained without difficulty and the note circulation covered to the extent of 100 %.

On the other hand, Danzig had suffered from the general crisis which swept over Central Europe in 1925, causing widespread unemployment in Germany and Poland. In Danzig the number of unemployed had risen to over 20,000 at the beginning of 1926. Further unfavourable circumstances were the depreciation of the Polish zloty, the ensuing decrease in the purchasing power of the Polish market and the customs difficulties between Poland and Germany.

The economic crisis had affected the financial position. The budget at present was in disequilibrium, the estimated deficit of the current year approaching 16 millions. This and a floating debt of about 12 million gulden, constituted, the Committee considered, a serious danger for the Free City. It therefore suggested that measures to restore budgetary equilibrium should be introduced immediately—if possible, in the second half of the financial year 1926-1927.

(1) See *Monthly Summary*, Vol. VI, No. 6

The measures proposed contemplated, (1) a reduction of expenditure (reduction of number of officials, reduction of salaries and allocations), (2) an increase of revenue (introduction of a tobacco monopoly, fiscal reforms, modification of the arrangement in force between Poland and Danzig concerning the latter's share in the customs revenues). The Committee considered that the adoption of these measures as a whole were the only possible guarantee that budgetary equilibrium would be restored. It expressed the hope that, once this guarantee had been provided, it would be able, in September, to recommend the contracting of a loan to cover the deficit, fund the floating debt, and meet certain expenses of a productive character.

c) *The Settlement of Bulgarian Refugees* ⁽¹⁾.

The Bulgarian Government with the authorisation of the President of the Council, has successfully negotiated an advance of four hundred thousand pounds on the Refugee Settlement Loan to be issued later under the auspices of the League. The advance is in the form of a credit by the Bank of England to the Bulgarian National Bank, and will be used to meet urgent needs, such as the provision of seed for early autumn sowing. Expenditure on this account will be the object of a special control.

3. — COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSIT

a) *Private Law in Inland Navigation.*

The Committee on Private Law in Inland Navigation ⁽²⁾ held its second session at Hamburg, in the buildings of the Supreme Court, at the end of July.

This Committee, which includes experts from all circles interested in the questions under discussion (professors of law, barristers, administrators, directors of navigation companies) is working, in co-operation with the Central Commission for Rhine Navigation, on the unification of private law applicable to inland navigation in Europe, in order to reduce formalities and facilitate international transport by this means.

At its Hamburg meeting, the Committee, under the chairmanship of Professor Vjniarski, of Posen University, considered the replies to a questionnaire addressed to Governments and proceeded to a preliminary study of questions of nationality, registration, privileges and mortgages.

b) *Buoyage and Lighting of Coasts.*

The Technical Committee for Buoyage and Lighting of Coasts ⁽³⁾, set up by the Sub-Committee for Ports and Maritime Navigation met at Stockholm at beginning of August. M. Watier, Director of Maritime Ports at the French Ministry of Public Works, took the chair at this meeting, which was also attended by the directors of the Lighthouse Services of most of the countries interested in the question; by representatives of the International Hydrographic Bureau at Monaco; and by representatives of the International Organisation of Pilots and Officers of the Mercantile Marine. At its foregoing meeting, at Monaco, the Committee had drawn up a provisional scheme for the unification of buoyage, which had met with the approval, in particular, of experts from Mediterranean countries.

(1) See *Monthly Summary*, Vol. VI, Nos. 6 and 7, p. 142 and 162.

(2) See *Monthly Summary*, Vol. VI, No. 1, p. 7.

(3) See *Monthly Summary*, Vol. V, No. 11, p. 285.

The principal object of the meeting at Stockholm was to examine questions peculiar to the Baltic Sea and Scandinavian countries. A scheme which would seem to meet the views of the experts concerned was drawn up for submission to an international conference in 1927.

4. — INTELLECTUAL COOPERATION

The Instruction of Children and Young People in the Aims of the League of Nations ⁽¹⁾.

The Sub-Committee of Experts for the Instruction of Children and Young People in the Aims of the League held its first meeting from August 3th to August 6th at Geneva, with Professor Gilbert Murray (British) in the chair.

Besides three members of the Committee on Intellectual Co-operation—Professor Gilbert Murray, M. Destrée (Belgian) and M. Casares (Spanish)—the following experts attended the meeting :

- M. Schellberg (German), Adviser to the Prussian Ministry of Education;
- M. Arturo Corea (Chilian), Professor at Santiago University;
- M. Luis A. Baralt (Cuban), Professor and author of works on teaching;
- M. Peter Munch (Dane), author of several school history books, delegate of Denmark to the League Assembly;
- M^{me} Dreyfus-Barney (French), vice-chairman of the Peace Section of the International Council of Women, liaison officer for the joint Committee of International Organisation and the Institute of Intellectual Co-operation;
- Mr. S. N. Chaturvedi (Indian), Licentiate of Teaching (Allahabad University).
- M. Giuseppe Gallavresi (Italian), Professor of History at Milan University and author of works on history, member of the Milan School Board;
- M. Nitobe (Japanese), Professor at Tokio University, member of the Japanese Academy;
- M. Kiritzesco (Roumanian), Director of Secondary Schools at the Ministry of Education;
- M. Bogdan Gavrilovitch (Serbian), former Rector of Belgrade University.

There were also present Professor Alfred Zimmern, representing the International Institute of Intellectual Co-operation, and Dr. Eastman, representing the International Labour Office.

The Sub-Committee considered the results of the enquiry conducted by the Secretary-General with regard to the steps taken by the States Members of the League to familiarise young people with its aims. It adopted a series of recommendations aiming at the inclusion in the curricula of primary schools, secondary schools and Universities of courses on the League, which, it considered, should be correlated with lessons in geography, history or civics. Governments, it suggested, might place at the disposal of teachers text-books compiled on the basis of a reference-book furnished by the Secretary-General of the League, who might also be asked to issue periodical digests of the League's work to the principal educational reviews. The Secretary-General might also examine the possibility of providing lecturers to give, to teachers in the various countries, detailed information on the work of the League. The Sub-Committee recommended that the Committee on Intellectual Co-operation should from time to time consider the results obtained and possibilities of further action in the different countries. In order to adapt its recommendations to the particular needs of each country, and to ensure the harmonious co-operation of the various bodies concerned, it was suggested that National

(1) See *Monthly Summary*, Vol. VI, No. 3, p. 61.

Conferences should be called by the different Governments, in consultation with the National Committees on Intellectual Co-operation.

The session closed with a public meeting in the course of which the chairman, Professor Gilbert Murray, explained the object and sphere of the work of the Sub-Committee. The recommendations adopted were, he emphasised, preliminary in character. It would be useful and necessary to obtain the support of school boards, of voluntary organisations dealing with educational questions, and of women's circles, on account of the part played by women in presentday education. The former Belgian Minister of Education, M. Destrée, drew attention to the fact that the Sub-Committee was not called upon to organise propaganda, but merely to draw up a preliminary scheme. One of the suggestions made in the course of the debate he considered as particularly useful, namely, that tours and exchanges of professors and teachers should be encouraged and organised.

The Sub-Committee will report to the Council and the Committee on Intellectual Co-operation.

VI. — Administrative Questions.

TWENTY-SIXTH REPORT OF THE SAAR GOVERNING COMMISSION (1)

The report of the Governing Commission of the Saar Territory for the second quarter of 1926 was received by the Secretary-General at the beginning of August. Subsequent to the decision of the Council in March (1) regarding the appointment of the Commission, the following nominations were made to the various ministerial departments :

Mr. G. W. Stephens (Canadian), Chairman of the Commission : Foreign and Home Affairs;

M. Kossmann (Saar), Public Assistance; Health, Agriculture, Labour, Forests and Social Insurance;

M. Lambert (Belgian), Public Works, Railways, Postal, Telegraphic and Telephonic Questions;

M. Morize (French), Finance, Economic Questions, and Supervision of Mines;

M. Vezensky (Czechoslovak), Justice, Education and Religion.

The following is a brief summary of the more important passages of the report :

I. — ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL SITUATION.

The economic and social situation in the Territory did not undergo any notable change during the period under review.

Strikes, in connection with demands for higher wages and intended, to some extent, as a protest against the dismissal of a worker in the mines, broke out in five localities. They involved 4,000 workmen and were brought to an end in a few days. The strike in the glass-works, which began on February 16th, 1926, is still continuing.

II. — POLITICAL SITUATION.

The Advisory Council and the Technical Committee held their usual sessions. The elected representatives of the population terminated their discussion and for-

(1) See *Monthly Summary*, Vol. VI, No. 3, p. 63.

mulated their opinion on the fiscal schemes which had been tabled. They also examined several draft decrees, bearing, in particular, on the amendment of the Prussian prosecution law of April 24th, 1883, the amendment of the private insurance law, the amendment of measures connected with the housing system, the increase of law fees, etc.

The communal and district elections were held on July 11th. To comply with the wishes of the political parties the Commission introduced the system of blocked lists and official voting forms.

III. — ADMINISTRATION.

1. *Foreign Relations.* — Several international agreements were ratified, in particular, the Franco-Saar agreement on the reciprocity of social insurance laws in the Saar and in the French Departments of the Bas-Rhin, the Haut-Rhin and the Moselle and the German-Saar agreements concluded at Baden-Baden with regard to certain administrative questions.

2. *The Housing Question.* — The housing crisis subsided in certain districts, but was still in an acute stage in the greater part of the Territory. The decree dealing with this subject, which had twice been prolonged, expired on July 31st, and in view of new regulations, the political parties and economic organisations submitted various plans, some aiming at the suppression of official control, others proposing the maintenance and development of provisions protecting tenants. The Advisory Council and Technical Committee brought in bills of amendment bearing on the following points: The immediate relaxation of control in regard to residences of a certain size and pre-war rents exceeding 1,500 gold marks; the relaxation of control for industrial and commercial premises; the maintenance of the provisions protecting smaller tradesmen; the use of an index established by the Economic Department as a basis for the conversion of pre-war rents.

These proposals will come before the Governing Commission shortly.

IV. — FINANCE.

a) *Fiscal Measures.* — Amendments were introduced into the fiscal laws in force last April; the tax on unearned income, the turnover tax, the luxury tax, the taxes on beer, wine and tobacco were re-adjusted.

b) *Salaries of Officials.* — The increments granted to civil servants entailed supplementary yearly expenditure of 20,000,000 francs.

c) *Budget 1926.* — The budget of 1926—approximately 363 million francs (223 millions in 1925)—the Commission stated, was balanced; a surplus of 2,604,189 francs was at the disposal of the Commission. Should unforeseen expenditure supervene, it would be necessary to increase taxation.

V. — ECONOMIC SITUATION.

In application of the new customs regime, the Commission opened a warehouse and several new customs houses and transferred others. Special attention was devoted to the importation of cattle from Germany, Austria, Hungary, the Baltic States, Czechoslovakia, Roumania and the Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes.

One hundred and sixty-three buildings for customs and other officials, containing 320 apartments, were finished and inhabited by April 1st. The construction

of 110 apartments for State officials at Saarbruck and Neunkirchen will be terminated on or about October 1st. The price of passenger railway tickets was twice increased by 15 %, on April 1st and May 1st; the goods tariff was increased 7.50 % on May 1st and by 10 % on July 1st. Telegraph rates were increased by 12 % from July 1st.

VI. — JUSTICE, RELIGION AND EDUCATION.

1. *Justice.* — The Department of Justice drew up and submitted to the Commission several draft decrees dealing with legislative measures which the economic situation rendered indispensable.

2. *Ecclesiastical Matters.* — The Commission made definite arrangement concerning the revenues of the Catholic and Protestant clergy. They will henceforth be guaranteed revenues equivalent to the salaries of judges and professors, the Commission undertaking to make good the difference between the said level and their revenues (prebendary and surplice fees), which vary according to the parishes. This contribution will, as a matter of fact, form the principal part of their total income.

The Commission decided to introduce in the Saar the German law of July 15th, 1921, concerning the instruction of children of mixed marriages in religious matters, for which the consent of both parents is necessary. This consent may be withdrawn at any moment and is cancelled by the death of one of the parents. Should the latter be unable to come to an agreement on the subject, the Court of Chancery is called upon to take a decision in accordance with the interests of the child.

For any change of religion the child's own consent is necessary if it is more than twelve years old. The introduction of this law aims at the elimination of the disadvantages resulting from the existence of two parallel legislations—Bavarian and Prussian—in this connection.

3. *Education.* — There has been a considerable decrease in the number of pupils attending the primary schools (91,061 in 1925 as compared with 109,820 in 1923). Statistics for May 1st, 1926, show, however, a slight increase, the total being 93,674. This fact is due to the decrease in the birthrate during the last years of the war, the children entering the schools in 1923, 1924, and 1925 being those born in 1917, 1918 and 1919. In the secondary schools, on the other hand, there has been a notable increase in the number of pupils—6,634 in 1920, 8,000 in 1926—which has called for a corresponding increase in the number of teachers.

In the training schools, the increase in the number of students and professors is a result of the measures taken by the Commission to improve the institutions. Subsidies have been granted for the formation of special training courses in commercial and handworkers' schools. The apprentice schools, which in 1920 comprised 119 classes with 2,732 pupils, now comprise 365 classes with 8,792 pupils. The commercial schools have grown from 45 classes (1,012 pupils) in 1920 to 131 classes (3,064 pupils) in 1926.

VII. — PUBLIC ASSISTANCE AND SOCIAL HYGIENE.

1. The Commission distributed 464,000 francs to wardisabled and survivors of war victims. It placed a considerable number of sickly children in convalescent homes. In agreement with the German Government it introduced in the Saar the German law on damages incurred during the war by civilians. A sum of 502,600 francs was spent on public health measures and assistance.

2. *General Health.* — In 1924 the population increased by 13,799 (763,196), in 1925 by 10,568 (773,764). The excess of the birth rate over the death rate was 12,062 in 1924 and 10,434 in 1925.

Immigration into the Saar decreased in 1925 on account of the stabilisation of the economic situation. The neighbouring territories of the Palatinate and the Rhine provinces had up to then furnished the largest number of immigrants.

In general the health situation was satisfactory.

VIII. — AGRICULTURE AND FORESTS.

The prospects for 1926 are by no means favourable and it is feared that the harvest will be exceptionally late. The development of the Saar agriculture is hampered by the financial position of the various enterprises. To cope with the situation the Commission has placed considerable sums at the disposal of agricultural circles. Food inspection, in particular that of imported meat, has been organised and the slaughter houses improved.

VII. — Political Questions.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE ABYSSINIAN GOVERNMENT (1)

In reply to his communication of the Note of the Abyssinian Government, the Secretary-General has received and forwarded to all States Members letters from the British and Italian Governments, stating their respective points of view with regard to the question raised.

The Abyssinian Government has informed the Secretary-General by telegram that it will reply on September 10th to his letter of July 22nd and that it wishes the matter to remain in abeyance for the moment.

VIII. — Social and Humanitarian Questions.

CHILD WELFARE

Meeting of the Liaison Sub-Committee.

The Liaison Sub-Committee set up by the Child Welfare Committee last April to study certain questions partly within the province of the Child Welfare Committee and partly within that of the International Labour Office and other League organisations, such as the Health Committee and the Committee on Intellectual Co-operation, held its first session at Geneva on August 27th and 28th under the chairmanship of Count Carton de Wiart (Belgium).

It examined a certain number of the questions referred to it and decided, in particular, to draw the attention of the International Labour Office and of the Health Committee to the desirability of an enquiry into maternal mortality, its causes and possible remedies. It recommended that the problem of feeble-minded children should be placed on the agenda of one of its future sessions and that the International Labour Office should extend its study of the question of professional training to the training of feeble-minded children.

(1) See *Monthly Summary*, Vol. VI, No. 7, p. 172.

It referred to the Health Committee the question of the encouragement in children of hygienic habits. It also recommended that all international agreements and national legislation on emigration should keep in view the necessity of affording protection to young emigrants.

• The Sub-Committee did not consider it necessary to study the question of defective nourishment in pre-natal and pre-school periods—which came within the province of the Health Committee; the treatment and education of crippled children; and the question of visiting teachers.

The meeting was attended by Count Carton de Wiart and M. Sangro y Ros de Olano, Belgian and Spanish delegates to the Advisory Commission for the Protection and Welfare of Children and Young People, Dr. Léon Bernard, member of the League Health Committee, Dr. Nitobe, representing the Committee on Intellectual Cooperation, and M. Ferenczi, of the International Labour Office.

IX. — Miscellaneous Questions.

MEETING OF THE PRESS AGENCIES' COMMITTEE

The Committee of Press Agencies convened by the Council met at Geneva, at the League Secretariat, from August 19th to August 21st. There were present :

M. Muscat d'Orsay (Agencia Americana); Mr. Elmer Roberts (Associated Press); M. A. Mousset (Agence Avala); Mr. R. F. Church (Central News Limited); M. H. Mantler (Continental Telegraf-Compagnie (Wolff)); M. Shigenobu Oikawa (Dempo-Tsushinsha (Nippon)); M. André Glarner (Exchange Telegraph Co. Ltd.); M. Meynot (Agence Havas); Chairman, M. Gabion (Agence Radio); Mr. S. Carey Clements (Reuters Ltd.); M. Motosada Zumoto (Shimbun Rengosha (Nippon)); M. Gustavo Nesti (Agence Stefani); M. R. Ludi (Agence Télégraphique Suisse); M. Heinrich Gesell (Telegraf-Union); M. Hoegberg (Tidningarnas Telegrambyra); Mr. Roy W. Howard (United Press).

The Committee's terms of reference, as set forth in the Council's resolution of June 10th, 1926, were to provide, from the point of view of the news agencies, suggestions for the programme of work of the Committee of Press Experts to meet later on. Its plenary meetings were devoted to a general debate on the questions on its agenda, and to the adoption of resolutions drafted by two sub-committees. Before dispersing, it set up a liaison committee composed of Mr. Howard (Chairman), M. Lüdi (Vice-Chairman), M. Glarner and M. Meynot.

The resolutions adopted by the Committee bear mainly on the questions of press-rates, the improvement of press communications and news copyright. They will be communicated to all the press organisations with which the Secretariat established relations during the enquiry which preceded this meeting and then referred to the Committee of Press Experts provided for by resolution of the Sixth Assembly.

X. — Forthcoming Events.

September 16th : Meeting of the Supervisory Commission, Geneva.

September 26th : Meeting of the Malaria Commission of the Health Committee
Palermo.

September 27th : Meeting of Sub-Committee A of the Preparatory Commission
for the Disarmament Conference, Geneva.

October 11th : Meeting of the Permanent Standards Commission of the Health
Committee, Geneva.

- October 12th : Final Meeting of Port Medical Officers, Geneva.
October 13th : Meeting of the Health Committee, Geneva.
November 4th : Meeting of the Permanent Mandates Commission, Geneva.
November 15th : Meeting of Experts on Bills of Exchange, Geneva.
November 15th : Meeting of the Preparatory Committee for the International Economic Conference, Geneva.

XI. — Publications and Documents of the League of Nations.

LIST OF DOCUMENTS DISTRIBUTED DURING AUGUST TO THE STATES MEMBERS OF THE LEAGUE

ABYSSINIA. — Letter from British Government concerning note from Ras Tafari in connection with Italo-British agreement for construction of certain public works in Abyssinia (C. 441. M. 171. 1926).

41ST SESSION OF THE COUNCIL. — Provisional agenda (C. 442. M. 172. 1926).

PERMANENT COURT OF INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE. — Letter from Registrar of Court to Secretary-General giving list of Members of Chamber for Summary Procedure for 1927 (C. 439. M. 169. 1926. V).

MANDATES. — Note communicating the following documents (C. 426. M. 159. 1926. VI) :

Mandates. — Report on work of 9th Session of Permanent Commission (Geneva, June 1926) (A. 12. 1926. VI).

Mandates B and C. — List of questions which the Permanent Commission desires should be dealt with in annual reports of Mandatory Powers (A. 14. 1926. VI).

Mandates. — Comments of accredited Representative of South Africa on Commission's observations regarding report for 1925 on administration of South West Africa (A. 16. 1926. VI).

Mandates—Cameroons (French). — Report of French Government on administration of this territory during 1925.

Mandates—Nauru. — Report of, Australian Government on administration of this territory during 1925.

Mandates—New Guinea. — Report of Australian Government on administration of this mandate from July 1st, 1924 to June 30th, 1925.

Mandates—Palestine and Transjordan. — Report of British Government on administration of this territory during 1925.

Mandates—Ruanda-Urundi. — Report of Belgian Government on administration of this territory during 1925.

Mandates—South West Africa. — Report of South African Government on administration of this territory during 1925.

Mandates—Tanganyika Territory. — Report of British Government on administration of this territory during 1925.

Mandates—Tanganyika Territory. — Report by Major Orde Browne O. B. E. regarding Labour in this territory.

Mandates—Togoland. — Report by French Government on administration of this territory during 1925.

TRAFFIC IN OPIUM. — Memorandum by British Government announcing destruction of a consignment of opium at Kashgar (C. 432. M. 164. 1926. XI).

TRAFFIC IN OPIUM. — Statement communicated by British Government giving particulars of a seizure of imported cocaine in port of Rangoon in May (C. 433. M. 165. 1926. XI).

SAAR BASIN. — Note by the Secretary-General announcing the appointment by the Chairman of the Governing Commission of M. Klausman to act as Chairman during his absence from the Saar and reminding the Council of the necessity for its confirmation of this appointment (C. 447. M. 175. 1926. I).

41ST SESSION OF COUNCIL. — Supplementary List of Questions to provisional agenda of 41st Council Session (C. 442. (a). M. 172 (a). 1926).

TRAFFIC IN OPIUM. — Statement forwarded by British Government of seizures of drugs during 1925 in Palestine (C. 443. M. 173. 1926. XI).

MINORITIES IN GREECE. — Report (final) dated July 14 from the Mandatories of the Council for the protection of the Moslem Minority of Albanian origin in Greece (C. 456. M. 180. 1926. I).

FINANCIAL COMMITTEE. — Report on the work of the 33rd Session (special) of this Committee (London, July, 19 to 23, 1926) (C. 437. M. 167. 1926. II).

PERMANENT COURT OF INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE. — Note by Secretary-General giving up-to-date position as to the Governments which have intimated their intention of being represented at the meeting of Delegates of States signatories of Protocol of Permanent Court in connection with adhesion of U. S. A. thereto (C. 458. M. 182. 1926. V).

ABYSSINIA. — Letter from the Italian Government concerning note from Ras Tafari in connection with Italo-British agreement for construction of certain public works in Abyssinia (C. 456. M. 179. 1926. VII).

TRAFFIC IN OPIUM. — Note by Secretary-General forwarding a memorandum of the Italian Government giving list of seizures of opium and other noxious drugs made in Italy in the second half of 1925 (C. 455. M. 178. 1926. XI).

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THE
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Vol. VI. No. 9

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FILM OF THE SEVENTH ASSEMBLY OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS

The cinematograph film of the Seventh Assembly is about 300 metres in length and contains the following views :

1. Geneva, seat of the League of Nations :
 - a) General view of the town;
 - b) Harbour and Fountain;
 - c) Rousseau's Island and Mont Blanc Bridge;
 - d) Quai Wilson, with Secretariat of the League of Nations in background.
2. Secretariat of the League of Nations.
3. Sir Eric DRUMMOND, Secretary-General of the League of Nations.
4. A meeting of the Council of the League.
5. One of the League's Committees holding a meeting in the Secretariat garden.
6. Salle de la Réformation, scene of the annual Assembly of the League, which is attended by 56 nations.
7. Assembly of the League of Nations in plenary meeting.
8. M. BENES (Czechoslovakia), Acting President of the Council, opening the Seventh Assembly of the League of Nations on September 6th, 1926.
9. M. NINTCHITCH (Serb-Croat-Slovene Kingdom), President of the Seventh Assembly.
10. M. NINTCHITCH addressing the Assembly immediately after his election, September 6th, 1926.
11. The Assembly voting for the admission of Germany, at its historic meeting on September 8th.
12. Text of the telegram sent to the German Government by the Secretary-General of the League immediately after the voting.
13. Arrival of the German Delegation at Geneva.
14. German newspaper vendors.
15. The German delegation, headed by Herr Stresemann, entering the Assembly Hall on September 10th, 1926.
16. Herr STRESEMANN addressing the Assembly.
17. M. BRIAND, replying to Herr Stresemann's speech.
18. The Assembly applauding M. Briand.
19. Staff on duty at the entrance to the Assembly Hall.
20. Cinematograph operators and photographers at work.
21. Delegates leaving the Hall after the meeting.
22. Crowd eagerly waiting to see the Delegates leaving the Hall.

Associations for the League of Nations, and others who may be interested in this film, are requested to apply for all information to M. E. Charrère, Information Section, Secretariat of the League of Nations, Geneva.

MONTHLY SUMMARY OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS

Vol. VI. No. 9.

Published on October 15th, 1926.

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PART I.

THE ASSEMBLY, THE COUNCIL AND OTHER MEETINGS

I. — Summary of the Month. — September 1926.

Both the Assembly and the Council met in September, the former for its Seventh Ordinary Session, the latter for its forty-first and forty-second sessions.

The principal events of these meetings which were attended by the Foreign Ministers of seventeen States (Great Britain, Bulgaria, Denmark, Esthonia, France, Finland, Germany, Hungary, the Irish Free State, Luxemburg, Poland, Portugal, Roumania, the Serb-Croat-Slovene Kingdom, Sweden, Czechoslovakia and Uruguay), and the Prime Ministers of Austria and Luxemburg, were the admission of Germany as a Member of the League of Nations and the reorganisation of the Council on new lines and with new regulations.

On September 8th, the Assembly, by a unanimous vote, admitted Germany to the League, and approved the creation for Germany of a permanent seat on the Council and the increase from six to nine of the non-permanent seats.

On September 10th, the German delegation took its seat in the Assembly. On this occasion, the first German delegate, M. Stresemann, made a speech, to which the first delegate of France, M. Briand, replied.

On September 16th, the Assembly elected the non-permanent Members of the Council, which will include—until the next ordinary session of the Assembly, when the regular annual replacement of the non-permanent members will begin—besides the five permanent Members (the British Empire, France, Germany, Italy and Japan), nine non-permanent Members, namely, Belgium, Chile, China, Colombia, Czechoslovakia, the Netherlands, Poland, Roumania and Salvador. The Council, thus constituted, held on the same day the first meeting of its forty-second session.

A few days earlier, the Spanish Government, in accordance with Article I of the Covenant, gave notice of its intention to withdraw from the League in two years' time.

* * *

The Assembly sat from September 6th to September 25th.
Delegations were sent by forty-eight States Members, namely :

Albania	Dominican Republic
Australia	Esthonia
Austria	Ethiopia
Belgium	Finland
British Empire	France
Bulgaria	Greece
Canada	Guatemala
Chile	Haiti
Colombia	Hungary
Cuba	India
Czechoslovakia	Irish Free State
Denmark	Italy

Japan	Poland
Latvia	Portugal
Liberia	Roumania
Lithuania	Salvador
Luxemburg	Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes
Netherlands	Siam
New Zealand	Sweden
Nicaragua	Switzerland
Norway	South Africa
Panama	Uruguay
Paraguay	Venezuela.
Persia	

The admission of Germany on September 8th, and the arrival of the German delegation on September 10th, brought the number of States represented to forty-nine.

The Argentine Republic, Bolivia, Brazil, Costa Rica, Honduras, Peru and Spain were not represented.

The Assembly was opened by Dr. Benes, Foreign Minister of Czechoslovakia and Acting President of the Council.

Dr. Benes reviewed the work of the League during the past year, which, in his opinion, constituted a proof that the path chosen by the League was leading to a progressive improvement in international relations throughout the world. He laid particular stress on the progress made by the League in the reconstruction of Europe, and drew attention to the part it had played in the settlement of political disputes such as the Mosul question and the Graeco-Bulgarian frontier incident.

Election of the President. — M. Nintchitch, first delegate of the Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes, was elected President of the Seventh Assembly, receiving 42 votes out of 48 cast.

On taking the Chair, M. Nintchitch thanked his colleagues for the honour done to his country. The Seventh Assembly, he said, was called upon to perform a task which would leave an indelible mark on the history of the League, and, in spite of the difficulties which the League had just traversed, it would emerge stronger than ever from this Session.

Distribution of Work. — The Assembly then adopted its agenda and divided its work as in preceding years among six committees, to each of which all nations represented were entitled to send a delegate; these committees, with their elected officers, were as follows :

1. *Legal and Constitutional Questions.* (Pacific settlement of international disputes; Arbitration, Security and Reduction of Armaments; proposals made by the Committee on the Composition of the Council as regards the method of election and tenure of the non-permanent seats). Chairman : M. Motta (Switzerland); Vice-Chairman : Dr. Limburg (Netherlands).

2. *Technical Organisations.* (Work of the Economic and Financial Commission, work of the Organisation for communications and transit, work of the Health Organisation, work of the Committee on Intellectual Cooperation). Chairman : Mr. Desmond Fitzgerald (Irish Free State); Vice-Chairman : M. Veverka (Czechoslovakia).

3. *Reduction of Armaments.* (Pacific settlement of International disputes; Arbitration, Security and Reduction of Armaments; work of the Preparatory Commission for the Disarmament Conference). Chairman : M. Villegas (Chile); Vice-President : M. Buero (Uruguay).

4. *Budget and Financial Questions.* Chairman : M. Titulesco (Roumania); Vice-Chairman : M. Vermaire (Luxemburg).

5. *Social and General Questions.* (Protection and Welfare of Children and Young People, Traffic in Opium and other dangerous drugs; Protection of Women and Children in the Near East; Russia and Armenian Refugee questions). Chairman : M. Mensdorff (Austria); Vice-Chairman : M. Parra-Perez (Venezuela).

6. *Political Questions.* (Conclusion of an international convention on slavery, Mandates). Chairman : M. de Brouckère (Belgium); Vice-Chairman : M. Neinours (Haiti).

The Agenda Committee, constituted for the purpose of examining questions to be placed on the agenda of the Assembly during its Session, was composed of :

M. Urrutia (Colombia); President;
M. Dino (Albania);
Viscount Cecil (British Empire);
M. Nemours (Haiti);
M. Grandi (Italy);
M. Bech (Luxemburg);
Prince Charoon (Siam).

The Chairmen of the Assembly Committees are *ipso facto* vice-presidents of the Assembly. After their designation, the Assembly elected six further vice-presidents, thus completing its General Committee, which is composed of the President and 12 Vice-Presidents. To these the Assembly added the President of the Agenda Committee, in accordance with a precedent established at its sixth ordinary session.

The six vice-presidents elected by the Assembly were :

Sir Austen Chamberlain (British Empire);
M. Briand (France);
Viscount Ishii (Japan);
M. Scialoja (Italy);
M. Figueroa (Guatemala);
Baron Lehmann (Liberia).

General Work of the Assembly. — The Assembly held seventeen plenary meetings, five of which were devoted to the general debate on the work of the Council and the Secretariat since last Assembly.

As in preceding years, the Assembly reviewed the work of the League Organizations and Commissions, pursuing its work in the political, technical and humanitarian fields. Particular importance was attached to the international disarmament and economic conferences which were being prepared. An international Slavery Convention was drawn up and opened for signature.

II. — Conference of the States Signatories of the Protocol of Signature of the Statute of the Permanent Court of International Justice (1). — Second Annual Report of the Permanent Court.

The Conference of the States signatories of the Protocol of Signature of the Statute of the Permanent Court of International Justice (December 16th, 1920), met on September 1st, at the International Labour Office in Geneva. This meeting was summoned by resolution of the Council of the League of Nations in order to

(1) *Erratum* : On page 177, Vol. VI, No. 8, read : "notice having been given to the Secretary-General of the League of Nations and to the representatives of States, of Members of the League and of international organisation immediately concerned" instead of : "notice having been given to the Secretary-General of the League of Nations and of international organisations immediately concerned" (par. 2, 4th. line).

study the way in which the Governments of the signatories of the Court Protocol might give satisfaction to the five reservations and conditions made by the United States Government in regard to its adhesion to the Court Statute ⁽¹⁾.

Thirty-nine of the forty-nine signatories were represented, namely, South Africa, Albania, Australia, Austria, Belgium, British Empire, Bulgaria, Canada, China, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Finland, France, Greece, Hungary, India, Irish Free State, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liberia, Lithuania, Luxemburg, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Persia, Poland, Portugal, Roumania, Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes, Siam, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Uruguay and Venezuela.

The Conference elected as President M. van Eysinga (Netherlands), and as Vice-Presidents, M. Zumeta (Venezuela) and Sir Francis Bell (New Zealand). It then proceeded to a general discussion, in public, of the American reservations. The delegates, while unanimously regretting that they had not the assistance of a United States' representative, studied the reservations of the United States with the strong desire to give satisfaction to them in the largest possible measure. The Conference unanimously welcomed the proposal of the United States to collaborate in the maintenance of the Permanent Court of International Justice, a collaboration which had been awaited with confidence by the States which had accepted the Statute of the Court. It took full account of the great moral effect which the participation of the United States in the maintenance of this institution of peace and justice would have on the development of international law and on the progressive organisation of world society on the basis of a respect for law and the solidarity of nations, and recalled the valuable American contributions to the progress of international justice in the course of the 19th and 20th centuries, notably the fruitful participation of the delegates of the United States in the two Hague Peace Conferences and more recently in the large part taken by an eminent American jurist in the preparation of the Statute of the Court ⁽²⁾.

The Conference then set up a Committee of fourteen members, who, on the basis of observations submitted in the course of the general discussion, prepared the draft of a Final Act.

This document, which was adapted by the Conference, and has so far been signed by thirty-five States, recognises that the adherence by the United States to the Protocol under the special conditions formulated by the American Senate necessitates an agreement between the United States and the signatories of the Protocol. The object of the conclusions of the Conference, it is stated, is to form the basis of the replies to be sent by the signatories to the letter of the Secretary of State of the United States.

The Final Act then expresses the views of the Conference in regard to each of the five American reservations.

The Conference considered that the first, second, third and fourth reservations should be accepted. With regard to the fourth, it observed that "in order to assure equality of treatment, it seemed necessary that the signatory States, acting together and by not less than a majority of two-thirds, should possess the corresponding right to withdraw their acceptance of the special conditions attached by the United States to its adherence to the said Protocol". It was, nevertheless, understood that the exercise of this right was confined to the second part of the fourth, and the whole of the fifth reservation.

With regard to the first part of the fifth reservation, which concerns the advisory opinions given by the Court, the Final Act pointed out that the provisions of Articles 73 and 74 of the Rules of Court, as recently amended by the Court, seemed to be such as to give full satisfaction to the United States. The Court would accordingly continue to render its advisory opinions in public hearings. With regard to the second part of the fifth reservation, the Final Act distinguished

(1) See *Monthly Summary*, Vol. VI, Nos. 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8.

(2) Extract from Final Act (Preamble).

between advisory opinions asked for in the case of a dispute to which the United States was a party, and advisory opinions asked for in the case of a dispute to which the United States was not a party, but in which the United States claimed an interest.

In order to give satisfaction to the United States as regards the first class of disputes, it seemed sufficient—according to the Final Act—to refer to the jurisprudence of the Court, which had already had occasion to pronounce upon the matter of disputes between a Member of the League and a State not belonging to the League (Advisory Opinion No. 5 — Eastern Carelia). According to this jurisprudence, “an opinion relating to the substance of a dispute between a State Member of the League of Nations and a non-Member State could not be given without the consent of the said Power”.

With regard to the second class of disputes, the Final Act declared that the Conference understood “the object of the United States to be to assure to itself a position of equality with States represented either on the Council or in the Assembly of the League of Nations”. This principle, the Conference considered, should be agreed to, observing, on this occasion, that the presumption upon which the fifth reservation appeared to rest, namely, that the adoption of a request for an advisory opinion by the Council or Assembly required a unanimous vote, had not so far been established. “In any event the United States should be guaranteed a position of equality in this respect; that is to say, in any case where a State represented on the Council or in the Assembly would possess the right of preventing, by opposition in either of these bodies, the adoption of a proposal to request an advisory opinion from the Court, the United States shall enjoy an equivalent right.”

The Conference further expressed its conviction that the United States Government entertained “no desire to diminish the value of such opinions in connection with the functions of the League of Nations”. In order to preclude any interpretation to this effect, the Conference considered it desirable that the manner in which the consent provided for in the second part of the fifth reservation would be given, should form the object of a supplementary agreement which would ensure that the peaceful settlement of future differences between Members of the League of Nations would not be made more difficult.

The Final Act concluded in the following terms: “the application of some of the reservations of the United States would involve the conclusion of an appropriate agreement between the United States and the other States signatories of the Protocol of December 16th, 1920, as was indeed envisaged by the Secretary of State of the United States in his reply to the Secretary-General of the League of Nations dated April 17th, 1926. To this end, it is desirable that the States signatories of the Protocol of December 16th, 1920, should conclude with the United States a protocol of execution which, subject to such further exchange of views as the Government of the United States may think useful, might be in the form set out below” (attached to Final Act).

On September 22nd, 1926, the Conference approved the Final Act, together with a report of M. Pilotti (Italy), rapporteur of the Committee which drafted the Act. In this document the Committee expressed its opinion that copies of this Act signed by the delegates should be forwarded to all States signatories of the Protocol of December 16th, 1920, relating to the Permanent Court of International Justice, and to the Council of the League, which had convened the Conference. This, the rapporteur considered, “would certainly carry greater weight than a simple resolution inserted in the minutes of the closing session, and would be better calculated to demonstrate the form which the conclusions thus adopted should assume—namely, an agreement between the States represented at the Conference”.

These conclusions, M. Pilotti said, should serve as a basis for the diplomatic letter which the Government of each State signatory to the Protocol of December 16th 1920 would subsequently send to the Government of the United States, in reply to the latter's letter communicating the United States' proposal to adhere, subject to certain reservations, to the Protocol and the Statute of the Court.

Finally, the rapporteur observed that the signatories would reply individually to the United States, but, naturally, since they had adopted a common course of action by means of this Conference, their replies, which would be the result of a common agreement, should be as similar as possible. The Conference, therefore, decided to recommend the various Governments to adopt the conclusions of the Final Act as the basis of their reply to the United States, and instructed its President to submit to those Governments a model reply.

In his closing speech, the President, M. van Eysinga (Netherlands) expressed the hope that the result of the Conference would be to enable the United States to co-operate in the work of the Permanent Court of International Justice, and thus to increase its authority.

SECOND ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PERMANENT COURT OF INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE (1)

(June 15th, 1925 — June 15th, 1926).

• This volume is the second of the new series of reports published annually by the Court. The plan of it is the same as that of the First Report which it follows and systematically completes, and to which it refers when dealing with a matter in regard to which no new factor has arisen in the last year.

The volume consists of nearly 400 pages and contains a summary of the Judgments delivered and Advisory Opinion given by the Court during this period, and the text of all the administrative decisions taken by it since its foundation. Three chapters relate to the organisation of the Court, its Statute and Rules; two others deal in full detail with the jurisdiction of the Court as determined by various treaties and international agreements. Further, a bibliography as complete as possible of publications and articles relating to the Court and to the affairs dealt with by it will be found in the volume; this bibliography is much more extensive than that published last year; it includes no less than 160 pages.

It will therefore be seen that the Second Annual Report of the Permanent Court of International Justice contains a complete record of essential facts concerning the various activities of the Court and the changes made in its organisation during the period 1925-1926.

III. — Arbitration, Security and the Reduction of Armaments (2).

The general principles of the Protocol of 1924—arbitration, security and disarmament—whose value for the solution of the problem of the friendly settlement of international disputes was once more affirmed by the Assembly of 1925—were discussed by the Assembly of 1926, with special reference to the Treaties of Locarno. The Assembly also passed two resolutions, one inviting the Preparatory Commission for the Disarmament Conference to push on its work in order to enable the Conference to meet, unless materially impossible, before next Assembly; the other dealing with the question of the supervision of the private manufacture of arms, munitions and implements of war.

Meetings were also held in September of the Preparatory Commission for the Disarmament Conference and the Council Committee on Disarmament. On September 27th, Sub-Commission "A" (Military, Naval and Air Questions), and on September 30th, the Joint Commission resumed its work.

1. — DEBATES AND RESOLUTIONS OF THE ASSEMBLY ON ARBITRATION AND SECURITY

In 1925, the Assembly, after noting that the Geneva Protocol had not received the ratifications necessary for putting it into operation immediately, reserved its

(1) Publications of the Court, Series E., No. 2. — A. W. Sythoff Publishing Co. Leyden (Netherlands).

(2) See Resolutions on page 230 of this number.

decision as to the advisability of drawing up a fresh general convention on the pacific settlement of international disputes.

As the Western Powers and Germany were at that moment negotiating a pact of guarantee, the Assembly insisted on the advisability and necessity of working for the establishment of peace by the method of arbitration, security and disarmament; it recalled the guarantees provided by the Covenant, and drew the attention of States Members of the League to the advantages, from the point of view of their security, of the conclusion of individual arbitration or judicial settlement conventions. It requested the Council to examine already existing conventions of this kind and those about to be concluded, and to submit to the Assembly of 1926 a report on the progress in general security brought about by such agreements.

This year, the Assembly took note of the systematic survey of arbitration conventions and treaties of mutual security prepared by the Secretariat, and of the reports of the Council on the same subject. As regards the agreements of this kind so far concluded, the Assembly emphasised in particular the importance of the Treaties of Locarno. It considered that the general ideas embodied in the clauses of these Treaties, whereby provision was made for conciliation and security by the mutual guaranteeing of States against any unprovoked aggression, might be applied to different parts of the world and be accepted amongst the fundamental rules which should govern the foreign policy of every civilised nation. The Assembly expressed the hope that these principles would be recognised by all States, and would be put into practice by all those in whose interest it was to contract such Treaties. It invited the Council to recommend States Members of the League to put into practice the principles of Locarno and to offer, if necessary, its good offices for the conclusion of suitable agreements.

2. — DEBATES AND RESOLUTIONS OF THE ASSEMBLY ON DISARMAMENT

After taking note of the negotiations at that time in progress with a view to the conclusion of arbitration, conventions and mutual security treaties, and anticipating the successful conclusion of these negotiations, the Assembly, in 1925, decided that it could ask the Council to proceed immediately to preparatory studies for the organisation of a conference on the reduction and limitation of armaments.

The Council, accordingly, set up a Preparatory Commission for the Disarmament Conference, and in 1926, the Assembly was able to note the work of that Body as described by its Chairman, M. Loudon (Netherlands).

As the political situation had improved in the part of Europe affected by the Treaties of Locarno, the Assembly recognised that a Disarmament Conference could and should be convened. In this connection, it expressed its opinion that the reduction and limitation of armaments should correspond to existing conditions in regard to regional and general security, and that there could be no question of finally solving the problem at the first attempt.

With regard to the possibility of holding the Conference and the date on which it should meet, the report of the Third Assembly Committee contained the following passage :

"The Disarmament Conference will only be the first of a series and, even apart from the importance of the reductions and limitations which it may bring about, it must in any case have the immense advantage of transforming into an international contract the degree of armament of the different States, and of thus putting a stop for a definite period to any possibility of competition in armaments.

"In these circumstances there can be no objection in principle to contemplating the possibility of holding a conference before the Eighth Ordinary Session of the Assembly. Several members of the Third Committee, however, have emphasised the grave disappointment which would be felt by public opinion if, after it had been announced for a definite date, it proved impossible to hold the Conference at the

date in question. The Third Committee duly weighed this drawback and made allowance for it, to the extent of recommending that the Conference should be held before the Eighth Ordinary Session of the Assembly, "unless material difficulties render this impossible", and it emphasises the considerable importance of surmounting such difficulties and accelerating the work of the technical Commissions, which must first be completed before the Preparatory Commission can usefully meet. The Third Committee has therefore decided to propose to the Assembly the adoption of a resolution asking the Council to convene a first conference before the Eight Ordinary Session of the Assembly, unless material difficulties should render this impossible, in order to agree upon the first stage of the work of disarmament. "

3. — DEBATES AND RESOLUTIONS ON THE SUPERVISION OF THE PRIVATE MANUFACTURE OF ARMS

The special question of the supervision of the private manufacture of arms, munitions and implements of war was considered by the Assembly, which once more emphasized the necessity of concluding as soon as possible a Convention on the subject. A draft convention had in fact been drawn up in the course of the year. As, however, the Assembly agreed with the Council that there was a close connection between this problem and the general question studied by the Preparatory Commission for the Disarmament Conference, it decided that the enquiry on private manufacture should be included in the programme of the Disarmament Conference, if that Conference could be convened before the next session of the Assembly; if that were impossible a special conference would be convened as soon as possible to deal with the matter.

4. — MEETING OF THE PREPARATORY COMMISSION FOR THE DISARMAMENT CONFERENCE

This Commission met on September 22nd and 27th, mainly in order to settle questions connected with the change in its composition resulting from the changes in the composition of the Council.

The Commission includes, besides representatives of all States Members of the Council, representatives of countries which, owing to their geographical situation, are in a special position as regards disarmament. Accordingly, all the newly elected Members of the Council not otherwise represented on the Commission, namely, Chile, China, Colombia and Salvador, become *ex officio* members of the Commission. The Council, moreover, desirous of securing for the Commission the cooperation of its retiring members, invited Brazil, Spain, Sweden and Uruguay to continue to send representatives. This invitation was accepted by Spain and Sweden, and declined by Brazil. No answer has yet been received from Uruguay.

Thus reconstituted, the Commission elected as vice-chairman M. de Brouckère (Belgium) and M. Veverka (Czechoslovakia). In accordance with the established precedent, M. de Brouckère will preside at meetings of Sub-Commission A (Military, Naval and Air questions) and M. Veverka at meetings of Sub-Commission B and the Joint Commission (Economic questions).

On September 27th, the Commission adopted a resolution submitted at its preceding meeting by Mr. Gibson (United States) and amended as a result of its discussions. In this resolution the hope is expressed that Sub-Commission A may finish its work as soon as possible, taking into account the fact that the Preparatory Commission alone is competent to consider the political aspects of the questions raised, as it is the sole body responsible for the final replies.

The Commission also invited Sub-Commission A to arrange for the results of its deliberations to be embodied in a final report containing, in respect of each

question considered, the various technical replies to which it might be possible to reduce the opinions expressed during the discussions, and mentioning the delegations in favour of each reply and the arguments with which they supported their views.

Viscount Cecil, after an exchange of views with Dr. Benes, withdrew a proposal he had submitted with a view to the immediate constitution of a Committee to co-ordinate and supervise the arrangement of work of the Commission and its Sub-Commissions.

5. — MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE COUNCIL

On September 4th, the Council referred to its Committee the French, Finnish and Polish proposals, forwarded to it by the Preparatory Commission for the Disarmament Conference. The aim of the French proposal is to investigate the methods and regulations which would facilitate the meeting of the Council in case of war or threat of war, and which would enable the Council to take as expeditiously as possible such decisions as may be necessary to enforce the obligations of the Covenant; (2) to investigate the procedure which would allow the rapid drafting of recommendations regarding the military assistance provided for in Article XVI of the Covenant, as well as the measures which should be taken in the event of a conflict in order to prevent the development of hostilities; and finally, (3) to study the measures which would enable the Council to give most rapidly to an attacked State such economic and financial help as might be necessary, as well as to determine the composition and procedure of any committees which the League might use to assist it for this purpose.

To these suggestions which are embodied in the French proposal, must be added a Polish proposal to the effect that the Council should consider the question of regional assistance, as well as Finnish proposal, the purpose of which is to examine what special arrangements might be adopted in order to compensate for a reduction of armaments agreed to by certain States, and so meet their requirements for security.

In its examination of these proposals, the Council Committee may be assisted by the Permanent Advisory Commission, the Joint Commission, or by other League Commissions.

The various points of the French proposal were examined on September 18th. With regard to points 1 (a) and 3 (a) the Committee decided to address to the Secretary-General the following questions :

— On what occasions has the Council been summoned to deal with international crises?

— What steps were taken in each case?

— What difficulties, if any, arose?

— Have you any suggestions for the improvement of the procedure?

— Are the technical arrangements for communications in such cases satisfactory, and if not, in what respects are they unsatisfactory?

— What are your general observations and your opinion on the steps to be taken with regard to question 1 (a) and 3 (a) of the French proposal?

Question 1 (a) and 3 (a) of the French proposal read as follows :

That methods or regulations should be investigated which would facilitate the meeting of the Council at very brief notice in case of war or threat of war;

To investigate the question of the improvement of the telegraphic and telephonic communications of the different countries with the Secretariat of the League.

With regard to point 1 (b) of the French proposal, the Committee asked M. de Brouckère to submit a report on the connection between this question and the pro-

cedure instituted in 1921 by the Second Assembly in view of the application of Article XVI of the Covenant.

Point 1 (b) reads :

That methods or regulations should be investigated which would enable the Council to take such decisions as may be necessary to enforce the obligations of the Covenant as expeditiously as possible.

The next meeting of the Council Committee will take place on December 1st.

IV. — Legal and Constitutional Questions.

1. — COMPOSITION OF THE COUNCIL (1)

The principal work of the Assembly in the legal and constitutional field bore on the question of the composition of the Council. This question had been also studied by a special Committee set up in consequence of the events of last March, and by the Council itself.

I. DEBATES AND REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE COMPOSITION OF THE COUNCIL.

This Committee held, at Geneva, from August 30th to September 3rd, a second and final meeting, summoned at the request of the Spanish representative. The two questions which remained to be discussed were dealt with in public. The Committee first proceeded to a second reading of the regulations drafted at its May session on the number and method of election of the non-permanent members of the Council. At its final meeting, its members expressed their opinions with regard to the question of the increase of the number of permanent seats and the claims put forward in this respect.

(a) *Number and Method of Election of the non-Permanent Members of the Council.* — In regard to the first point, the Committee had to consider amendments submitted by the French Government to the draft rules. After a general discussion, it referred the preparation of a final draft to a sub-committee of nine members, whose conclusions it subsequently adopted on September 1st.

The system adopted by the Committee resembled in general outline the draft rules adopted on first reading last May. The Committee laid down that the Council would, in future, include nine non-permanent members, elected for a term of three years and non-re-eligible during the following three years. To this general rule the Committee proposed an exception, according to which a retiring Member of the Council might be re-elected, if, on the expiry of its mandate or in the course of three years, the Assembly, by a majority of two-thirds, should so decide. As a temporary provision, the Committee proposed that, in 1926, the nine non-permanent Members of the Council should be elected by the Assembly, three for a period of three years, three for a period of two years, and three for a period of one year.

On two important points the May draft was amended. In the first place, the Committee suggested that, of the nine members thus elected in 1926, a maximum of three might be immediately declared re-eligible by a decision of the Assembly. In the second place, it proposed that the article empowering the Assembly to proceed to a new election of all the non-permanent members of the Council should be deleted.

The draft was unanimously adopted by the Committee, the Spanish representative abstaining from voting.

(1) See Resolution "Rules dealing with the Election of the Non-Permanent Members of the Council" on page 232 of this number.

The Italian representative stated that, if he accepted the clause raising the number of non-permanent seats to nine, it was on the express condition that the total membership of the Council should in no case exceed fourteen.

The Polish representative said that, while not wishing to prevent unanimity from being secured with regard to the draft as a whole, he was obliged to make reservations regarding one paragraph of the draft.

The Argentine and Swedish representatives accepted the draft, but renewed their reservations they had made on points of principle on previous occasions and in the course of the present session.

(b) *Question of the Increase of the Permanent Seats.* — This question arose out of the claims put forward by certain Members of the League, notably Spain, whose representative repeated his former statement on this subject and asked the Committee to take a decision on the question raised by his Government.

The Chinese delegate declared that he supported the claim of Spain and reserved his right to put forward the Chinese claim to a permanent seat whenever a suitable opportunity offered.

The Polish representative, who also admitted the justice of the Spanish claim to a permanent seat, stated that, while maintaining the claim of Poland to a permanent seat, he was willing in the present political situation to refrain from opposing a solution which might solve the existing crisis.

The statements of the other members of the Committee showed that, notwithstanding the anxiety of their Governments to give the greatest consideration to the claims and interests of Spain, they could not submit to the Council any proposal which would involve creating any fresh permanent seats apart from the seat which the Committee unanimously recognised should be occupied by Germany.

The German representative said that he would abstain from expressing an opinion on the question of the permanent seats.

The Spanish representative stated that, while maintaining his claim, he would lay the situation before his Government.

In its report to the Council, the Committee repeated the opinion given in the final passage of its provisional report of May last :

The Committee considers that the increase of the number of the non-permanent seats on the Council will permit the Assembly to take account in a more comprehensive and equitable measure of the principle of geographical distribution of seats, in accordance with the recommendations adopted by the third, fourth, fifth and sixth Assemblies.

It is right to record that the Committee was unanimously favourable to an allocation of three of the non-permanent seats to Latin America and that adequate representation should be given to Asia. The Chinese delegate strongly urged that at least two seats should be allotted to Asia and the other parts of the world outside America and Europe.

It added that, in its opinion, the changes which the draft rules would make in the present organisation of the Council would enable the Assembly to give satisfaction to the special claims of certain countries to representation for an extended period on the Council.

Before dispersing, the Committee voted a resolution inviting the Spanish Government to give favourable consideration to the efforts made to meet its wishes to the fullest extent possible in the circumstances.

2. DEBATES AND RESOLUTIONS OF THE COUNCIL.

The Council, if it should approve the report of the Committee, was called upon to take a resolution on the creation of one permanent and three non-permanent seats. It was for the Assembly to confirm the Council's decisions and to adopt the rules dealing with non-permanent seats.

Article 4 of the Covenant, contains the following clause (with the amendment voted in 1921 and in force since July 29th last) :

“With the approval of the majority of the Assembly, the Council may name additional Members of the League whose Representatives shall always be members of the Council; the Council with like approval may increase the number of Members of the League to be selected by the Assembly for representation on the Council.”

The Assembly shall fix by a two-thirds majority the rules dealing with the election of the non-permanent Members of the Council, and particularly such regulations as relate to their term of office and the conditions of re-eligibility.”

On September 4th the Council, on the report of Viscount Ishii (Japan), approved the report of the Committee and unanimously decided, in virtue of its powers under Article 4 of the Covenant (a) to appoint Germany as a permanent Member of the Council upon her entry into the League of Nations, (b) to increase to nine the number of non-permanent seats.

It recommended the Assembly to approve these decisions and to give favourable consideration to the proposals of the Committee with regard to the method of election and tenure of the non-permanent seats. The Council also endorsed the resolution of the Committee inviting the Spanish Government to give favourable consideration to the efforts made to meet its wishes to the fullest extent possible in the circumstances.

On the proposal of the rapporteur, the Council thanked the members of the Committee, and particularly its Chairman, M. Motta, for the useful work which they had done.

The Swedish representative, M. Unden, recalled that his Government considered that the proposed increase of the number of the non-permanent seats on the Council would entail serious disadvantages; nevertheless, in order to find an issue from the present difficulties, his Government was prepared to make the sacrifices which, from its point of view, were involved by the adoption of the scheme.

3. DEBATES AND RESOLUTIONS OF THE ASSEMBLY.

On the morning of September 8th, M. Motta, appointed as rapporteur by the General Committee of the Assembly proposed that the Assembly, by a unanimous vote and without previous reference to a Committee, should take a decision with regard to the resolution of the Council concerning the appointment of Germany to a permanent seat, and the increase of the number of non-permanent seats on the Council.

M. Motta reported that the President of the Council had given the General Committee all necessary explanations, stating that, in the intention of the Council, the allocation of a permanent seat to Germany and the increase from six to nine of the number of non-permanent seats were actions which were closely connected with one another. The resolution, he said, was therefore submitted as a whole.

The Netherlands, Norwegian and Swedish Delegates made certain reservations as to the procedure recommended by the General Committee, and expressed the hope that it would not constitute a precedent for the future. The Assembly then approved the decisions of the Council by the unanimous vote of the forty-eight States represented.

The proposals concerning the method of election and tenure of the non-permanent seats on the Council were referred to the First Committee.

The draft rules finally adopted by the First Committee, differ essentially from those drawn up by the Committee on one important point only. On the proposal of the Norwegian Delegate, the First Committee re-inserted the article empowering the Assembly to proceed at any time to a new election of all the non-permanent Members of the Council. There were besides various modifications and additions of detail,

Thus amended, the Draft Rules were adopted by the Assembly on the morning of September 15th.

At a later meeting, the Assembly, on the proposal of the Norwegian Delegation and after a debate in its First Committee, invited the Council to instruct the Secretariat to study the system of the single transferable vote and of the principle of proportional representation in general, in connection with the problem of the election of non-permanent Members. This question will be laid before the next ordinary session of the Assembly.

4. THE ELECTIONS. — THE NEW COUNCIL.

The Rules adopted by the Assembly laid down that, in 1926, the nine non-permanent Members of the Council should be elected (1) three for a term of three years, (2) three for a term of two years and (3) three for a term of one year.

The Assembly accordingly on September 16th, took three secret ballots (by roll-call). The first ballot was for the nine non-permanent seats, *i.e.*, the voting papers had to indicate the nine States which the Delegations wished to elect. The second ballot was for the selection of three newly elected Members to be represented on the Council for a term of three years; the third for the selection, among the six remaining Members, of three to sit for two years. Those not chosen in the third ballot were those who will sit for one year.

First Ballot. — The eight following States obtained an absolute majority (25 votes out of 49 cast) and were therefore elected non-permanent Members of the Council :

Colombia.	46 votes.
Poland.	45 "
Chile.	43 "
Salvador.	42 "
Belgium	41 "
Roumania	41 "
Netherlands.	37 "
China	29 "

An additional ballot was taken for the ninth non-permanent member, Czechoslovakia (27 votes) being elected.

Second Ballot. — The three following States were elected to sit on the Council for three years :

Poland.	44 votes.
Chile.	41 "
Roumania	30 "

Third Ballot. — The following States were elected to sit on the Council for two years :

Colombia.	47 votes.
Netherlands.	47 "
China	34 "

The three remaining Members, Belgium, Salvador and Czechoslovakia, will sit on the Council for one year.

The President of the Assembly had received a request for re-eligibility submitted by Poland, one of the newly-elected non-permanent Members of the Council. The Assembly took an immediate decision, whereby, 36 Members voting in favour and 8 against, Poland was declared re-eligible for election to the Council on the expiry of her present term of three years.

2. — ADMISSION OF GERMANY TO THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS (1)

The Assembly, on September 8th, unanimously admitted Germany as a Member of the League of Nations.

The First Committee of the Special Assembly, convened in March, 1926, had submitted a unanimous report in favour of Germany's admission.

The Seventh Assembly, acting on the advice of its General Committee and in accordance with Rule 14 § 2 of the Procedure of the Assembly, decided to consider without reference to a committee the report of the First Committee of the Special Assembly on the request of Germany for admission to the League.

A vote was accordingly taken by roll-call, as a result of which the admission of Germany into the League of Nations was unanimously approved by the forty-eight States participating in the vote.

On September 10th, the German Delegation took its seat in the Assembly. After the President, M. Nintchitch, had, as is usual when the delegates of a newly elected member take their seats, addressed to them a brief welcome, M. Stresemann, the head of the Delegation and German Minister of Foreign Affairs, made a speech which was replied to by the first French delegate, M. Briand (2).

3. — RELATIONS OF SPAIN WITH THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS

The Secretary-General received on September 11th, 1926, the following note from the Spanish Government, which has been circulated to all States Members of the League :

In exercise of the right conferred upon it by Article 1 paragraph 3 of the Covenant of the League of Nations, the Government of His Catholic Majesty regrets to have to inform you that it considers that the two year's notice of intention to withdraw from the League stipulated in this Article begins to run, as far as Spain is concerned, from the date of the presentation of this document.

The Spanish Government has refrained from making this communication until the Assembly, on the Council's proposal and on the basis of the report of the Committee of Enquiry, has approved the reform of the composition of the Council as regards its permanent members. It has acted in this way in order to observe a correct procedure towards all the members of the League. In following this course it also desired to wait until the Assembly had pronounced on the admission of Germany, which event Spain ardently hopes will be of great advantage to the League of Nations.

Spain is convinced that her decision does not compromise any vital interest or any principle of the League of Nations, whose prosperity is ardently desired by Spain, by her King and by her Government.

The Spanish Government is glad to take the opportunity afforded by this communication, which it has the honour and regret to address to the League of Nations, to express its deepest gratitude to all the friendly States whose representatives have generously expressed their appreciation of Spain's work in the organs of the League, and of the esteem and affection in which they hold our country—expressions which will always remain a cherished memory.

In leaving the League of Nations in obedience to an imperative duty, Spain desires to express a parting wish that the high ideals of universal peace for which the League was founded and which our country has hitherto so ardently and so effectively served, will be crowned with success.

(Signed) JOSE DE YANUAS.

(1) See *Monthly Summary*, Vol. VI, No. 3, p. 49.

See also special article in this number on the composition of the Council.

(2) For text of speeches, see page 227 of this number.

4. — INTERPRETATION OF THE PREAMBLE AND ARTICLES III AND IV OF THE COVENANT

At the beginning of the Seventh Ordinary session of the Assembly the British delegation tabled a proposal to the effect that a committee should be appointed to consider and report what questions were and what were not within the sphere of action of the League within the meaning of the Preamble and Articles III and IV of the Covenant, with special reference to the question now being or about to be dealt with by the League organs.

In the course of the discussion on the subject in the First Assembly Committee, the British delegate modified his proposal, to form a committee, giving as a chief reason a desire to avoid the expense which would be entailed thereby.

After a protracted debate, the First Committee adopted a resolution stating that it recognised that the League should avoid dissipating its activity upon subjects which might divert it from its mission of promoting the peace of the world, and facilitating co-operation between nations, and recommended that each body forming part of the League, before taking into consideration any proposal submitted to it, should satisfy itself that the proposal was in accordance with the objects of the League as indicated by the Covenant and possessed real importance from the point of view of the attainment of those objects. It decided that, in case of doubt, and if so requested by a member of the body, the question should be submitted to the Council, in the interval between the sessions of the Assembly, and, during those sessions, to the Committee appointed by the Assembly for legal and constitutional questions.

The Assembly, after a debate in which, M. Barthélemy (France), rapporteur of the First Committee, Viscount Cecil (British Empire), Sir George Foster (Canada), and M. Motta (Switzerland), took part, agreed, on the proposal of Dr. Benes (Czechoslovakia) to postpone its decision until the next ordinary session of the Assembly.

5. — INTERNATIONAL ENGAGEMENTS

a) *Ratification.*

Ratification of agreements and Conventions concluded under the auspices of the League ⁽¹⁾. — The Assembly on the proposal of Viscount Cecil, passed a motion noting with regret that many conventions and agreements concluded under the auspices of the League had remained ineffective or had only come into force after undue delay owing to the difficulty of securing the necessary ratifications. It accordingly drew the attention of States Members of the League to the necessity of facilitating and hastening the ratification of agreements which they had signed.

The Assembly further invited the Council to ask for a half-yearly report on the progress of ratification and to consider methods for securing a more rapid bringing into force of the agreements in question.

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The formal ratification of the Treaties and Agreements of Locarno (October 16th, 1925) took place on September 14th, 1926, in the office of the Secretary-General of the League of Nations. The instruments of ratification were deposited by the representatives of the Signatory States, namely: M. Stresemann (Germany), M. de Brouckère (Belgium), Sir Austen Chamberlain (British Empire), M. Briand (France), M. Scialoja (Italy), M. Zaleski (Poland) and M. Benes (Czechoslovakia).

The conditions of the coming into force of these treaties (admission of Germany to the League, deposit of all ratifications) having thus been fulfilled, the Locarno treaties are in force as from September 14th, 1926.

(1) See Resolution on p. 233 of this number.

* * *

The French and Norwegian Governments have ratified the International Convention for the simplification of Customs Formalities and the Protocol relating thereto (Geneva, November 3rd, 1923).

The Polish Government has ratified the Agreement (February 11th, 1925) adopted by the First Opium Conference with regard to the suppression of the manufacture, internal trade and use of prepared opium.

The Norwegian Government has signed the Convention on the Supervision of the International Trade in Arms, Munitions and Implements of War, the Protocol relating to Chemical and Bacteriological Warfare, and the Final Act of the Conference for the Supervision of the Arms Trade (Geneva, June 17th, 1925).

b) *Registration.*

Among the treaties and agreements registered in September may be mentioned :

Protocols relating to the prolongation of the Defensive Alliance Conventions concluded by Roumania and Czechoslovakia, and by Roumania and the Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes;

A treaty of Commerce and Navigation between the Belgio-Luxemburg Economic Union and Latvia;

A provisional Air Traffic Convention (Berne, May 18th, 1925) concluded by Switzerland and the Netherlands;

A Commercial Treaty (Vienna, October 19th, 1925) concluded by Austria and China;

A provisional Commercial Treaty between Esthonia and the United States.

c) *Amendments to the Covenant.*

The Esthonian Government has deposited with the League the instrument of its ratification of the Protocols relating to the amendments to Article 16 of the Covenant (Economic Blockade) adopted by the Fifth and Sixth Assemblies.

V. — Technical Organisations.

1. — THE HEALTH ORGANISATION (1)

The work of the Health Organisation was considered at the September Sessions of the Assembly and the Council, the former dealing with its work during the past year, the latter with the report on its June session.

A marked characteristic of the work of the Health Organisation in 1925-1926 was its increasing tendency to universality and, in particular, the development of its relations with the East. A system of co-operation was organised between the Health Committee and the health administrations of the East in particular those of British India, the Philippines, New-Zealand, Australia, Siam, French Indo-China, the Soviet Republics, the Dutch East Indies, China and Japan; and the Assembly recognised that the League might afford valuable assistance to Asia in her fight against cholera, plague and other diseases.

The work of the Epidemiological Intelligence Bureau in Singapore attained a considerable development, 108 ports now being in telegraphic communication

(1) See Resolution on page 234 of this number.

with the Bureau whereas only 50 were in contact with it last year. The Assembly recognised the importance of the Bureau as the first League institution in the Far East.

It was not only in the East, however, that efforts were made to improve the co-operation between health services. An interchange was arranged for medical officers in the Colonial services of West and South Africa and an international commission was sent out to Entebbe (Uganda) to study questions connected with the prevalence and prevention of sleeping sickness in Equatorial Africa.

The Assembly considered that it was highly desirable that the Health Organisation should show similar activity in Latin America. Efforts, it noted, had already been made to enable health officers of these countries to take part in the various investigations and interchanges organised by the Health Section. The number of Latin-American experts taking part in the technical work of the Health Organisation was increasing year by year.

2. — THE ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL ORGANISATION

a) *Work of the Economic Committee (1).*

The work of the Economic Committee during the past year was examined and approved both by the Assembly and the Council.

The principal subjects dealt with were commercial arbitration, the simplification of customs formalities, the abolition of import and export prohibitions and restrictions, the prevention of false customs declarations, economic crises and unemployment, unfair competition and economic conditions in Austria.

Abolition of import and export prohibitions and restrictions. — On this subject the Committee finished the work entrusted to it by the Fifth Assembly. After conducting an enquiry among the Governments and commercial organisations of thirty-six different countries, it prepared a preliminary draft convention to serve as a basis of discussion for a conference of government representatives.

The exact date of this conference will be fixed by the Secretary-General in agreement with the Chairman of the Economic Committee and the Chairman of the Preparatory Committee for the International Economic Conference, in order that both conferences may carry on their work side by side without any inconvenience.

Although the question of prohibitions and restrictions also figured on the Agenda of the Preparatory Committee for the International Economic Conference, the Assembly and the Council were convinced that no overlapping or waste of effort need be feared. They both considered that, whereas the International Economic Conference was more in the nature of a consultation, as comprehensive as possible, regarding the world economic situation and the remedies to be applied, and was not expected to lead immediately to governmental agreements, the conference on prohibition contemplated by the Economic Committee would, on the contrary, aim at bringing about as soon as possible, in the form of a convention, an international agreement to abolish a system to be regarded as injurious to international trade.

Commercial arbitration. — The Protocol of 1923 on arbitration in commercial contracts did not oblige its signatories to execute arbitral awards other than those rendered in their own territories—in other words, it imposed no obligation on the parties adhering to it as regards the execution of awards rendered abroad. The Committee is now considering the possibility of supplementing it by an additional

(1) See Resolution on page 235 of this number

act designed to secure the execution in the territory of the signatory State of an arbitral award rendered in the territory of another such State. For this purpose it will to have recourse to the assistance of legal experts.

False customs declarations. — The Committee, before attempting to solve this question by means of an international agreement, decided to continue its investigation on the subject and to extend it so as to embrace every kind of false declaration injurious to trade.

Customs formalities. — The Committee reported that certain States had forwarded to the Secretariat the report provided for under Article 9 of the Convention on Customs Formalities, showing the steps taken by them to simplify customs regulations.

• Work of the Preparatory Committee for the International Economic Conference (1).

The action taken by the Council with regard to the preparation of an International Economic Conference was reviewed by the Assembly in September.

To give effect to the recommendation of the Sixth Assembly, the Council set up a Preparatory Committee, which met for the first time in April 1926. This first session was devoted to the settlement of procedure and of a general plan of work; at the second session, which will open on November 15th of this year, the Committee will deal with the documentation which has been compiled.

The Assembly considering that to surround the Preparatory Committee with restrictive instructions would cause more harm than good, endorsed the opinion it had expressed in 1925 that the Committee should enjoy complete freedom as regards the organisation of its work. It was observed, however, in the report of the second Assembly Committee, that if on the one hand it was indispensable to include in the programme of the Committee a variety of items, on the other hand the Committee should endeavour to isolate a small number of essential questions upon which the efforts of the Conference should be concentrated.

With reference to the composition of the Conference, certain delegates to the Second Committee considered that there were objections to calling upon experts, appointed exclusively for their personal qualifications; others suggested that a conference of Government representatives would also present certain disadvantages, as its members would be too closely tied by their official responsibilities in their study of the questions submitted to the Conference. Second Committee concluded that a compromise must be sought, which would at the same time allow the scope of the discussion to be widened and ensure that the Conference's findings should have a practical value and an influence upon the economic policy of the Governments. It considered that the same procedure for the appointment of delegates might be followed as in the case of the Brussels Financial Conference.

The Assembly, finally, in view of the fact that the general economic situation called more imperiously than ever for an effort towards international co-operation, expressed the hope that the Committee would actively push forward its work, so as to enable the Conference to be convened as soon as possible.

b) *Work of the Financial Committee (2).*

The main effort of the Financial Committee during the past year bore on the financial reconstruction of Austria and Hungary, the execution of schemes for the settlement of Greek and Bulgarian refugees, the investigation of a scheme for the foundation of an Armenian National Home, and the issue of a municipal loan by

(1) See Resolution on page 236 of this number.

(2) See Resolutions on page 236 of this number.

the Free City of Danzig. These problems, which came before the Council and the Assembly, are dealt with in special chapters of this number.

The Financial Committee also undertook to examine the question of the suppression of the forgery of currency and pursued its investigation of the problem of double taxation and tax evasion.

With regard to the question of the forgery of currency, the Assembly and the Council took note of the questionnaire drawn up by the Committee and addressed to the banks of issue. The Assembly expressed the hope that the Committee might at the earliest possible date be in a position to submit practical proposals on this subject, which it considered as peculiarly suitable for organised co-operation between Governments and banks of issue.

The work of the Financial Committee on double taxation and tax evasion, the Assembly considered, should be continued, and should serve as a useful preparation for the development and progressive unification of international law in this respect.

The Financial Reconstruction of Austria. — The financial situation in Austria was examined in September by the Financial Committee, the Council and the Assembly.

On September 7th, the Council, including the Austrian representative, Dr. Ramek, noted the final reports of the League Commissioner-General at Vienna. The Chairman of the Financial Committee, Dr. Pospisil, was present at the meeting.

On the proposal of the British representative, Sir Austen Chamberlain, the Council approved the report of the Financial Committee, and authorised the issue of Austrian Treasury Bills as well as certain minor amendments to the Statutes of the Austrian National Bank. It also authorised the release of the balance of the reconstruction loan—60 million schillings—for productive expenditure, subject to the submission in December of a detailed programme on the subject.

The Assembly, after noting with satisfaction that Austria had in 1926 reassumed full responsibility for her financial policy, thanked the countries which had helped Austria with their credit, thus making possible a great act of international co-operation. It expressed its conviction that the Austrian Government and people would by their own efforts be able finally to ensure the results of the work of reconstruction.

The Financial Reconstruction of Hungary. — The Financial situation in Hungary was discussed in September both by the Council, the Assembly and the Financial Committee, the conclusion arrived at being that the financial stability of Hungary was assured, and that the work of reconstruction had been brought to a successful close within the minimum period contemplated under the original plan.

On September 4th, the Council, on the proposal of M. Scialoja (Italy) noted the final report of the League Commissioner-General at Budapest and the conclusions of the Financial Committee. For the purposes of the discussion, the Council included representatives of Hungary (M. de Hevesy), Roumania (M. Commerce) and the Serb-Croat-Slovene Kingdom (M. Yovanovitch). The Chairman of the Financial Committee, Dr. Pospisil, was present at the meeting.

In its report the Financial Committee drew attention to a statement of the Commissioner-General to the effect that, while the present level of the budget was somewhat higher than that contemplated in the original plan, there seemed no reason to doubt that it could be permanently maintained. The Committee expressed its conviction that the Hungarian Government would firmly resist any measures which might imperil the result now obtained.

The rapporteur to the Assembly, M. Suvich (Italy), describing the successive stages of the reconstruction work, recalled that the Hungarian reconstruction loan was originally intended to cover the deficit for 1923-24, 1924-25 and 1925-26. As a matter of fact only in the first of these three periods had there been a deficit,

amounting to about 70 million gold crowns. The following financial periods had terminated with a surplus. In consequence, it was possible to devote part of the loan to productive investments. In 1925-26, fifty million gold crowns were used for this purpose, and in the budget of 1926-27, a similar sum was set aside for the reclamation of land by drainage and irrigation; the building of roads and bridges of dwelling houses and of the new free port of Budapest; the laying of an underground telephone cable, etc. There still remained an available surplus of 81 million gold crowns. The revenues assigned for the loan service were considerably in excess of the sum required.

The economic situation, M. Suvich said, shewed considerable improvement : the agricultural production had almost reached the pre-war level; the adverse trade balance was on the decrease; commercial treaties had been concluded with Italy, Poland, France, Greece, Spain, Austria and Czechoslovakia.

The rapporteur then drew attention to the forthcoming currency reform, which the conditions already described rendered possible. On January 1st 1927, he said, a new currency would be introduced, whose unit, the "pengo", was equivalent to 12,500 old paper crowns. The balance sheet of the National Bank was already expressed in pengos.

The policy of the National Bank had been extremely cautious and conservative. Its actual reserve on June 30th 1926, had amounted to 55 % of the note circulation, whereas that laid down in the reconstruction scheme represented only 20 %.

The Assembly congratulated the Hungarian Government and people on the success of the scheme. It expressed its confidence that the satisfactory position attained would be maintained and consolidated in the future and noted with satisfaction that commercial agreements had been concluded between Hungary and the neighbouring States.

Settlement of Bulgarian Refugees. — The settlement scheme for Bulgarian refugees drawn up by the Financial Committee was definitely adopted by the Council in September, after consulting the Governments interested in the question. The terms of the issue of an international loan and the system of control for expenditure incurred on this account were approved on September 7th and 20th, in the presence of representatives of Bulgaria, Greece, Roumania and the Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes, and of the Chairman of the Financial Committee.

On this occasion, the Council expressed the hope that the scheme of settlement, besides alleviating the sufferings of the refugees, would contribute to the economic development, the political stability of Bulgaria and the general interests of peace.

The Council's decisions of September 7th and 20th mark the successful conclusion of the technical work undertaken by the Financial Committee and of protracted negotiations with the States bordering on Bulgaria and the Reparations authorities.

It was in May last that the Bulgarian Government approached the League on the question of the issue of a loan for the settlement of refugees. The Council discussed this question and, on June 10th, replied that it was ready to be associated in a scheme drawn up for this purpose by the Financial Committee.

The scheme provided for the issue of a loan of £ 2,250,000 secured by certain revenues of the Bulgarian State. As, however, these revenues were a first charge for the settlement of reparations, it was necessary to secure the waiving of this privilege. The Inter-Allied Commission at Sofia and the Reparations Commission took the required decisions on June 22nd and 23rd. Thereupon, the Financial Committee, at its meeting in London, recommended the President of the Council, in accordance with the Council's decision, of June 10th, to authorise the Bulgarian Government to negotiate a temporary advance of £ 400,000. This sum was obtained shortly after in the form of an advance from the Bank of England to the Bulgarian National Bank.

The question of control remained to be settled. In June, the Council approved the principle that there should be a strict and effective control over the use of the loan funds and over the choice of the land to be assigned to the refugees. In September, a detailed system of control was worked out. The Financial Committee was requested to enter into consultation with representatives of the States Members of the League bordering on Bulgaria and in agreement with them, to draw up proposals for a system of control.

The Financial Committee drew up a draft Protocol which was approved by the Council and signed by Bulgaria. This instrument provides for the appointment by the Council of a Commissioner who will report to the Council at least every three months, control the proceeds of the loan and approve all plans of settlement. He will always be free to refuse to release sums drawn from the loan, if he is not sure that the monies previously released have been spent as authorised by him. M. René Charron was appointed Commissioner.

The Bulgarian Government undertakes to centralise all services dealing with refugees. For the settlement work, it undertakes to provide at least 132,000 hectares of land suitable for agriculture, the character and situation of which must be approved by the Commissioner. This land must be the unencumbered property of the Bulgarian Government.

As provision is made for such improvements in communications as are required for the settlement of refugees and the Bulgarian Government proposes to build a railway line in the direction of the Greek frontier, the Commissioner will be called upon, before approving the plans and releasing the necessary funds, to make sure that no expenditure will be incurred on work which is not exclusively for economic purposes.

The scheme provides, moreover, for precautions against establishing large numbers of refugees near the frontiers. It lays down a procedure enabling the neighbouring States to obtain information or present observations to the Commissioner and, with or without prior consultation in an advisory committee meeting outside Bulgaria, to secure the examination by the Council of matters specially affecting their interests. In accordance with Article 4 of the Covenant, the interested parties would be represented on the Council for the purposes of a discussion of this nature.

At the Council meeting, the Bulgarian Minister of Foreign Affairs, M. Moloff, accepted, on behalf of his Government, the Financial Committee's report and the Protocol. He expressed his Government's gratitude for the work undertaken by the Council, which, he believed, would in a large measure contribute to the general pacification of the Balkans.

The Greek, Roumanian and Serb-Croat-Slovene representatives thanked the Council for having recognised the special interest which States bordering on Bulgaria attached to the question of the Bulgarian loan and thus making it possible for them to co-operate in the scheme.



The Assembly approved the scheme of settlement. It expressed its belief that the execution of this plan would not only alleviate widespread suffering, but would also benefit economic and social order in Bulgaria, and consolidate and improve Bulgaria's political relations with her neighbours.

Settlement of Greek refugees (1). — The question of the settlement of Greek refugees was considered by the Council, the Assembly and the Financial Committee. It came before the Council on September 4th, when the eleventh report of the Greek Refugee Settlement Commission was noted and a report of the League Financial Committee on the same subject adopted. For the purpose of the discussion the

(1) See *Monthly Summary*, Vol. VI, No. 6, p. 138.

Council included a representative of Greece, M. Caclamano. The Chairman of the Financial Committee, Dr. Pospisil, and the chairman of the Greek Refugee Settlement Commission, Mr. Charles P. Howland, were also present.

The eleventh report of the Commission shows progress in the recovery of sums due by settlers. Particular importance is attached to the fact that the harvest is good in Macedonia and Thrace, and that there is therefore every prospect that considerable sums may be obtained this year from the agricultural refugees.

A decree-law published by the Greek Government on May 15th transferred to the Commission all property on which it had begun work with a view to the settlement of refugees. A survey of part of this land—300 sq. kilometers in Karadjova (Macedonia)—was conducted in agreement with the Greek Government, which placed an aeroplane at the Commission's disposal for the purpose.

The work of urban settlement is continuing. The sale by the Commission to refugees of ready-built houses has so far brought in about £ 25,000 and 150,000 drachme. The Commission has also allowed refugees to rent houses.

The only credit granted by the Commission during the past quarter was for the repair of damages caused to its houses by the recent earthquake in Crete.

With regard to the future of the Settlement work, the Commission informed that, as stated in its preceding report a sum of £ 5,000,000 would be necessary to meet all requirements. In this connection, the Financial Committee, referring to a suggestion made at its June session that a detailed report on the progress and future of the settlement work might be submitted in September, informed the Council that, in view of the recent change of Government in Greece, it considered it advisable that this report should be postponed until December.

After noting these reports, the Council stated that it had learned with great regret of the resignation of Mr. Howland as Chairman of the Greek Refugee Settlement Commission. In paying a warm tribute to Mr. Howland's ability and devotion, the Council was seconded by the Greek representative, and the Chairman of the Financial Committee. Mr. Charles B. Eddy was appointed to succeed Mr. Howland, the nomination being made for one year as from October 15th, 1926.

* * *

The Assembly noted with satisfaction that the settlement work had made continuous and satisfactory progress during the past year and expressed the hope that it might be brought to a successful conclusion.

The Financial Situation of Danzig (1). — The Financial situation of Danzig was considered by the Council on September 20th, the President of the Senate of the Free City, Dr. Sahn, and the League High Commissioner at Danzig, Dr. van Hamel, attending the meeting.

The Council had before it reports from the Financial Committee and the High Commissioner on the financial position as it had developed during the summer.

In its report to the Council, the Financial Committee stated that there were still three points which it considered should be dealt with before it could recommend the issue of a loan, namely, the conclusion of a Polish-Danzig customs agreement; the situation of Danzig as regards her obligations under the peace treaty; and the final arrangements for a tobacco monopoly. If at the next session of the Committee, the Free City were in a position to show that definite arrangements had been made with regard to these points and to submit a satisfactory scheme of economies, the Committee would, subject to the treaty rights of the Polish Government and the assignment of adequate security for the loan service, be prepared to recommend a loan of approximately thirty million gulden. The Committee regarded it as a matter of the utmost importance that the Free City should undertake, pending a

(1) See *Monthly Summary*, Vol. VI, No. 8, p. 180.

fresh examination of the situation, not to contract any new loan or short term debt without its consent.

The President of the Senate of the Free City, Dr. Sahm, in a statement to the Council, described the financial situation as serious. On behalf of the Free City, he appealed to the League for its assistance and support in the forthcoming negotiation with the Reparations Commission and the Conference of Ambassadors.

The Polish representative, M. Zalwski, said that his Government had consented to revise the division of the Polish and Danzig customs receipts, and to establish a minimum below which its payments to the Free City might not fall. It had authorised the introduction of a tobacco monopoly in Danzig and the duty-free import of tobacco for this purpose. He drew attention to the necessity of reducing the expenditure of the Free City.

The German representative, Dr. Stresemann said that, in view of the relations between Germany and Danzig, the question under consideration had a very special interest for Germany. He believed that the situation of Danzig would improve if, by a treaty of commerce, normal customs relations could be restored between Germany and Poland.

The Council, after an exchange of views between the British and German representatives, the High Commissioner, the President of the Danzig Senate, and the rapporteur, M. de Brouckere (Belgium), approved the report of the Financial Committee. It expressed the hope that the authorities, upon whom the conclusion of the necessary agreements depended, would be ready to accept solutions rendering possible a final settlement of the problem of Danzig's Finance and that it would be possible in the circumstances described in the report for the Financial Committee to recommend the issue of a loan to ensure the financial reconstruction of Danzig.

3. — COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSIT

a) *Work of the Organisation* (1).

The work of the Organisation for Communications and Transit during the past year was examined by the Assembly and the Council.

This work bore on a considerable variety of questions, for instance : inland navigation and ports, maritime navigation, the unification of tonnage measurement, the safety of the seas, buoyage and lighting of coasts, railways, passports, road traffic, telegraph and telephone communications (wireless and otherwise), the conveyance and use of water-power, the unification of private law in inland navigation, the reform of the calendar, etc.

The Organisation was called upon on various occasions to act as mediator—an office assigned to it under certain conventions. It prepared the Conferences on Tonnage Measurement in Inland Navigation and on Passports which met during the year. It also drew up a draft convention which served as a basis of discussion for the Road Traffic Conference convened last April by the French Government.

The Organisation has hitherto confined its activity mainly to Europe, where the situation resulting from the war rendered its services exceptionally important. The Assembly was of the opinion that its work should be extended to countries of Latin America. For this purpose, it considered that information should be collected on both sides in order that, on the one hand, the Organisation might familiarise itself with conditions in Latin America, and that, on the other hand, the Governments and public opinion in these countries might become acquainted with the aims and work of the Transit Organisation, and the results it had already obtained.

The Assembly expressed the hope that the Third General Conference on Communications and Transit, to be held in 1927, would consider the question of improv

(1) See Resolution on page 237 of this number.

ing, as far as possible, the technical liaison between the work of the Transit Organisation and the specialised administrations of non-European countries.

b) *The Arad-Csanad Railway.*

On September 20th, the Council, on the report of M. Loudon (Netherlands), adjourned to its next session the final examination of a request submitted by the Hungarian Government with regard to the Arad-Csanad railway.

The Hungarian and Roumanian representatives informed the Council that their Governments had agreed to open direct negotiations on the subject by November 15th at the latest.

c) *The Maramarosi-Tarsasag Railway.*

On September 20th, the Council, on the report of M. Loudon (Netherlands), decided to examine at its December session a request submitted by the Maramarosi-Tarsasag Railway Company and the report of the Committee on Communications and Transit on the subject.

4. — INTELLECTUAL CO-OPERATION ⁽¹⁾

The past year's work and the future plans of the International Committee and of the Institute of Intellectual Co-operation were examined by the Assembly. Particular stress was laid on the importance of certain points in their programmes, such as the convening of a Congress of Popular Art, the creation of an International Museum Office, the union of libraries of all countries to facilitate research by the public and the coordination of the analytical bibliography of the various sciences.

Both the Assembly and the Council urged Governments to give sympathetic consideration to the report of the experts on the instruction of children and young people in the aims of the League and to take the measures necessary to give effect to their recommendations.

In order to enable the greatest possible number of students of all nations to acquaint themselves with the League's work, the Assembly invited the various States to consider the possibility of establishing scholarships entitling the holders to visit Geneva.

VI. — Administrative Questions.

MANDATES ⁽²⁾

The Council considered the work of the Permanent Mandates Commission on September 3rd and 4th. The representatives of New Zealand and the South African Union and the Vice-Chairman of the Permanent Mandates Commission were present at the meetings.

After noting the report of the Commission on its ninth session (June 1926) the Council requested the Secretary-General to take the necessary action on certain of the recommendations put forward.

The Mandatory Powers will accordingly be invited to furnish such supplementary information and explanations as may be necessary to complete the statistical

(1) See Resolution on page 237 of this number.

(2) See Resolution on page 238 of this number.

tables desired by the Commission. The observations of the latter on the eight annual reports examined in June will be communicated in each case to the Government of the Mandatory Power concerned with the request that the requisite action may be taken. The conclusions of the Commission with regard to petitions relating to Palestine will be communicated to the Mandatory and the petitioners concerned. With regard to a petition emanating from French Togoland, the Mandatory will be requested to furnish the supplementary information desired.

On two of the suggestions submitted by the Commission—concerning a list of questions for annual reports on territories under B and C Mandates, and the hearing of petitioners in certain exceptional cases—observations were presented and declarations made by several members of the Council. It was finally decided to ask for the views of the Mandatory Powers on these points before taking a decision.

The rapporteur, M. Unden (Sweden), was inclined to think that the Commission might be authorised to make a proposal regarding the establishment of certain rules for the hearing of petitioners in exceptional cases. The list of questions, he suggested, should be approved.

The British representative, Sir Austen Chamberlain, after paying a tribute to the work of the Commission, set forth the serious objections which he saw to the adoption for territories under B and C Mandates of so detailed and extensive a questionnaire as that drawn up by the Commission. He added that the British Government and the other Mandatory Powers felt that there was a certain tendency on the part of the Commission to extend its authority to a point where government would no longer be vested in the Mandatory Power, but in the Commission. He was sure that that was not the intention of the Covenant. It was clear from that document that these territories were to be placed under the guardianship of advanced Powers, exercising their authority under the supervision of the League, for which purpose the League would be assisted by a special commission.

He asked that, before any decision of the Council, the questionnaire should be submitted to the various Mandatory Governments for their consideration and comment.

With regard to the second point—an eventual hearing of petitioners—the British representative stated his objections to a procedure which, in his opinion, was hardly suitable for all classes of Mandates, in particular, for territories under C Mandate, which were to be administered as integral portions of the territory of the Mandatory. He begged the Council not to take a decision on this point without having before it the observations of the Governments which were directly and immediately responsible for the peace, order and good government of the mandated territories and without having given full attention to whatever they might have to urge in this respect.

The French representative said that he was desirous of facilitating the supervisory work of the Commission and of giving full effect to the right of petition. He felt, nevertheless, bound to point out the dangers and abuses inherent to a system which might lead to the creation of a sort of tribunal before which denunciations might be made of the Mandatories. He drew the attention of the Council to the fact that the object of certain petitioners was sometimes to render more difficult for the Mandatory the accomplishment of its duty.

The Belgian representative pointed out that in all countries the right of petition was very strictly limited, and that it seemed difficult to shew wider discretion in Mandated territories.

The Japanese, South African and New Zealand representatives said that they associated themselves with the statements of the British and French representatives.

The Vice-Chairman of the Mandates Commission, M. Van Rees, recalled that the Commission had always shewn a very cordial spirit of co-operation with the Mandatory Powers. He then pointed out that, in his opinion, the competence of

the Commission was in no wise limited by Article XXII of the Covenant, particularly by its final paragraph.

He said that, when the Commission was constituted, the Council had itself declared that it must have as wide as possible a conception of its duties, and that M. Hymans had explained, in a report which the Council had adopted, that the supervision of the Commission should extend over the whole administration of the Mandatory Power. He added that the Commission had never dreamed of overstepping its competence and had performed its delicate duties with the utmost conscientiousness.

The rapporteur, M. Uden, remarked that he understood the very legitimate apprehensions of the representatives of the Mandatories with regard to the hearing of petitioners, which he himself shared to a certain extent. He willingly associated himself with the proposal of Sir Austen Chamberlain that the Mandatories should be consulted on the two points under discussion. He would merely emphasise that final decision lay with the Council. The terms of all the B and C Mandates contained a clause providing for submission to the Council of an annual report to its satisfaction, and containing full information on the measures taken to apply the provisions of the Mandate.

M. Scialoja (Italy) made certain reservations covering the questions raised in connection with the general interpretation of Article XXII of the Covenant.

Sir Austen Chamberlain (British Empire) and M. Briand (France), emphasised the fact that the observations they had made had not in any way been intended to express any doubt as to the value of the work of the Commission. They had merely wished to point out certain difficulties which might arise from indefinitely increasing its powers.

On behalf of the Council, the President, Dr. Benes, requested the Vice-Chairman of the Commission to convey to his colleagues the Council's thanks for the energy and devotion they had shewn in the performance of their duties.

In accordance with its usual practice the Assembly referred to its Sixth Committee the various official documents of League dealing with the administration of mandated territories during the preceding year. The Sixth Committee discussed a certain number of general questions arising out of the application of article XXII of the Covenant and relating to the competence and responsibility of the various League organisations with regard to the administration of mandated territories.

This led to the discussion of certain problems which had previously been examined by the Council, in particular, the questionnaire for the establishment of annual reports on the administration of territories under B and C Mandates and the proposed hearing of petitioners.

The Assembly finally adopted a resolution submitted by its Sixth Committee thanking the Permanent Mandates Commission for the devotion and zeal with which it had carried out its delicate task and expressing confidence in the members of the Commission and the Council to ensure the application of the principles of Article XXII of the Covenant in a cordial spirit of co-operation with the Mandatory Powers.

VII. — Protection of Minorities

MOSLEMS OF ALBANIAN ORIGIN IN GREECE

The Council has received the final report submitted by its mandatories on certain cases still pending before the Mixed Commission for the Exchange of Greek and Turkish Populations. On the proposal of Viscount Ishii (Japan) it asked the Secretary-General on September 16th to convey to the mandatories its thanks for

the services that they rendered the League in regard to the protection of the Moslem minority of Albanian origin in Greece⁽¹⁾.

VIII. — Political Questions.

1. — MEMORANDUM FROM THE DIET OF MEMEL

At the request of the Powers Members of the Council—France, Great Britain, Italy and Japan—signatories of the Memel Convention (May 8th, 1924), a question raised in a memorandum from the Diet of Memel was examined by the Council for the first time on September 3rd⁽²⁾.

The document in question was forwarded to the Members of the Council in accordance with the Council's decision of September 28th, 1925⁽³⁾. The representatives of the four above-mentioned States informed the Secretary-General by a letter dated June 9th, 1926, that, without forming any opinion upon the merits of the case for the moment, they considered that the statements contained in the memorandum should be examined by the Council.

The Lithuanian Government was invited to present its observations on the subject, and in a letter to the Secretary-General dated August 11th, 1926, raised certain objections both to the Council's decision of September 28th, 1925, and to the procedure followed by the representatives on the Council of the signatories of the Convention. It communicated, out of deference to the Council, certain information in regard to the substance of the question.

On September 3rd the British representative, Sir Austen Chamberlain, drew the attention of the Council to the question of procedure raised by the Lithuanian Government and proposed that the Council should appoint a Committee of Jurists to study the matter with the assistance of the representative of the Lithuanian Government.

M. Sidzikauskas (Lithuania) explained his Government's arguments against the procedure followed by the signatories of the Memel Convention. In the opinion of the Lithuanian Government, the procedure arising out of Article 17 of the Convention could not be put into operation before the League until a Member of the Council had brought to the Council's notice, on its own responsibility and after an enquiry, an infraction of any provision of the Convention.

The Lithuanian representative then declared that the Lithuanian Government, which came into power as a result of the May elections and was supported by the deputies elected in Memel, was determined strictly to fulfil the obligations assumed under the Memel Convention and to settle by friendly understanding with the local authorities of the Memel territory all difficulties arising from the practical application of the Convention and Statute of Memel. He asked the representatives of the Signatory Powers to renounce their intention further to pursue the action taken on June 9th and to withdraw from the agenda the question raised in the memorandum from the Diet of Memel.

After an exchange of views between Sir Austen Chamberlain, M. Sidzikauskas, M. Uden, M. Briand and the President, Dr. Benes, the Council agreed to the proposal of the British representative and appointed a committee of jurists, which submitted a report on September 20th.

The jurists, with one exception, intimated that they had arrived at the conclusion that the Council resolution of 1925, laying down the procedure for the application of Article 17 of the Memel Convention, and the procedure followed in the

(1) See *Monthly Summary*, Vol. VI, No. 6, p. 148.

(2) See *Monthly Summary*, Vol. VI, No. 6, p. 149.

(3) See *Monthly Summary*, Vol. V, No. 9, p. 233.

case under discussion were not in conformity with the Memel Convention. The Committee considered that communications from the inhabitants and authorities of Memel, or from any person whatever, alleging that the Convention had been infringed, should be addressed to the Governments represented on the Council individually and not to the League or the Secretariat of the League.

Moreover, the Committee was of the opinion that Article 17 only contemplated action by the League when a Member of the Council had drawn the Council's attention to an infraction of the Convention. The text implied that before informing the Council of an infraction the Member in question should make sure that there were good reasons to believe that such an infraction had been committed.

The British representative, while abstaining from a discussion on the jurists' report, observed that it seemed to him very difficult for the Council to proceed with any matter raised in the letter of June 9th by the signatories of the Memel Convention. He added that as a provisional financial agreement had been concluded by Lithuania and Memel, the British Government wished to withdraw the questions raised in the letter of June 9th, while reserving the right to re-open them later if necessary. The representatives on the Council of the other signatory Powers associated themselves with the statement of the British representative.

The German representative, M. Stresemann, said that he attached particular importance to the opinion expressed by the jurists that complaints from the inhabitants and authorities of Memel could be addressed to the Governments represented on the Council. He expressed the hope that the questions raised in the memorandum which remained to be solved would be settled in a friendly manner between the Lithuanian Government and Memel.

On the proposal of its President, the Council adopted the conclusions of the jurists, thus laying down the procedure to be followed in the future.

2. — THE GRAECO-BULGARIAN FRONTIER INCIDENT

(Execution of the resolutions of the Council of December 14th, 1925.)

On September 7th the Council, including representatives of Bulgaria and Greece, noted information furnished by the Bulgarian and Greek Governments, with regard to the execution of its recommendations of December 14th, 1925, concerning the exchange of populations and the liquidation of the property of Bulgarian refugees in Bulgaria, who, in virtue of the Minorities Treaty, were entitled to return to Bulgaria ⁽¹⁾.

With regard to the liquidation of property, a scale had been fixed by the Mixed Commission on Graeco-Bulgarian Emigration. In order to facilitate the steps taken by refugees in this respect, the Mixed Commission, on the proposal of the Greek Government extended until November 26th, the time limit for the deposit of emigration declarations.

On the report of Sir Austen Chamberlain (British Empire), the Council noted with satisfaction the progress made in the execution of its recommendations and requested the Bulgarian and Greek Governments to keep it informed on the matter. On this occasion the British representative strongly urged that [the Bulgarian Government should do all in its power to persuade the interested parties to comply with the Council's recommendations, and thus to contribute to the improvement of the relations between Greece and Bulgaria.

The Bulgarian representative assured the Council that his Government would make every effort to carry out its resolutions. The Greek representative said that he associated himself with Sir Austen Chamberlain's statement with regard to the improvement which the execution of the Council's resolutions would bring about in the Graeco-Bulgarian relations.

(1) See *Monthly Summary*, Vol. VI, No. 3, p. 75.

With regard to the appointment of the chairman of the Conciliation Commission on the Graeco-Bulgarian Frontier, the Council, on September 16th, authorised the Secretary-General to inform the two neutral officers of that Commission that it agreed to the postponement of their proposals in this connection.

The Chairman of the Conciliation Commission is to be appointed by the Council on the recommendation of the two neutral members of the Commission and is to be selected among persons belonging to organisations working in the Balkans attached to or in relations with the League of Nations.

IX. — Social and Humanitarian Questions.

1. — TRAFFIC IN WOMEN AND CHILDREN⁽¹⁾

The report of the Traffic in Women and Children Committee was approved by the Assembly on September 21st.

In the Assembly Committee dealing with social questions satisfaction was expressed that friendly co-operation had now been established in many countries between the authorities and the private organisations for the suppression of the Traffic. The Assembly hoped that Governments would furnish their annual reports regularly and without delay, and that information would be forthcoming in order to enable the traffic in women and children Committee to pursue its study of questions connected with the expulsion of foreign prostitutes and licensed houses.

Attention having been drawn to the usefulness of the employment of women in police forces, the Assembly expressed its sense of the importance of the co-operation of charitable institutions with the police in matters dealing with prostitution. It considered that the Traffic in Women and Children Committee should pursue its investigation concerning the protection of migrant women and children and the question of alcoholism in relation to the traffic, and noted that it was dealing with the question of the suppression of obscene publications.

A proposal submitted in the Fifth Assembly Committee by the Cuban delegation, relating to an investigation of the various aspects and causes of prostitution was referred to a sub-committee, which decided that, before framing a resolution, it would be advisable to have in hand the report of the body of experts appointed by the Council in 1923.

2. — CHILD WELFARE⁽²⁾

Questions in connection with the Child Welfare work of the League were considered in September by the Council and the Assembly.

The Council was called upon to take a decision with regard to a new initiative proposed by the Child Welfare Committee, namely, that an enquiry should be made into the scope, composition and practice of Juvenile Courts. Having learned that such an enquiry was already being conducted by the International Prison Commission, the Council came to the conclusion that in order not to duplicate this work, an effort should be made to coordinate the work of the two bodies.

The Assembly reviewed the work of the Child Welfare Committee since last September. It endorsed the resolutions of the Committee on infant welfare, the age of marriage and consent, family allowances and child labour; and considered it most desirable that the Committee should pursue its enquiry into the effect of the cinematograph on children.

(1) See Resolution on page 238 of this number.

(2) See Resolution on page 238 of this number.

With regard to the question of juvenile courts, the Assembly considered that this study could most suitably be undertaken by the Committee, but, in the given circumstances, agreed with the course proposed by the Council. The Committee's action in regard to the question of recreation, it considered, should be confined to a comparative study of certain international aspects of the subject.

3. — TRAFFIC IN OPIUM AND OTHER DANGEROUS DRUGS ⁽¹⁾

The report of the Advisory Committee on Traffic in Opium and other Dangerous Drugs on the work of its eighth session was adopted by the Assembly on September 21st. It had previously been examined and noted by the Council.

Both the Council and the Assembly, impressed by the gravity of the situation in regard to the illicit drug traffic, as set forth in the report of the Committee, urged that those Governments which had not ratified the Geneva Convention of 1925 should do so as soon as possible. The Assembly hoped that, in this way, the ratifications necessary to bring the Convention into force might be deposited with the Secretariat before the end of the year.

4. — INTERNATIONAL SLAVERY CONVENTION ⁽²⁾

The Assembly, after examining the observations of various Governments with regard to the draft Slavery Convention presented last year by Viscount Cecil (British Empire), drew up the final text of the Convention which was opened for signature on September 25th, 1926, and has so far been signed by Abyssinia, Albania, Australia, Austria, Belgium, the British Empire, Canada, China, Cuba, Denmark, Esthonia, Finland, Germany, Greece, Lithuania, Norway, Panama, Persia, Portugal, Roumania, the Serb-Croat-Slovene Kingdom and Uruguay.

The Draft Convention, it may be remembered, was, in accordance with the instructions of the Sixth Assembly, communicated to all States Members of the League and to the Governments of Afghanistan, Ecuador, the United States, Egypt, Germany, Mexico, Russia, Turkey and the Sudan.

The object of the Convention is to complete and extend the work accomplished under the Brussels Act of 1889-1900 and other international agreements. After defining in Article 1 the terms "slavery" and "slave-trade", it provides (Article 2) for a formal undertaking on the part of the signatory States to prevent and suppress the slave trade; to endeavour progressively and as soon as possible to bring about the entire suppression of slavery in all its forms (Articles 2 and 3); to take measures to prevent forced or compulsory labour from developing into conditions analogous to slavery (Article 5). The Convention also provides (Article 8) that disputes arising between the High Contracting Parties relating to its interpretation or application shall, if they cannot be settled by direct negotiation, be referred for decision to the Permanent Court of International Justice.

The Convention will remain open for signature by all Members of the League until April 1st, 1927 (Article 11). The Secretary-General will then bring it to the notice of States which have not signed it, including those which are not Members of the League, and invite them to adhere to it.

To enable the League to continue to interest itself in securing the progressive abolition of slavery and analogous conditions, the Assembly invited the Council to prepare and communicate to it every year a document mentioning the laws and regulations which parties to the Convention had communicated to the Secretary-General of the League and to include therein any supplementary information which

(1) See Resolution on page 239 of this number.

(2) See *Monthly Summary*, Vol. V, No. 9, p. 234.
See also Resolution on page 239 of this number.

the Members of the League might be disposed to furnish spontaneously with regard to the measures taken by them to this end. It further requested the Council to inform the Governing Body of the International Labour Office of the adoption of the Convention, and to draw its attention to the importance of the enquiry conducted by the Office with a view to studying the best means of preventing forced or compulsory labour from degenerating into conditions analogous to slavery.

5. — THE INTERNATIONAL RELIEF UNION

On September 16th the Council, on the proposal of M. Scialoja (Italy) decided, in principle, that a Conference should be convened in 1927 with a view to concluding the necessary agreement for the definite establishment of an international relief union.

The question of the foundation of an international organisation for the relief of populations smitten by disaster was studied during the past year by a special Committee, presided over by Senator Ciraiolo—the originator of the scheme. A draft statute was drawn up and submitted to the various Governments for their examination.

The majority of the Governments which replied were in favour of the establishment of the union and were ready in principle to accept the statutes proposed by the Preparatory Committee; others suggested various amendments. Several States have not, so far, expressed their opinion.

In these circumstances the Council decided in principle that the Conference should be held next year, and invited the Preparatory Committee to examine the replies which had already arrived, or might still arrive, with a view to submitting to the Council at its December session concrete proposals on the convening of the Conference and the programme to be discussed. It also requested the Committee to prepare the material for the Conference.

6. — PROTECTION OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN IN THE NEAR EAST (1)

The report of the Commission for the Protection of Women and Children in the Near East was approved by the Assembly, which expressed its appreciation of the work done by Miss Jeppe at Aleppo, and by Miss Mills at Constantinople.

The Aleppo Branch had at its disposal over and above the 45,000 francs granted by the League, a sum of £4,650 furnished by outside subscriptions, in particular from England and Germany. 300 persons were assisted, 228 of whom were restored to their families.

The Assembly authorised Miss Jeppe to prolong her work for one year under the auspices of the League. Noting that she considered that her work would then be terminated, it requested her to submit a final report at its next session. Miss Jeppe will endeavour to obtain from private sources the funds necessary for the continuation of her work.

The Armenian villages founded two years ago by Miss Jeppe are in a flourishing condition. The Assembly suggested that, with regard to the direction of this work, Miss Jeppe should come to an understanding with the liaison organisation set up by the mandatory Power (France).

The Constantinople Branch, which was supported by a grant of 30,000 francs from the League and subscriptions from private organisations, received and lodged a great number of destitute women and children.

(1) See Resolution on page 240 of this number.

7. — REFUGEE QUESTIONS (1)

a) *Armenian and Russian Refugee Problems.*

The question of Armenian and Russian refugees came before the Assembly in the form of reports from the League High Commissioner for Refugees and the International Labour Office.

From the statistics contained in the reports, the Assembly gathered that there were about 1,500,000 refugees spread over more than 26 different countries. The number of unemployed might, it was considered, be estimated at 250,000. An Inter-Governmental Conference, convened last May in accordance with a request of the sixth Assembly, had led to the conclusion of an arrangement whereby certain measures were contemplated in order to regularise the system of identity cards, facilitate a census of refugees, and create a revolving fund for transport and settlement.

The Assembly approved the reports of the High Commissioner and the International Labour Office and expressed its opinion that the work undertaken in favour of refugees should be pursued to a satisfactory conclusion. It invited the Governing Body of the International Labour Office and the High Commission to consider the possibility of co-operating in the permanent settlement of refugees and urged that Governments of States Members should further this work by ratifying as soon as possible the arrangement drawn up by the Inter-Governmental Conference.

b) *Settlement Scheme for Armenian Refugees.*

The question of the settlement of Armenian refugees was examined in September by the Financial Committee, the Council and the Assembly.

The Council dealt with the question on September 16 in the presence of M. Pams (France), Chairman of the Armenian Refugee Settlement Commission, and Dr. Nansen, League High Commissioner for Russian and Armenian refugees. It had before it a report from the Financial Committee setting forth the conclusions at which it had arrived regarding the scheme drawn up by the Armenian Refugee Settlement Commission (2).

The opinion expressed by the Commission that its irrigation and settlement scheme was technically sound, and commercially possible in the sense that if money were forthcoming for its execution the returns from the land should be sufficient to meet the debt service and amortisation of capital, was noted by the Financial Committee. It considered, however,—and this opinion was endorsed by the Council—that the association of the Council with a financial operation in a form and to an extent for which precedents existed (Austrian and Hungarian reconstruction, settlement of refugees in Greece and Bulgaria) was not practicable in the present case, and that the issue of a public loan similar to the Austrian, Hungarian and Greek loans would hardly be possible. The Financial Committee recalled, however, that the Commission had contemplated that private persons or organisations might be willing to interest themselves in the scheme and remarked that if money were forthcoming in this way, either as a loan or a gift, the Council might be willing, if requested by the parties interested, to nominate a suitable person or persons to supervise the due expenditure of the money within the conditions of the scheme.

The Council, adopting the Financial Committee's report, expressed its opinion that the ultimate object of the scheme—the development of an Armenian National Home—was one worthy of sympathy. It announced that if the entire sum required for the settlement work could be made available from private sources, either as a

(1) See Resolutions on page 240 of this number.

(2) See *Monthly Summary*, Vol. VI, No. 6, p. 138.

loan or as a gift, it would be prepared to arrange for the supervision of the expenditure of the money for the objects specified in the scheme, provided that the parties interested requested it to do so, and on the understanding that it accepted no moral or legal responsibility for the securities of the loan. The Secretary-General was invited to receive any offers which might be made by Armenian financial groups, and if suitable, to submit them to the Council. The Council then decided to place the question on the agenda of the Seventh Assembly.

The Assembly, expressing its appreciation of the work of the Armenian Refugee Settlement Commission, requested the Council to examine the possibility of setting up a committee, composed partly of representatives of private organisations and presided over by a member appointed by the Council. This body would investigate the possibility of obtaining the sum required and of using it in Armenia in the objects specified.

A credit of 15,000 francs was voted for the printing and distribution of literature regarding the proposed financial operation.

8. — QUESTION OF ALCOHOLISM

A draft resolution requesting the Assembly to include the question of alcoholism in the League's programme was submitted to the Assembly by the Finnish, Polish and Swedish delegations.

The authors of the resolution drew attention to the close connection which they considered existed between alcoholism, prostitution and certain question with which the League was already dealing, such as child welfare and the application of the mandate system.

The Agenda Committee of the Assembly took note of the draft resolution and referred the question for consideration to the next session of the Assembly.

X. — Miscellaneous Questions.

1. — COMMITTEE OF PRESS EXPERTS

On the proposal of M. Vandervelde (Belgium), the Council decided to take the following action on the resolutions of the News Agencies Committee (1).

It requested the Secretary-General to continue his enquiry and to communicate to all press organisations previously consulted the resolutions adopted by the Committee.

These resolutions, together with any comments which may be made upon them by the press organisations, will be submitted to the Committee of Press Experts to be set up later in accordance with the resolution of the Sixth Assembly.

2. — BUDGET OF THE LEAGUE

The Assembly approved the League's audited accounts for 1925 and its budget for 1927, which amounts to 24,512,341 gold francs, compared with 22,930,633 gold francs in 1926.

The separate budgets of the League Organisations are as follows :
Secretariat and special organisations—13,373,840 gold francs; International Labour Office—7,340,724 gold francs; Permanent Court of International Justice—2,122,947 gold francs. A sum of 1,375,000 gold francs was voted for the League Building Fund, and one of 299,830 francs for permanent equipment.

(1) See *Monthly Summary*, Vol. VI, No. 8, p. 187

XI. — Forthcoming Events.

- October 15th : Meeting of the Committee for the Unification of Maritime Tonnage Measurement, Amsterdam.
- November 4th : Meeting of the Permanent Mandates Commission, Geneva.
- November 15th : Meeting of the Preparatory Committee for the International Economic Conference, Geneva.
- November 29th : Meeting of Sub-Committee B of the Preparatory Commission for the Disarmament Conference, Geneva.
- December 2nd : Meeting of the Financial Committee, Geneva.
- December 6th : Forty-Third Session of the Council, Geneva.
- December 14th : Meeting of Experts on Bills of Exchange, Geneva.
- December 17th : Meeting of the Preparatory Committee on Economic Statistics, the Hague.

PART II

SEVENTH ORDINARY SESSION OF THE ASSEMBLY SEVENTH PLENARY MEETING

September 30th, 1926.

RECEPTION OF THE GERMAN DELEGATION

The President :

Ladies and gentlemen—My rôle as President to-day is an easy one, since I have but to voice the unanimous sentiments of the Assembly in extending a warm welcome to the German delegates who have just taken their place amongst us.

This event is, for the League of Nations, both happy and memorable in a twofold sense.

In the first place, it marks a new step towards that universality to which the League is inevitably progressing, despite difficulties which we hope are only temporary.

Secondly, the essential object of the League is the maintenance of peace, and the admission of a great European Power is a happy omen for the peaceful future of the continent which has suffered most from war.

We have therefore the double good fortune to see the accomplishment of an act for which the League has never ceased to hope, and to see in it the prelude of new successes in its mission of peace. The preparations for this happy event were made last year, and this year, too, both within and without this hall, but its achievement was made possible by the will of this Assembly which, the day before yesterday, expressed its opinion with a unanimity the symbolic importance of which will be plain to all.

I am glad to see Germany take her rightful place amongst us as a great nation desirous of supporting our work for international security and understanding.

In extending a cordial invitation to the distinguished representatives of Germany to take part in our work, I welcome their presence as a new pledge for the success of international collaboration in the cause of peace.

M. Stresemann first delegate of Germany, will address the Assembly.

M. Stresemann, Minister of Foreign Affairs, First Delegate of Germany.

Mr. President, ladies and gentlemen—The President of this High Assembly and the President of the Council of the League of Nations have been good enough to accord Germany a joyful welcome on her entry into the League and in addressing you from this

platform I feel it my first duty to express Germany's thanks to these two gentlemen and to the Assembly. Allow me at the same time to express our gratitude to the Swiss Government, which, is now extending its traditional and generous hospitality to Germany as a Member of the League of Nations.

More than six years have passed since the League was founded. A long period of development was thus necessary before the general political situation rendered it possible for Germany to enter the League, and even in the present year great difficulties have had to be overcome before Germany's decision could be supplemented by the unanimous decision of the League. Far be it from me to revive matters which belong to the past. It is rather the task of the present generation to look to the present and to the future. I would only say this, that, although an event such as Germany's entry into the League is the outcome of a long preliminary process of development, yet that very fact constitutes perhaps a surer guarantee of its permanence and of its fruitful results.

To-day Germany enters a circle of States to some of which she has for decades been attached by unbroken ties of friendship, whereas others were allied against her during the Great War. It is surely an event of historical importance that Germany and these latter States are now brought together within the League of Nations in permanent and peaceful co-operation. It is a fact which indicates more clearly than any mere words programmes that the League of Nations may in very truth be destined to give a new direction to the political development of mankind, and civilisation would be exposed to grave dangers indeed at the present time if the nations could obtain no assurance that they would be able to perform in peaceful and untroubled co-operation the tasks which their destiny has assigned to them.

The catastrophic events of a terrible war have recalled the conscience of mankind to a consideration of the tasks which confront the different nations. In many countries we have witnessed the ruin of whole classes of the population, who are not only valuable, but intellectually and economically indispensable to the life of the nation. We are beholding the birth of new forms of economic life, and the disappearance of older ones. We see how economic life is overleaping the old national boundaries and creating new forms of international co-operation. The old economic situation of the world had no statutes, no programmes, to guide its co-operation. This co-operation was based on the unwritten law of the traditional exchange of goods between the different continents. It must be our task to restore that exchange. If we really desire the economic development of the world to proceed undisturbed, we shall not obtain that end by erecting barriers between the countries, but rather by bridging over the gulfs which hitherto have separated the different national economic systems.

But there is something which far transcends in importance all material considerations, namely, the souls of the nations themselves. There is just now a mighty stirring of ideas among the nations of the world. We see some that adhere to the principle of self-contained national unity and reject international understanding, because they do not wish to see all that has been developed on the basis of nationality superseded by a more general conception of humanity. Now I hold that no country which belongs to the League of Nations thereby surrenders any of its national individuality. The Divine Architect of the world has not created mankind as a homogeneous whole. He has made the nations of different races; He has given them their mother-tongue as the sanctuary of their soul; He has given them countries with different characteristics as their homes. But it cannot be the purpose of the Divine worldorder that men should direct their supreme national energies against one another, thus ever thrusting back the general progress of civilisation. He will serve humanity best who, firmly rooted in the faith of his own people, develops his moral and intellectual gifts to the utmost, thus overstepping his own national boundaries, and serving the whole world, as has been done by those great men of all nations whose names are writ large in the history of mankind.

Thus the ideals of nationality and of humanity may unite on the intellectual plane, and they may similarly unite in pursuit of political ideals, provided that there is the will to make common progress in this field.

The political outcome of these ideals is a moral obligation on the part of the different countries to devote their efforts to peaceful co-operation. This moral obligation also applies to the great moral problems of humanity. No other law should be applied to their solution than that of justice.

The co-operation of the peoples in the League of Nations must and will lead to just solutions for the moral questions which arise in the conscience of the peoples. The most durable foundation of peace is a policy inspired by mutual understanding and mutual respect between nation and nation.

Even before her entry into the League, Germany endeavoured to promote this friendly co-operation. The action which she took and which led to the Pact of Locarno is a proof of this, and as further evidence there are the arbitration treaties which she has concluded with almost all her neighbours. The German Government is resolved to persevere un-

wervingly in this line of policy, and is glad to see that these ideas, which at first met with lively opposition in Germany, are now becoming more and more deeply rooted in the conscience of the German people. Thus the German Government may well speak for the great majority of the German race when it declares that it will wholeheartedly devote itself to the duties devolving upon the League of Nations.

During the past six years the League has already taken in hand a substantial portion of these tasks, and has done most valuable work. The German delegation does not possess the experience which the members here assembled have acquired. We believe, however, that, as regards the new work which lies before us, the subjects dealt with first should be those in which the individual nations can do most by combining in joint institutions. Among other institutions which the League has created, we have in mind the World Court, which is the outcome of efforts made to establish an international legal order.

Furthermore, the efforts made towards disarmament are of particular importance for the consolidation of organised international peace. The complete disarmament of Germany was stipulated by the Treaty of Versailles as a preliminary to general disarmament. It is to be hoped that practical steps will be taken to further this general disarmament, and thereby furnish evidence that the lofty ideals of the League of Nations already contain within them the seeds of a great positive force.

Germany's relations to the League are not, however, confined exclusively to the possibilities of co-operation in general aims and issues. In many respects the League is the heir and executor of the Treaties of 1919. Out of these Treaties there have arisen in the past, I may say frankly, many differences between the League and Germany. I hope that our co-operation within the League will make it easier in future to discuss these questions. In this respect mutual confidence will, from a political point of view, be found a greater creative force than anything else. It would, indeed, be incompatible with the ideals of the League to group its Members according to whether they are viewed with sympathy or with antipathy by other Members.

In this connection I reject most emphatically the idea that the attitude hitherto adopted by Germany in matters concerning the League of Nations has been dictated by such sympathies or antipathies. Germany desires to co-operate on the basis of mutual confidence with all nations represented in the League or upon the Council.

The League has not yet attained its ideal, which is to include all the Powers of the world. Germany's entry into the League does, it is true, constitute an important step towards its universality. But we desire at the same time to express our deep regret that Brazil has manifested her intention to withdraw from it. We regret this more particularly because we believe that if the League is to be world-wide, one continent alone should not have a predominant influence within it. Furthermore, we share with the other Members of the League the firm hope that we may retain the valuable co-operation of Spain. We are convinced that the appeal which has been addressed to Spain by all the Powers will reveal to that great country and its people how detrimental it would be to the high ideals of which Spain has been a leading champion if she were long absent from Geneva at this period.

Universality alone can protect the League against the danger of using its political forces for other purposes than in the service of peace. Only on the basis of a community of all nations, without distinction and on a footing of perfect equality, can mutual assistance and justice become the true guiding stars of the destiny of mankind. Upon this foundation alone can that principle of freedom be set for which nations and individuals alike are constantly striving. Germany is firmly resolved to found her policy upon these lofty ideals. To all the nations assembled here we can apply the words of that great thinker who said that we belong to a generation which strives from darkness towards the light. It is our fervent hope that the tasks of the League may be fulfilled on the basis of the noble conceptions of peace, freedom and unity. So shall we draw nearer the ideals to which we aspire, and it is the firm resolve of Germany to assist wholeheartedly in that task.

M. Briand, Minister of Foreign Affairs, First Delegate of France.

Mr President, ladies and gentlemen—I sincerely thank my colleagues on the General Committee of the Assembly for having allowed the delegate of France to follow the distinguished representative of Germany on this platform, to welcome the German delegation on its entry into this Assembly and to assure you that we are resolved to collaborate with that delegation, cordially and sincerely, in the work of international pacification. My colleagues on the General Committee doubtless realised—and I thank them for it—that the presence of the delegate of France on this platform at this moment, after the eloquent and lofty words which you have just heard, would perhaps do something to emphasise the character of this occasion and make clear its significance, its consequences and all the hopes which the peoples of the world rightly centre in it.

Those who indulge in irony and detraction at the expense of the League of Nations, who daily cast doubt upon its soundness and time after time proclaim that it is doomed to perish, what will they think if they are present at this meeting? Is it not a moving spectacle, and a specially ennobling and comforting one, when we think that only a few years after the most frightful war which has ever devastated the world, when the battlefields have hardly ceased to reek with blood, the peoples, the same peoples who were hurled in combat against each other, are meeting in this peaceful assembly and are expressing to each other their common will to collaborate in the work of world peace?

What a renewal of hope for the nations! From this day on how many mothers will look at their children without feeling their hearts contract with fear.

Peace for Germany and for France : that means that we have done with the long series of terrible and sanguinary conflicts which have stained the pages of history. We have done with the black veils of mourning for sufferings that can never be appeased, done with war, done with brutal and sanguinary methods of settling our disputes. True, differences between us still exist, but henceforth it will be for the judge to declare the law. Just as individual citizens take their difficulties to be settled by a magistrate, so shall we bring ours to be settled by pacific procedure. Away with rifles, machines-guns, cannon! Clear the way for conciliation, arbitration, peace!

Countries do not go down to history as great solely through the heroism of their sons on the battlefield or the victories that they gain there. It is a far greater tribute to their greatness if, faced with difficulties, in the midst of circumstances in which anger all but drowns the voice of reason, they can stand firm, be patient and appeal to right to safeguard their just interests.

Gentlemen of the German delegation, our nations need give no further proof of their strength or of their heroism. Both nations have shown their prowess on the battlefield, and both have reaped an ample harvest of military glory. Henceforth they may seek laurels in other fields.

For many months now M. Stresemann and myself have been working together at the same task. He had every confidence; so had I. I do not regret that confidence; I trust that he also will have no occasion to regret it. With the help of a man whose noble and generous spirit and sincerity are known to you all—I refer to my colleague and friend the first delegate of the British Empire, Sir Austen Chamberlain—we have worked together. Both of us needed all our courage in our endeavour to reach a goal which was then so distant. As the crow flies, Locarno and Geneva are not far distant, but the road between them is by no means easy. It has to pass round many obstacles, and since we all admire faith when it moves mountains, we should certainly feel pride in the faith that has brought the Lake of Locarno so near to the Lake of Geneva.

It at the outset we had allowed ourselves to lose heart; if, influenced by the expressions of doubt, hesitation and mistrust emitted by some in our countries, we had gone no further, all would have been at an end. Far from taking a further step towards peace, the seeds of renewed mistrust would have been sown between countries already divided.

I have perhaps the right, speaking from this platform, to feel a special pride in having taken part in to-day's manifestation, for I have the great satisfaction of seeing in it the outcome of a personal effort—although that, of course, is a small matter—and above all I foresee that there will henceforth be no possibility of a repetition of the terrible events which we have witnessed in recent years.

Before we could arrive at the stage we have reached to-day, certain difficult problems had to be settled by means of private negotiations. In point of fact, these negotiations were recommended by previous Assemblies, which displayed remarkable political insight and realised that, if certain *rapprochements* were not made outside the League of Nations, if certain concessions could not be obtained from both sides, if certain conversations could not be held in preparation of solutions to be submitted to you, the task we were jointly pursuing would never be accomplished.

At the last Assembly, we came very close to the danger-spot. I am glad now that at the time I never doubted of the final result and that it was I who caused the special Assembly to adopt the motion which enabled the German representatives to leave Geneva in the certainty that morally Germany's application had been unanimously accepted by the Assembly.

In the interval we discussed matters, and we prepared for solutions by conciliation. This kind of work, I hasten to add, does not partake of the true spirit of the League of Nations. In the League everything must be done in public and in collaboration with all the nations belonging to it. I can now proclaim, with the certainty that I shall not be contradicted by my friends, that in future it will no longer be necessary to resort to proceedings of this nature.

All the Members of the League of Nations, great and small, without distinction, must collaborate with a view to attaining the objects laid down in the Covenant.

If, during these difficult times through which we have passed, some of you have felt

perhaps that it was our intention not to admit you to a share in our decisions, let me persuade you that you have been mistaken. No one is more firmly resolved than the delegates of France that in future the work of the League shall be done in the light of day and with the collaboration of all its Members.

I have no fault to find with the remarks made by the representative of Germany concerning his conception of collaboration with us on the League. As regards the delegate of France, I may say that the German delegation can be sure of finding in him a loyal collaborator.

The fact that we are both present in this Assembly and that, on the plane of the ideal, we can hold communion with one another does not destroy existing obstacles. Such obstacles still exist, as you, Sir, so tactfully indicated. Of this fact I am fully aware. M. Stresemann and I, each in our respective countries, are in a position which enables us to perceive those obstacles, and the mere fact that he has left the Wilhelmstrasse and I the Quai d'Orsay, to meet here in the fair city of Geneva does not mean that these difficulties have disappeared through the good-will manifested in our words.

It is sufficient, however, if both of us, voicing deep-rooted feeling in our countries—and I can assure you that it is the feeling of my country—have the will to meet these various difficulties, firmly resolved to settle them by conciliatory means. That is enough to prevent any dispute between us from becoming an armed conflict.

It is especially those peoples who have not always been in agreement who have most need of the League of Nations: for, if it is true that there may be some divine plan whereby the nations are prevented from making war on one another, M. Stresemann will readily agree that, during the long years of the past, this plan has been singularly disregarded. I should like to see it applied from to-day onwards, and you may be sure that I will do nothing to prevent it. I simply wish to say this: If you are here as a German and only as a German, and if I am here as a Frenchman and only as a Frenchman, agreement will not be easy. But if we come here, not forgetting our respective countries, yet as citizens sharing in the universal work of the League, all will be well, and we shall attain spiritual communion with our colleagues in the atmosphere peculiar to Geneva.

You said, Sir, that you were inexperienced; that will not be for long. You possess intuition, the statesman's supreme quality—this your speech has clearly proved—and you have the sensitive perception which enables you to realise the spirit of the League.

I have often arrived at Geneva, or in some other town where the Council of the League was sitting, with the helpless feeling of being at grips with problems impossible of solution and confronted with the comments of the Press and of politicians which sometimes serve to render them more obscure. On such occasions, I have often said to myself that we should separate without coming to an agreement or finding a solution. But a solution has always been found, because, directly we were seated opposite one another, under the safeguard of the Covenant, infected by the spirit of the place, ennobled in one another's eyes by our great purpose, realising the moral responsibility which weighed upon us not only toward our individual nations but the whole world, we readjusted our minds, we made a supreme effort, and at the most critical moment, just when a solution appeared to be escaping us for ever, we were able, by a kind of miracle which I will not attempt to explain, to reach an agreement, to the amazement of all and particularly of those who perhaps had not desired the success of our endeavours.

But such a result could only be attained upon one condition, which I am now going to put before you. It is a condition which applies no less to myself than to you all, for I, like any other statesman, am not strong enough to resist committing that kind of error. I have in the past been guilty of many such errors, and I trust that what I am going to say will be taken not as advice but largely as a confession.

There are two spirits in which delegates may come to Geneva: the objective spirit and the fighting spirit. If the League takes on the semblance of a kind of tourney; if, under the stimulus of polemical debates or actuated by an overheated national sense of pride, we come here as champions to fight, with the desire to gain the perilous successes of prestige, then all will be spoilt. Victories of prestige bring no result save in appearance. Think of the havoc they have wrought in the past! Prestige stimulates the imagination, aggravates selfish interests, urges States to feverish demonstrations of national pride and incites them to oppose the statesmen, who then lose the guiding rein of reason and the power to find moderate solutions. It is impossible for statesmen, under such conditions to work in a spirit of conciliation. They face one another like wrestlers in the ring, with their peoples eagerly looking on and asking which is going to throw the other. That is the spirit of war; it is a spirit which must not exist—least of all in the League.

For my part I promise to do my best to avoid bringing this spirit here, and I count on the intelligence, the pacific spirit and the lofty sentiments of the German delegates to do the same.

If we are egged on against each other, if we are urged in interviews and speeches to oppose each other, we must put aside all such temptations; let us thrust them far from

us! That is the road of blood, the road of the past, covered with the dead, the road of mourning, of destruction and disaster. It is not our road.

Henceforth our road is to be one of peace and progress. We shall win real greatness for our countries if we induce them to lay aside their pride, if we persuade them to sacrifice certain of their own desires in the service of world-peace. This sacrifice will not diminish, it will increase their prestige.

When Europe has regained its economic and moral equilibrium, when the peoples realise their security, they will then be able to cast away the heavy burdens imposed by the dread of war, they will be able to work together to improve their respective positions. There will arise at last a European spirit which will not be born of war, and will for that reason be nobler, loftier and more worthy of admiration.

It is for us to make this effort. It is easy to blame the peoples, but it is generally their leaders who are to blame. It is they who should know how to control themselves, who should have a proper understanding of events and should always interpret them in a spirit favourable to efforts of conciliation.

Arbitration! That word is now at the height of its prestige and its power. Arbitration treaties are increasing; nation after nation is promising to abjure war and to accept intermediaries. Peace is making its way through all these undertakings. The spirit of the League is at the root of them; and for that reason all nations should devote themselves heart and soul to the League's defence. It should be sheltered from all attacks and placed above all other considerations.

With the League goes Peace! Without it, the menace of war and blood from which the peoples have suffered too long!

This day should be commemorated with a white stone. The words of collaboration which Germany and France have just exchanged in a like spirit of sincerity should be marked with a white stone—and I for one will never change the colour of that stone.

And now, apologising for having presumed upon your patience so long, may I say that the League has to-day, by the entry of Germany, made another step towards its object—universality. Although this is a cause for rejoicing, our joy is darkened by the fact that two great nations of the League are no longer with us.

I endorse your remarks both as regards Brazil and Spain. These two great countries were deeply imbued with the spirit which animates us all; they have rendered many services to the League in difficult circumstances. It is therefore not surprising that even our joy at to-day's event should be tinged with regret at their absence. But we do not give up hope, and I am deeply convinced that soon we shall see the representatives of Spain and Brazil among us once again.

The League is not going back; its future will be one of constant expansion. To-day it has taken one step forward; to-morrow it will take another. Our presence, both yours and ours, is of great significance.

I am glad to have been able to take part in this event. It will, I am sure, take, a great place in history. It is for us to ensure that no imprudence on the part of any of us will endanger the hopes of the peoples of the world.

PART III

RESOLUTIONS OF THE ASSEMBLY

I. — REDUCTION OF ARMAMENTS

1. — Arbitration, Security and the Pacific Settlement of International Disputes.

The Assembly,
Having examined the reports of the Council on Arbitration, Security and the Pacific Settlement of International Disputes,
Records the fact that resolution adopted by the Assembly at its sixth ordinary session to the effect that the most urgent need of the present time is the reestablishment of mutual confidence between nations has had definite results. It sees clear proof of this in the ever-

increasing number of arbitration conventions and treaties of security conceived in the spirit of the Covenant of the League of Nations and in harmony with the principles of the Geneva Protocol (Arbitration, Security and Disarmament). It emphasises in particular the importance of the Treaties of Locarno, the coming into force of which has been rendered possible by the admission of Germany into the League of Nations and the principal object of which is to ensure peace in one of the most sensitive regions of Europe,

Sees in the last-mentioned Treaties a definite step forward in the establishment of mutual confidence between nations,

Considers that agreements of this kind need not necessarily be restricted to a limited area, but may be applied to different parts of the world,

Asserts its conviction that the general ideas embodied in the clauses of the Treaties of Locarno, whereby provision is made for conciliation and arbitration and for security by the mutual guaranteeing of States against any unprovoked aggression, may well be accepted amongst the fundamental rules which should govern the foreign policy of every civilised nation,

Expresses the hope that these principles will be recognised by all States and will be put into practice as soon as possible by all States in whose interest it is to contract such treaties.

And requests the Council to recommend the States Members of the League of Nations to put into practice the above-mentioned principles and to offer, if necessary, its good offices for the conclusion of suitable agreements likely to establish confidence and security, the indispensable conditions of the maintenance of international peace and, as a result, to facilitate the reduction and limitation of the armaments of all States.

2. — Work of the Preparatory Commission for the Disarmament Conference.

The Assembly takes note of the report submitted to it by the Secretariat and the very full information furnished to the Third Committee by the President of the Preparatory Commission on the work of that Commission, its technical Sub-Commissions A and B, and the Joint Commission.

It expresses its complete satisfaction with the work performed and thanks those who have contributed to it.

Being desirous that the investigations, in regard to which the Assembly itself took the initiative in its resolution of September 25th, 1925, should be brought to a successful conclusion as soon as possible, it requests the Council to call upon the Preparatory Commission to take steps to hasten the completion of the technical work and thus be able to draw up, at the beginning of next year, the programme for a Conference on the limitation and reduction of armaments corresponding to existing conditions in regard to regional and general security, and it asks the Council to convene this conference before the eighth ordinary session of the Assembly, unless material difficulties render this impossible.

3. — Supervision of the Private Manufacture of Arms and Ammunition and of Implements of War.

The Assembly,

Once again draws attention to the close connection which exists between the question of the supervision of the private manufacture of arms and ammunition and of implements of war and the international trade in these articles;

Notes that, up to the present, the Convention on the Supervision of the International Trade has been ratified by only two signatory countries, and hopes that the efforts which are being made to obtain the ratification of the principal producing countries will soon be successful;

Notes the work which has been carried out under the direction of the Council with regard to the supervision of private manufacture;

Declares that it is in agreement with the Council as regards the connection which exists between this question and the whole problem now being examined by the Preparatory Commission for the Disarmament Conference;

Lays stress upon the necessity of concluding a Convention as soon as possible, though it recognises that priority must be accorded to work in connection with the Convention on Disarmament;

And proposes that the Council should continue its enquiries regarding private manufacture, in order that these questions may be included in the programme of the Disarmament Conference, if this Conference can be convened before the Eighth Ordinary Session of the Assembly, or, if that is impossible, in order that a special Conference may be convened as soon as possible to deal with the matter.

II. — LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL QUESTIONS

1. — Rules dealing with the Election of the Nine Non-Permanent Members of the Council.

The Assembly, acting in virtue of Article 4 of the Covenant, decides as follows :

RESOLUTION MAKING RULES DEALING WITH THE ELECTION OF THE NINE NON-PERMANENT MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL, THEIR TERM OF OFFICE AND THE CONDITIONS OF RE-ELIGIBILITY.

Article I.

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.

Should a non-permanent Member cease to belong to the Council before its term of office expires, its seat shall be filled by a by-election held separately at the session following the occurrence of the vacancy. The term of office of the Member so elected shall end at the date at which the term of office of the Member whose place it takes would have expired.

Article II.

A retiring Member may not be re-elected during the period between the expiration of its term of office and the third election in ordinary session held thereafter unless the Assembly, either on the expiration of the Members' term of office or in the course of the said period of three years, shall, by a majority of two-thirds of the votes cast, previously have decided that such Member is re-eligible.

The Assembly shall pronounce separately, by secret ballot, upon each request for re-eligibility. The number of votes cast shall be determined by the total number of voting tickets deposited, deducting blank or spoilt votes.

The Assembly may not decide upon the re-eligibility of a Member except upon a request in writing made by the Member itself. The request must be handed to the President of the Assembly not later than the day before the date fixed for the election; it shall be submitted to the Assembly, which shall pronounce upon it without referring it to a committee and without debate.

The number of Members re-elected in consequence of having been previously declared re-eligible shall be restricted so as to prevent the Council from containing at the same time more than three Members thus elected. If the result of the ballot infringes this restriction to three Members, those of the Members affected which have received the smallest number of votes shall not be considered to have been elected.

Article III.

Notwithstanding the above provisions, the Assembly may at any time by a two-thirds majority decide to proceed, in application of Article 4 of the Covenant, to a new election of all the non-permanent Members of the Council. In this case the Assembly shall determine the rules applicable to the new election.

Article IV. — Temporary Provisions.

1. In 1926, the nine non-permanent Members of the Council shall be elected by the Assembly, three for a term of three years, three for a term of two years, and three for a term of one year. The procedure of the election shall be determined by the General Committee of the Assembly.

2. Of the nine Members thus elected in 1926, a maximum of three may be immediately declared re-eligible by a decision of the Assembly taken by a special vote by secret ballot, a separate ballot being held for each Member, and adopted by a majority of two-thirds of the number of votes cast. Immediately after the announcement of the results of the election, the Assembly shall decide upon the requests for re-eligibility which have been presented. Should the Assembly have before it more than three requests for re-eligibility, the three candidates having received the largest number of votes, in excess of two-thirds of the votes cast, shall alone be declared re-eligible.

3. The according in advance in 1926 to one, two or three Members elected at that date of the quality of re-eligibility shall not affect the Assembly's right to exercise the power given by Article II in the years 1927 and 1928 in favour of other non-permanent Members retiring from the Council in those years. It is, however, understood that, if three Members already possess the quality of re-eligibility, the Assembly will only exercise this power in very exceptional cases.

**2. — Examination of Certain Questions relating to the Election
of the Non-Permanent Members of the Council.**

The Assembly requests the Council to instruct the Secretariat to study the system of the single transferable vote and the principle of proportional representation in general, in connection with the problem of the election of the non-permanent Members of the Council, in order that this question may be laid before the next ordinary session of the Assembly.

**3. — Request of the German Government for Admission
to the League of Nations.**

1.

Subject to the approval of the Council resolution mentioned in Point 2 of the agenda of the present meeting, the Assembly approves the report of the First Committee of the special Assembly on the request of the German Government for admission to the League of Nations.

2.

The Assembly approves the proposals put forward by the Council in its resolution of September 4th, 1926, regarding :

- a) The nomination of Germany as a permanent Member of the Council;
- b) The increase in the number of non-permanent seats, which shall be brought up to nine.

**4. — Numbering of the Paragraphs of the Articles
of the Covenant.**

The Assembly instructs the Secretary-General to cause the paragraphs of the articles of the Covenant to be numbered in all future editions published by the Secretariat.

**5. — Ratification of the Agreements and Conventions concluded
under the Auspices of the League of Nations.**

The Assembly,

Observing with regret that many conventions and agreements concluded under the auspices of the League of Nations have remained ineffective, or have only come into force after undue delay owing to the difficulty experienced in securing a sufficient number of ratifications by the signatories :

Desires to call the attention of the Governments of all States Members of the League to the necessity for taking all measures in their power to facilitate and expedite the ratification in all cases of conventions and agreements signed in their name;

And decides to invite the Council of the League to call for a report every six months on the progress of ratification and to consider methods for securing the more rapid bringing into force of these agreements and conventions.

III. — FINANCIAL QUESTIONS

**1. — Audited Accounts and Budget of the League, and
other Financial Questions**

1. The Assembly, in virtue of Article 38 of the Regulations for the Financial Administration of the League, finally approves the audited accounts of the League for the seventh financial period, ending December 31st, 1925.

2. The Assembly, in virtue of Article 17 of the Regulations for the Financial Administration of the League :

Approves, for the financial year 1927, the general Budget of the League, of the Secretariat and of the Special Organisations of the League, of the International Labour Organisation and of the Permanent Court of International Justice, including supplementary credits the total amount of which is 24,512,341 gold francs.

And decides that the said budgets shall be published in the *Official Journal*.

3. The Assembly adopts, in so far as they have been approved by the Fourth Committee, the conclusions of the various reports of the Supervisory Commission submitted to its consideration.

4. The Assembly approves the schedule showing the proportional interest of each Member of the League in the League Building Fund (see document A. 39. 1926).

5. The Assembly fixes at 79 the number of units allocated to Germany in the scale of allocation of the League's expenditure.

6. The Assembly adopts the conclusions of the report of the Fourth Committee.

7. The Assembly :

Notes that the Internal Control Service of the League of Nations experiences difficulty and is caused considerable trouble by the fact that members of Committees and other persons who have to submit requests for repayment do not always take into consideration the exact terms of the Regulations of the League of Nations governing the administration of the funds; and, therefore,

Requests members of Committees and all other persons performing work of any kind whatever at the request and at the expense of the League of Nations to comply strictly with the above Regulations, and, in case of doubt, to apply for information beforehand to the competent officials.

8. The Assembly :

While appreciating the results of the sale of publications and approving the proposals submitted to it by the Supervisory Commission and the Secretary-General relative to the extension of these sales and a stricter supervision of the employment of the grants for printing;

Decides to draw the attention of the Advisory Committees and the Conferences convened by the League to the heavy expense entailed by the publication of their Minutes and requests them to consider whether the publication of their discussions would not frequently be better effected by means of detailed report giving as exactly as possible an account of their work;

Decides that the Minutes of Sub-Committees will in no case be published unless a formal request, containing a statement of the reasons for such a course, is submitted to the Council through the Secretary-General;

Requests the Supervisory Commission to report to it again next year on the printing expenses and to indicate the saving effected in consequence of this decision.

2. — Contributions in Arrears.

The Assembly :

(1) Authorises the Secretary-General, as the result of previous negotiations, to write off from the accounts of the League the sum of 22,478.71 gold francs due from Panama for the financial year 1925;

(2) Requests the Secretary-General :

(a) To give his support, when necessary, to any steps which he may consider useful with a view to the recovery of arrears;

(b) To submit to the Council at its session of June 1927 a detailed report on the position with regard to contributions in arrears;

(3) Requests China to propose effective and concrete methods, acceptable to the League of Nations, with a view to the payment of her contributions in arrears;

(4) Requests the Council to cause a study to be made of the legal position of States which do not pay their contributions to the League of Nations, with a view to giving the Assembly information on the matter at its eighth ordinary session.

IV. — TECHNICAL ORGANISATIONS

1. — Work of the Health Organisation.

I

The Assembly :

Having taken note of the reports dealing with the work of the Health Organisation, notes with satisfaction the growth and increasing usefulness of that work with its tendency to universality;

Expresses its gratification at the work undertaken and the results obtained by the Health Committee and its organs as well as by the various experts entrusted with special missions, and wishes to express its sympathetic interest with the scientists of the International Commission on Sleeping-Sickness who are conducting their sometimes dangerous enquiry in Equatorial Africa.

The Assembly notes with satisfaction the close collaboration established with the sanitary and medical authorities of Japan as a result of the interchange and the conferences held in that country; and with the sanitary administrations of other Far-Eastern countries, through the intermediary of the Advisory Council of the Epidemiological Intelligence Bureau of the League at Singapore;

Notes, in particular, the plan of research work and special enquiries into health problems of the Far East in which the administrations of British India, China, the Dutch Indies, French Indo-China, Japan, the Philippine Islands and Siam have promised their assistance;

And requests the Council to refer the resolutions proposed by the Cuban ⁽¹⁾, Czechoslovak ⁽²⁾ and Uruguayan ⁽³⁾ delegations to the Health Committee for consideration.

II

The Assembly,

In view of the importance of the work of the Singapore Bureau of Epidemiological Intelligence as the first institution of the League of Nations in the Far East, and in view of the utility of its work not only for the Far-Eastern countries but also for other States Members of the League,

Decides that provision for the expenses of the Bureau should be made in the Budget of the League for 1927.

2. — The Economic and Financial Organisation.

a) *Work of the Economic Committee.*

The Assembly :

(1) Again states its conviction that commercial relations would be greatly improved by the conclusion of an international convention for the abolition of import and export prohibitions and restrictions.

It notes with satisfaction the progress which has been made, thanks to the efforts of the Economic Committee, towards the realisation of the recommendation made by the Assembly at its ordinary session held in 1924.

It notes the Council's resolution to convene, for this purpose, at as early a date as possible, a Conference of representatives of the Governments of States Members and non-Members of the League of Nations, and expresses the most earnest hope that the work of this Conference will be crowned with success.

(2) It notes with satisfaction that the Protocol established in 1923 is still making its influence felt in the direction of a wider recognition of commercial arbitration, and that the Economic Committee has recently begun to consider the possibility of preparing an additional act, the object of which will be to ensure the execution of arbitral awards given abroad.

(3) It records the fact that the number of ratifications of the International Convention for the Simplification of Customs Formalities is increasing and notes that this international act has a beneficent influence on the conclusion of certain treaties of commerce.

(4) It observes with satisfaction that most of the methods suggested by the Economic Committee to ensure more effective protection against unfair competition have been

(1) The Second Committee, in conformity with the resolutions adopted by the Assembly at its fifth and sixth ordinary sessions on the subject of infant mortality and the protection of children, requests the Council to ask the Health Committee to consider to what extent it could, at a suitable time, enlarge its scheme of international enquiry to include other problems of eugenics.

(2) The Second Committee, considering the importance of physical culture as a means for preventing disease and in view of the interest which numerous countries take in that question, asks the Council to instruct the Health Committee to consider the inclusion in the programme of its work of the international investigation of physical culture, including scholastic hygiene, and to decide what special problems may necessitate a comparative study and a co-ordination of national research work and national enquiries.

(3) The Second Committee, having taken note that the International Economic Conference's plan of enquiry is to include an examination of the problem of nutrition, points out the interest which would attach to the supplementing of this enquiry by a study of the problem from the standpoint of race improvement. This study should take into account the work of the Health Organisation regarding infant mortality, as well as the reports by the Japanese Institute of Research into Nutrition Problems comprised in the publications of the Health Committee.

embodied in the new provisions of the Convention of the Union for the Protection of Industrial Property revised at The Hague in November 1925.

(5) It follows with interest the enquiries being conducted by the Economic Committee with regard to measures for the repression of false Customs declarations; the standardisation of legislation with regard to bills of exchange and cheques; the unification of economic statistical methods; the protection of the buyer against worthless goods, and the Committee's research work regarding the causes of excessive fluctuations in economic activity.

b) Work of the Preparatory Committee for the International Economic Conference.

The Assembly notes that the Council has given effect to its decision of December 15th, 1925, by constituting a Preparatory Committee for the Economic Conference.

It realises that the general economic situation of the world calls more imperiously than ever for an effort towards international co-operation and makes it yet more necessary that the Economic Conference should be held.

The Assembly therefore hopes that the Committee will actively push forward its work, so as to enable the Economic Conference to be convened as soon as possible.

c) Work of the Financial Committee.

(1) The Assembly has taken note of the Financial Committee's two reports on the restoration of the public finances of the Free City of Danzig.

It trusts that, in accordance with the conclusions of these reports, it may be possible for the Financial Committee, when the Free City has effected the necessary administrative and budgetary economies, to recommend the issuing of a loan designed to consolidate the financial and economic situation of Danzig.

(2) The Assembly has noted that, at the request of the Council, the Financial Committee has undertaken a study of the methods whereby the Governments and Banks of Issue might collaborate to prevent the issuing of counterfeit currency.

It trusts that the Financial Committee's work will be actively pursued, so that practical proposals may be submitted to the Council for consideration at the earliest possible date.

(3) The Assembly has taken note, according to the Financial Committee's reports, of the results of the work of the last meeting of experts on double taxation and tax evasion.

It trusts that their work will be continued and will serve as a useful preparation for the development and progressive unification of international law on the matter, by means of general conventions or of partial conventions based upon common principles.

d) Financial Reconstruction of Austria.

The Assembly :

Has taken note of the Council resolution of June 9th, 1926, whereby the functions of the Commissioner-General for Austria were brought to an end on June 30th, 1926;

Is gratified that Austria has been able to reassume full responsibility for her budgetary and financial policy;

Does not doubt that the Austrian people and the Austrian Government will, by their own efforts, be able finally to ensure the results of the work of reconstruction;

And expresses its thanks to the countries which have helped Austria with their credit and thus made possible a great act of international co-operation.

e) Financial Reconstruction of Hungary.

The Assembly :

(1) Notes that, the Council having ascertained that the financial stability of Hungary is assured, the functions of the Commissioner-General were brought to an end on June 30th, 1926, and that with this step the work of reconstruction has been brought to a successful close within the minimum period contemplated under the original plan;

(2) Congratulates on this result the Hungarian Government and people, the Commissioner-General and the Financial Committee, which prepared the original plan. It confidently hopes that, by a prudent financial policy, the Hungarian Government will in the future maintain and consolidate the satisfactory position now attained;

(3) Observes with satisfaction the conclusion of commercial agreements between Hungary and the neighbouring States with whom about half of her total foreign trade is transacted : and repeats the hope expressed at the last ordinary session of the Assembly that the further progress of such commercial agreements may tend to bring about a pro-

gressive reduction of the tariffs in Central Europe, thus contributing to establishing closer economic relations.

1) Settlement of Bulgarian Refugees.

The Assembly :

(1) Has learnt with great satisfaction that the negotiations of the last six months have resulted in the adoption by the Council of a scheme for the settlement of some 120,000 refugees in Bulgaria;

(2) Observes with satisfaction that, by means of an advance of £ 400,000, this work has already been begun;

(3) Expresses the hope that the total sum estimated for this work, namely, £ 2,250,000 may be successfully subscribed in the near future;

(4) Desires to express its appreciation of the valuable work once more done by the Financial Committee, on whose advice the plan was adopted by the Council, and whose long and unique experience in such work of reconstruction has borne fruit in Austria, Hungary and Greece;

(5) Expresses the belief that the execution of this plan will not only alleviate widespread suffering but will also benefit economic and social order within Bulgaria, and consolidate and improve the political relations of Bulgaria with neighbouring countries.

g) Work of the Greek Refugee Settlement Commission.

The Assembly :

(1) Has learnt with satisfaction that the work of settlement effected in collaboration between the Greek authorities and the Settlement Commission set up under the auspices of the League has made continuous and satisfactory progress during the past year, within the limits of the available funds, which are now nearly exhausted;

(2) Observes that this piece of work is attaining the results expected of it. More than a half of the 1,400,000 destitute refugees who have entered Greece have been assisted to establish themselves and have become productive citizens. Apart from the humanitarian significance of the scheme, it is having permanent beneficial results in strengthening the economic life of the country and in promoting social stability;

(3) Expresses the hope that conditions may be such that the money required may become available in due course for the completion of this work, which has progressed successfully under the League's auspices and the results of which have amply justified the association of the League with it.

3. — Work of the Organisation for Communications and Transit.

(Including the Question of Facilities for Journalists attending the Meetings at Geneva.)

The Assembly :

Notes the progress accomplished by the Organisation for Communications and Transit since the sixth ordinary session of the Assembly, and especially the success obtained by the European Conference on the Measurement of Vessels employed in Inland Navigation and the Conference on the Passports Regime;

Trusts that the Third General Conference on Communications and Transit, which will be held in 1927 and which will examine in particular the general questions of organisation and documentation, will consider the question of improving, as far as possible, technical liaison between the work of the Organisation for Communications and Transit and the specialised administration and experts of non-European countries; and

Notes, finally, the conclusion of the work of the Special Committee of Enquiry into the Reform of the Calendar, and associates itself with the findings and suggestions made by the Advisory and Technical Committee.

The Assembly of the League of Nations, desiring that all possible assistance should be given to journalists attending the meetings of the League at Geneva,

Takes note of the liberal statements made at the time of the Passports Conference with regard to the facilities for crossing frontiers to be granted to bearers of identity cards issued by the International Association of Journalists accredited to the League of Nations.

4. — Work of the International Committee on Intellectual Co-operation.

The Assembly approves the Intellectual Co-operation Organisation, as at present constituted—with the International Committee and its sub-committees, the National Committees and the International Institute. It considers that this organisation now provides

a mechanism capable of strengthening the intellectual relations between nations and of improving the conditions of intellectual work in the world. It notes with satisfaction the assurance given by the Governing Board of the International Institute to the effect that that institution is so conducted as to ensure perfect equality of treatment between all nations. It draws the attention of all the members of the Assembly to the felicitous step taken by Poland and by Czechoslovakia, which, following France's generous action, have granted a subsidy to the International Institute.

Further, the Assembly wishes to emphasise the practical character and the expediency of the plans for international intellectual co-operation which the Committee and the Institute are, at the present moment, proceeding to carry out. It lays particular stress on the importance of the following plans—the convening of a Congress of Popular Art, the creation of an International Museums Office, the union of libraries of all countries in order to facilitate research by the public, the co-ordination, by means of international collaboration, of the analytical bibliographies of the various sciences.

The Assembly, having considered in its Second Committee the report of the Subcommittee of Experts on the instruction of children and youth in the aims and objects of the League of Nations, urges the Governments of the States Members of the League to give this report their sympathetic consideration and to take the measures necessary to give effect to all or any of its recommendations which may be found suitable for adoption in their respective countries.

The Assembly invites the various States to consider, and asks the competent institutions to examine, the possibility of establishing scholarships for university students, whereby they would be enabled to visit Geneva both before and during the annual Assemblies, in order to obtain first-hand knowledge of the work of the League of Nations.

V. — ADMINISTRATIVE QUESTIONS

Mandates.

The Assembly :

Having taken cognisance of the report to the Council relating to the mandated territories and of the discussion on the subject which has taken place in the Council;

And having heard the Vice-Chairman of the Permanent Mandates Commission :

Thanks the Permanent Mandates Commission for the devotion and zeal with which it has carried out its delicate task;

Has confidence in the members of this Commission as well as in the Members of the Council to ensure the application of the principles of Article 22 of the Covenant in a cordial spirit of co-operation with the mandatory Powers.

VI. — SOCIAL AND HUMANITARIAN QUESTIONS

1. — Traffic in Women and Children.

The Assembly approves the report of the Traffic in Women and Children Committee and the resolutions contained in that report.

2. — Child Welfare.

The Assembly :

1. Takes note of the report presented by the Child Welfare Committee and desires to express its thanks for the work done by the Committee;

2. Approves the proposals contained in Resolutions III, V, and VIII adopted by the Committee for pursuing the enquiries into the protection of infant life, the age of consent and of marriage and the subject of family allowances;

3. Approves Resolution XIV subject to the conclusions it contains being confirmed by subsequent investigations into the general problem of alcoholism;

4. Expresses its concurrence with Resolution VI relating to child labour;

5. Considers that the enquiry into children's courts can most suitably be undertaken by the Child Welfare Committee but, in the circumstances, agrees with the course proposed to be taken by the Council in regard to Resolution XIII;

6. Expresses the wish that the Committee should actively pursue the enquiry into the effect of the cinema on children with a view to the presentation of a report for the information of the Governments;

7. (a) Recognises the importance of recreation in the life of children and young persons as expressed in Resolution XI, but, as doubts have been expressed how far the subject is one which is suitable for action by the League of Nations, the Assembly, in view of the sanction of the study of this subject given last year by the Council and Assembly, approves its continued study by the Advisory Committee, but considers that it should be confined, as indicated in the resolution adopted by the Assembly at its fifth ordinary session, to the comparative study of those aspects of the subject on which "the comparison of the methods and experiences of different countries... and international co-operation" may be likely to assist the Governments in dealing with these problems.

(b) Recommends that the subject of biological education, regarding which similar doubts have been expressed should be postponed for the present.

8. Agrees generally with the resolutions adopted by the Council on June 9th and September 2nd, 1926.

3. — Traffic in Opium and other dangerous Drugs.

1. The Assembly adopts the report of the Advisory Committee on Traffic in Opium and other dangerous drugs, together with the resolutions contained therein.

2. The Assembly, impressed by the report of the Advisory Committee as to the gravity of the present situation in regard to the illicit traffic and by the resolution of the Committee that it was extremely difficult to secure an effective control of the international traffic in opium and drugs until the Geneva Convention has been brought into operation, urges on the Governments of all States Members of the League to proceed to ratify or adhere to the Geneva Convention so that, if possible, the ratifications necessary to bring that Convention into force may be deposited with the Secretariat before the end of the year.

4. — Slavery Convention.

(1) The Assembly :

Approves the Slavery Convention drafted by its Sixth Committee and earnestly trusts that it will be signed and ratified as soon as possible by all the Members of the League of Nations;

Instructs the Secretary-General to take the necessary steps to bring the Convention officially to the knowledge of all States Members or non-Members of the League of Nations which may not have signed it before the end of the present session of the Assembly, to the end that they may sign or adhere to it in accordance with the provisions of Article 11 of the Convention.

(2) 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 begs that the Council will 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) The Assembly,

While recognising that forced labour for public purposes is sometimes necessary :
Is of opinion that, as a general rule, it should not be resorted to unless it is impossible to obtain voluntary labour and that it should receive adequate remuneration.

(4) The Assembly,

Taking note of the work undertaken by the International Labour Office in conformity with the mission entrusted to it and within the limits of its constitution;

Considering that these studies naturally include the problem of forced labour :

Requests the Council to inform the Governing Body of the International Labour Office of the adoption of the Slavery Convention, and to draw its attention to the importance of the work undertaken by the Office with a view to studying the best means of preventing forced or compulsory labour from developing into conditions analogous to slavery.

5. — Protection of Women and Children in the Near East.

The Assembly :

(1) Desires to express its admiration for the work Miss Jeppe has performed and its gratitude for the devoted way in which she has carried it out;

(2) Approves Miss Jeppe's report and expresses its satisfaction with the results obtained during the course of the past year;

(3) Decides that the mission for the rescue of women and children, which has been entrusted to Miss Jeppe by the League of Nations, shall be prolonged for one year more under the conditions fixed by the Assembly at its last ordinary session, that is to say, under the high authority of the Power which holds a mandate in Syria under the League of Nations;

(4) Seeing that the work of Armenian colonisation and any other work undertaken by Miss Jeppe personally in connection with the mission for the rescue of women and children entrusted to her by the League of Nations fall within the class of work entrusted by the mandatory Power, in the general interest, to a central organ representing the Refugee Service at the International Labour Office and the direction of the International Red Cross Committee, invites Miss Jeppe to come to an understanding, as regards the general direction of the work mentioned under paragraph 3, with the liaison organisation established by the mandatory Power;

(5) Seeing that Miss Jeppe is of opinion that her task will be discharged during the coming year, requests her to submit to the next ordinary session of the Assembly a final report on all the results of her mission;

(6) Thanks Miss Mills for her devoted and excellent work and regrets that it has not been found possible to continue the grant from the League of Nations for another year.

6. — Refugee Questions.

a) *Questions concerning Armenian and Russian Refugees.*

The Assembly,

Having carefully examined the reports of the High Commissioner and of the International Labour Office on the refugee questions :

Approves those reports;

Expresses its high appreciation of the important work which they have accomplished for the refugees;

Expresses the opinion that this work should be prosecuted to a satisfactory conclusion in the interest both of the refugees themselves and of political, economic and social order;

Having regard to the precarious position of thousands of Armenian refugees in the Near East;

Invites the Governing Body of the International Labour Office and the High Commissioner for Refugees to consider the possibility of making an effective response to the appeals for their co-operation in the permanent settlement of these refugees and of co-ordinating the activities of private organisations working for the refugees;

Urges the Governments of the States Members to further the settlement of unemployed Russian and Armenian refugees by giving notice as soon as possible of their ratification of the Arrangement drawn up by the Inter-Governmental Conference on May 12th, 1926, particularly as regards contributions to the working capital fund ("revolving fund") and the issue of visas to refugees on the recommendation of the High Commissioner and of the International Labour Office; and

Invites the Governing Body of the International Labour Office to appoint a co-trustee to be responsible jointly with Dr. Nansen for the administration of the fund in question;

Considering the necessity of maintaining a delegation of the Refugee Service in Berlin in view of the large number of refugees in Germany;

Takes note of the possibility of a contribution of one-half the cost being made by the German Government;

Decides to increase the Refugee budget by 18,750 francs in order that the important delegation of the Refugee Service may be maintained in Berlin.

b) *Extension to other analogous Categories of Refugees of the Measures taken to assist Russian and Armenian Refugees.*

The Assembly invites the Council to request the High Commissioner for Refugees and the International Labour Organisation to consider how far the measures already taken to give protection to, to provide employment for, and to afford relief to, Russian and Armenian refugees can be extended to other analogous categories of refugees.

c) *Settlement of Armenian Refugees.*

The Assembly :

(1) Takes note of and adopts the report of the Armenian Refugee Settlement Commission, and expresses its appreciation of the valuable work done by this Commission in the elaboration of a workable scheme, found after careful enquiry to be technically sound, which it is estimated will result in the settlement of at least 25,000 Armenians in their national home.

(2) Takes note of the resolution of the Council of September 16th, 1926, stating that, if the money to finance the initial outlay required by the scheme is forthcoming, the Council would, subject to certain conditions and if requested to do so by the parties interested, be willing to appoint a person or persons to supervise the due expenditure of that money for the objects specified in the scheme;

(3) Requests the Council to consider the possibility, after due enquiry, of setting up a small committee, under the chairmanship of a member appointed by the Council and consisting partly of representatives of private organisations interested in the promotion of this scheme, to investigate the possibility of obtaining the sum required, and of using it for the purposes of the scheme in the Republic of Armenia;

(4) Decides that a sum of 15,000 francs be allowed, subject to the conditions already set forth, in order to provide for the printing and distribution of literature regarding the proposed financial operation and to permit Dr. Nansen—or his representative—to lay his proposals before possible contributors in Europe or America.

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I. — Summary of the Month.

OCTOBER 1926.

Plenary meetings of the League Health Committee and of the Joint Commission for the economic aspect of question before the Preparatory Commission for the Disarmament Conference were held in October. There were also meetings of the Military, Naval and Air Commission, of sub-committees of the Transit Committee and of representatives of the official chalcographical Institutes.

The Abyssinian Government communicated to the Secretary-General its reply to the British and Italian Notes. The Saar Governing Commission sent in its twenty-seventh quarterly report.

Substantial progress was made in the collection of material for the International Economic Conference, in the form of Memoranda published by the Economic

and Financial Section of the League Secretariat on Currency and Central Banks, on the Balance of Payments and Foreign Trade Balances and on Production and Trade.

II. — The Permanent Court of International Justice ⁽¹⁾.

1. *Protocol of signature of the Court Statute.*

Irish Free State. — The Minister for External Affairs of the Irish Free State notified the Secretary-General of the League of Nations, by a letter dated August 21st, 1926, that the Irish Free State was to be included among those Members of the League of Nations which have ratified the Protocol.

Abyssinia. — On July 12th, 1926, the Diplomatic Representative of the Abyssinian Empire to the League of Nations signed the Protocol of December 16th, 1920, to which the Statute is attached, and a declaration of acceptance of the Optional Clause conferring compulsory jurisdiction on the Court. The acceptance, which is for a period of five years, was made in the following terms :

“On behalf of the Imperial Abyssinian Government the undersigned recognises as compulsory, *ipso facto* and without special agreement, in relation to any other Member or State accepting the same obligation, that is to say, on condition of reciprocity, the jurisdiction of the Court in conformity with Article 36, paragraph 2 of the Statute, for a period of five years, excepting disputes in respect of which the Parties have agreed to have recourse to another method of pacific settlement.

LAGARDE DUC D'ENTOTTO.”

The instrument of ratification, covering both the signature of the Protocol of December 16th, 1920 and the acceptance of the Optional Clause, was deposited on July 16th, 1926.

2. *Acceptance of the Optional Clause regarding the Court's compulsory jurisdiction.*

Acceptance by the Netherlands. — The acceptance by the Netherlands of the jurisdiction of the Court as compulsory was renewed for a period of ten years on September 2nd, 1926. The declaration, which takes effect as from August 6th, 1926, is as follows :

“On behalf of the Netherlands Government, I recognise as compulsory, *ipso facto* and without special agreement, in relation to any other Member or State accepting the same obligation, that is to say, on condition of reciprocity, the jurisdiction of the Court, in conformity with Article 36, paragraph 2 of the Statute of the Court, for a period of ten years as from August 6th, 1926, on any future disputes excepting those in regard to which the Parties would have agreed, after the coming into force of the Statute of the Permanent Court of International Justice, to have recourse to another method of pacific settlement.

W. DOUDE VAN TROOSTWIJK.”

Acceptance by Norway. — The acceptance by Norway of the jurisdiction of the Court as compulsory was renewed for a period of ten years on September 22nd,

(1) This article has been compiled on the basis of information furnished by the Registry of the Court.

1926. The renewal, which takes effect as from October 3rd, 1926, and which is not subject to ratification, is made in the following terms :

“On behalf of the Norwegian Government and not being subject to ratification, I recognise, in relation to any other Member or State accepting the same obligation, that is to say, on condition of reciprocity, the jurisdiction of the Court as compulsory *ipso facto* and without special agreement for a period of ten years as from October 3rd, 1926.

FRIDTJOF NANSEN.”

Acceptance by Abyssinia. — See above.

3. *Arbitration Treaties concluded by Switzerland* (1).

• The Treaty of Conciliation, Judicial Settlement and Compulsory Arbitration concluded between Switzerland and Roumania on February 3rd, 1926, deposited with the Court by the Swiss Minister at the Hague on April 27th, 1926, was ratified by Switzerland and Roumania on June 25th and May 19th, 1926 respectively.

III. — The Reduction of Armaments.

Two of the auxiliary organisations of the Preparatory Commission for the Disarmament Conference, namely, Sub-Committee A (military, Naval and Air Questions) and the joint Commission (Economic Questions) continued their work during October, the former being still in session at the end of the month.

The joint Commission held in October two sessions — one in Geneva from September 30th to October 5th, and the other in Paris, from October 19th to October 27th. It finished its work on October 27th, having replied to all questions referred to it for examination.

The conclusions reached by the Joint Commission may be outlined as follows :

(1) The Commission studied the consequences from the economic point of view, of inserting in the Convention relative to disarmament, or to the prohibition of certain forms of warfare, provisions similar to those contained in the Statute of the International Labour Organisation concerning the procedure to be followed in the case of disputes concerning the execution of clauses of conventions. It was of the opinion that a Convention for disarmament and prohibition of certain forms of warfare, if drawn up under the auspices of the League, should contain clauses establishing a system for the pacific settlement of any international disputes which might arise out of the application or eventual violation thereof. Despite the minor economic drawbacks which such clauses might have and despite the serious economic consequences which certain forms of procedure might involve in cases of violation, the Commission considered that their insertion could only serve to enhance the feeling of security, by reason of the stricter—because more closely supervised—
• application of the Convention.

The Commission also studied measures to ensure the application of the Convention and made certain recommendations, concerning, in particular, the constitution of a permanent statistical organisation to centralise and examine information regarding the application of the Convention.

(2) The Joint Commission, asked to give its opinion on certain aspects of chemical warfare, considered that factories normally and legitimately employed for chemical purposes, including dye-works, could be rapidly adapted to manufacturing

(1) See *Monthly Summary*, Vol. VI, No. 3, p. 53.

poison gases. It was of the opinion that no delay would be required for adaptation in the case of poison gases which were produced in large quantities in industry. It did not seem possible, generally speaking, to prevent the manufacture of such gases—they were current products of industry or intermediate agents indispensable for obtaining other products, and it was absolutely impossible to consider their suppression.

The Commission pointed out, nevertheless, that it might be possible to institute between industries in different countries agreements which would be sanctioned by the States concerned and would provide more particularly for the rationing of manufacture.

(3) The Commission examined the possibility of comparing the scale of armaments of the various countries by comparing their military budgets as well as the more general question of the possibility of limiting armaments by limiting military budgets. The Commission came to the conclusion that at the present stage an examination of military budgets could not serve as the sole basis for a limitation of armaments. Limitation of military budgets should be the result of transactional agreements between the Contracting States, and could only be effective if it were the consequence of a limitation of military factors such as material and troops. These conclusions led the Commission to contemplate the limitation, not only of National Defence budgets as a whole, but also of certain chapters of these budgets.

In order to follow the application of the Convention, the Commission recommended that forms should be drawn up allowing of the uniform presentation of the necessary budget information.

(4) The Commission considered the influence on armaments and war strength of certain economic factors, such as population, various resources (raw material, foodstuffs and other products) density, length and character of communications, financial elements on which the power of a country depends in time of war, etc.

All these factors, which were dealt with in several reports, exercised, the Commission considered, an influence which it was difficult to estimate in figures, but which would have to be taken into account on the occasion of concrete proposals by States for a limitation of armaments. It pointed out that it would be useful to have at its disposal statistics which would enable it to follow the fluctuation of the various economic factors.

Finally, the Commission studied economic conditions of a nature to promote regional disarmament. M. Sokal, permanent delegate of Poland to the League of Nations took part in the discussion. The Commission, while emphasising the essentially political character of this question, noted in its report that, in the absence of a World Economic Organisation, a regional organisation might effectively contribute to security, and thus facilitate disarmament.

The following members took part in the work of the Commission :

Mr. Wills, member of the League Economic Committee; M. Mauro, and M. Pospisil, of the Financial Committee; M. Schwop, of the Transit Committee; M. Jonhaus and M. Oudegeest of the workers' group of the Governing Body of the International Labour Office; M. Vanek and M. Oersted, of the employers' group of the International Labour Office; and M. Sato and M. von Moellendorff, experts appointed by the Council.

IV. — Legal and Constitutional Questions.

INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS .

Registration.

Among the treaties and agreements registered with the League in October figure :

A Convention between the French Government and the Governing Commission of the Saar Territory concerning insurance measures for nationals of one of the Contracting Parties working for employers of their own nationality, resident in the territory of the other Party;

• An Agreement between the German Government and the Governing Commission of the Saar territory concerning German officials placed at the disposal of the latter;

Two Conventions and an Agreement signed on April 6th, 1922; in Rome, by Italy and Czechoslovakia, concerning extradition, the reciprocal protection of rights of nationals of the Contracting Parties; and the execution of judgments in civil procedure;

An Arrangement relating to the financial settlement of payments in kind under Articles 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12 of the Rhineland Arrangement, concluded in Paris on May 5th, 1925, between Germany and the Conference of Ambassadors (British Empire, France, Italy, and Japan);

Two Agreements signed in Vienna on May 10th, 1926, by Austria and Hungary, one supplementary to the Commercial Treaty amended in April, 1926, the other supplementary to the Commercial Treaty of February 8th, 1922, concerning cattle diseases;

A Treaty of Friendship, concluded in Moscow on May 2nd, 1925, by Norway and Turkey, registered at the request of the Norwegian Government;

A Convention of good neighbourhood concluded by Great Britain and France on behalf of the Mandated territories of Palestine and Syria and Greater Lebanon;

A Declaration regarding the reciprocal application of the Hague Convention on civil procedure of July 17th, 1925, between Latvia and Sweden;

An Agreement regarding the settlement of debts for war supplies, signed in London on August 13th, 1925, by Great Britain and Latvia;

A Navigation Convention and Exchange of Notes, signed at Helsingfors on December 19th, 1925, by Finland and Norway;

A provisional Commercial Arrangement concluded at Athens on June 22nd, 1926, by Finland and Greece;

A Treaty of Commerce and Final Protocol, signed in Berlin on June 26th, 1926, by Germany and Finland;

A Treaty of Commerce and Navigation (May 14th, 1926) and three supplementary arrangements concerning the importation of Swedish wares into Germany, concluded by the two countries concerned;

And an Exchange of Notes between Austria and Norway constituting a provisional commercial and maritime Agreement, and an additional Commercial Agreement of February 6th, 1926, concerning the amendment of the former Agreement, presented for registration by the Norwegian Government.

V. — Technical Organisations.

1. — EIGHTH SESSION OF THE HEALTH COMMITTEE

Re-election of the Health Committee. — The eighth session of the Health Committee, which took place at Geneva from October 13th to 19th under the chairmanship of Dr. Madsen (Director of the State Serum Institute, Copenhagen), was the last regular session of the present Committee, for the three years' mandate of its members expires at the end of December 1926. According to the constitution of the Health Organisation, nine of the twenty members are elected by the Permanent Committee of the *Office International d'Hygiène Publique* at Paris, which acts as the Advisory Council of the Health Organisation. The chairman of the Com-

mittee of the *Office* is *ex officio* a member of the Health Committee. The chairman and the nine members were designated at the session of the Committee of the *Office*, that began in Paris on October 21st. Six other members are appointed by the Council after consultation with the Health Committee and, in addition, four assessors may, on the nomination of the Health Committee, also be appointed effective members by the Council. These appointments will be made at the December and March sessions of the Council.

I. — MEETINGS OF SPECIAL COMMISSIONS, ETC.

a) *German Experts.*

The plenary session of the Health Committee was preceded by a series of sub-committees and other meetings, beginning on October 11th. On the 11th and 12th, under the chairmanship of Professor B. Nocht (Director of the Hamburg Institute of Tropical Medicine and member of the Health Committee), the German experts who had been taking part in various branches of the League's health work held a conference at Geneva to establish closer contact with the central organisation and discuss ways of further developing their co-operation.

The experts in question were Dr. Hamel, President of the Reichsgesundheitsamt, Berlin, and member of the Tuberculosis Commission of the Health Committee; Professor Dr. Hahn, Director of the Institute of Hygiene of Berlin University and member of the Committee of Experts on Cholera for the Singapore Bureau; Dr. Grotjahn, Professor for Social Hygiene at Berlin University and member of the Commission for Training in Public Health; Professor Dr. Rott, Director of the State Institute for Combating Infant Mortality and member of the Group of Child Welfare Health Experts; Professor Dr. Roesle, Member of the Reichsgesundheitsamt and one of the Commissions on Vital Statistics of the Health Organisation; Professor Dr. Gins, Director at the Prussian „Robert Koch” Institute for Infectious Diseases, Berlin, and member of the Smallpox Commission; Dr. Wuerzburger, Professor of Vital Statistics at Leipzig University, member of one of the Commissions on Vital Statistics; Professor Dr. Kolle, President of the Frankfurt Institute for Experimental Medicine and member of the Permanent Standards Commission.

b) *Cancer Commission.*

On the 11th-13th a meeting was held of the Cancer Commission of the Health Committee, with its Statistical Sub-Committee, under the chairmanship of Sir George Buchanan (Senior Medical Officer of the British Ministry of Health, and member of the Health Committee). This Commission has for some time been undertaking an enquiry as to the extent and causes of the marked differences in certain forms of cancer mortality in different countries, in the hope that this would throw some light on causes of relative immunity or susceptibility. A report was made to the Health Committee and adopted by the latter, dealing with (1) comparative studies on the frequency or mortality of cancer of the breast and the uterus in different countries and the preventive measures adopted; (the fact that the differences of mortality in different countries are real and not due to differences in diagnosis, registration, etc., has been definitely established); (2) investigations as to the possible relation between cancer mortality and race in certain European countries; (the result of the investigations hitherto has been negative); (3) the value to be attached to statistics concerning cancer mortality and the interpretation of such statistics; (4) the results of various national enquiries and statistical data collected and collated by the Secretariat; (5) a memorandum on the best methods of securing sufficient publicity among medical men for the information on cancer already collected

and printed by the League Health Organisation. The efficacy of early operation, for instance, is brought out in a striking manner by the data collected, and should, in the opinion of the Commission, be more generally realised.

c) *Permanent Standards Commission.*

The Commission which is studying the question of how to arrive at international agreement on methods of determining and measuring the activity of sera and anti-toxins, as well as of powerful drugs, such as insulin, thyroid extract, pituitary extract, etc., met on the 13th under the chairmanship of Professor Madsen. On the 11th and 12th there were conferences of the directors of the institutes, which have on the invitation of the Health Committee undertaken laboratory research on anti-dysenteric and anti-tetanic sera. This work has been going on for some years and has involved the holding of conferences in London, Paris and Geneva, attended by representatives of the chief serological Institutes all over the world. Between the Conferences a great deal of applied research work has been carried on in these laboratories on a common plan.

The report of the Commission, which was noted by the Health Committee, stated that, as regards anti-diphtheria serum, tests had been carried out at the Danish State Serum Institute which acts as the central laboratory, with standard sera from London, Frankfurt, Copenhagen and Washington, in accordance with the resolution adopted by the Paris Conference in 1922, and the national standards were found to be identical, so that the effort to secure international uniformity with regard to this preparation had been successful.

The Commission adopted a proposal presented by the Conference of Laboratories engaged since 1922 in investigations concerning the establishment of an international unit for anti-tetanus serum. The different Institutes represented at the Conference will establish a standard conforming to the definition of the new international unit, and the State Serum Institute of Denmark will arrange for comparative studies of the standards used by the different States to be carried out every year in order to ensure their identity.

As regards anti-dysentery serum, the Commission asked that the method of assay proposed by the State Serum Institute at Copenhagen on the basis of the work carried out by the Committee for the investigation of anti-dysentery serum should be subjected to further comparative tests, as it constituted a real advance on former methods.

The American, British and Polish Institutes were asked, in collaboration with the Copenhagen Institute, to continue to study the new specific methods for the diagnosis, treatment and immunisation of scarlet fever in view of the importance of the problem and the difficulty of making definite recommendations at the present time. It was further decided to initiate a comparison between the existing standards (Frankfurt, Japan, Paris) for tuberculin. These were main results as regards sera and serological tests. As regards biological products, the most important result is the adoption of the international standard for insulin adopted by the Conference on Standardisation of Biological Products that met at Geneva in September 1925. An account of the method of preparing the standard, the international tests on the basis of which its unit value was settled, and the methods in use for determining the value of insulin preparations by comparison with the standard has been published by the Health Organisation.

d) *Baltic and North Sea Interchange.*

There was a final conference in Geneva on the 11th, 12th and 13th of the Interchange of Port Health Officers from the Baltic and North Sea, which took place under the direction of Dr. Jitta (President of the Health Council of the Netherlands

and member of the Health Committee) from September 12th to October 10th. The sixteen participants, nominated by the Health Services of Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, the Free City of Danzig, Germany, Great Britain, Latvia, Lithuania, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden and the Union of Socialist Soviet Republics, visited the chief ports in the Baltic and North Sea in order to study their administrative organisation, sanitary equipment and methods of work. The holding of interchanges of this sort, of which one has already taken place in the Mediterranean, facilitates the establishment of effective co-operations between port health authorities.

II. — PLENARY MEETING OF THE HEALTH COMMITTEE

The Health Committee met on October 13th. In addition to the reports of the various commissions and conferences sitting since the beginning of the week, it considered the interim report of the Sleeping Sickness Commission, the report of the Malaria Commission and the report of the Conference of Child Welfare Health Experts.

The Sleeping Sickness Commission. — The Committee approved the interim report of the Sleeping Sickness Commission, outlining the work already accomplished by the experts assembled at Entebbe on Lake Victoria, Uganda, together with the proposal contained in the report that the work of the Commission should be prolonged for approximately six months beyond the term of twelve months originally proposed by the London Conference, by which the programme of the Commission was adopted. It further recommended that, if necessary, communications should be addressed by the League to the Governments participating in the enquiry to request additional funds for this purpose.

The Malaria Commission. — The Committee, after hearing the statement made by the Chairman of the Malaria Commission, Dr. A. Lutrario (Member of the Health Committee and late Director-General of the Public Health Administration at the Ministry of the Interior, Rome) decided.

1) To extend the study tours of the Malaria Commission to some extra-European countries where malaria prevails, postponing to a future date the selection of the countries to be studied in 1927;

2) To continue the studies undertaken by the Commission and by certain of its members on

a) The problem of deltas already begun on the deltas of the Danube, the Ebro and the Po;

b) The effect of major sanitary measures, especially in Italy and Holland;

c) The laboratory problems described in the resolutions adopted by the Committee during the session of October 1925;

d) The relation between certain meteorological conditions and the prevalence of malaria;

3) To continue the study of the secondary alkaloids of cinchona, as well as of hydro-quinine and cuprein derivatives, in order to complete the preparatory measures for an international conference on this subject;

4) To repeat in 1927 the malaria courses at the Institutes of Tropical Medicine at Hamburg, London and Paris, followed by a practical stage in countries where malaria prevails.

Infantile Mortality. — The report of the Conference of Child Welfare Health Experts, which was approved by the Health Committee, recommended the study of certain specific problems connected with infantile mortality, and for this purpose suggested that the members of the Conference be entrusted with the investigation

to be undertaken in their respective countries. It was proposed that these investigations should cover in each of the countries two rural and two urban districts where infantile mortality was respectively high and low, but in which other factors such as birth-rate were relatively comparable. A preliminary investigation of three months will precede the real study which will cover a period of twelve months.

The Conference of Experts further asked that in order to facilitate the unification of the methods for registering infant deaths, a new effort should be made to secure general adoption of the definition of "dead-birth" formulated by a commission of experts and adopted by the Health Committee.

The Conference suggested that in view of the favourable results obtained in various countries by active immunisation against diphtheria, information should be collected as to the experience of countries where this measure was widely employed. It recommended a similar study as regards passive immunisation against measles, with particular attention to the experience both of countries where favourable results had been obtained and of countries where difficulties had been encountered. The Conference of Experts was also anxious to obtain information as to the methods and results of immunisation against scarlet fever in the United States and certain European countries.

Finally, in view of the extreme importance of the instruction given in infant welfare and hygiene to medical students, nurses and midwives, from the point of view of improving sanitary conditions and preventing sickness among children, the Conference asked that reports for incorporation in the general report to be submitted later to the Health Committee should be prepared by its members on such instruction given in their respective countries.

The Health Committee, in approving the findings and suggestions of the Conference, decided to invite experts from South American countries to participate in the studies proposed by the Conference, and to convene these experts in a Latin-American country to examine and present a report on the results of their studies.

International list of causes of death. — With regard to the forthcoming revision of the international list of causes of death, the Committee, after careful examination, decided to entrust to a committee of experts the study of the documents transmitted to the Health Section by the Governments which had complied with its request and of the preparatory work incident to the revision of the nomenclature now in use, to keep the International Institute of Statistics in touch with the work of the Committee of experts, and, when the moment appeared opportune, to convoke a preparatory conference of the Committee of experts and a delegation from the Institute in order to secure agreement on the questions which will be submitted to the future international conference.

School hygiene and physical education. — In response to the proposal of Dr. Tsurumi (member of the Health Committee from the sanitary services of Japan, late Director of the Health Service of the South Manchurian Railway Co.), the Committee instructed the Medical Director to collect information for a comparative study of school health programmes and regulations, and for the study of certain special problems of school hygiene, such as the nutrition of school children and recent experience in the prevention of certain infectious school diseases. The Committee further requested the Medical Director, in consultation with experts in physical education and after consultation with the health authorities of Czechoslovakia, to prepare a report on the subject of physical education, in order to give effect to the resolution relating to this subject adopted by the Seventh Ordinary Session of the Assembly on the proposal of the Czechoslovak delegation.

Anti-Rabies Conference. — The Committee considered the replies received in response to the questionnaire sent out, in accordance with a decision of the Committee at its sixth session, to the principal anti-rabies institutes of the

world to elicit their views on the programme of an international conference on rabies to which delegates will be appointed by the Governments. This Conference is to be held in April 1927 at the Pasteur Institute (Paris) under the auspices of the Health Committee.

Enquiry into Health Insurance. — The present position of the enquiry into public health administration and health insurance undertaken in pursuance of a Resolution of the Assembly at the suggestion of the Czechoslovak Government was considered by the Committee. A plan of study, amended in the light of the experience gained during the enquiry will be submitted later to the Committee; it was prepared by public health officers nominated by the chiefs of their public health administrations for the purpose. A number of reports prepared according to this plan concern the preventive activities of health insurance organisations and the relations between the latter and other municipal health agencies. The present studies have been restricted to countries in which sickness insurance is obligatory for certain classes of the population. Enquiries have been pursued in Budapest, Cologne, Prague, Vienna and Warsaw.

Interchanges. — Reports on the interchanges of public health personnel held during 1926 were considered and the programme for 1927 approved. This programme, which owing to smaller credits is more limited than in preceding years, provides for a collective interchange in Great Britain from February 20th to April 4th as well as an interchange in Germany in 1927. A type of interchange was proposed and approved, which would lengthen the usual preliminary stage of lectures and demonstrations and be followed by practical studies in a number of countries. This will begin in Paris in January 1927 and after a period of six weeks, during which lecturers from several countries will deal with subjects in which they are particularly competent, the public health officers attending the course will study the practical application of these studies in certain countries.

Credits are being reserved for individual missions for Far Eastern countries and for developing the interchange of public health personnel in the countries of Latin America, more especially between institutes of tropical medicine and social hygiene.

Epidemiological Intelligence. — The Committee approved the report of the Medical Director on the work of the Epidemiological Intelligence Service, which mentioned the fact that Albania, Chile, China, Costa Rica, Luxemburg, Peru, Anglo-Egyptian Soudan and Transjordan had been added to the list of countries supplying regular information. The Epidemiological Intelligence Service now covers practically all countries in the world that possess regular health statistics. In this connection the Committee considered an interim report from Dr. Raynaud, member of the Health Committee and Inspector General of the Health Services of Algeria, as to the possibility of securing a more prompt and complete service of epidemiological intelligence from the African colonial administrations, as well as the result of the preliminary investigations into the feasibility of setting up a bureau of epidemiological intelligence in Africa somewhat similar to that already established at Singapore.

The Committee expressed its gratification at the development of the work of the Singapore Bureau, which now receives reports regularly from 112 ports in Asia, Australasia and the east coast of Africa, and is having its weekly bulletins broadcast free of charge by an increasing number of important wireless stations in the Far East. Particular satisfaction was expressed at the fact that the Seventh Ordinary Session of the Assembly had included in the budget of the Health Organisation a contribution to the funds of the Singapore Bureau.

The Members of the Health Committee present at this session were :

President :

Professor Th. MADSEN, Director of the State Serum Institute, Copenhagen.

Vice-Presidents :

M. O. VELGHE, Secretary-General of the Minister of the Interior and of Health, Brussels.

Dr. N. M. Josephus JITTA, President of the Health Council of the Netherlands, the Hague.

Members :

Professor Léon BERNARD, Professor of Hygiene at the Faculty of Medicine of the University of Paris.

Sir George BUCHANAN, Senior Medical Officer of the Ministry of Health, London.

Dr. H. CARRIÈRE, Director of the Swiss Federal Health Service, Berne.

Dr. W. CHODZKO, Late Minister of Health for Poland, Director of the School of Public Health, Warsaw.

Professor Ricardo JORGE, Director-General of Public Health, Lisbon.

Dr. A. LUTRARIO, Late Director-General of the Public Health Administration at the Ministry of the Interior, Rome.

Dr. P. MIMBELA, Professor of Bacteriology at the University of Lima, Peru.

Professor B. NOCHT, Director of the Institute for Tropical Diseases, Hamburg.

Professor Donato OTTOLENGHI, Professor of Hygiene at the Royal University of Bologna.

Professor Gustavo PITTALUGA, Professor of Parasitology at the Faculty of Medicine, Madrid.

Dr. L. RAYNAUD, Inspector-General of the Health Services of Algeria, Algiers.

Dr. M. TSURUMI, representing the Sanitary Services of Japan, late Director of the Health Service of the South Manchurian Railway Company.

2. — COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSIT

a) *Meeting of the Technical Committee on Maritime Tonnage Measurement.*

The Technical Committee on Maritime Tonnage Measurement set up by the Committee for Ports and Maritime Navigation held its first meeting in Amsterdam on October 15th, 1926.

As its Chairman, Dr. Lahr, Ministerial Adviser to the German Ministry of Economics, was prevented by ill-health from attending the meeting, the Committee appointed M. van Driel, Consulting Engineer for Naval Construction at the Dutch General Inspection of Navigation, to preside at its first meeting. There were further present :

M. Abe, representative of the "Nippon Yusen Kaisha", London;

M. Aall, Director of Tonnage, Norway;

M. Breton, Vice-Chairman and Director-General of the "Chargeurs Réunis", Paris;

M. Lindblad, Director-General of Tonnage, Chief Inspector at the Central Board of Trade and Industry of Sweden;

M. Rottman (replacing Dr. Lahr), Senior Adviser at the Reichskommissariat for Tonnage;

M. Smorgonski, naval engineer, Chief of the Maritime Department of the Central Office of the Registry of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

M. Palanca, naval engineer, representing the "Navigazione Generale Italiana" of Genoa, was prevented by urgent business in London from attending the meeting.

The mandate of the Committee is to study the question of the unification of maritime tonnage measurement. Its first session was mainly devoted to defining the problem and to determining the flaws in the existing system.

From examples quoted by its members, the Committee concluded that the fact that methods of measuring and calculating gross and net tonnage were not unified complicated the task of maritime circles, and might in certain cases be an obstacle to the more profitable use of existing tonnage. It also noted that, although the British regulations had been almost universally adopted, their application varied considerably in the different countries.

A Sub-Committee composed of M. van Driel, M. Gehlhaar, chief of the Reichskommissariat for Maritime Tonnage in Berlin, and M. Aall, was appointed to make a thorough technical study of the differences resulting from instructions given to the tonnage services in the various countries, to classify them in detailed tabular form, and, if possible, to submit to the Committee recommendations with a view to the unification of the methods of application of tonnage regulations. For this purpose, the administrative services of the more important maritime countries will be asked for information as to the practice followed by them in the application of the existing regulations.

b) *Meeting of the Permanent Committee on Transport by rail.*

The Permanent Committee on Transport by Rail met in London on October 28th to continue its examination of the question of special facilities for communications with Geneva in case of a threat of war.

The Commission of Enquiry into the Greco-Bulgarian frontier incident had pointed out that rapidity of action on the part of the Council and other League bodies was an essential factor in dealing with incidents of this kind. The Council thereupon instructed the Committee for Communications and Transit to study the question of the special facilities for communications which, it considered, should be granted to Governments and to the League Secretariat in case of a threat of war.

The agenda of this session further included the establishment of a centre for information on transport. The idea of establishing a centre of this sort was approved at the Seventh session of the Assembly as a means of making the Organisation for Communications and Transit, which hitherto had dealt primarily with European problems, equally useful to non-European countries. The Assembly decided to put this question on the agenda of the next General Conference on Communications and Transit, which will take place in 1927. Meanwhile, the proposal will be considered by the various special committees and sub-committees of the Organisation in its relation to their particular field of investigation.

The question of "combined transport" *i.e.*, of developing and regulating combined traffic between railways and transport undertakings other than railways, and the question of special travel facilities for students will also be considered.

3. — INTELLECTUAL COOPERATION

Meeting of Representatives of the National Institutes of Chalcography.

A Committee of representatives of official chalcographical institutes met at Geneva on October 11th and 12th under the chairmanship of M. Henri Focillon, Professor at the Sorbonne. There were also present :

M. Henri Verne, Director of National Museums and of the Ecole du Louvre; L. Hauteœur, Deputy Conservator of Paintings, Drawings and Chalcography at the Musée du Louvre; M. Attilio Rossi, Senior Inspector at the Ministry of Education, Rome; M. Helmberger, Director of the State Stationery Office, Berlin. The Inter

national Institute of Intellectual Co-operation was represented by M. Richard Dupierreux.

This meeting is in connection with the establishment—in pursuance of a decision of the Committee on Intellectual Co-operation approved by the Assembly at its Seventh Session—of an international museum office which should help to secure, a better international organisation of museum catalogues and the development of relations between museums (1).

The Committee drew up resolutions for submission to the Committee on Intellectual Co-operation and the competent authorities of the countries concerned, providing for the exchange of proofs between chalcographical institutes.

The object of these exchanges is, on the one hand, to constitute collections describing as far as possible the international history of the art of engraving and, on the other hand, the sale by each of the institutes of proofs produced by the others. In countries where there is no official institute of chalcography these objects will be pursued by means of co-operation between other institutes of a similar kind. The exchanges will not necessarily be confined to authentic engravings, but may also include facsimile or reproductions by other processes.

As regards casts, the Committee noted an agreement concluded at Brussels in 1885 for exchanges between certain countries, and expressed the opinion that the agreement contemplated between chalcographical institutes might serve as a model for an agreement between cast workshops subject to certain special conditions.

The Committee further determined the part to be played in these exchanges by the International Museum Office attached to the International Institute of Intellectual Co-operation in Paris.

VI. — Administrative Questions.

TWENTY-SEVENTH QUARTERLY REPORT OF THE SAAR GOVERNING COMMISSION

The Secretary-General of the League has received from the Governing Commission of the Saar Territory its twenty-seventh quarterly report, which gives an account of the situation in the Territory and the work of the Commission during the third quarter of 1926. Its main features may be summarised as follows :

1. *Economic and Social Situation.* — Compared with the preceding quarter, there was no notable change in the economic and social situation of the Territory.

Customs Questions continued to be the dominating factor. On August 21st, the agreements signed on August 5th, 1926, by the French and German Governments came into force. The first of these agreements institutes a provisional six months' regime regulating the commercial relations between the Parties, which is applicable to the Saar as part of the French customs territory. The second provides for a special arrangement affording further facilities for the importation of goods from Germany into the Saar and for the exportation of goods from the Saar into Germany. This arrangement concerns all the principal industries—with the exception of the metal allied branches, which are governed by the Franco-German Steel Cartel—and provides for the exportation to Germany of duty-free contingents of Saar glass, pottery, tobacco and chemical products.

The Governing Commission has obtained from the French Government that a consular visa will not be required for certificates of origin of German goods imported into the Saar Territory. The arrangement further provides for the impor-

(1) See the *Monthly Summary* for July 1926, p. 177.

tation into the Territory, free of duty or at a minimum tariff, of contingents of goods which are unprocurable in the Territory, e.g. certain pharmaceutical products.

The Governing Commission has also obtained that, within certain limits, exceptions may be made in regard to the ban upon coal export.

Labour conditions remained satisfactory during the third quarter. The number of unemployed was 1,770 (0.88 %).

2. *Political Situation.* — During the third session of 1926 (July, August and September) the Advisory Council held two plenary meetings and gave its opinion on nine draft decrees referred to it by the Governing Commission.

The municipal and district (*Kreis*) elections took place on July 11th, 1926.

3. *Administrative Questions.* — The Commission on Customary Rights for Saar Frontiers, composed of delegations from the French and German Governments and the Saar Governing Commission, continued its work in July and September.

On September 15th, a protocol was signed at Saarbruck concerning the passage of workers across the Saar-German frontier. This instrument takes account of the special conditions of workers residing in German customs territory and employed in the Saar mines or workshops. These men are paid in French francs and live in a country whose currency is the Reichsmark. Facilities are provided not only for their circulation, but also in regard to customs.

A new housing decree was promulgated. Its object is to lighten certain burdens imposed by the system of control and to decrease the protection hitherto enjoyed by tenants.

Heavy additional expenses caused by the increase of wages, salaries and State contributions to the social insurance funds made it necessary to seek new sources of revenue.

The School of Applied Art, founded in 1924 by the Commission in order to encourage the fine arts and allied professions, has developed considerably. In connection with the School a national museum has been founded, with the primary object of promoting modern art and archaeological research, special attention being devoted to drawings.

Measures have been taken to organise in the Schools of the territory courses on the existence and aims of the League of Nations.

The report is accompanied by a note regarding the administration of the pension fund. Pursuant to the Baden-Baden Agreements of December 21st, 1925, the Commission created a pension fund for the benefit of all Saar officials entitled to a pension, including those placed at the disposal of the Commission by the German Government. In virtue of the said agreements a statement on the administration of this fund will henceforth figure regularly in the Commission's reports to the League of Nations.

VII. — Political Questions.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE ABYSSINIAN GOVERNMENT

By a letter to the Secretary-General dated September 4th, 1926, the Regent of Abyssinia communicated the views of his Government regarding the notes of the British and Italian Governments, stating that he had taken note of the explanations furnished by those Governments with regard to the exchange of notes between them.

This letter was immediately forwarded to all States Members of the League and was further specially sent to the British and Italian Governments. It will

be published in the Official Journal together with the previous correspondence on the subject, and reference will be made to it in the Treaty Series at the end of the text of the notes exchanged between the British and Italian Governments.

VIII. — Miscellaneous Questions.

MEETING OF DIRECTORS OF PRESS BUREAUX

A meeting of the Directors of the Press Bureaux of seventeen European countries, namely, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Esthonia, Finland, Greece, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway, the Netherlands, Poland, Roumania, the Serb-Croat-Slovene Kingdom and Sweden, was held at Geneva from October 28th to October 30th.

The object of this meeting was to enable the Secretary-General of the League to procure information on conditions in various European countries as regards technical problems of interest to the Press. It represents one of the phases of the enquiry which the Council requested the Secretary-General to conduct with a view to drawing up a programme for the future Committee of Press Experts.

The meeting drew up questionnaires on tariff, press communications and the facilities granted to journalists in the various countries. It was decided that the answers to these questionnaires should be sent to the Secretary-General before January 1st, 1927.

IX. — Publications and Documents of the League of Nations.

The Economic and Financial Section of the League of Nations has just published (1) its annual Memorandum on Currency and Central Banks, (2) the first volume of its annual Memorandum on the Balance of Payments and Foreign Trade Balances and (3) a Memorandum on Production and Trade. These publications are this year designed as information for the Preparatory Committee for the International Economic Conference.

Other recent publications of this Section deal with the settlement work for Bulgarian and Greek Refugees under the auspices of the League.

These publications may be summarised as follows :

1. — MEMORANDUM ON CURRENCY AND CENTRAL BANKS

This new edition of the Memorandum on Currency and Central Banks differs somewhat in substance from its predecessors. The historical and analytical notes concerning the currency systems of different countries etc., have not been reproduced; the Introduction has been made more historical in character and is now published as a separate volume (1).

The second volume contains statistics of discount rates, note circulation, gold and foreign assets, reserves, commercial deposits, price indices, etc., and summarised statements of the balance sheets of all the central banks of the world up to the end of 1925.

(1) Messrs. Constable, 12, Orange Street, London, W. C. 1. price 4/-.

In view of the important currency reforms effected during 1925, the first volume constitutes a record of considerable interest. Special attention is paid to the effect on prices of the return to the gold standard and to the new legislation which has been introduced, not only in those countries which acted together with the United Kingdom in the spring of 1925, but in Finland, Czechoslovakia, Chili, Mexico, Madagascar, Guatemala and elsewhere. An attempt is also made to bring out the progress achieved since the Armistice in currency stabilisation. It would appear from the tables given that there are nineteen countries in the world in which definitive currency legislation has not yet been passed, while the gold standard or its equivalent, is in force in upwards of thirty countries.

A special chapter has been devoted to the question of discount and interest rates in different countries. Perhaps the most characteristic feature of 1925 was the gradual closing of the gap between money market rates in Eastern and Central Europe and the parallel reduction of the discrepancy which exists in certain countries between the rates for long and short term loans, and between the rates at which banks borrowed and lent money. Thus, day to day money which in Hungary in July 1924 cost 20 % to 28 %, had sunk to 7 % and 9 % by December 1925. Again, in Germany monthly advances at the beginning of 1924 cost over 20 %, while these rates had fallen to under 10 % by the end of 1925.

2. — MEMORANDUM ON BALANCE OF PAYMENTS AND FOREIGN TRADES BALANCES 1911-1925

This volume, which has been issued in continuation of the volumes published in 1924 and 1925, is of special interest as it is one of the most important documents prepared in view of the forthcoming International Economic Conference.

The first part of this volume consists of an introduction and a series of estimates of the balance of payments for twenty-two countries prepared in the great majority of cases by the Governments concerned. Statements are available for the first time concerning France, Germany, the Irish Free State, Japan, Latvia and Siam.

The second part contains a complete survey of world trade during the years 1924 and 1925, in which recent figures showing volume, direction and distribution are compared with those for 1913, and from which it appears that, while world trade is today greater than before the war, Europe has not yet recovered her previous trade prosperity; it tends to show that there is an important shift of the centre of gravity from the Atlantic to the Pacific.

This book is the first of two volumes. The second, which will be published this year, will consist of a summary of the trade statistics of sixty-three different countries (six having been added since last year) together with explanatory notes. These two volumes, when completed, will enable not only specialists in economics, but persons generally interested in world affairs to form a picture of the position and recent development of world trade.

The analysis shows that the world trade of 1925 probably exceeded that of 1913 by about 5 % and that European trade was still somewhat over 10 % below the pre-war level. North America, Asia and Oceania have gained the most and the centre of gravity is clearly shifting from the Atlantic to the Pacific Ocean.

The share of the United Kingdom in the world trade has on balance sunk slightly, exports having fallen off and imports increased relatively to those of the rest of the world. The British position was rather less favourable in 1925 than in 1924 although it would appear that some lost ground had been regained in certain Latin American countries.

The conditions in China would appear to have effected other countries to a much greater extent than Japan, from which country China obtained 31 % of her imports in 1925 as compared with about 23 % in 1924 and 20 % in 1923.

The memorandum closes with the following summary of the broad tendencies which are today affecting the distribution of trade :

The United States and India now buy less from Europe and more from Asia; China and Japan buy less from Europe and more from North America; Australia less from Europe and more from North America and Japan. Reciprocally, India sends a greater proportion of her goods to North America and Asia, China to North America; Japanese exports to Europe have dropped from 23.3 per cent to only 6.6 per cent of her total exports, while those destined for North America have risen from 30 to 44.5 per cent. Australian imports from Europe have dropped from 71 to 54 per cent of her total imports, those of the Argentine from 80 to 64 per cent.

Trade is passing from the Atlantic to the Pacific.

3. — MEMORANDUM ON PRODUCTION AND TRADE

This is a brief memorandum on production and trade in which a very large amount of information is summarised in a convenient form. Its object is to answer the three following questions :

1. What changes have taken place in the population of the world since 1913 and in the territorial distribution of that population ?
2. What changes have taken place in the production of basic raw materials and foodstuffs in the world as a whole and in the main divisions into which the world naturally falls.
3. What changes have taken place in the quantum of world trade and in its distribution ?

For the purposes of analysis and comparison, the world is divided into seven continental groups, and Europe into Eastern and Central Europe, both including and excluding Russia, Western and Maritime Europe, and Europe both including and excluding Russia. Figures for the whole of Europe are also given.

The main conclusions reached are summarised as follows :

- a) In 1925 the population and trade of the world were about 5 per cent greater than in 1913.
- b) The production of foodstuffs and raw materials has increased more rapidly than the population of the world, and is now probably 16 to 18 per cent in excess of what it was in 1913 exclusive of China.
- c) The population of Europe has only increased by a little more than 1 per cent; her production of raw materials and foodstuffs, thanks largely to a favourable harvest, was in 1925 four to five per cent above the pre-war level and her trade probably some 10 per cent below that level.
- d) In 1924, the production of raw materials and foodstuffs in Eastern and Central Europe, including Russia, still fell short of pre-war level by nearly one-fifth, while the trade of these countries did not reach 66 per cent of what it had been despite the increase in the number of trading countries. During 1925, however, Central Europe made more rapid progress than did the rest of the Continent, her trade being now about three-quarters of what it was and her production index just over par.
- e) The population of the western and maritime nations of Europe is now about 5 per cent greater than in 1913. The production index of this group of countries, inclusive of cereals and foodstuffs, was in 1925 about 7 per cent greater than before the war and, exclusive of cereals and foodstuffs, scarcely up to the population figure, while trade just failed to reach the pre-war level.
- f) The population of North America is almost one-fifth, that of South America perhaps slightly over one-fifth, and that of Oceania (Australia, New Zealand, etc.) over one-sixth, greater than in 1913. The growth of population in other parts of the world has been much less rapid.

g) On the other hand, the trade of Asia has increased almost as fast as that of North America. In both those continents it was over one-third, and in Oceania just under one-third greater than in 1913, while in Africa and South America it has shown no increase.

h) The production of raw materials and foodstuffs in North America, Asia and Oceania is now about one-quarter above the pre-war amount; in South America and Africa (gold excluded) it is over one-third greater, and in Central America the increase has been still higher ⁽¹⁾.

4. — REPORT ON THE SETTLEMENT OF GREEK REFUGEES

An illustrated volume has been published by the League of Nations giving the first complete and authoritative account of the work done in Greece under the supervision of the Refugee Settlement Commission.

From the beginning of 1919 up to the present time about one and a half million refugees have poured into Greece. This is probably the largest sudden transfer of population known to history, and constituted a problem which had in it serious elements which concerned not only social and economic dangers in Greece herself, but also political relations in the Balkans.

The settlement of refugees was undertaken at the request of the Greek Government under the auspices of the League of Nations, in the year 1923, and the work has therefore been in progress for three years.

The account given in the volume just issued has not been overburdened with technical details. A description is given of the different kinds of refugees, their ethnological and religious characteristics; the agricultural settlement, and the assistance given in the form of cattle, implements, houses, water-works, health organisation, etc., and the various forms of agricultural production, e.g. cotton, tobacco growing, which have been taken up by the refugees, and of the urban settlement. There is also an account of the organisation created to deal with this problem and of the loan of ten million pounds sterling which was successfully floated in order to finance the settlement scheme.

The book has sixty-seven illustrations, and there are two maps, one showing the proportion of different races in Greece before the Balkan war and at the present moment, the other showing how the agricultural and urban settlements are distributed over the country.

5. — DOCUMENT ON THE BULGARIAN REFUGEE SETTLEMENT SCHEME

A document dealing with the scheme of settlement for Bulgarian refugees has been prepared by the Economic and Financial Section of the Secretariat. This memorandum, which is preceded by an introduction written by Sir Arthur Salter, Director of the Economic and Financial Section, summarises the origins of the problem, the nature of the scheme and the results which it is hoped to obtain.

The scheme which was approved by the Council of the League in September of this year for the settlement of Bulgarian refugees is the fourth of the reconstruction schemes with which the League has been associated, and the document now issued is similar to those prepared in connection with the financial reconstruction of Austria and Hungary and the settlement of refugees in Greece.

The problem which, after long negotiations, is now being dealt with has been caused by the gradual return since the year 1912, before the Balkan wars, of some 220,000 refugees. The Government has been able to settle some of them, others

⁽¹⁾ The volume, which is priced 1/6d, is obtainable from the League's agents in different countries, or direct from the Sales Department of the Secretariat at Geneva.

have settled themselves—a total, in all, of about 30,000. The remainder of these refugees, homeless and starving—with whom the Government cannot deal—constitute a social and political danger.

During the summer of this year the League Financial Committee drew up a scheme for settling them and for obtaining the money required for this purpose. The present document contains all the reports of the Financial Committee on the subject, the results of a special enquiry made in Bulgaria on behalf of the League by Monsieur René Charron, the decisions of the Council, and the Protocol signed by the Bulgarian Government.

X. — Forthcoming Events.

November 15th : Meeting of the Preparatory Committee for the International Economic Conference, Geneva.

November 17th : Meeting of the Permanent Committee on Electric Questions, Geneva.

November 29th : Meeting of Sub-Committee B of the Preparatory Commission for the Disarmament Conference, Geneva.

December 1st : Meeting of the Council Committee on Disarmament, Geneva.

December 2nd : Meeting of the Financial Committee, Geneva.

December 6th : Forty-third Session of the Council, Geneva.

December 14th : Meeting of Experts on Bills of Exchange, Geneva.

December 17th : Meeting of the Preparatory Committee on Statistics, The Hague.

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15. The German delegation, headed by Herr Stresemann, entering the Assembly Hall on September 10th, 1926.
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Vol. VI. No. 11

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MONTHLY SUMMARY OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS

Vol. VI. No. 11.

Published on December 15th, 1926.

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Communications concerning the *Monthly Summary* should be addressed to the Information Section, League of Nations, Geneva.

I. — Summary of the Month.

NOVEMBER 1926

The principal League events in November were the second and final session of the Preparatory Committee of the International Economic Conference — which drew up the draft agenda of the Conference—and the tenth session of the Permanent Mandates Commission, on whose agenda figured for the first time a report of the British Government on the administration of Iraq.

The question of League communications in the case of danger of war was considered by two committees of the Transit Organisation, namely, the Committee on Transport by Rail and the Committee on Telegraphic Questions. Other transit committees which met in November were the Legal Committee and the Committee on Electric Questions.

The Military, Naval and Air Sub-Commission of the Preparatory Commission for the Disarmament Conference finished its work at the beginning of November, the Economic Sub-Commission of the same body meeting towards the end of the month.

The question of an international union for the relief of populations visited by disaster (Çiraolo plan) was studied by a special committee, which met in the first few days of the month.

The Permanent Court of International Justice received from the Belgian Government an application instituting proceedings against China in regard to a dispute between China and Belgium.

II. — The Permanent Court of International Justice ⁽¹⁾.

The Chinese-Belgian Dispute.

The Belgian Chargé d'Affaires at The Hague transmitted to the Permanent Court of International Justice on November 26th, 1926, an application from the Belgian Government instituting proceedings against the Chinese Government in regard to a dispute between these two Governments. The dispute in question has its origin in the fact that China has denounced the Treaty of Friendship, Commerce and Navigation between China and Belgium concluded at Peking on November 2nd, 1865; whilst Belgium disputes the Chinese Government's right unilaterally to denounce the Treaty.

The negotiations undertaken in order to arrive at a *modus vivendi* having failed and China having refused to join with Belgium in submitting the dispute to the Court by means of a special agreement, Belgium is bringing the case before the Court by unilateral application, availing herself of the fact that both the States concerned have signed the Optional Clause attached to the Protocol of signature of the Court's Statute.

Pending the Court's final decision, the Belgian Government has requested it, in accordance with Article 41 of the Statute, to indicate all provisional measures to be taken to reserve any rights which may subsequently be recognised as belonging to Belgium or her nationals.

The Registry has issued the usual notifications.

III. — The Reduction of Armaments

THE PREPARATORY COMMISSION FOR THE DISARMAMENT CONFERENCE

a) *Meeting of Sub-Commission A.*

The third session of Sub-Commission A (Military, Naval and Air questions) of the Preparatory Commission for the Disarmament Conference was held at Geneva from September 27th to November 5th.

The Sub-Commission, which held thirty-five meetings, concluded its examination of the questions referred to it by the Preparatory Commission. It drew up the text of a final report embodying the answers to the questions put to it by the Preparatory Commission, together with the declarations made on the subject by various delegations.

The report—a document of approximately 150 pages—will be circulated in December to the Governments represented on the Preparatory Commission, and will form, with the report of Sub-Commission B, the basis of the discussions of the third session of the Preparatory Commission, which will be held on a date to be fixed later.

b) *Third Session of Sub-Commission B.*

The third session of Sub-Commission B of the Preparatory Commission for the Disarmament Conference took place at Geneva on November 29th and 30th, under the chairmanship of M. Veverka.

(1) This article has been prepared on the basis of information received from the Registrar of the Court.

• On the agenda figured the consideration of the report of the Joint Commission on the questions referred to it by Sub-Commission B; the question of regional disarmament in relation to regional security; and the question of the economic consequences entailed by an aggregate limitation of civil and military aeronautics.

1. *Report of the Joint Commission.* — The Sub-Commission decided to forward this document to the Preparatory Commission for the Disarmament Conference. While emphasising the importance of the opinions expressed therein, it pointed out that these opinions were those of experts freely chosen by the Council, and not the official views of the Governments of the countries of which they were nationals — still less of the Governments which, for various reasons, had no nationals on the Commission.

The United States delegation, in particular, having taken no part in the work of the Joint Commission, had had no opportunity of expressing its views. This delegation stated that its views on each of the questions submitted to Sub-Commission B were those set forth by it on each of these questions on the report of Sub-Commission A.

In these circumstances, and while offering no opinion on the substance of the Joint Commission's report, Sub-Commission B made a point of reserving for all the Governments represented on it the right to make any observations they might think fit, either in written documents to be distributed to the Preparatory Commission as soon as possible, or orally in the course of the discussions in the Preparatory Commission on questions dealt with in the report.

The Sub-Commission did not enter into an exhaustive discussion of the questions dealt with in the Joint Commission's report; it nevertheless emphasised the special importance for the Preparatory Commission's work of two suggestions embodied in that chapter of the Joint Commission's report which concerned the limitation of expenditure on national defence, namely, (1) that it would be desirable to secure the collaboration of certain specially qualified experts on defence expenditure, before drawing up, in its final form, a model statement designed to eliminate difficulties arising from divergencies between budget systems; and (2) that selected items of expenditure might serve as a useful index of total expenditure for definite purposes.

Sub-Commission B accordingly decided to appoint immediately a technical committee of budget experts, and invited the Chairman of the Preparatory Commission, in conjunction with the Chairmen of Sub-Commissions A and B to proceed to the nomination of its members. The Technical Committee will present a report to the Sub-Commission.

2. *Regional Disarmament.* — The Sub-Commission decided to point out to the Preparatory Commission, that, in view of the predominantly political character of this question, the examination of any economic features which it might present, could only be approached with prospects of success after the necessary political premises had been put forward in the Preparatory Commission itself.

3. *Economic Consequences of a System of Aggregate Limitation of Civil and Military Aeronautics.* — The Sub-Commission considered that this question could only be examined with advantage if it was first submitted to a technical study by civil aviation experts. It also considered that it would be advantageous to extend the scope of the question so as to include the examination of the economic consequences of other possible methods of limiting air armaments which would also affect civil aviation. It accordingly decided to appoint a committee of experts to study the question and present a report.

The Sub-Commission decided to hold its next session on March 16th, that of the Preparatory Commission being fixed for March 21st, 1927.

IV. — Legal and Constitutional Questions.

INTERNATIONAL ENGAGEMENTS

a) *Registration.*

Among the treaties and international agreements registered in November may be mentioned :

Fifteen Conventions, Agreements and Exchanges of Notes communicated by the British Government, concerning extradition, commerce and navigation, tonnage measurement of merchant ships, opium supplies, etc., concluded by Great Britain with France, Poland, Czechoslovakia, the Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes, Esthonia, the Netherlands and other countries;

A series of Treaties and Arrangements concerning customs, commercial relations, and navigation, concluded by the Netherlands and Portugal, Turkey, Germany, and Siam;

A Treaty of Friendship, Commerce and Consular Relations (Washington, June 24, 1925) concluded by the United States and Hungary;

A Commercial Convention (Prague, April 21, 1926) between Poland and Czechoslovakia);

Postal Agreements between the Irish Free State and Canada, Germany, India, and the United States;

An Agreement between Poland and the United States regarding the consolidation of debts (Washington, November 14, 1924), and a Public Health Convention between Poland and Czechoslovakia (Prague, September 5, 1926);

A Treaty of Friendship with an annexed Convention for the Pacific Settlement of International Disputes (Paris, June 10, 1926) between France and Roumania;

A provisional Convention on Air Navigation between the Netherlands and Poland.

b) *Adhesions, Ratifications, etc.*

The British Government has notified the League Secretariat that a certain number of British colonies, including Nigeria, British Honduras, Ceylon, Tanganyika, Zanzibar, Gibraltar, Malta, Somaliland, Cyprus, Hongkong, etc., have acceded to the International Convention for the Suppression of the Circulation and Traffic of Obscene Publications (Geneva, September 12th, 1923).

The French Government has ratified, on behalf of the French Protectorates of Morocco and Tunis, the International Convention for the Simplification of Customs Formalities and the Protocol relating thereto (Geneva, November 3rd, 1923).

V. — Technical Organisations.

1. — THE ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL ORGANISATION

Second Session of the Preparatory Committee for the International Economic Conference.

The second and final session of the Preparatory Committee for the Economic Conference was held at Geneva from November 15th to November 19th, with M. Theunis (Belgian) in the chair.

After noting the information collected since its first session, the Committee drew up the Agenda of the Conference, which, it proposed, should be convened for

May 4th, 1927, and made recommendations to the Council with regard to the principles which, in its opinion, should govern the composition of the Conference.

Arrangements were also made for the completion of the documentary preparation, which will serve as a basis for the discussions of the Conference and be communicated in due time to the Governments concerned. For this purpose the Committee appointed a coordination committee composed of some of its members, whose duty it will be to keep the material up to date.

By its resolution of December 14th, 1925, the Council had instructed the Committee to arrange for the collection and preparation of such economic information as might assist the work of the Conference, and to consider and submit to the Council a report concerning the programme, composition, rules of procedure and date of meeting of the Conference.

The report ⁽¹⁾ of the Preparatory Committee to the Council on the work of its second session—which was drawn up by the chairman M. Theunis, and unanimously approved by the Committee—replies point by point to the Council's resolution, thus marking the conclusion of the work of the Committee.

During its final session the Committee held four plenary meetings which were devoted to the general discussion and approval of the texts drafted by the Chairman and the various committees. The latter were constituted as at the April meeting: A — agriculture, finance, special problems; B — industrial production; and C — trade and markets.

I

AGENDA OF THE CONFERENCE.

The principles by which the Committee was guided in drawing up the agenda (see below) and the general scope of the latter are set forth as follows in M. Theunis' report:

The general scope of the Agenda is indicated in the Resolution of the 6th Assembly, which, after expressing the conviction that "economic peace will largely contribute to security among the nations", proclaimed "the necessity of investigating the economic difficulties which stand in the way of the revival of general prosperity, and of ascertaining the best means of overcoming these difficulties and of preventing disputes". The Agenda had therefore to take account of the two objects contemplated by the Assembly, viz., the prosperity and the peace of the world so far as they can be assisted by international discussion and collaboration.

In the second place the Committee has had to bear in mind that the agenda of a general Economic Conference must clearly be such as to allow on the one hand general discussion on the principal features in the world economic situation, and on the other hand more concentrated discussion on those special international questions on which practical results may be hoped for...

The Agenda is in two parts. The first is general; the second includes three specific groups of questions on which international discussion at the conference with a view to practical action seems most likely to be useful.

The Agenda as a whole is in the form of a few main headings, so as to give a clear and simple picture of the range of the proposed discussions, and does not set out in detail the questions covered.

For example, the Committee contemplates that the analysis of the causes of disequilibrium mentioned in the first part of the agenda will cover discussions on such questions as the relative impoverishment of Europe and its effect on industry, commerce and agriculture; the instability of the exchange value or purchasing power of currencies; and the inadequacy or high cost of capital, resulting from insufficient savings.

So, too, the heading as to the causes of the present difficulties in industry would naturally cover such questions as the abnormal increase of equipment in certain industries, the increase of cost prices resulting from the insufficiency and irregularity of demand and the difficulties of adaptation to post-war conditions.

(1) See below analysis of report.

Financial questions have not been added as a special group. The reason is that finance, while affecting the whole economic situation, is not, as at Brussels, the primary purpose of the Conference; it claims a place as bearing upon economic problems. It has also been thought inopportune to include the question of population as a separate item. Like finance it will be taken into account as a factor always present in the whole industrial, commercial and agricultural situation.

There are two classes of questions to which the Committee has given special prominence because of their intrinsic importance and the public interest in them at the present time. The valuable report of the International Chamber of Commerce, and the consultations in many countries of which it is the fruit, are among the many indications of the interest which attaches to problems of commercial and tariff policy. And, secondly, to take a more limited sphere, recent discussions have shown the great public interest in the proposals for international industrial agreements.

Lastly, the Committee would remark that some of the difficulties which are referred to in the Agenda are to a peculiar extent difficulties, in the first instance, of Europe. The Committee presumes therefore that attention will be given in discussing such questions to the special features in the European situation. The most important questions on the agenda are, however, clearly of world importance.

AGENDA OF THE CONFERENCE

FIRST PART.

I. The World Economic Position.

Principal features and problems as seen from the point of view of different countries.

Analysis of economic causes of the present disturbed equilibrium in commerce and industry.

Economic tendencies capable of affecting the peace of the world.

SECOND PART.

I. Commerce.

1. Liberty of Trading.

(a) Import and Export prohibitions and restrictions.

(b) Limitation, regulation or monopolisation of trade.

(c) Economic and fiscal treatment of nationals and companies of one country admitted to settle in the territory of another.

2. Customs Tariffs and Commercial Treaties.

Obstacles to international trade arising from.

(a) Form, level and instability of import and export tariffs.

(b) Customs nomenclature and classification.

3. Indirect methods of protecting national Commerce and Shipping.

(a) Subsidies, direct or indirect.

(b) Dumping, and anti-dumping legislation.

(c) Discrimination arising from the conditions of transport.

(d) Fiscal measures discriminating against foreign imported goods.

4. Repercussion upon international commerce of reduced purchasing power.

II. Industry.

1. Situation of principal industries (productive capacity, output, consumption and employment).

2. Nature of present difficulties in industry; their industrial, commercial and monetary causes.

3. Possibilities of action :

(a) organisation of production, including in particular international industrial agreements; considered from the point of view of production, of the consumer and of labour; their legal position; their connection with customs problems.

(b) importance of collection and prompt exchange of statistical information with regard to industrial production.

III. *Agriculture.*

1. The present position of agriculture compared with pre-war conditions, in respect of production, consumption, stocks, prices and free circulation of agricultural products.

2. Causes of present difficulties.

3. Possibilities of international action :

(a) development of, and international collaboration between producers' and consumers' organisations, including the different systems of co-operative organisations;

(b) continuous exchange of relevant information concerning agricultural conditions, scientific and technical research, agricultural credit, etc.;

(c) development of the purchasing power of agricultural producers.

II

COMPOSITION AND DATE OF THE CONFERENCE

The report contains the following proposals :

Composition. — The members of the Conference should be appointed by Governments but they should be chosen for their personal qualifications, and should not be spokesmen of official policy.

All Member States of the League, and all non-Member States occupying a position of importance in the economic life of the world, should be invited to select members. The expenses of the members should be borne by the governments.

In view of the complexity and character, of the subjects included in the Agenda, it is desirable that the qualifications of the members of the Conference should be sufficiently varied, and that, taking the Conference as a whole, there should be a due proportion among them.

The invitations to each State should be to send members up to a maximum of five; experts might of course accompany them but would not have the right of speech or vote, except on the special authorisation of the Conference.

The Committee observes that, at the Brussels Conference, the Council made certain appointments, under conditions defined by it, in addition to the members appointed by the Governments. The Committee recommends that the Council should also reserve the right, in the present instance, to make a limited number of additional appointments before the conference takes place, either directly or through appropriate organisations.

The Committee recommends that only questions of procedure should be settled by a majority vote, and that in other cases decisions should not be taken by voting, resolutions being passed unanimously when possible and in other cases the names of members in favour of a resolution being recorded.

This would seem in conformity with the fundamental character of the Conference which is described as follows in the Report adopted by the Council : "The Conference is not to be composed of responsible delegates invested with full powers for the conclusion of conventions; it is intended rather to organise a *general consultation* in the course of which, as at the Financial Conference at Brussels, the various programmes and doctrines may be freely exposed without the freedom of discussion being restricted by any immediate necessity to transform the conclusions of the Conference into international engagements."

Date. — With regard to the date of the Conference, the Committee noting the desire expressed by the Assembly, at its Seventh Session, that the Conference

should be held as soon as possible recommends that it should be convened for May 4th, 1927. The reasons for which this date is chosen are indicated as follows :

“The progress made in financial stabilisation and the general change in the economic position, have created conditions which, in the view of the Committee, make the spring of next year a suitable time for the meeting of the Conference.

The documentary preparation is also sufficiently advanced to make this practicable, and the Committee attaches great importance to material collected not being allowed to get out of date”.

III

DOCUMENTATION

The documentary preparation of the Conference, the general programme of which had been traced at the April Session, was, the Committee noted, well advanced, a great number of documents having been presented at its second session. Three had already been published—Memoranda on Currency and Central Banks, Balances of Payments and Foreign Trade Balances, and Production and Trade. Others would be published forthwith, or at intervals between the meeting of the Committee and the Conference.

The material, as it stands has been collected by the League Secretariat, the International Labour Office and the International Institute of Agriculture, cooperating for the purpose with various international organisations. The members of the Committee and representatives of important industrial organisations of various countries have also contributed to this work. A special report has been sent in by the International Chamber of Commerce, which has made an exhaustive enquiry into the questions at issue.

The material is abundant and very varied in character. It bears on industrial production, trade, markets, agriculture, finance and population, and is presented either in memoranda or in monographs.

Before dispersing, the Committee re-classified its material according to the agenda it had adopted. It set up a Committee of Co-ordination to be responsible for any further discussions as to the system under which the issue of documents should take place and the preliminary verification which might be necessary.

The Committee is composed of

- M. Theunis (Belgian), chairman of the Preparatory Committee;
- M. Belloni (Italian), chairman of Committee A;
- M. Hodac (Czechoslovak), chairman of Committee B;
- M. Kroller (Netherlands), chairman of Committee C;
- M. Jouhaux (French);
- M. Trendelenburg (German);
- Mr. Gilbert (American);
- Mr. Layton (British);
- M. Dubois (Swiss).

Before closing the session, the chairman, M. Theunis made a speech in which he laid stress upon the novelty and originality of the League's initiative in the economic field and the relations of this work with its political activity. He also drew attention to the necessity of preparing international public opinion and to the difficulties and delay which would inevitably be encountered.

“Other attempts “he said” have been made previously to analyse the existing economic difficulties and to seek for remedies. We are acquainted with those attempts. The conclusions which were reached deserve to be considered with the greatest attention; but those studies were undertaken by persons

belonging to circles confined to some particular sphere of activity or to groups the members of which were men in the same circumstances and whose immediate interest were closely allied. Inevitably such a position reacted on the programme drawn up by those organisations.

The distinguishing feature of the work undertaken by the League of Nations is the entirely different composition of the Committee entrusted with the drafting of the programme of the Economic Conference and the proposed composition of the Conference itself.

The League of Nations desired to lend a general character to the conclusions which would be reached, and with that end in view brought together members, belonging to all circles. Thus, owing to its composition, the Preparatory Committee has brought together, and the forthcoming Conference will bring together, economists, producers, traders, representatives of finance, labour and the consumers themselves, the members coming from all parts of the world. This variety of interests and of origin will lend to the work which the Conference will do very special value.

If the Economic Conference is to succeed, we must have a considerable amount of support from the public opinion of all countries, and that is one of the essential requirements for the future effectiveness of the work. I am well aware that there is a certain amount of scepticism with regard to the possible results, and therefore, if our proposals are to have an appeal, we must above all dispel the widespread misconception that we think that the utility of the Conference will be confined to results which can be immediately and completely put into practice.

We should not hide the immense size of the task from anyone, for we quite understand its scope, and are aware that it is indispensable to proceed by successive stages”.

2. — COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSIT

a) *League Communications in Times of Crisis.*

Meeting of the Permanent Committee on Transport by Rail ⁽¹⁾. — The Permanent Committee on Transport by Rail met in London on October 29th and 30th. There were present :

M. G. Sinigalia (appointed by the Government of Italy). Former Chief Inspector of the Italian State Railways; member of the Central Commission for Rhine Navigation. *Chairman.*

M. A. Politis (appointed by the Government of Greece). Technical Delegate of the Greek Government at Paris; former Director of Greek Railways, *Vice-Chairman.*

M. F. Amunategui (appointed by the Government of Chile). Engineer of Bridges and Roads; Secretary-General of the Mixed Court of Arbitration.

M. G. Brockmann y Abarzuza (appointed by the Government of Spain). Inspector-General of Roads, Canals and Ports; President of the Council of Public Works.

M. Ouang-Hang (appointed by the Government of China). Railway Engineer.

Sir Francis Dent. Former Chairman of the Railway Committee of the Second General Conference on Communications and Transit; former Director-General of the South-Eastern and Chatham Railway.

Mr. Paterson, of the British Ministry of Transport.

M. R. Herold, Director of the Federal Railways at Zurich.

Dr. Otokar Lankas, Director of the Ministry of Railways at Prague.

M. Launay, Engineer in Chief of Roads and Bridges, Assistant Director General of French Railways (replacing M. Schwob, who was unable to attend).

M. P. Wolf, Director of the Reich Railways, Berlin.

(1) See *Monthly Summary*, Vol. VI, No. 10, p. 254.

The Committee considered the question of communications with Geneva in times of crisis. While the Committee was of opinion that any general improvement in the existing train connections between the seat of the League and the various European capitals would facilitate special meetings of the Council or the movement of members of special missions which might be called for in the cases foreseen in Articles 15 and 16 of the Covenant, it realised that in the establishing of railway time-tables many other circumstances had to be taken into consideration.

Considering the number of emergencies which might arise, the Committee came to the conclusion that it was hardly possible to draw up plans in advance. It was, nevertheless, of the opinion that, in order to avoid loss of time at a given moment, the following steps might be taken immediately. States Members might be invited (1) to express their readiness, on notification by the Secretary-General of the existence of a crisis, to take any measures deemed possible to facilitate the movements of members of the Council and League missions; (2) to notify the Secretary-General of a governmental department, which would have the necessary instructions and powers, to whom the members of the Council and the Secretary-General might communicate directly on notification of a crisis, in order that such governmental department might, in the country concerned, organise with the utmost speed the requisite means of transport.

The Committee also dealt with a number of other questions, such as combined transport documents for railways and other types of transport (steamships, aeroplanes, etc.), railway statistics, etc.

With regard to the request of the Council for advice concerning a petition presented by the Szatmar-Matesalka and Nagykaroly-Matesalka-Casp railways, the Committee, having noted that negotiations were proceeding between the companies and the government concerned, decided to suggest to the Council that the matter reserved for examination at a later date.

Meeting of Telegraphic experts. — A meeting of telegraphic experts took place at Geneva from November 20th to November 22nd. This meeting had been summoned by the Committee for Communications and Transit to examine, from the point of view of technical practicability, the question of the improvement of the League telegraphic and telephonic communications in times of crisis.

The experts recommended a certain number of measures for ensuring the greatest possible speed in the transmission of telegraphic or wireless messages affecting the League. Thus, in times of crisis, communications addressed by Governments to the League, or sent by the latter, might be preceded by a special mark, entitling them to particularly rapid transmission.

An up-to-date list of the most easily accessible telegraphic and wireless means of communication would be established. Senders would thus be enabled to despatch their telegrams simultaneously by several different lines, this method offering— notably, in times of crisis— additional guarantees of transmission and delivery.

In certain cases, a supplementary service might be organised by establishing, at the request of the Council, special and direct telegraphic or wireless communication between given stations.

In consideration of the fact that facilities for telephoning to Geneva enabled communications of this nature to be established with a minimum of delay, the experts did not deal with the question of telephone communications.

The meeting was attended by M. Reinhardt, member of the Committee for Communications and Transit, Chairman; M. Arendt, Ministerial Adviser at the German Postal Ministry; M. Etienne, Director of the International Telegraphic Union; M. Gueme, Chief of the Telegraphic Section of the Italian Ministry of Communications; M. Loudon of the General Post Office, London; M. Poulaine, Sub-Director of the Telegraphic Section of the French Postal and Telegraphic Secretariat (replacing M. Boulanger, Director).

b) Meeting of the Permanent Committee on Electric Questions.

The Permanent Committee on Electric Questions constituted by the Committee for Communications and Transit met at Geneva, from November 17th to November 20th, with M. Dobkevicius (Lithuania) in the chair.

The agenda included the three following questions :

1. Ratification of the conventions adopted in 1923 on the transmission in transit of electric power and the development of hydraulic power;
2. Constitution of an international centre of information on electric questions;
3. Relations of the Committee with other international organisations dealing with electric questions.

With regard to the first question, the Committee recommended that the Governments concerned should be requested to examine afresh the conventions of 1923, with a view to eventual ratification or adhesion. It added that, should difficulties of interpretation prove an obstacle to ratification or adhesion, it would be ready to furnish Governments with all the necessary explanations.

With reference to the second point, the Committee was of the opinion that the League might perform important duties in this domain by co-ordinating official action, and by lending its services for the constitution of an international centre of information which so far did not exist, and whose creation would most certainly promote inter-State co-operation in this field. Such a centre, the Committee believed, would also be of great practical use to all interested in electric questions. It accordingly approved the scheme submitted to the Committee for Communications and Transit and endorsed by the Assembly, and drew up a general plan of the material to be collected.

In connection with the third question, the Committee considered that, according to the precedents established by the Committee for Communications and Transit and its various organisations, it would be advisable to institute direct official relations with particularly representative international organisations dealing mainly with the technical aspect of the production, transmission and distribution of electric power. These relations would include not only the exchange of documents, but also the reciprocal collaboration (in an advisory capacity) of representatives of the bodies concerned.

The Committee is composed as follows :

M. Dobkevicius (appointed by the Lithuanian Government) engineer, Councillor of Legation, Chairman of the Committee;

M. Brockmann y Abarzuza (appointed by the Spanish Government), Inspector-General of Roads, Canals and Ports, Chairman of the Council of Public Works;

M. A. Politis (appointed by the Greek Government). Technical delegate of the Greek Government in Paris, former director of the Greek railways;

M. P. Bignami (Italy), engineer, former Under Secretary of State;

M. J. Chuard (Switzerland), engineer, Director of the "Banque pour Entreprises électriques", Zurich;

M. Hansen (Sweden), Director-General of Hydraulic Power and Canals in Sweden;

M. R. Haas (Germany), Director-General of the "Reinische Kraftwerke", Rheinfelden;

M. Magnier (France), Director of Hydraulic Power and of the Distribution of Electric Energy in the French Ministry of Public Works.

c) *Meeting of Legal Committee.*

The Legal Committee of the Committee for Communications and Transit met in Paris from November 5th to November 8th. There were present :

M. Urrutia, M. Guerrara, M. Winiarski, Mr. Beckett, M. Mayer, M. Scie-Ton-Fa.

The Committee proceeded to the revision of the rules adopted at the Barcelona Conference (1921) for the organisation of the General Conferences and of the Committee for Communication and Transit, taking as the basis of its revision the experience gained since the Barcelona Conference.

VI. — Administrative Questions.

TENTH SESSION OF THE PERMANENT MANDATES COMMISSION

The Permanent Mandates Commission met at Geneva from November 4th to November 19th, under the chairmanship of Marquis Theodoli (Italian). There were also present :

M. Freire d'Andrade (Portuguese); Sir Frederick Lugard (British); M. Merlin (French); M. Palacios (Spanish); M. Orts (Belgian); M. Rappard (Swiss); M. van Rees (Dutch), Vice-Chairman; Madame A. Wicksell (Swedish); M. Yamanaka (Japanese). Mr. Grimshaw, representative of the International Labour Office, took part in the proceedings in an advisory capacity.

The agenda included the examination of various general questions relating to the administration of mandated territories; of the annual reports of several Mandatory Powers on the administration of territories committed to their charge; of a certain number of petitions, together with replies sent in by the Governments concerned according to the usual procedure; and of memoranda submitted by members of the Commission on the interpretation of the terms of the mandates in respect of forced labour and the liquor traffic.

Before considering the questions on its agenda, the Commission heard statements by its Chairman and Vice-Chairman on the work of the Assembly and the Council in connection with Mandates, and by the Chief of the Mandates Section on the work of his section since the last meeting of the Commission.

I. Annual Reports. — The Commission examined annual reports on Iraq, Syria and Lebanon, the British Cameroons, British Togoland, the Pacific Islands under Japanese Mandate and Western Samoa. Each report was considered in the presence of an accredited representative of the Mandatory Power, namely :

Sir Henry Dobbs, British High Commissioner for Iraq—assisted by Mr. Hall and Mr. Lloyd, of the Colonial Office—for the report on Iraq;

M. Robert de Caix, former Secretary-General of the Syrian High Commissariat—assisted by M. Clanzel, Director of the League of Nations Department of the French Foreign Office—for the report on Syria and Lebanon;

The Hon. W. Ormsby-Gore, Under Secretary of State for the Colonies—assisted by Mr. Hunt, a senior official of the Nigerian Administration, and M. Lloyd, of the Colonial Office—for the reports on the British Cameroons and Togoland;

M. Sato, Japanese Minister in Poland, for the report on the Pacific Islands under Japanese mandate, and

Sir James Parr, New Zealand High Commissioner in London, for the report on Western Samoa.

With regard to the British administration in Iraq, which was considered by the Commission for the first time, two reports were submitted, one for the period from April 1923 to the end of 1924, the other for the year 1925.

• In this connection, it may be noted that various circumstances, in particular, the negotiations between the British and Iraq Governments for the conclusion of a Treaty of Alliance, and the settlement of the question of the delimitation of the frontier between Turkey and Iraq, had delayed the entry into force of the Mandate—which only took place on September 1924—and, consequently, the communication by the British Government of an annual report as provided by Article 22 of the Covenant.

In connection with the Mandate for Syria and Lebanon, the Commission took note of the final report of the French Government for 1925 and of reports on the enquiries made by the mandatory into the causes of the Syrian rising, the responsibilities involved and the repressive measures taken.

The Commission's examination was mainly devoted to the results of this investigation, the principal events of 1925 having been carefully studied last March at its Rome Session.

• The reports on the British Cameroons and Togoland were accompanied by a Memorandum by Mr. Ormsby-Gore on his recent study tour in British West Africa.

II. *General Questions.* — At the request of the Council, the Commission considered the question of the definition of certain terms of the B and C Mandates, relating to the liquor traffic. It took note of statistics furnished by the Central International Office in Brussels on the liquor trade in the mandated territories and neighbouring countries.

III. *Petitions.* — The Commission dealt with numerous petitions on the subject of the administration of certain mandated territories, in particular, Syria, examining them in the light of the written observations of the Mandatory Powers.

According to its practice, the Commission forwarded to the Council, together with the report on its Tenth session, its observations ⁽¹⁾ on the general questions, annual reports and petitions examined at that Session.

VII. — Social and Humanitarian Questions.

INTERNATIONAL RELIEF UNION

The Committee of Experts appointed by the Council to examine Senator Ciraolo's scheme of an international union for the relief of populations visited by disaster sat at Geneva on November 3rd and 4th.

There were present : Senator Giovanni Ciraolo (Italian); M. Fernandez y Medina (Uruguayan); M. Draudt, Vice-Chairman of the German Red Cross; Mr. Maudslay, of the British Red Cross; Colonel Bicknell, Vice-Chairman of the American Red Cross, Vice-Chairman of the Governing Board of the League of Red Cross Societies; M. Werner (Swiss), of the International Committee of the Red Cross; Baron Edmond Carton de Wiart, Director of the Belgian Société Générale; M. Laurin (Swedish), Insurance Expert; M. André Mater, barrister at the Paris Court of Appeal.

In accordance with the Council's instructions ⁽²⁾, the Committee noted the replies of thirty-four Governments with regard to the draft Statutes of the Union, which had been submitted for their examination. It noted that many of the observations made in these replies were based on misunderstandings easy to dispel. Certain amendments were introduced into the statutes, based on opinions expressed by the various Governments.

(1) A summary of these observations will be published in No. 12.

(2) See *Monthly Summary*, Vol. VI, No. 9, p. 222.

Thus amended, the draft statutes will be submitted to the Council and then referred to the International Conference, which the Council, in principle, has decided to convene in 1927, for the purpose of founding the Union. The Committee has proposed that the date of this meeting should be fixed approximately for July 1st. 1927.

VIII. — Forthcoming Events.

- December 16th : Meeting of the Committee of Experts on Combined Transport, Geneva.
- December 17th : Meeting of the Preparatory Committee on Statistics, The Hague.
- January 5th : Meeting of the Committee of Experts on Double Taxation and Tax Evasion, Geneva.
- January 12th : Meeting of the Supervisory Commission, Geneva.
- January 14th : Meeting for the formation of the International Museum Office, Geneva.
- January 17th : Meeting of the Advisory Committee on Traffic in Opium, Geneva.
- January 17th : Conference of Health Experts on Infant Welfare, Paris.
- January 20th : Meeting of the Economic Committee, Geneva.

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MONTHLY SUMMARY OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS

Vol. VI. No. 13.

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I. — The League of Nations in 1926.

The year 1926 was marked by two events of far-reaching importance for the development and future of the League of Nations, namely, the admission of Germany as Member of the League and the re-organisation of the Council. These events took place in the midst of complications and difficulties which began in March at the special Assembly, and which were only settled in September during the Seventh Session of the Assembly.

On September 8th, Germany was admitted to the League by unanimous vote, receiving a permanent seat on the Council. On the same occasion, in order to take account in a wider and more equitable measure of the principle of the geographical distribution of seats, the number of non-permanent seats on the Council was increased from six to nine.

At the same time, the Assembly introduced new rules for the election, term of office and re-eligibility of the non-permanent Members of the Council. This system, with certain temporary provisions, was immediately put into force.

Considerable progress was made in two important tasks undertaken by the League, namely, the preparation of a general conference for the reduction and limitation of armaments, and that of an international economic conference.

The Preparatory Commission for the Disarmament Conference, on which twenty-one States, including the United States, are represented, is the central organisation for all preparatory work in connection with the Conference. It studied during the year the military and economic aspects of the problem, which it referred to its technical Sub-Commissions. The Committee of the Council made a thorough examination of the question of security, which, since 1922, has always been considered by League organisations as inseparable from that of disarmament. While seeking means of facilitating, in case of aggression, the rapid working of the scheme of mutual assistance provided for by Article XVI of the Covenant, the Committee of the Council studied methods and regulations for ensuring the rapid working of League organisations in case of emergency, as well as the practical possibility of preventive action on the part of the Council, thus emphasising the importance of the first paragraph of Article XI of the Covenant.

The Preparatory Committee for the Economic Conference whose extremely varied membership ensured evenly balanced representation of the various interests in question, drew up the agenda of the Conference, classifying in general chapters the matters to be discussed. It gave special prominence to two classes of questions, on account of their intrinsic importance and the public interest in them at the present time, namely, commercial and tariff policy and international industrial agreements. The Committee also agreed upon the documentation to serve as a basis for the work of the Conference, and proposed May 4th as its date of meeting. The Council agreed to these proposals.

In the political field, strictly speaking, no new questions were submitted, the matters dealt with concerning the termination of affairs previously considered by the League. The Mosul dispute was definitely settled by an agreement between the Turkish and British Governments, in accordance with the Council's recommendation; the recommendations of the Council with a view to the settlement of the Greco-Bulgarian incident have been, or are being, executed.

As regards the development of international law, technical and humanitarian questions, considerable progress was made. The Permanent Court of International Justice held one ordinary and one extraordinary session, in the course of which it delivered a judgment and an advisory opinion. The Committee for the Codification of International Law examined the various questions which appeared to it suitable for codification. The following points may also be mentioned : the ter-

•mination of the financial reconstruction of Austria and Hungary; the continuation of the refugee settlement work in Greece and the beginning of work of the same kind in Bulgaria; banking and currency reforms in Estonia; League assistance in the financial restoration of Danzig; the conclusion of a convention for the unification of tonnage measurement of vessels used in inland navigation; the convocation of a conference for the improvement of the passport system; the preparation of a draft convention on road traffic; the extension of the work of the Health Organisation to non-European countries, in particular, to the Far East and Africa; and an increase of activity on the part of the International Committee of Intellectual Co-operation, owing to the foundation of the Paris Institute; measures for the employment of Greek and Armenian refugees, the conclusion of a Slavery Convention; the preparation of a draft Convention for the formation of an international union for the relief of populations visited by disaster, etc.

Admission of Germany. Re-organisation of the Council.

The question on the admission of Germany to the League was dealt with both by the special Assembly of March and the Assembly of September.

On this occasion a question was settled which had been discussed at every session of the Assembly since 1920, that of the composition of the Council and the election of its non-permanent Members.

The German Government having addressed on February 10th a request for admission, the Council, on February 12th, decided to convene a special meeting of the Assembly for March 8th. On the agenda of this session figured, besides the question of the admission of Germany, that of decisions to be taken by the Assembly on Council proposals, if any, in application of Article IV of the Covenant. This question concerned the enlargement of the Council by means of the increase of its permanent or its non-permanent Members.

The First Committee of the Special Assembly submitted a unanimous report in favour of Germany's admission. As, however, differences of opinion had arisen in the Council with regard to the granting of new seats, in particular owing to claims for permanent seats put forward by Brazil and Spain, the Assembly was obliged to adjourn its decision. Nevertheless, before dispersing, it voted a resolution concerning Germany's "moral admission in anticipation of the actual realisation of Assembly's hopes."

In order to overcome the difficulties which had arisen, the Council appointed a Committee to study the composition of the Council and the number and methods of election of its Members. This Committee included, besides the Members of the Council (Belgium, Brazil, British Empire, Spain, France, Italy, Japan, Sweden, Czechoslovakia, Uruguay) representatives of Germany, the Argentine, China, Poland and Switzerland. It met twice, in May, and at the end of August, under the chairmanship of M. Motta. After agreeing as to the principle of the increase of the non-permanent Members of the Council, the Committee drew up draft regulations with regard to their number, methods of election, term of office, and conditions of re-eligibility. The application of this scheme was made possible by the entry in force of the amendment to Article IV of the Covenant, which empowers the Assembly to draw up rules for the election of non-permanent Members of the Council.

The scheme, with some modifications, was unanimously adopted by the Assembly. It lays down the principle that the Council in future will include nine non-permanent Members, elected for a term of three years, and non re-eligible during the following three years. The members of the Committee considered that this increase of the non-permanent seats would enable the Assembly to take account in a wider and more equitable measure of the principle of the geographical distribution of seats. In accordance with this principle, the Committee had stated that it considered that three of the non-permanent seats should be assigned to States of Latin America, and that adequate representation should be secured for Asia.

To the general rule of non-re-eligibility, the scheme offers an exception, according to which a retiring Member of the Council can be re-elected if on the expiry of his term of office, or during the following period of three years, if the Assembly, by a two-thirds majority, decides in advance that this Member is re-eligible. There is, further, a provision, according to which the Assembly may at any time, by a two-thirds majority, proceed, in application of Article IV of the Covenant, to a new election of all the non-permanent Members.

As temporary measures, the Committee proposed that the nine non-permanent Members of the Council should be elected, three for a period of three years, three for a term of two years, and three for a term of one year; and, that of the nine members thus elected, a maximum number of three should be immediately declared re-eligible by decision of the Assembly.

The scheme puts aside any question of the creation of a permanent seat other than that promised to Germany. While doing all in its power to meet the wishes of Spain and Brazil, the Committee did not feel able to submit to the Council a proposal for the creation of permanent seats other than that which it unanimously considered should be granted to Germany. On September 11th, the Spanish Government notified the Secretary-General of its intention to withdraw from the League of Nations; the Brazilian Government had notified him to this effect in June.

On September 8th the Assembly unanimously admitted Germany to the League, approved the creation of a permanent Council seat for Germany, and approved the increase from six to nine of the non-permanent seats on the Council.

On September 10th, the German Delegation took its seats in the Assembly. The first delegate of Germany, M. Stresemann, made a speech, which was answered by the first French Delegate, M. Briand.

On September 16th, the Assembly elected the non-permanent Members of the Council, which, henceforth, includes, besides the five permanent Members (Germany, British Empire, France, Italy, Japan) nine non-permanent members, namely, Belgium, Chile, China, Colombia, Netherlands, Poland, Roumania, Salvador and Czechoslovakia. Poland was declared re-eligible.

Disarmament and Security.

Preparation of the Disarmament Conference.

The preparatory work for the Disarmament Conference was actively pursued. The central organ engaged in this work, the Preparatory Commission, on which twenty-one Governments including that of the United States, were represented, reserved for its own consideration the political side of the problem, referring to technical sub-commissions—"A" (Military, Naval and Air Questions); "B" (Economic questions) and the Joint Commission—the examination of the military and economic aspects of the programme assigned to it by the Committee of the Council in the form of a detailed questionnaire.

The Sub-Commissions have practically finished their work; the Military Sub-Commission submitted its final report; the Economic Sub-Commission examined that of the Joint Commission, which also completed its work. These various reports will serve as a basis for the discussions of the Preparatory Commission, which will meet on March 29th next.

As, therefore, the technical preparation of the conference had advanced and the political outlook had improved in the part of Europe covered by the Locarno Agreements, the Assembly recognised that a Conference for the reduction and limitation of armaments could and should be convened. It stated that the reduction and limitation of armaments should correspond to existing conditions in regard to regional and general security, and that there could be no question of solving the whole problem at the first attempt. "The Conference will only be the first of a Series and, even apart from the importance of the reductions and limitations it may bring about", to quote the report of the Third Committee to the Assembly,

“it must in any case have the immense advantage of transforming into an international contract the degree of armament of the different States, and of thus putting a stop for a definite period to any possibility of competition in armaments.”

The date of the meeting of the Conference will depend on progress in its technical and political preparation.

The Council decided to summon for next autumn an international conference on the supervision of the private manufacture of arms, the preparatory work for which will be carried out by a special commission to which, in addition to the Members of the Council, the United States and Russia will be invited to send representatives.



Certain explanations were given and modifications made by the Council in regard to the system adopted in September, 1924, for the exercise of the right of investigation, conferred upon it by the treaties, concerning the execution of the undertakings entered into by various countries as to the scale of their armaments. The Council similarly furnished explanations as to the regulations governing the powers of the Commissions which may subsequently be instructed to proceed to such investigations.

It stated in particular that the provisions of Article 213 of the Treaty of Peace with Germany relating to investigations should be applicable to the demilitarised Rhine zone as to other parts of Germany. This article, it added, did not provide in that zone, any more than elsewhere, for special control by local standing and permanent groups. In the demilitarised Rhine Zone such special groups, not provided for in Article 213, could not be set up except by convention between the Governments concerned.

In conformity with the decision taken by the representatives of the Belgian, British, French, German, Italian and Japanese Governments the Inter-Allied Military Control Commission will be withdrawn from Germany on January 31st 1927.

In the work of the League organisations prominence was given to the question of security in its relation to disarmament.

Security

The Assembly noted the systematic survey of arbitration conventions and treaties of mutual security prepared by the Secretariat. As regards agreements of this kind so far concluded, it emphasised in particular the importance of the Treaties of Locarno. The general ideas embodied in the clauses of these Treaties, whereby provision was made for conciliation and security by the mutual guaranteeing of States against any unprovoked aggression, might, it considered, be applied to different parts of the world and be accepted amongst the fundamental rules which should govern the foreign policy of every civilised nation. The Assembly expressed the hope that these principles would be recognised by all States, and would be put into practice by all those in whose interest it was to contract such Treaties. It invited the Council to recommend States Members of the League to put into practice the principles of Locarno and to offer, if necessary, its good offices for the conclusion of suitable agreements.

The Council, noting the connection established between the question of security and that of disarmament, undertook a study of methods and regulations for ensuring the rapid working of the organs of the League in case of emergency and methods likely to facilitate the application of Articles XI and XVI of the Covenant. The work performed under the direction of the Council by the Secretariat and the Advisory Committee for Communications and Transit was brought to the notice of the States Members. The latter were asked to consider the desirability or formally undertaking to facilitate by every means in their power the most rapid and effective working of the organs of the League at times of emergency, and, further, to consider favourably the technical measures proposed in the report of the Committee for Com-

munications and Transit as regards communications by rail, air, wire and wireless, affecting the League at times of emergency, and to take such steps as they might deem possible to facilitate the application of these measures (improvements in timetables; special trains; connections between different means of transport; special priority; creation in each country of a central co-ordination service with a view to ensuring League transport at times of emergency).

Three members of the Committee of the Council were requested to consider practical measures for preventive action by the Council as indicated in Article XI of the Covenant. The Financial Committee will examine a Finnish proposal with a view to the establishment of a common scheme of financial assistance in support of a State, victim of aggression, and all other similar suggestions. The Secretariat was instructed to consider certain aspects of the possible application of Article XVI.

Preparation for the International Economic Conference.

Of the two new tasks undertaken by the League, the preparations for the International Economic Conference have advanced the more rapidly. The Preparatory Committee completed in two sessions the task entrusted to it by the Council, *i. e.* to study the programme, composition, rules of procedure and date of the Conference; and to define the fields in which there were economic difficulties of an international character, the points for which a practical solution might be contemplated, and the methods suitable for these solutions.

At its first session (May 1926) the Committee laid down its procedure and method of work and gave general directions as to the material to be collected. At its second session (November 1926) it drew up the agenda of the Conference, indicated to the Council the rules which, in its opinion, should govern the composition of the Conference and made arrangements for the classification and completion of the material on which the Conference's work was to be based.

The Agenda approved by the Council duly takes into account the two aims which the Assembly had in view, namely, prosperity and peace, in so far as they may be promoted by international discussion and co-operation. It is drawn up with a view to a general discussion of the principal features of the world economic situation, together with a detailed examination of special international questions, for which there is reason to believe that a practical settlement can be found.

The members of the Conference will be appointed by the Governments on account of their personal qualifications, and will not be the mouthpieces of official policy. In addition to the States Members of the League, invitations to take part in the Conference will be sent to the United States, Russia, Turkey, Mexico, Egypt and Ecuador.

The necessary documents have been collected by the Secretariat of the League, the International Labour Office and the International Institute of Agriculture, in cooperation with various other international organisations. The members of the Committee themselves and representatives of the leading industrial organisations in different countries have also contributed towards this documentation, and there is a special report from the International Chamber of Commerce, which has made a far-reaching enquiry on these questions.

The documentation, which is thus extremely abundant and varied, relates to problems of industrial production, trade and markets, agriculture, finance and population. It is presented in memoranda and monographs.

The plenary and sub-committee meetings of the Preparatory Committee (which comprises thirty-five members, of twenty-one nationalities—industrialists, officials, economists, financiers, representatives of workers' and consumers' organisations, and agriculturalists—) were the occasion of exchanges of views between experts on widely differing subjects, and, through them, between the classes and currents of opinion which they represented. The date of the Conference was fixed for May 4th, 1927.

*•The Permanent Court of International Justice—The American Reservations
Development of International Law.*

The Permanent Court of International Justice, which meets in ordinary session on June 15th every year, held an extraordinary session in January, 1926, in order to give a decision on matters relating to certain German interests in Polish Upper Silesia. The Court, to which on this occasion two national judges (one German and one Polish) were attached, gave its decision on May 26th, 1926.

At its ordinary session the Court gave an advisory opinion on a question submitted to it by the Council, at the request of the Governing Body of the International Labour Office on the subject of the competence of that Organisation in regard to the personal work of the employer.

At the same session the Court introduced certain amendments in its Rules as laid down in 1922. The revised Rules were published on July 31st, on which date they came into force.

In the course of the year Germany, Abyssinia and Guatemala acceded to the Statute of the Court. Two of these countries—Guatemala and Abyssinia—at the same time signed the clause regarding the compulsory jurisdiction of the Court. Denmark, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden and Switzerland renewed their declarations, and Belgium also ratified her declaration of September 25th, 1925, accepting the compulsory jurisdiction of the Court.

The Court received from the Belgian Government an application instituting proceedings against China in regard to a dispute concerning the denunciation by the latter of the Treaty of 1865. It also received from the Council a request for its advisory opinion on questions concerning the jurisdiction of the European Commission of the Danube.



At its March session the Council took note of a communication from the State Department at Washington informing the Secretary-General that the Senate had taken a decision approving the accession of the United States to the Court, subject to certain conditions and reservations.

The State Department had approached the Governments of the several Powers signatory to the Protocol, asking them whether they accepted the conditions, reservations and stipulations contained in the Senate's Resolution.

The Council decided to ask all the Governments which had signed the Protocol of the Court to reply to the Department of State indicating the difficulty of proceeding by way of a mere exchange of Notes, and the need of a general agreement. It also decided to invite all these Governments and the Government of the United States to appoint delegates to a Conference to discuss the different questions raised by the American Senate's resolution and to frame a new agreement. This Conference, which was held at Geneva at September 1st, was attended by thirty-nine of the forty-nine Signatories. The Government of the United States had previously announced that it did not consider it desirable to be represented at a Conference of this kind.

The Conference, which, at its first meeting, paid a unanimous and cordial tribute to the United States for its intention to co-operate in the work of the Court, adopted, after three weeks' discussion, a Final Act embodying its views on each of the five American reservations.

Copies of this Final Act were sent to all the Signatory States to the Protocol, and these States were invited to adopt the conclusions of the Act as the basis of their replies to the United States.

A draft preliminary Protocol accompanied the Final Act, the Conference having endorsed the opinion that it would be desirable for the States signatories to conclude

with the United States an agreement which, unless a further exchange of views were considered necessary by the latter, might be framed on the lines of the Protocol.

The Committee for the Progressive Codification of International Law held a second session. It discussed the reports of the sub-committees studying questions ripe for codification by general international conventions. There were eleven of these questions, namely : Nationality; territorial waters; diplomatic privileges and immunities; the legal status of Government ships employed in commerce; extradition; the criminal jurisdiction of States in regard to offences committed outside their territories; responsibility of States in respect of injury caused in their territory to the person or property of foreigners; procedure of international conferences and procedure for the conclusion and drafting of treaties; piracy; prescription; and the exploitation of the products of the sea.

The Committee took note of the replies received from the international institutions whose opinion it had sought. While not recommending any definite solutions, it considered that most of these questions were ripe for international settlement, and that they might be submitted to the various Governments together with the sub-committees' reports. The Committee was not in favour of waiting until a complete and final list of matters to be codified could be submitted to the Governments, but considered that in order to save time these matters should be submitted one by one, as and when it completed its examination of the various points under discussion. The reports were therefore forwarded to the Governments.

At the request of the Assembly the Council decided that a report should be submitted to it every six months on the position as regards the ratification of agreements and conventions concluded under the auspices of the League of Nations. The Assembly had noted that a number of these agreements and conventions had remained inoperative, or had not come into force until after a long delay, on account of the difficulty of obtaining a sufficient number of ratifications. It adopted a special resolution drawing the attention of the Governments to the necessity of taking suitable steps to facilitate and expedite these ratifications.

Minorities. Administrative questions (Saar and Dansig). Mandates.

Minorities.

In this field, the League continued the work assigned to it by the Minorities Treaties, its procedure being that laid down by the Council and Assembly in previous years.

Certain matters were brought before the plenary meeting of the Council, but they only represented an infinitesimal part of the actual work of information and negotiation carried out in the course of the year by the Secretariat and the Committees of the Council, on which the various members of the Council sat in turn.

Saar Territory.

In the Saar, Customs questions played a predominant part, the Governing Commission doing all in its power to facilitate the application of the new régime to the Territory. Steps were also taken to ensure the budgetary equilibrium of the Territory.

The agreement concluded at Baden-Baden in 1925 between the Saar Governing Commission and the German Government in regard to the position and pensions of German officials placed at the Commission's disposal was put into application. The Governing Commission created a Pensions Fund for all officials of the Saar Territory entitled to pensions.

The programme for the development of the local gendarmerie was carried out in full, and the effectives of the gendarmerie now number 1005. This force, together with the police forces at the Commission's disposal, is considered by the latter as strong enough to perform in ordinary times the duties incumbent upon the gendarmerie and municipal police. In order to be in a position "to provide in all cases for the protection of persons and property", the Council, in one of its previous

resolution⁹ (1922), contemplated the possibility of authorising the Commission to seek the assistance of troops stationed outside the Territory.

The French Government having announced that the withdrawal of the troops stationed in the Territory would be proceeded with step by step, the Council drew the Governing Commission's attention to the fact that it was its duty to ensure in all cases freedom of transport and transit over the railways of the Territory, and invited it to submit proposals on this subject.

The composition of the Commission has undergone several changes. At present it consists of Mr. Stephens (Canadian), Chairman; M. Kossmann (Saar); M. Lambert (Belgian); M. Morize (French); M. Vezensky (Czechoslovak).

The only question regarding Danzig which came before the Council was that of the financial position of the Free City, which suddenly became acute owing to the crisis which swept Central Europe in 1925, and also owing to certain special circumstances. The Financial Committee thoroughly examined the situation, and recommended, first a number of measures to ensure budgetary equilibrium, and second, the issue of an international loan.

Danzig.

On this occasion, the Council, noting that subjects pending between Danzig and Poland were not always dealt with as quickly as might be desired, invited the Danzig and Polish authorities, instead of transacting their business by correspondence, necessarily a slow method, to maintain easier and less formal relations by entering into direct personal contact.

As in previous years the Mandates Commission examined the reports which, under the terms of the Covenant, the Mandatory Powers submit to the Council on the administration of the territories entrusted to them. This year, interest centred particularly on Syria, and the Commission held a special session devoted to the examination of the French Government's reports on the situation in Syria and the Lebanon in 1924 and 1925, and of a number of petitions.

Mandates.

The Commission received for the first time a report from the British Government on Iraq. Owing to various circumstances, in particular the British Government's negotiations with the Iraq Government in regard to the conclusion of a Treaty of Alliance, and the settlement of the delimitation of the frontier between Turkey and Iraq, a delay arose in the execution of the mandate (it did not come into operation until September 1924) and the presentation by the British Government of the annual reports prescribed by the Covenant.

In compliance with a desire frequently expressed by the Commission, several Mandatory Powers instructed officials responsible for the administration of mandated territories or senior officials of the administrations to furnish the Commission with certain information.

In two questions of general interest—military recruiting and State domains in mandated territory—with which the Commission had dealt in previous years, the Council, after consulting the Mandatory Powers, adopted the view expressed by the Commission. As regards the question of the liquor traffic, also dealt with by the Commission, the Council asked the Commission to consider the opinions expressed by the Mandatory Powers.

The Council laid down the procedure to be followed in regard to petitions. Before taking any decision on this subject, it asked the Mandatory Powers for their opinion as to whether in exceptional cases petitioners should be heard in person. It also sought the opinion of the Mandatory Powers on the list of questions drafted by the Commission for the preparation of annual reports on territories under "B" and "C" Mandates.

⁹ Work of the Technical Organisations.

In the technical field—economic and financial questions, communications and transit, health, intellectual co-operation—the work begun in previous years was

either completed (e.g. termination of the financial control of Austria and Hungary), or successfully continued (settlement of Greek refugees, enquiries by the Health Organisation, etc.). New tasks were also undertaken, such as the settlement of Bulgarian refugees, banking and currency reform in Estonia, assistance in the financial restoration of Danzig, preparation of international conventions, etc.

Economic and Financial Organisation.

The Financial Committee and the Economic Committee, by conventions or international engagements, continued their efforts to remove or diminish obstacles to the development of economic life and international commerce. Draft conventions for the suppression of import and export prohibitions and restrictions, and on double taxation and fiscal evasion were drawn up; a study was made of the question of false customs declarations and of the execution of arbitral awards rendered abroad. The possibility of the gradual unification of the various legislations on bills of exchange was studied and an enquiry made into the problem of counterfeiting currency.

The work of the Economic and Financial Committees with regard to reconstruction included in particular measures in connection with the establishment of Bulgarian refugees, the banking and monetary reform in Estonia, and the financial situation of Danzig.

Settlement of Bulgarian Refugees.

Since 1923, roughly 52,000 families of refugees, forming a total of 220,000 people, of whom 116,000 are capable of working, have poured into Bulgaria. Of this number, 30,000 persons have been definitely established, thanks either to the aid of the Bulgarian Government or their own resources. With some assistance from the Government, which has already spent 160 million levas for general settlement work, 25,000 more refugees can be settled in the urban districts. There therefore remain some 60,000 workers, representing roughly 30,000 families (that is to say, 120,000 people including their dependents) who have not yet been made self-supporting. These refugees are in great misery and the mortality rate amongst them is very high. They are still in a nomadic state, wandering from country to town and from town to country in the hope of finding work.

The Council, whose attention was drawn to the question by the Bulgarian Government, decided to assist the Government to relieve the sufferings of these refugees, and by their settlement on the land, contribute to the economic development and political stability of the country, as well as to the cause of peace as a whole.

As a result of the work undertaken by the Financial Committee and of long negotiations with Bulgaria's neighbours and with the reparations authorities, the Council authorised the issue of a loan of £2,250,000, guaranteed by certain Bulgarian State revenues, and approved the settlement scheme drawn up by the Financial Committee.

The work of settlement will be carried out subject to the strict and effective control of the use of the loan proceeds and of the choice of the land to be assigned to the refugees. A League Commissioner, resident in Sofia, is charged with this control. A procedure has been instituted to allow States bordering on Bulgaria, which have collaborated in the settlement scheme, to follow its application and, if necessary, to have questions which directly concern them examined by the Council.

Thanks to an advance of £400,000 on the future loan which was granted to the Bulgarian Government, the scheme was put in operation before the end of the year and a central organisation created for this purpose in Bulgaria. The necessary laws have been voted or are about to be voted, and seed has been distributed. Pending the complete application of the plan, private initiative (notably the League of Red Cross Societies) has intervened to meet the more urgent requirements of the refugees.

• In 1926 the Estonian Government asked the Council to authorise the experts of the Financial Committee to study the banking and monetary situation in Estonia. In order to carry out the reforms recommended by the experts, the Estonian Government requested, and obtained the approval by the Council of the issue of a loan under the auspices of the League, to be used for the purpose of establishing the currency on a gold basis, relieving the Bank of Estonia of certain assets, and founding a mortgage institute. The loan will be guaranteed by certain Estonian State revenues which will be placed under the control of a trustee appointed by the Council. A foreign adviser was appointed to the Bank of Issue.

Banking
and Monetary
Reform
in Estonia.

The Financial Committee drew up a Protocol which was signed by a representative of the Estonian Government.

Although the financial reform which the Free City of Danzig carried out in 1923 with the assistance of the League, was fully successful and the stability of the florin maintained without difficulty, various circumstances led to a considerable deficit in the budget and to a large floating debt. To meet this situation, the Financial Committee, in July, 1926, recommended the issue of a loan as soon as certain conditions had been fulfilled. Having noted in December the considerable progress made in the fulfilment of these conditions, the Council authorised the issue of an international loan, provided that the Financial Committee satisfied itself that certain measures which it had recommended had been carried out.

The Financial
Situation
of Danzig.

Communications and Transit.

During the year the Organisation for Communications and Transit dealt with a variety of subjects—inland navigation, ports, maritime navigation, unification of tonnage measurement, the safety of the seas, buoyage and lighting of coasts, railways, passports, road traffic, telegraph and telephone communications (wireless and otherwise), the conveyance and use of water-power, the unification of private law in inland navigation, the reform of the calendar, etc.

Two Conferences were prepared by this organisation—one for the unification or tonnage measurement in inland navigation, and the other for the improvement of passport regulations. It also drew up a draft convention which served as a basis of discussion for the Road Traffic Conference summoned by the French Government last April.

The Organisation was called upon on various occasions to act as mediator—an office assigned to it under certain conventions.

Its special committees have recently undertaken the necessary studies for the creation of a centre of documentation which will enable the Communications and Transit Organisation, which has hitherto dealt mainly with European problems, to extend its work to non-European countries.

Health Organisation.

The extension of its activity to non-European countries, the Far East and Africa was the chief feature of the work of the Health Organisation in 1926.

The Epidemiological Intelligence Office at Singapore—the first League Institution in the Far East—continued to develop. In Africa, interchanges took place of public health officials belonging to the Colonial Administrations of Western and Southern Africa. An international commission is studying sleeping sickness at Entebbe (Uganda). The possibility is being examined of establishing a centre of sanitary information in Africa similar to the Singapore Bureau. The programme of work for 1927, approved by the Health Committee and the Council, contemplates the extension of the activities of the Organisation to Latin America.

The regular interchanges of public health officials and enquiries regarding malaria, cancer, standardisation of sera and biological products, etc. continued throughout the year.

The International Committee on Intellectual Co-operation.

The most important event of the year in this domain was the opening of the International Institute of Intellectual Co-operation, which took place on January 16th, 1926.

The Committee continued to deal with such questions as intellectual rights (the protection of scientific property, copyright, royalties and so forth), university relations (international scholarships for the advancement of science; perfecting the equipment of scientific laboratories) and the co-ordination of analytical bibliography in the various sciences. An international museum office was established in order to strengthen co-operation between museums, and to facilitate exchanges of exhibits, exhibitions, etc. Certain new proposals are being studied, such as the organisation of a congress of representatives of the popular arts; the union of libraries in all countries in order to make their contents more readily available to the public, etc.

The question of the instruction of children and young people in the existence and aims of the League of Nations was studied by a Committee of Experts. The report of the experts was transmitted by the Council to Governments in order to enable the latter, if they so desired, to adopt the measures necessary for giving effect to the Committee's recommendations.

The International Committee on Intellectual Co-operation, with its national committees in the various countries, its special correspondents, its Paris Institute, its sub-committees, its experts, etc. to-day constitutes an organisation capable to deal with international problems of intellectual life.

HUMANITARIAN AND SOCIAL WORK

The conclusion of an International Anti-Slavery Convention, and the drafting of a scheme for an international union for the relief of peoples stricken by disaster were the two principal achievements of the League in the realm of humanitarian endeavour.

Marked progress was made care for refugees (Russian and Armenian) thanks to the action of the High Commissioner and the International Labour Organisation.

*Anti-Slavery
Convention.*

The framing of this Convention marks the final stage of the work undertaken by the League a few years ago, and conducted according to the League's usual method: the appointment of a special commission to collect information, consult experts and governments and frame a draft convention; the submission of the draft to the Council and its communication by the latter to Governments; finally, the summoning of an International Conference (in this case, the Assembly) to discuss the draft and conclude the Convention.

The object of the Convention is to carry further and complete the work begun in the same field by the Act of Brussels (1889-1890). Among the points in the Convention may be noted an undertaking to prevent and suppress the slave trade, to put an end to all conditions resembling slavery that may result from forced labour, and to undertake the complete suppression of slavery in any form by gradual and progressive measures. Article 8 of the Convention stipulates that all disputes arising between the High Contracting Parties with regard to its interpretation or application shall, if they cannot be settled by direct negotiation, be sent for a final decision to the Permanent Court of International Justice.

In order to enable the League to watch over the application of all measures for the progressive abolition of slavery and similar conditions, the Council will prepare

and communicate annually to the Assembly a document indicating the laws and regulations which the Parties to the Anti-Slavery Convention will have communicated to the Secretary-General of the League.

By the method just indicated in the case of the Anti-Slavery Convention, a preliminary draft agreement has been framed for the setting up of an international Relief Union. An International Conference has been summoned for July 4th, 1927, in order to conclude the agreement necessary to the final establishment of the Union.

The
International
Relief Union.

The idea of an International Union for the relief of populations stricken by disaster was considered during 1925 by a Special Commission under the chairmanship of Senator Ciraolo, the originator of the idea. This body drew up the draft statutes for an International Union.

The majority of the Governments to whom this draft was communicated declared themselves favourable in principle to setting up the Union and ready to accept in general outline the statutes proposed by the preparatory Commission.

At the present time there are still about 1,500,000 Russian and Armenian refugees scattered over about twenty-six different countries.

Russian and
Armenian
Refugees.

In order to facilitate the distribution and establishment of these refugees an inter-governmental conference met last May and concluded an agreement for regulating the system of identity cards, for taking a census of the refugees, and for creating a fund to cover the expenses of transport and establishment.

The question of establishing Armenian refugees in the Caucasus was studied by a special Commission. Experts sent to the spot by the Council drew up a plan for irrigation and settlement in the Erivan district, which would probably be self-supporting if it were possible to obtain the requisite funds for capital outlay. The Committee of Experts considered that for this purpose an appeal might be made to private organisations and persons. The Council declared itself ready, provided certain conditions were fulfilled and if so requested by the parties concerned, to appoint a certain number of persons to watch over the use of funds so collected.

* * *

The Opium Committee, during the last year, noted a considerable increase in the illicit traffic in opium and other drugs. The Council therefore decided to urge Governments to adhere to the Geneva Convention of 1925 or to proceed to ratify it as quickly as possible.

The Committee for the Protection of Children and Young People continued its enquiries and studies in collaboration with the competent government authorities and private organisations, in particular as regards the problem of protecting women and children migrants, alcoholism in its relation to the traffic in women, the protection of infancy, the age of consent and of marriage, etc.

The work of rescuing women and children in the Near East continued to produce satisfactory results both at Aleppo and Constantinople.

* * *

In 1926 a property was selected on the borders of the Lake of Geneva, as a building-site for the permanent quarters of the League of Nations. The Assembly voted a credit of 16,868,000 francs, including the receipts from the sale of the Hotel National (in which the League is at present housed) for which the Swiss Government has generously guaranteed the sum of 4,000,000 francs, in order to purchase the site and construct the necessary buildings.

A Jury of Architects was appointed by the Council, and an international competition with 165,000 francs in prizes organised for the best plan of the proposed buildings. The competition was opened on July 25th, 1926, and will be closed on January 25th, 1927.

II. — Summary of the Month.

DECEMBER 1926

The forty-third session of the Council, which took place at Geneva, under the presidency of M. Vandervelde (Belgium), was the principal League event in December.

The most important questions dealt with at this session were the appointment of the Chairmen of the Commissions of Investigation and an agreement on certain points of the scheme for the exercise of the Council's right of investigation; the study of measures to ensure the rapid working of the League organs in emergencies and to facilitate the application of Articles XI and XVI of the Covenant; the convocation for May 4th, 1927, of the International Economic Conference; the convocation for July 4th, 1927, of a Conference for the conclusion of an agreement constituting the International Relief Union; the decision to hold in autumn, 1927, a Conference on the supervision of the private manufacture of war material; a banking and currency reform in Estonia and the financial restoration of Danzig; measures for carrying out the Bulgarian Refugee Settlement Scheme; the appointment of a committee of experts to consider international measures for the suppression of counterfeit currency; a request for the advisory opinion of the Permanent Court of International Justice on questions concerning the jurisdiction of the European Commission of the Danube.

The Foreign Ministers of Belgium, Czechoslovakia, Great Britain, France, Germany, The Netherlands and Poland, attended this session in the capacity of representatives of their Governments.

Belgium was represented by M. Vandervelde, Chile by M. Villegas, China by M. Chao-Hsin-Chu, Colombia by M. Urrutia, Czechoslovakia by Dr. Benes (with M. Kremer as substitute), the British Empire by Sir Austen Chamberlain, France by M. Briand (with M. Paul-Boncour as substitute), Germany by Dr. Stresemann (with Dr. von Schubert as substitute), Italy by M. Scialoja, Japan by Viscount Ishii, the Netherlands by M. van Karnebeek, Poland by M. Zalewski (with M. Sokal as substitute), Roumania by M. Titulesco, and Salvador by M. Guerrero.

The Council also included representatives of Austria, Bulgaria, Estonia, Hungary, Greece and the Serb-Croat-Slovene Kingdom, for the discussion of questions affecting the interests of these countries.



Other December meetings were those of the Committee of the Council, the Financial Committee, and committees on combined transport, transit cards for emigrants, bills of exchange, etc.

Germany and Guatemala signed the Protocol of the Permanent Court of International Justice, the latter also signing the Optional Clause regarding the compulsory jurisdiction of the Court.

III. — The Permanent Court of International Justice (1).

1. — REQUEST FOR AN ADVISORY OPINION ON CERTAIN QUESTIONS CONCERNING THE COMPETENCE OF THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION OF THE DANUBE (2)

On December 9th, 1926, the Council of the League of Nations, having before it a report concerning certain difficulties which had arisen between Great Britain,

(1) This article has been prepared with the aid of material supplied by the Registrar of the Permanent Court.

(2) See also special chapter under "Communications and Transit".

France and Italy, on the one hand, and Roumania, on the other, regarding the extent, territorial or otherwise, of the jurisdiction of the European Commission of the Danube, decided to submit to the Permanent Court of International Justice, for an advisory opinion, a certain number of questions relating to the matter.

The Request for an opinion reached the Registry of the Court on December 20th; the notifications required by the Rules of Court have been issued.

Subject to the provisions of Article 73 of the revised Rules of Court, which confer on States not specially notified a right to express a desire to be heard, only the Governments of France, Great Britain, Italy and Roumania have been notified, by means of a special and direct communication, that the Court will be prepared to receive written statements from them relating to the questions submitted, or to hear oral statements made on their behalf on the subject. The time-limit for the deposit of written statements has been fixed for Wednesday, March 9th, and the public sitting to be held for this purpose will take place during the forthcoming Ordinary session of the Court at a date to be determined subsequently.

2. — SINO-BELGIAN AFFAIR (1)

According to a communication received from the Belgian Chargé d'Affaires at the Hague, the Belgian Government, thereby completing its Application instituting proceedings of November 25th, 1926, in accordance with the terms of Article 35 of the Rules of Court, has now appointed its agents in the above-mentioned suit, namely : M. J. de Ruelle, Jurisconsult to the Ministry for Foreign Affairs and Mr. Henri Rolin, Barrister practising before the Court of Appeal of Brussels, Legal Adviser to the Ministry for Foreign Affairs.

Furthermore, the President of the Court, in virtue of the powers conferred upon him by Article 33, last paragraph, of the Rules of Court, has decided, subject to the provisions of the second paragraph of the same Article, to fix as follows the times for the presentation of the documents of the written proceedings in this suit :

For the Case, by the Applicant, Wednesday, January 5th, 1927.

For the Counter-case, by the Respondent, Wednesday, March 16th, 1927.

For the Reply, by the Applicant, Wednesday, April 6th, 1927.

For the Rejoinder, by the Respondent, Wednesday, June 8th, 1927.

3. — PROTOCOL OF SIGNATURE OF THE COURT STATUTE

Germany. — On December 10th, 1926, the representative of the German Government on the Council of the League of Nations signed the Protocol of December 16th, 1920, to which the Statute is attached.

Guatemala. — The Chargé d'Affaires of Guatemala in Paris, delegate of Guatemala to the League of Nations, signed, on December 17th, 1926, the Protocol of signature of the Statute. He also added a declaration of acceptance of the Optional Clause conferring compulsory jurisdiction on the Court. The declaration is as follows :

On behalf of the Republic of Guatemala, I hereby accept, subject to ratification and on condition of reciprocity, the jurisdiction of the Court for all categories of legal disputes concerning :

- (a) The interpretation of a treaty;
- (b) any point of international law;

(1) See *Monthly Summary*, Vol. VI, No. 11, p. 264.

- (c) the existence of any fact which, if established, would constitute a breach of an international obligation;
- (d) the nature or extent of the reparation to be made for the breach of an international obligation.

IV. — The Reduction and Limitation of Armaments.

A certain number of questions concerning disarmament were examined by the Council in pursuance of resolutions of the Seventh Assembly and of the work assigned by the Council to its Special Committee.

This Committee held a short session at Geneva, from December 1st to December 4th, before the Council meeting, when it considered the proposals made to the Preparatory Commission by the French, Polish and Finnish delegations.

1. — ARBITRATION, SECURITY AND THE PACIFIC SETTLEMENT OF INTERNATIONAL DISPUTES

(Resolution of the Council)

On the report of Dr. Benes (Czechoslovakia), the Council, on December 8th, instructed the Secretary-General to communicate on its behalf with all States Members of the League recommending them to put into practice the principles laid down in the Assembly resolution on arbitration, security and the pacific settlement of international disputes ⁽¹⁾, and to inform them that the Council was prepared to cooperate with them for the conclusion of suitable agreements, likely to establish confidence and security, whenever in their opinion circumstances seemed to favour such a step.

2. — THE PREPARATORY COMMISSION FOR THE DISARMAMENT CONFERENCE

On the same date and on a further report of Dr. Benes, the Council decided to forward to the Preparatory Commission the resolution ⁽²⁾ by which the Assembly expressed its desire that the Disarmament Conference should be summoned at the earliest possible moment. It requested the Preparatory Commission, with due allowance for the probable progress of its work, to submit proposals with regard to the period at which it would be possible to convene the Conference, and to draw up the agenda of the Conference.

The British Representative, Sir Austen Chamberlain, while adhering to the proposed resolution, emphasised the necessity for careful preparatory work, which, he said, was the essential condition of the success of the Conference.

M. Paul-Boncour (France) expressed his agreement with regard to the necessity of complying with the desire of the Assembly that the Conference should meet as soon as possible. He also was of the opinion that the utmost importance must be attached to extremely thorough preparatory work and noted that, thanks to the patient endeavours of the committees, considerable progress had already been made.

M. Scialoja (Italy) associated himself with the observations of the British Representative. The Success of the Conference, he said, depended on the perfection of its programme and on its political preparation.

Viscount Ishii (Japan) agreed with the observations put forward by his colleagues.

The rapporteur, Dr. Benes, also recognised the necessity of sufficient preparation. He reminded the Council that the League Organisations had been studying

(1) See *Monthly Summary*, Vol. VI, No. 9, p. 177.

(2) See *Monthly Summary*, Vol. VI, No. 9, p. 177.

these questions for several years and that the political preparation of the Conference was well advanced.

3. — SUPERVISION OF THE PRIVATE MANUFACTURE OF ARMS

In order to meet the wishes of the Assembly, the Council, on December 9th, considered the possibility of convening a Conference for the supervision of the private manufacture of arms to meet in the autumn of 1927, if the Disarmament Conference could not be held before the eighth session of the Assembly.

On the proposal of Dr. Benes, it referred the preliminary work to a Special Commission composed of representatives of the States Members of the Council, together with representatives of the United States and Russia. This body will be called upon to examine the preliminary draft convention prepared by the Committee of Enquiry and to prepare a final draft to be discussed by the Conference.

In order to save time, the Commission will be authorised to forward its draft, through the Secretary-General, to all States invited to the 1925 Conference on the Supervision of the International Trade in Arms.

M. Guerrero (Salvador) drew the attention of the Council to the connection between the question of the supervision of the arms trade—on which an international convention had already been concluded—and that of the supervision of the private manufacture of arms. This, he said, explained the Assembly's view that the Conference should meet as soon as possible.

Dr. Benes replied that difficulties of a technical and material order had led him to propose the autumn of 1927 as the period of the meeting of the Conference.

4. — MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE COUNCIL

(Resolution of the Council).

The Committee of the Council met at Geneva on December 1st, under the chairmanship of M. Veverka (Czechoslovakia), to examine the French, Finnish and Polish proposals referred to it by the Council (1).

The Committee had before it for consideration :

(1) A memorandum by the Secretary-General in reply to the questions put to him by the Committee with regard to the occasions on which the Council has been summoned to deal with international crises; the steps taken in each case; and generally speaking, on means of enabling the Council to meet more rapidly and of improving telegraph and telephone communications between the Secretariat and the various countries;

(2) A memorandum submitted by the Committee on Communications and Transit on the possible improvement of communications affecting the League in emergencies;

(3) A report by M. de Brouckère on methods to enable the Council to take such decisions as might be necessary to enforce the obligations of the Covenant as expeditiously as possible;

(4) A memorandum by the Finnish Government on the possibility of organising immediate financial assistance for small States, victims of an aggression.

These reports and memoranda contained practical suggestions which served the Committee as a basis for its discussions and for the recommendations which it submitted to the Council.

On the report of Dr. Benes, the Council, on December 8th, adopted a series of resolutions designed to give effect to the proposals of its Committee with regard to

(1) See *Monthly Summary*, Vol. VI, No. 9, p. 300.

methods or regulations to ensure the rapid working of the League organs in emergencies, and preliminary measures to facilitate the application of Article 11 of the Covenant. The preliminary work carried out on the instructions of the Council by the Secretariat and the Committee on Communications and Transit has already been brought to the notice of all States Members of the League, who have been invited to consider the desirability of assuming a formal obligation to facilitate by every means in their power the most rapid and effective action of the League organs in case of emergency.

The Council reserved for a later session the consideration of a proposal of its Committee that an invitation regarding a formal engagement of this kind might be issued in the form of a resolution of the Assembly.

The Council invited Governments to consider favourably the technical measures proposed in the report of the Advisory and Technical Committee for Communications and Transit as regards communications by rail, air, telegraph and radio-telegraph, of importance to the League at times of emergency, and to take such measures as they might deem possible to facilitate the application of these measures (the improvement of time-tables; special trains; connections between different means of transport; special priority; the organisation in each country of a central service for the coordination of League communications in cases of emergency).

Three members of the Committee of the Council, M. de Brouckère, Lord Cecil and M. Titulesco) were appointed to study the practical possibilities of a preventive action of the Council under Article 11 of the Covenant.

The Committee having reserved for a later date its examination of Article 16, the Secretary-General was requested to collect all documents relating to the preliminary work carried out by the League in regard to this article in order that this information might be placed at the disposal of the next Assembly.

The Secretariat was also instructed to institute statistical and legal studies in view of a possible application of the economic sanction indicated in Article 16 of the Covenant. The Financial Committee was invited to study measures of organising the financial assistance contemplated by the same article, and, in particular, the suggestions contained in the Finnish proposal with regard to the additional guarantees of a financial nature to be granted to small States precariously situated.

At the request of the Polish representative, the Council approved the adjournment of the examination of the Polish proposal until the Preparatory Commission and its technical organs had completed their studies in the matter of regional disarmament. It referred to the Preparatory Commission part of the Finnish proposal concerning special arrangements, whereby a reduction of armaments agreed to by States unfavourably situated, owing to geographical or other circumstances, might be compensated.

5. — ORGANISATION OF THE EXERCISE OF THE COUNCIL'S RIGHT OF INVESTIGATION

As the terms of office of the Presidents of the Commissions of Investigation expire in January and February, 1927, the Council, on December 11th, made the following appointments :

Commission of Investigation in Germany : General Baratier.

Commission of Investigation in Austria : General Marietti.

Commission of Investigation in Bulgaria :

A superior officer of the Dutch army, whose name will be communicated to the Acting-President of the Council by the Dutch representative on the Council.

Commission of Investigation in Hungary :

Major-General C. Bonham Carter, C. B., C. M. G., D. S. O. The appointments are for one year and are renewable.

• On this occasion and in reply to certain questions submitted by the German Government regarding the regulations adopted by the Council on September 27th, 1924, and March 14th, 1925, with regard to the organisation of the exercise of the right of investigation and the powers of the Commissions of Investigation, the Council, on the proposal of Dr. Benes (Czechoslovakia) gave the following explanations :

1. The Council of the League of Nations, acting by a majority vote, shall decide in conformity with Article 213 of the Treaty of Versailles, whether it is necessary, in any particular case, to hold an investigation, and it shall then specify the object and the limits of such investigation. The Commissions of Investigation shall act under the authority and on the instructions of the Council; the Council's decisions shall be taken by a majority vote.

2. To render an effective investigation possible, the Commission shall apply to the representative appointed by the German Government or to his delegates, who will procure without delay the assistance of the administrative, judicial or military authority competent under German law. Such investigations shall then be carried out and findings reached as the Commission, acting within the limits of its instructions, may consider advisable, the interested party being given a hearing.

3. The prohibition laid down that the nationals of a State subjected to the right of investigation shall not form part of commissions of investigation, shall be understood in the sense that the nationals of the State in the territory of which an investigation is undertaken, shall never form part of a Commission holding such investigation.

4. It is understood that the provisions of Article 213 of the Peace Treaty with Germany, relating to investigations, shall be applicable to the demilitarised Rhine zone as to other parts of Germany. These provisions do not provide in this zone, any more than elsewhere, for any special control by local standing and permanent groups. In the demilitarised Rhine zone such special groups, not provided for Article 213, shall not be set up except by convention between the Governments concerned.

5. The explanations give in Articles 1, 2, and 3 above naturally apply to cases under Articles 159 of the Treaty of Saint-Germain, Article 143 of the Treaty of Trianon, and Article 104 of the Treaty of Neuilly.

V. — Legal and Constitutional Questions.

1. — INTERNATIONAL ENGAGEMENTS

a) *Ratification of agreements and conventions concluded under the auspices of the League.*

In order to give effect to the Assembly Resolution of September 24th, 1926 ⁽¹⁾ the Council, on the proposal of M. Saleski (Poland) requested the Secretary-General, to submit at its next session a report on the progress made in the ratification of international engagements concluded under the auspices of the League.

As the Resolution in question provides for a half yearly report, the Council decided that a second report should be submitted at the session preceding the ordinary session of the Assembly.

The engagements enumerated in the report are to be arranged in chronological order so that the Council may see at a glance the time that has elapsed since the conclusion of the conventions. The report will indicate States which have become Contracting Parties, either by ratification or accession, States which have not yet

(1) See *Monthly Summary*, Vol. VI, No. 9, p. 233.

ratified international undertakings they have signed, and, finally, States which have not signed conventions framed at conferences attended by them.

b) *Registration.*

Among the treaties and international agreements registered in December figure :

A provisional Commercial Arrangement between Finland and Turkey and a Treaty of Commerce and Navigation concluded in 1924 between Finland and Japan;

A series of letters, notes and other documents constituting an Aeronautical Agreement with a view to the application of Article 198 of the Treaty of Versailles, concluded with Germany by Belgium, the British Empire, France, Italy and Japan;

An Exchange of Notes prolonging the time-limit for the denunciation of the Treaty of Commerce in force between Switzerland and Czechoslovakia (Berne, September 30th, 1925);

A Treaty regulating the economic relations between Germany and Latvia (Riga, June 28th, 1926);

A Treaty of Friendship, Commerce and Navigation between Siam and Sweden (December 19th, 1926);

A commercial Convention between Spain and Norway.

c) *Adhesions, Ratifications, etc.*

The French Government signed on December 11th, the Anti-Slavery convention concluded in September, 1902, during, the seventh session of the Assembly.

The Government of Salvador has deposited with the Secretariat the instruments of ratification of the International Opium Convention concluded at Geneva on February 19th, 1925.

2. — METHOD OF ELECTION OF THE NON-PERMANENT MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

At its Seventh Session, the Assembly requested the Council, on the proposal of the Norwegian Delegation, to instruct the Secretariat to study the System of the single transferable vote and the principle of proportional representation in general in connection with the problem of the election of the non-permanent members of the Council.

This question came before the Council on December 7th together with a memorandum on the subject from the Norwegian Government. An exchange of views took place between M. Scialoja (Italy), Sir Austen Chamberlain (British Empire), M. Briand (France), and Dr. Benes (Czechoslovakia), as a result of which it was decided to postpone to a later session the examination of this question.

3. — LEGAL POSITION OF STATES WHICH DO NOT PAY THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE LEAGUE

To give effect to a resolution of the Assembly, the Council, on December 7th, requested the Secretary-General to have a study made of the legal position of States which did not pay their contributions to the League, and to submit confidentially at its next session a preliminary report on the subject.

The rapporteur, M. Titulesco (Roumania) said that the object of this report was to place the Assembly at its subsequent sessions in a better position to deal with the problem by furnishing it with advice as to what legal consequence might follow from continued failure by a Member to meet its financial obligations towards the League.

VI. — Technical Organisations.

1. — THE HEALTH ORGANISATION

Work of the Health Committee.

The work of the Health Committee was examined by the Council on December 6th.

On the proposal of Viscount Ishii (Japan), the Council expressed the desire that the work of the Malaria Commission, which had finished its enquiry in the malarial countries of Europe, might be extended outside Europe, particularly to those Oriental countries in which malaria was prevalent.

- The Council authorised the Commission on Sleeping Sickness in Equatorial Africa to continue its enquiries for six months longer. It expressed the wish that Governments which, in 1926, had contributed to the expenses of this Commission might renew their grants for the first six months of 1927.

It approved the convocation in one of the capitals of Latin-America of a Conference of Latin-American experts on infantile mortality. The object of this meeting will be to enable them to compare the results of their enquiries and to take note of those achieved by European experts.

The Council noted that the Advisory Council of the Singapore Bureau was to examine suggestions for utilising this branch of the Epidemiological Intelligence Service for the application of certain provisions of the International Sanitary Convention of 1926. It asked the Health Committee to submit a report on the subject.

- A tribute was paid to the Rockefeller Foundation, whose generosity had enabled the Health Committee to start work which had become part of its regular routine, such as the constitution and development of the Service of Epidemiological Intelligence, the Singapore Bureau, the system of interchanges of public health officials, etc.



The Council also considered the question of the election of the members of the new Health Committee. Accordance to the regulations of the Health Organisation, this Committee comprises sixteen members, namely, the President of the Committee of the *Office internationale d'hygiène publique* and nine members selected by that body; and six members appointed by the Council in agreement with the Health Committee. The Committee may further include four assessors appointed by the Council on the proposal of the Committee.

The Council appointed Dr. Araoz Alfaro, Chairman of the National Health Department, Buenos Ayres; Professor Léon Bernard, Professor of Hygiene at the Medical Faculty of Paris; Dr. Carlos Chagas, Director-General of Public Health, Rio de Janeiro; Dr. Witold Chodzko, Director of the State School of Public Health, Warsaw, former Minister of Health; Dr. John Drummond Graham, Lieutenant-Colonel in the Indian Medical Service, Public Health Commissioner of the Indian Government; Dr. Th. Madsen, Director of the State Serological Institute at Copenhagen.

The *Office internationale d'hygiène publique* had already appointed on October 23rd Dr. L. Raynaud, Inspector-General of the Algerian Health Service; Sir George Buchanan, Senior Medical Officer at the British Health Ministry; Dr. A. Lutrario, former Director-General of the Health Department of the Italian Home Office; Dr. M. Tsurumi, representing the Japanese Health Service; Dr. Hamel, President of the German Health Ministry; Surgeon-General Cumming, Director-General

of the United States Public Health Service; Professor Ricardo George, Director-General of Public Health, Lisbon; Dr. N. M. Josephus Jitta, Chairman of the Public Health Council of the Netherlands; Dr. H. Carrière, Director of the Swiss Public Health Service.

At its March session the Council will consider the appointment of four assessors to sit on the Committee with members' privileges, and two experts to sit in an advisory capacity.

The Japanese Representative reserved his Government's right to make a proposal, on a suitable occasion, with regard to the nationalities represented on the Committee.

Sir Austen Chamberlain drew the attention of the Council to the fact that the Committee did not include a single woman, adding that the question of health was one of great interest to women and one in which they could usefully assist. The Council agreed in principle to this suggestion and referred it to the Health Committee for examination.

2. — THE ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL ORGANISATION

a) *The International Economic Conference.*

The proposals of the Preparatory Committee for the International Economic Conference regarding the composition, programme and date of the Conference ⁽¹⁾ were adopted by the Council on December 9th, on the report of Dr. Stresemann (Germany).

The Council decided to convene the Conference to meet at Geneva on May 4th, 1927, and instructed the Secretary-General to issue invitations to all States Members of the League as well as to the United States, the Union of Socialist Soviet Republics, Turkey, Mexico, Ecuador and Egypt. It reserved its right to issue, if need be, at its next session a limited number of invitations to individual experts. At that moment the Council will be able to judge, from the replies received, whether the composition of the Conference is as evenly balanced as that of the Preparatory Committee, which included representatives of the various fields of economic activity. Should the Council then consider that there are certain gaps in the composition of the Conference, it will proceed to certain nominations, either directly or through the appropriate organisations.

The Council tendered its cordial thanks to the Chairman of the Preparatory Committee, M. Theunis, who accepted the Council's invitation to preside at the Conference.

b) *Representation of Austria on the Economic Committee.*

On the proposal of Dr. von Schubert (Germany), the Council decided to appoint temporarily an Austrian member, Dr. Schüller, to sit on the Economic Committee.

The Austrian Government had informed the Council that it attached particular importance to the co-operation of an Austrian member in the work of the Committee until the termination of the work of the International Economic Conference.

c) *Bills of Exchange.*

The Committee of Experts on bills of exchange and cheques met at Geneva from December 14th to December 17th under the chairmanship of M. Westerman (Netherlands).

(1) See *Monthly Summary*, Vol. VI, No. 11, p. 266.

The Committee, whose members had been appointed by the Economic Committee, had to determine: a) the main practical difficulties resulting from differences in the various legislations on bills of exchange and cheques, b) which of these differences might be settled by international agreement, and c) what type of solution might be recommended in each case.

The experts selected the following points as suitable for solution in the way proposed:

As regards *conflict of laws*: the legal effects of a bill of exchange drawn in one country and payable in another; the capacity to contract under a bill of exchange; the form of a contract arising out of a bill of exchange; the form and time-limit for protest.

As regards *causes of nullity resulting from different legal provisions*: the question of the stamp; the interest clause; the necessity for mentioning the cause of obligation.

The experts also considered the question of cases of *force majeure*, days of grace, holidays and working days. They expressed their opinion that it would be desirable to extend and generalise the use of cheques, and that work in connection with this question should be based on the fundamental principle that a cheque should be regarded as a bill of exchange drawn on a banker and payable at sight.

The Committee considered that, failing the unification of the Anglo-Saxon and Continental systems of legislation, it would be well to aim at closer assimilation between the various legislations of the Continental type. The American and British experts were not able to associate themselves with all the suggestions made by their colleagues, in particular when the solution put forward differed too greatly from the Anglo-Saxon system. They consigned their views on a note which was annexed to the report of the Committee.

The report of the experts will be submitted to the Economic Committee at its next session. A decision will then be taken as to the recommendations to be laid before the Council.

* * *

The meeting was attended by M. Westerman (Netherlands), Chairman; M. Hans von Flotow (German); M. Vercheval (Belgian); M. Augusto Weiller (Italian); M. Yano (Japanese); M. Max Vischer (Swiss); M. Felix Goller (Czechoslovak); M. Ernst Meyer (Dane), Mr. Alwyn Parker (British); Mr. Ralph Dawson (American).

d) *Work of the Financial Committee.*

The Financial Committee met at Geneva from December 3rd to December 8th with Dr. Pospisil (Czechoslovakia) in the Chair.

It considered questions concerning counterfeit currency, the balance of the Austrian and Hungarian reconstruction loans, the financial situation of Danzig, the banking and currency situation of Estonia and the settlement of Bulgarian and Greek refugees.

The conclusions reached by the Committee were submitted to the Council, which took certain decisions with a view to their application.

On the proposal of M. Vandervelde, M. Takashi Aoki was appointed member of the Committee, succeeding M. Sekiba (Japanese).

• *The Financial Situation of Estonia.*

Currency and Banking Reform. — On December 10th, the Council, on the recommendation of the Financial Committee, approved the issue by the Estonian

Government and under the auspices of the League of an international loan of £ 1,350,000. The yield of this loan will be devoted to establishing the Estonian currency on a gold basis, to relieving the Estonian National Bank of certain assets unsuitable for a bank of issue and to founding a mortgage institute.

The question of the financial position of Estonia came before the League in September, 1924, when the Estonian Government requested that an enquiry should be made into the financial situation of the country with a view to obtaining authoritative advice as to its economic and financial policy.

A League delegation visited Estonia, in January 1925. In March, 1925, the Financial Committee, on the basis of information obtained by its delegation, put forward recommendations concerning more especially the currency situation and the reorganisation of the Estonian Bank.

The Estonian Government then approached the League with a view to giving practical effect to this scheme. A member of the Financial Committee, M. Janssen, visited Estonia in November, 1926, and on his return submitted to the Committee in December a comprehensive account of the existing economic and financial situation, and certain proposals including one for the issue of a loan which should enable the necessary reforms to be carried out.

The Financial Committee reported to the Council that the Estonian budget had been balanced since 1922 and that the economic condition of the country had materially improved. The scheme of reform referred only to the currency and banking situation and comprised a currency law, the reform of the statutes of the Bank of Issue, the transfer to the said Bank of the State Note Issue, and the establishment of a mortgage institute.

The Committee recommended that the Council should approve the flotation by the Estonian Government of an international loan of £ 1,350,000, subject to the signature by Estonia of a protocol providing *inter alia* for the appointment by the League of a Loan Trustee and, during three years, of a Foreign Adviser to the Estonian Bank of Issue. The loan service would constitute a first charge on certain revenues set forth in the Protocol.

The Council adopted the report of the Financial Committee and declared its readiness to associate itself with the scheme. The Estonian delegate, M. Pusta, signed the Protocol on December 10th.

On the recommendation of the Financial Committee the Council appointed M. Albert Janssen (Belgium) as Trustee for the Estonian Loan.

The Financial Situation of Danzig.

The financial situation of the Free City of Danzig was discussed by the Council on December 9th, when, on the recommendation of the Financial Committee, it authorised the issue of an international loan by the Free City under the auspices of the League, subject to certain conditions.

The President of the Senate of the Free City, Dr. Sahm, the Polish Commissioner at Danzig, Dr. Strassburger, the League High Commissioner at Danzig, Dr. van Hamel and the Chairman of the Financial Committee, Dr. Pospisil, attended the meeting.

In its report, the Financial Committee drew attention to the fact that, although substantial progress had been made in the fulfilment of the conditions laid down by the Council in September, they had not yet all been complied with. In these circumstances the Committee was not able immediately to recommend the definite authorisation of a loan, but as the outstanding points were limited and definite, and as the problem was urgent, suggested that the Council might give its *conditional* approval, and authorise the issue of a loan by the Free City under the auspices of the League, subject to the verification by the Committee of the execution of the following measures :

1. The Final approval of the Polish-Danzig Customs Agreement of September 20th, 1926;
2. The definite conclusion by Poland and Danzig of a satisfactory agreement for the introduction of a tobacco monopoly;
3. An undertaking by the Senate to proceed to a specified reduction of the number of officials;
4. Notification of the agreement of the Harbour Board to the proposed modification of its loan from the Municipality;
5. The fulfilment of all formalities required under the Article 7 of the Treaty of Paris;
6. Notification of an agreement between Danzig and the competent authorities as to the settlement of the obligations under the Peace Treaties.

With regard to the last mentioned point, the Danzig Government had requested that part of the loan might be devoted to payments under this head and the Committee was prepared to agree to a corresponding increase in the loan total.

The Council endorsed these recommendations. It expressed the hope that it would be possible to issue the loan before its next session, and that this measure would assist Danzig in restoring her public finances to a completely sound basis.

As the measures to be taken rendered necessary negotiations between Poland and Danzig, the Council, on the report of M. Vandervelde (Belgium), drew the attention of the Polish and Danzig authorities to the desirability of employing easier and less formal methods in their negotiations, such as direct personal contact between the parties.

Dr. Stresemann (Germany) said that he strongly supported the recommendation addressed by the rapporteur to Poland and Danzig. He attached great value to personal and direct methods and suggested that the League should use its influence in this direction on all occasions when personal contact could replace correspondence. He hoped that the forthcoming negotiations would be conducted in a spirit of understanding and collaboration.

The Polish High Commissioner at Danzig, Dr. Strassburger, and the League High Commissioner, Dr. van Hamel, expressed their entire agreement with M. Vandervelde's suggestion.

The President of the Senate of the Free City, Dr. Sahm, thanked the Council and the Financial Committee and expressed the hope that the negotiations would be successful.

The League High Commissioner, Dr. van Hamel, emphasised the importance of M. Vandervelde's suggestion and expressed the hope that its application would exercise a favourable influence upon the rapidity of the loan negotiations.

Employment of the Balance of the Austrian and Hungarian Reconstruction Loans.

The Financial Committee approved a detailed programme submitted by the Austrian Government for the employment of the available balance of the Austrian reconstruction loan, amounting to about 60 million schillings.

It considered a report by M. Ter Meulen and heard a statement by Mr. Tyler on the expenditure of part of the balance of the Hungarian reconstruction loan in accordance with the programme authorised by the Council in December, 1925.

Settlement of Bulgarian Refugees.

The question of the settlement of Bulgarian Refugees was dealt with on December 7th by the Council, which included representatives of Bulgaria (M. Sarafov), Greece (M. Dendramis), Roumania (M. Comnene) and the Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes (M. Yovanovitch). The Chairman of the Financial

Committee, Dr. Pospisil, and the League Commissioner at Sofia, M. Charron, attended the meeting.

The Council had for consideration a report of the Financial Committee, which had examined the question at its December session, and the first quarterly report of the League Commissioner at Sofia, as provided by the Protocol of September 1926.

The Commissioner's report shews that, although the preparatory work has advanced rather slowly, a beginning has nevertheless been made with the application of the scheme. A great part of the necessary legislation has been voted or is under discussion by the Bulgarian Parliament. Certain of these laws deal with the measures necessary to ensure strict and effective control over expenditure of a permanent character on the loan account and over the collection and administration of revenues assigned for the loan service.

The services for the execution of the programme have been centralised. A quantity of seed has been distributed and a considerable number of refugee families will be able to reap a first harvest next year.

The Council, on the report of M. Vandervelde (Belgium) noted that a beginning had been made in the work required, and expressed the hope that the general scheme of settlement provided for by the Protocol — and which for various reasons it had not yet been possible to publish — would be available at its next session. After an exchange of views with the representatives of the Governments concerned, it approved the proposals of the Financial Committee with regard to the settlement of refugees in certain frontier districts of Bulgaria.

M. Vandervelde, speaking on behalf of the Council, paid a special tribute to the League of Red Cross Societies, whose assistance he said was of the greatest value during an intermediate period in which thousands of refugees and, in particular, eight thousand orphans living in camps would run the risk of dying either of disease or of malnutrition. The League of Red Cross Societies had established public kitchens, pitched tents and built shelters.

The League Commissioner, M. Charron, said that he was firmly convinced that the execution of the settlement scheme would largely contribute to strengthen the economic position of Bulgaria and to consolidate the political situation in that part of Europe.

The Greek, Roumanian and Serb-Croat-Slovene representatives expressed their desire to co-operate in the settlement work in the interest of peace.

The Bulgarian representative said that his Government's sole wish was to achieve peace by the final settlement of the refugee question, and noted with satisfaction the spirit of goodwill shown by the representatives of the countries concerned.



The Council appointed M. Bianchini, M. Wallenberg and Sir Herbert Lawrence to act as trustees for the Bulgarian Refugee Settlement Loan.

Settlement of Greek Refugees.

The twelfth quarterly Report of the Greek Refugee Settlement Commission, after examination by the Financial Committee, was noted by the Council on December 9th. The Greek Government was represented by M. Dendramis, and the Chairman of the Financial Committee, Dr. Pospisil, attended the meeting.

On the report of M. Urrutia (Colombia) the Council expressed its regret at the resignation of Sir John Campbell who, during the past three years, had been a most able and devoted member of the Greek Refugee Settlement Commission.

The Greek representative associated himself with the tribute paid by the Council to Sir John Campbell. He drew the attention of the Council to the fact that the financial situation of the refugees had improved and that his Government would make every effort to place the country on a sound financial footing.

The President, M. Vandervelde said that the settlement work had made remarkable progress during the past two years and he felt certain that the Council would express the hope that the financial conditions would shortly enable it to be brought to a satisfactory conclusion.

Sir Austen Chamberlain compared the work which had been done in Greece with that which the League was about to undertake in Bulgaria. He appealed to the Greek Government in recognition of what the League had done for its refugees, to do its utmost to facilitate the work in connection with Bulgarian refugees.

The Greek representative assured the Council of his Government's desire that the question of Bulgarian refugees should be settled in order that peace might definitely be established in the Balkans.



The Council appointed Sir John Hope Simpson to succeed Sir John Campbell as vice-chairman of the Greek Refugee Settlement Commission.

Counterfeiting Currency.

The question of the suppression of the crime of counterfeiting currency was considered by the Financial Committee at its December session and came before the Council on December 9th.

The Financial Committee noted the replies received to the questionnaire addressed in July to the banks of issue of forty-three countries in order to obtain their opinion on the subject. Twenty replies had so far been received, nearly all of which were in favour of the conclusion of an international Convention. The Committee, accordingly, drew up for submission to the Council provisional suggestions to the following effect :

It considered that such a convention should aim at legislative measures as well as measures of co-operation between the judicial authorities and the police in the different countries. It did not, however, consider that the convention, as had been suggested, should also cover the forging of cheques, bills of exchange and the various instruments of credit.

With regard to the legislative aspect of the problem, the Financial Committee was of opinion that it would suffice for the purpose of a convention if the different States accepted certain common principles and measures. It suggested the following provisions to serve as a basis for drafting a convention.

(a) All practices of counterfeiting should be covered by the law;

(b) All these practices should be prohibited and penalised without its being necessary to prove intent to defraud; in the absence of intent to defraud, the penalty might be lighter;

(c) All counterfeiting or uttering of counterfeit money should be regarded as an ordinary criminal offence for which the State will prosecute;

(d) A State on whose territory the offence of counterfeiting or uttering the currency of another State is committed, must punish this offence with the same severity as if the criminal acts had concerned its own currency. Such treatment should depend neither upon reciprocity nor adherence to a convention.

(e) A State whose nationals have counterfeited or uttered foreign money outside the country must punish such nationals as if the crime had been committed in the country. An exception to this obligation would be made in the case of a State which undertook to extradite its own nationals who had committed the crime of counterfeiting abroad;

(f) The principle of extradition for counterfeiting must be regulated on a uniform basis. The convention might—by distinguishing between the State on whose territory the crime has been committed, the State whose currency has been coun-

terfeited, and the State to which the criminal belongs—fix the order in which States could demand extradition.

With regard to the practical aspect of the problem, the Financial Committee considered it desirable that in every country enquiries and prosecutions should be organised under a single police office, which would be in close touch with the national Bank of Issue. These central police offices should be authorised to establish direct contact with one another. The establishment of an international central bureau, it thought, might possibly be contemplated for the future.

In accordance with the proposal of the Financial Committee the Council on December 9th decided to set up a Mixed Committee to study the question and prepare a draft convention. The Committee will be composed of the Acting Chairman of the Financial Committee, Dr. Pospisil, delegates of the banks of issue, to be appointed by the Banque de France, the Reichsbank and the Swiss National Bank; specialists in international criminal law, to be appointed by the Belgian, British and Italian Governments; and representatives of the prosecution authorities, to be appointed by the Austrian, American and Netherlands Governments.

3. — COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSIT

a) *Competence of the European Commission of the Danube* (1).

On December 9th the Council considered a communication from the British, French, Italian and Roumanian Governments, requesting it to submit certain questions concerning the competence of the European Commission of the Danube to the Permanent Court of International Justice for an advisory opinion.

The dispute which had arisen between France, Great Britain and Italy on the one hand and Roumania on the other was in the first place submitted by the British, French and Italian Governments to the Committee for Communications and Transit.

The Roumanian Government, while calling in question the competence of the Transit Committee, raised no objection to its examination of the matters in dispute and to its mediatory action in view of a friendly settlement.

The Transit Committee appointed a Special Committee to study the question, and in July, 1925, authorised its Chairman to summon a meeting of members of the Special Committee and delegates to the European Commission of the Danube for the purpose of facilitating negotiations which the Governments concerned might wish to conduct.

Two meetings were held, one in September, 1925, the other in September, 1926. As a result of these discussions, the British, French, Italian and Roumanian Delegates to the European Commission of the Danube signed an agreement requesting the Council to submit to the Permanent Court of International Justice a certain number of questions as to the powers of the European Commission in the Galatz-Braila Sector of the Danube and the exact jurisdiction of the European Commission.

On the report of M. Guerrero (Salvador), the Council decided to ask the Court for an advisory opinion on the question in dispute.

On this occasion Sir Austen Chamberlain (British Empire) said that in his opinion the agreement reached by the parties and the decision of the Council to submit the question to the Court for an advisory opinion must be regarded as an exceptional case, and not as constituting a precedent.

Nor must it, he said, be deemed to constitute an abandonment of the view that, in virtue of the treaties and arrangements in force, any party to this dispute would

(1) See also special chapter under "the Permanent Court of International Justice".

have been entitled to bring the question to the Permanent Court of International Justice at The Hague for decision if the recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Communications and Transit for the settlement of the dispute were not accepted. To abandon that contention would weaken the machinery which has been set up for the settlement of disputes as to the meaning and application of the Ports and Waterways Sections of the Treaties of Peace.

M. Villegas (Chile) endorsed this view, saying that his country was not directly concerned in the question, but there were other American countries which had similar problems and which were not at that moment represented on the Council.

M. Titulesco (Roumania) said that his Government reserved all its right in the question of the Danube, as defined in the past, or as the interests of Roumania might lead it to define them in the future.

b) *Combined Transport.*

The Committee of Experts appointed by the Committee for Communications and Transit to examine the question of combined Transport (*i.e.* of developing and regulating combined traffic between railways and transport undertakings other than railways) met at Geneva on December 20th and 21st.

This investigation is being conducted in accordance with the provisions of the Convention on the International Regime of Railways drawn up in 1923 at the Second General Conference on Transit and Communications. The Convention lays down that "in the interests of international traffic, the Contracting States shall, so far as circumstances reasonably permit, facilitate the conclusion of agreements permitting the use of a single contract to cover an entire journey".

The Committee studying the question includes experts on railway transport, and on inland, maritime and air navigation. It is composed as follows :

- M. Umberto Brocca (Italian) (assisted by M. Gennaro).
- Yonkheer van den Berch van Heemstede (International Air Traffic Association).
- Dr. Ottokar Lankas (Czechoslovak).
- M. Gaston Leverve (International Railway Union).
- M. Anton Mens (Netherlands).
- M. Henri Niemack (German).
- Mr. Walter Runciman (International Chamber of Commerce).

c) *Transit Cards for Emigrants.*

A Special Committee of the Committee for Communications and Transit met at Geneva from December 13th to 15th to study questions regarding the establishment of Transit cards for emigrants.

The second Passport Conference ⁽¹⁾ (Geneva, May, 1926) recommended that the issue of identity papers and visas to emigrants from Europe to overseas countries should be organised so as to simplify the existing long and expensive formalities. It invited the League to prepare for this purpose a draft agreement in virtue of which the consular visa would be replaced by a transit card delivered by the navigation companies.

The Special Committee—M. Deroover (Belgium), chairman; Mr. Baird (Great Britain); M. Krause (Germany); M. Labriola (Italy); and M. Malhomme (Poland)—prepared a draft convention which will be submitted to the Committee for Communications and Transit.

(1) See *Monthly Summary*, Vol. VI, No. 5, p. 123.

d) *The Arad-Csanad, Maramarosi, Szatmar-Mateszalka and Nagykaroly-Mateszalka-Csap Railways.*

On December 11th, the Council noted a statement by M. Guerrero (Salvador) on questions concerning the Arad-Csanad, Maramarosi, Szatmar-Mateszalka and Nagykaroly-Mateszalka-Csap Railways.

The Council noted that an agreement had been concluded between the Hungarian and Roumanian Governments with regard to the Arad-Csanad Railways. As regards the Maramarosi-Tarsasag Railway Company, it noted that negotiations were taking place between that undertaking and the Roumanian Government and that there was reason to believe that the question at issue would shortly be settled.

The examination of the question of the local railways of Szatmar-Mateszalka and Nagykaroly-Mateszalka-Csap was adjourned to next June, in order to enable the interested parties to continue negotiations with a view to a friendly settlement.

4. — INTELLECTUAL CO-OPERATION

The results of the October meeting of representatives of national chalcographical institutes were submitted to the Council on December 7th.

On the report of M. Briand (France), the Council noted the resolution proposed at that meeting and approved the application of an agreement concluded by the participants, which, in the opinion of the rapporteur, would help countries to appreciate each other's artistic wealth.

On the proposal of Viscount Ishii (Japan), the Council decided to appoint to the Committee on Intellectual Co-operation a Japanese member, M. Aikichi Tanakadate, physicist, honorary professor at Tokio University, member of the Japanese Academy and Senator.

VII. — Administrative Questions.

1. — THE SAAR

In March, 1926, the Council, in anticipation of the withdrawal of the troops stationed in the Saar Territory, drew the attention of the Governing Commission to the fact that it was its duty to ensure in all circumstances freedom of transport and transit over the Saar railroads, and invited it to submit proposals to this effect ⁽¹⁾.

The Commission subsequently addressed to the Council a report which had not, however, been unanimously approved by its members.

At its December meeting, the Council, on the proposal of M. Scialoja (Italy), requested the Commission to examine the question afresh.

2. — MANDATES

A certain number of questions concerning Mandates were dealt with by the Council on December 10th.

In view of the fact that the observations of the Mandatory Powers with regard to the list of questions drawn up by the Permanent Mandates Commission to facilitate the drafting of annual reports on territories under B and C Mandates con-

(1) See *Monthly Summary*, Vol. VI, No. 3, p. 63.

stituted important new material for forming a judgment, the Council decided, on the report of M. van Karnebeck, to request the Commission to consider the question afresh.

The question of the hearing of petitioners by the Commission in exceptional cases was postponed until the March session of the Council in order to give its members time to examine the communications of the Mandatories on the subject.

The Council also decided to postpone until March its consideration of the report of the Commission on its tenth session, owing to the fact that the tenth session of the Commission had come to an end late in November and it had not therefore been possible to conform to the Council's rules of procedure, which required that reports should be circulated to its members at least a fortnight before the session at which they were examined. Moreover, not all the representatives accredited to the Commission by the Mandatory Powers had stated whether they had any comments to make on the observations contained in the report of the Commission.

VIII. — Political Questions.

GRAECO-BULGARIAN REFUGEES

(Execution of the Council Resolution of December 14th, 1925.)

The question of the execution of its recommendation with regard to the question of Graeco-Bulgarian refugees ⁽¹⁾ was considered on December 10th by the Council including representatives of Bulgaria and Greece.

On the report of Sir Austen Chamberlain (British Empire), the Council noted that progress had been made in the work of the liquidation of the property of the refugees. As regards refugees who had retained their right under the Greek minorities treaties, it noted that, although the time-limit for the deposit of emigration declarations had been extended, the number of declarations received was smaller than had been expected.

M. Dendramis (Greece) said that his Government had scrupulously conformed to the Council's recommendation. He hoped that the Bulgarian Government would do its utmost to induce the interested parties to profit by the extension of the time-limit.

M. Molloff (Bulgaria) said that his Government had issued the necessary announcements regarding the extension of the time-limit and hoped soon to report better progress.

The Bulgarian Government proposed, if necessary, to discuss with the Mixed Emigration Commission the advisability of a further extension of the time-limit and to submit a further report in March.

Sir Austen Chamberlain said that the Council attached considerable importance to a rapid and satisfactory solution of this problem, which had been brought to its notice by the Enquiry Commission on the Graeco-Bulgarian Frontier Incident as a cause of disturbance and danger in the Balkans.

IX. — Social and Humanitarian Questions.

1. — THE INTERNATIONAL RELIEF UNION (1)

The question of relief on an international scale for populations visited by disaster was considered by the Council in December, when, on the report of M. Scialoja

(1) See *Monthly Summary*, Vol. VI, No. 11, p. 275.

(Italy), it made definite arrangements for the convocation of a Conference for the formation of an international relief union, which will take as a basis of discussion the draft statute drawn up by the Preparatory Committee.

It was decided to convene the Conference to meet at Geneva on July 4th, 1927, and to invite the Governments of States Members of the League and of Afghanistan, Ecuador, Egypt, the Hedjaz, Iceland, Lichtenstein, Mexico, Monaco, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, San Marino, the Sudan, Turkey and the United States to send representatives. The Council further decided to invite the International Red Cross Committee and the League of Red Cross Societies to be officially represented in an advisory capacity, and to authorise its President to select in due course members of the Preparatory Committee to attend the Conference as experts.

2. — THE SLAVERY CONVENTION ⁽¹⁾

On the report of Sir Austen Chamberlain (British Empire) the Council, as requested by the Assembly, instructed the Secretary-General to communicate to the Governing Body of the International Labour Office a copy of the Slavery Convention opened for signature on September 25th, 1926, and to inform it of the importance which the Assembly and the Council attached to the work undertaken by the Office with a view to studying the best means for preventing forced or compulsory labour from degenerating into conditions analogous to slavery.

3. — EXTENSION TO OTHER CATEGORIES OF REFUGEES OF MEASURES TAKEN TO ASSIST RUSSIAN AND ARMENIAN REFUGEES

To give effect to a resolution of the Seventh Assembly the Council, on the proposal of M. Krcmar (Czechoslovakia), invited the High Commissioner and the International Labour Office to consider how far the measures taken to provide protection, employment and relief for Russian and Armenian refugees might be extended to other categories of refugees, who, as a consequence of the war, or of events directly connected with the war, were living under analogous conditions.

At the suggestion of Sir Austen Chamberlain, the Council, to facilitate the study of this question, asked the International Labour Office to furnish any information it might possess to shew the extent and urgency of the problem, and the nationality, numbers and distribution of the refugees on whose behalf its aid had been invoked.

The meeting was attended by the Director of the International Labour Office, M. Albert Thomas.

X. — Miscellaneous Questions.

1. — THE LEAGUE BUILDING COMPETITION

As various architects' associations had requested that the time-limit should be extended for the League building competition, the Jury of Architects entrusted with the arrangements for this competition met at Geneva, on December 6th, under the chairmanship of M. Horta (Belgium).

The conclusions reached by the Jury were submitted to the Council, which, after examining the question, decided to maintain the date originally fixed for the closing of the competition, namely, January 25th, 1927.

(1) See *Monthly Summary*, Vol. VI, No. 9, p. 221.

2. — MEMBERSHIP OF THE SUPERVISORY COMMISSION

On December 6th the Council renewed the appointment of two of the members of the Supervisory Commission — M. Osusky and M. Reveillaud — and of two deputy-members — M. Zahle and M. Parra Perez.

3. — APPOINTMENT OF TWO UNDER SECRETARIES GENERAL

On December 6th, the Council approved the appointment of M. Dufour-Féronce (German) and M. Sugimura (Japanese) as Under Secretaries General of the League of Nations. M. Dufour-Féronce will superintend the work of the Section for Intellectual Cooperation and International Organisations; M. Sugimura will be in charge of that of the Political Section.

4. — ANONYMOUS GIFT TO THE LEAGUE

The Council authorised the Secretary General to accept on behalf of the League a gift of 1500 lire from an Italian citizen who wished to remain anonymous.

It decided that the money should be forwarded to Miss Karen Jeppe as a contribution to the work she had undertaken at Aleppo under the auspices of the League.

XI. — Forthcoming Events.

- January 17th : International Continuation Course in Public Health, Paris.
- January 17th : Meeting of the Advisory Committee on Traffic in Opium, Geneva.
- January 17th : Conference of Health Experts on Infant Welfare, Geneva.
- January 24th : Meeting of the Committee of Experts on Bibliography in Economic Science, Paris.
- January 27th : Meeting of the Committee of Experts on Bibliography in Græco-Roman Archæology, Paris.
- February 7th : Meeting of the Committee of Experts on Civil Aviation, Brussels.
- February 14th : Meeting of the Health Committee, Geneva.
- February 21st : Meeting of the Committee of Experts on National Defence Budgets, Paris.
- February 21st : Interchange of Medical Officers of Health, London.
- February 25th : Meeting of the Economic Committee, Geneva.

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SUPPLÉMENT AU RÉSUMÉ MENSUEL

Janvier 1927

OUVRAGES

SUR LA SOCIÉTÉ DES NATIONS

catalogués

A LA BIBLIOTHÈQUE DU SECRÉTARIAT

1926

SUPPLEMENT TO THE MONTHLY SUMMARY

January 1927



BOOKS

ON THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS

received

IN THE LIBRARY OF THE SECRETARIAT

1926

(Celle liste a été préparée par la Bibliothèque du Secrétariat de la Société des Nations.)
(This list has been compiled by the Library of the Secretariat of the League of Nations.)

FILM OF THE SEVENTH ASSEMBLY, OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS

(Price : 150 Swiss Francs.)

The cinematograph film of the Seventh Assembly is about 300 metres in length and contains the following views :

1. Geneva, seat of the League of Nations :
 - a) General view of the town;
 - b) Harbour and Fountain;
 - c) Rousseau's Island and Mont Blanc Bridge;
 - d) Quai Wilson, with Secretariat of the League of Nations in background.
2. Secretariat of the League of Nations.
3. Sir Eric DRUMMOND, Secretary-General of the League of Nations.
4. A meeting of the Council of the League.
5. One of the League's Committees holding a meeting in the Secretariat garden.
6. Salle de la Réformation, scene of the annual Assembly of the League.
7. Assembly of the League of Nations in plenary meeting.
8. M. BENES (Czechoslovakia), Acting President of the Council, opening the Seventh Assembly of the League of Nations on September 6th, 1926.
9. M. NINTCHITCH (Serb-Croat-Slovene Kingdom), President of the Seventh Assembly.
10. M. NINTCHITCH addressing the Assembly immediately after his election, September 6th, 1926.
11. The Assembly voting for the admission of Germany, at its historic meeting on September 8th.
12. Text of the telegram sent to the German Government by the Secretary-General of the League immediately after the voting.
13. Arrival of the German Delegation at Geneva.
14. German newspaper vendors.
15. The German delegation, headed by Herr Stresemann, entering the Assembly Hall on September 10th, 1926.
16. Herr STRESEMANN addressing the Assembly.
17. M. BRIAND, replying to Herr Stresemann's speech.
18. The Assembly applauding M. Briand.
19. Staff on duty at the entrance to the Assembly Hall.
20. Cinematograph operators and photographers at work.
21. Delegates leaving the Hall after the meeting.
22. Crowd waiting to see the Delegates leaving the Hall.

Associations for the League of Nations, and others who may be interested in this film, are requested to apply for all information to M. E. Charrère, Information Section, Secretariat of the League of Nations, Geneva. The film is delivered within 10 days from the receipt of the order.

NOTE

En février 1926, la liste des ouvrages sur la Société des Nations figurant au catalogue de la Bibliothèque en 1925 a été publiée, pour la première fois, sous forme d'un supplément au *Résumé Mensuel*.

Depuis lors, la décision a été prise de publier chaque année une liste des nouvelles acquisitions faites par la Bibliothèque. Le supplément qui paraît aujourd'hui comprend les ouvrages sur la Société des Nations enregistrés à la Bibliothèque en 1926.

Presque tous les ouvrages portés sur cette liste ont paru en 1926. Cependant un certain nombre de livres publiés avant cette date, mais qui ne sont parvenus à la Bibliothèque qu'après l'impression de la première Bibliographie, ont été portés sur la présente liste.

Comme la première, cette liste ne comprend que les ouvrages d'un caractère général. On n'y a point fait figurer les ouvrages qui traitent d'un point de vue spécial les problèmes étudiés par la Société des Nations. C'est ainsi que la liste comprend par exemple des ouvrages relatifs à la question des minorités en général, mais ne contient pas ceux qui ont trait seulement à telle ou telle minorité.

Bien que les articles qui ont paru dans des périodiques et des publications annuelles ne figurent pas sur la liste, celle-ci comprend néanmoins les tirages à part envoyés à la Bibliothèque sous forme de brochures.

La Direction de la Bibliothèque sera reconnaissante de toute indication bibliographique ou de tout autre envoi de livres qui lui permettrait de compléter sa collection.

(Les règles suivies pour l'emploi des lettres majuscules sont celles que recommandent les comités des Associations de bibliothèques britanniques et américaines dans leur règlement relatif au catalogue, exception faite des ouvrages rédigés en langue allemande, pour lesquels on a suivi les règles allemandes sur l'emploi des majuscules.)

NOTE

A list of the books on the League of Nations received in the League Library during the years 1920-1925 was published in February 1926 in the form of a special supplement to the *Monthly Summary*.

It was subsequently decided to issue regular annual lists of the new works received, and the present supplement contains that for 1926. While most of the titles indicated refer to books published in 1926, works of an earlier date received in the Library after the publication of the former supplement have been included in the present list.

As in the February supplement, this list is confined to books dealing with the League in general. Books on special aspects of a particular activity of the League are omitted, e.g. the list includes books describing the League's organisation for dealing with minority questions, but does not include works on individual minorities.

Articles in periodicals and yearbooks are not referred to, but reprints have been included, when they have been presented to the Library as pamphlets.

The Library of the Secretariat would be glad to receive books and pamphlets are not included in these lists.

(The rules for capitalisation followed are those recommended by the Committee of the British and American Library Associations in their Catalogue Rules, except with regard to German titles, where the German rules for capitalisation have been followed.)

ALLEMAND — GERMAN

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