

LEAGUE OF NATIONS

League of Nations Publications

GENERAL

1931

1-6

TABLE OF CONTENTS.

League of Nations Publications.

GENERAL.

Ser.L.o.N.P.

1931.1.	Agenda of the Twelfth Ordinary Session of the Assembly.	1-8 pp.
1931.2.	Explanatory Note on the Agenda of the Twelfth Session of the Assembly (September 7th, 1931).	9-11 pp.
1931.3.	Report on the Work of the League since the Last Session of the Assembly.	12-92 pp.
1931.4.	Subject List of Documents distributed to the Members of the League during 1928.	12-92 pp.
1931.5.	Supplementary Report on the Work of the League since the Eleventh Session of the Assembly.	93-116 pp.
1931.6.	Annex to the Supplementary Report on the Work of the Council and the Secretariat — Ratification of Agreements and Conventions concluded under the Auspices of the League of Nations (Twelfth List.)	117-174 pp.
	<i>Introduction to the Report on the work of the League since the last session of the Assembly</i>	<i>175-189 pp.</i>
	<i>Russian, Armenian, Assyrian, Assyro-Chaldean and Turkish Refugees</i>	<i>190-191 pp.</i>
	<i>Financial Questions: Construction of the New Buildings. Report of the Fourth Committee to the Assembly.</i>	<i>192-193 pp.</i>

26 SEP 1931

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

N° officiel: **A. 2 (1)**. 1931.

Genève, le 14 août 1931

SOCIÉTÉ DES NATIONS

◊
Ordre du Jour

de la

Douzième Session ordinaire

de l'Assemblée

et

Liste supplémentaire des Questions

LEAGUE OF NATIONS

Agenda

of the

Twelfth Ordinary Session of the

Assembly

and

Supplementary List of Items

Série de Publications de la Société des Nations
QUESTIONS GÉNÉRALES
1931. 1. (a.)

SOCIÉTÉ DES NATIONS

ORDRE DU JOUR DE LA DOUZIÈME SESSION DE L'ASSEMBLÉE

qui s'ouvrira à Genève, le lundi 7 septembre 1931, à 10 h. 30.

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

1. Election du Bureau, nomination des commissions et adoption de l'ordre du jour.



A. 6. 1931.

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



- . Election de trois Membres non permanents du Conseil.

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

A. 12. 1931. V.

4. Codification progressive du droit international.

A. 28. 1931. V.
C. 623. M. 245.

5. Procédure préparatoire à suivre en matière de conventions générales devant être négociées sous les auspices de la Société.

1930. V.
A. 11. 1931. V.

6. Amendement du Pacte de la Société des Nations en vue de le mettre en harmonie avec le Pacte de Paris.

A. 11 (a). 1931. V.
C. 338. M. 138.

7. Propositions du Gouvernement de la Finlande visant à conférer à la Cour permanente de Justice internationale le caractère d'une Cour d'appel par rapport aux tribunaux d'arbitrage établis par les divers Etats.

1930. V.

8. Organisation du Secrétariat, du Bureau international du Travail et du Greffe de la Cour permanente de Justice internationale:

A. 8. 1931.

- a) Rapport de la Commission chargée de soumettre à un nouvel examen certaines questions relatives à l'Organisation du Secrétariat, du Bureau international du Travail et du Greffe de la Cour permanente de Justice internationale;

A. 15. 1931. X.

- b) Questions ajournées par la dernière Assemblée:

- i) Traitement des conseillers;
- ii) Congé septennal.

A. 18. 1931. X.

9. Election des membres de la Commission de contrôle.

A. 25. 1931. IV.

10. Administration pénale: Rapport du Secrétaire général.

A. 17. 1931. VII.

11. Commission d'étude pour l'Union européenne.

A. 9. 1931. VII. }
A. 14. 1931. VII. }

12. Comité spécial pour l'établissement d'un projet de Convention générale en vue de renforcer les moyens de prévenir la guerre.

A. 27. 1931.

13. Office international Nansen pour les réfugiés.

14. Esclavage:

A. 13. 1931. VI.

- a) Rapport annuel du Conseil;

A. 29. 1931. VI.

- b) Renseignements reçus comme suite à la résolution adoptée par l'Assemblée lors de sa onzième session au sujet de l'esclavage: Rapport du Secrétaire général.

LEAGUE OF NATIONS

AGENDA OF THE TWELFTH SESSION OF THE ASSEMBLY.

To be held at Geneva on Monday, September 7th, 1931, at 10.30 a.m.

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

1. Election of Officers, Appointment of Committees and Adoption of Agenda.

A.6.1931.

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

3. Election of Three Non-Permanent Members of the Council.

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

A.12.1931.V.

4. Progressive Codification of International Law.

A.28.1931.V.

5. Preparatory Procedure to be followed in the Case of General Conventions to be negotiated under the Auspices of the League.

C.623.M.245.

1930.V. }

A.11.1931.V.

A.11(a).1931.V. }

C.338.M.138.

1930.V. }

6. Amendment of the Covenant of the League of Nations in order to bring It into Harmony with the Pact of Paris.

7. Proposal of the Government of Finland to confer on the Permanent Court of International Justice Jurisdiction as a Tribunal of Appeal in respect of Arbitral Tribunals established by States.

8. Organisation of the Secretariat, the International Labour Office and the Registry of the Permanent Court of International Justice.

A.8.1931.

- (a) Report of the Committee appointed to give Further Consideration to Certain Questions relating to the Organisation of the Secretariat, the International Labour Office and the Registry of the Permanent Court of International Justice;

A.15.1931.X.

- (b) Questions adjourned by the Last Assembly:

- (i) Salaries of Counsellors;
- (ii) Septennial Leave.

A.18.1931.X.

9. Election of Members of the Supervisory Commission.

A.25.1931.IV.

10. Penal Administration: Report by the Secretary-General.

A.17.1931.VII.

11. Commission of Enquiry for European Union.

A.9.1931.VII. }

A.14.1931.VII. }

12. Special Committee for the Drawing-up of a Draft General Convention to strengthen the Means of preventing War.

A.27.1931.

13. Nansen International Office for Refugees.

14. Slavery:

A.13.1931.VI.

- (a) Annual Report by the Council;

A.29.1931.VI.

- (b) Information received as a Result of the Resolution adopted by the Assembly at its Eleventh Session: Report by the Secretary-General.

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

- A.19.1931.V. } 15. Nationalité des femmes: Rapport du Secrétaire général.
16. Travaux des Organisations économique et financière.
17. Travaux de l'Organisation des communications et du transit.
- A.7.1931.III. } 18. Travaux de l'Organisation d'hygiène.
- C.168.M.62. }
1931.XI. } 19. Travaux de la Commission consultative du trafic de l'opium et autres drogues nuisibles.
C.168(a).M.62(a). }
1931.XI. } 20. Travaux de la Commission consultative pour la protection de l'enfance et des jeunes gens:
a) Comité de la traite des femmes et des enfants;
b) Comité de la protection de l'enfance.
- C.267.M.122. }
1931.IV. }
C.249.M.113. }
1931.IV. } 21. Coopération intellectuelle:
a) Travaux de la Commission internationale de Coopération intellectuelle;
b) Travaux de l'Institut international du Cinématographe éducatif à Rome.
- A.23.1931.XII. }
A.24.1931.XII. }

BUDGET.

- A.3.1931.X. }
A.4.1931.X. } 22. Budget pour 1932, comprenant également les budgets de l'Organisation internationale
A.4(5).1931.X. } du Travail et de la Cour permanente de Justice internationale: Comptes vérifiés
A.5.1931.X. } pour le douzième exercice financier (1930): Rapports de la Commission de
A.20.1931. } contrôle: Rapport du Conseil d'administration de la Caisse des pensions du
Personnel.

LISTE DES QUESTIONS SUPPLÉMENTAIRES COMMUNIQUÉES CONFORMÉMENT
AU PARAGRAPHE 3 DE L'ARTICLE 4 DU RÈGLEMENT INTÉRIEUR DE L'ASSEMBLÉE.

Question proposée par le Conseil.

Projet de Convention destinée à réglementer la chasse à la baleine.¹

¹ Voir C.L.168.1931.II.B. et le rapport du Comité économique sur sa trente-cinquième session (C.427. M.177.1931.II.B.).

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

- A.19.1931.V. } 15. Nationality of Women: Report by the Secretary-General.
16. Work of the Economic and Financial Organisations.
17. Work of the Organisation for Communications and Transit.
- A.7.1931.III. } 18. Work of the Health Organisation.
- C.168.M.62. }
1931.XI. } 19. Work of the Advisory Committee on Traffic in Opium and Other Dangerous Drugs.
C.168(a).M.62(a). }
1931.XI. } 20. Work of the Advisory Commission for the Protection and Welfare of Children and Young People:
(a) Report of the Committee on Traffic in Women and Children;
(b) Report of the Child Welfare Committee.
- C.267.M.122. }
1931.IV. }
C.249.M.113. }
1931.IV. } 21. Intellectual Co-operation:
(a) Work of the International Committee on Intellectual Co-operation;
(b) Work of the International Educational Cinematograph Institute at Rome.
- A.23.1931.XII. }
A.24.1931.XII. }

BUDGET.

- A.3.1931.X. } 22. Budget for 1932, including the Budgets of the International Labour Organisation
A.4.1931.X. } and of the Permanent Court of International Justice: Audited Accounts for
A.4(b).1931.X. } the Twelfth Financial Period (1930): Reports of the Supervisory Commission.
A.5.1931.X. } Report of the Administrative Board of the Staff Pensions Fund.
A.20.1931. }

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

Item proposed by the Council.

Draft Convention for the Regulation of Whale Fishing.¹

¹ See C.L.168.1931.II.B. and the Report by the Economic Committee on its thirty-fifth Session (C.427. M.177.1931.II.B.).

Geneva, May 13th, 1931.

LEAGUE OF NATIONS

Explanatory Note on the Agenda of the Twelfth Session of the Assembly (September 7th, 1931).

1. Constitution of the Assembly and its Committees: Appointment of Officers.

[On arrival at Geneva, all delegates receive a printed booklet, which describes as clearly as possible the organisation of the Assembly.]

- (a) Election of the Credentials Committee.
- (b) Election of the President.
- (c) Examination and adoption of the agenda.
- (d) Nomination of the six Committees to which the Assembly normally refers the various questions, and election of Chairmen of these Committees.

The questions are generally divided between the Committees in the following manner:

- First Committee: Legal questions.
- Second Committee: Questions connected with the work of the technical organisations.
- Third Committee: Disarmament questions.
- Fourth Committee: Administrative and budgetary questions.
- Fifth Committee: Social questions.
- Sixth Committee: Political questions.

- (e) Election of six Vice-Presidents.

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

Each year the Secretary-General prepares a general report on the work of the League since the last Assembly, up to May 31st. This report is circulated on July 1st. The work accomplished during June and July is recorded in a supplementary report, which is circulated at the opening of the Assembly.

These two reports form the basis of the general discussion at the beginning of the Assembly, during which the various delegations have an opportunity of stating their opinions on the work of the League.

The Assembly may refer to the appropriate Committee any part of these reports dealing with a question which does not appear on the agenda—*e.g.*, mandates, disarmament, minorities, etc.

3. Election of Three Non-permanent Members of the Council.

The Assembly decided, in 1926, to elect each year three non-permanent Members of the Council for a period of three years from the date of their election.

The States whose terms of office come to an end this year are Spain, Persia and Venezuela. Spain was declared re-eligible by a vote of the Assembly on September 10th, 1928.

A. Items inserted by or arising out of the Decisions of the Assembly.

I. LEGAL QUESTIONS.

4. Progressive Codification of International Law.

In 1930, the Assembly adjourned this question to its next session, and invited the Governments to send in their observations for consideration by the 1931 Assembly. These observations will be circulated during the summer.

5. Preparatory Procedure to be followed in the Case of General Conventions to be negotiated under the Auspices of the League.

The 1930 Assembly deferred to 1931 the question whether the rules laid down in its resolution of October 3rd, 1930, should be modified as a result of the observations received from Governments and from the Technical Organisations of the League.

The observations received will be circulated during the summer.

6. Amendment of the Covenant of the League of Nations in order to bring It into Harmony with the Pact of Paris.

The 1930 Assembly decided to continue its study of this question in 1931. It will examine, in particular, the proposals made by the Sub-Committee of the First Committee in 1930 and any observations made by Members of the League (see documents C.175.M.64. and C.175(a).M.64(a). 1931.V).

7. Proposal of the Government of Finland to confer on the Permanent Court of International Justice Jurisdiction as a Tribunal of Appeal in respect of Arbitral Tribunals established by States.

The 1930 Assembly adjourned to its 1931 session the examination of the report of the Committee set up to study this proposal (document C.338.M.138.1930.V).

II. BUDGETARY AND ADMINISTRATIVE QUESTIONS.

8. Organisation of the Secretariat, the International Labour Office and the Permanent Court of International Justice.

(a) Report of the Committee appointed to give further consideration to certain questions relating to the organisation of the Secretariat, the International Labour Office and the Registry of the Permanent Court of International Justice (document A.8.1931).

(b) Questions adjourned by the last Assembly (document A.86.1930.X):

- (1) Salaries of counsellors (that is to say, the small number of international officials who have received or may receive this title);
- (2) Septennial leave (for international officials of the first division).

9. Election of Two Members of the Supervisory Commission.

III. SOCIAL QUESTIONS.

10. Penal Administration.

The 1930 Assembly requested the Secretary-General to submit to its 1931 session a further report on the Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners drafted by the International Prison Commission (document C.620.M.241.1930.IV). This report will be included in the general report by the Secretary-General on the work of the League since the last Assembly.

IV. POLITICAL QUESTIONS.

11. Commission of Enquiry for European Union.

During 1931, the Commission of Enquiry for European Union set up by the Assembly has carried out various work—enquiries into the economic depression and unemployment; disposal of present and future cereal stocks; establishment of an international institute for agricultural credits—with the help of the Financial Committee, etc. The results of this work will be submitted to the 1931 Assembly.

12. Draft General Convention to strengthen the Means of preventing War.

The 1930 Assembly requested the Council to nominate a special Committee. This Committee met on May 11th, 1931; its report will be circulated later.

13. Nansen International Office for Refugees.

Under its Statutes, this office has to submit a report on its work each year to the Assembly.

Further, on the recommendation of the Fourth Committee, the 1930 Assembly requested the International Organisation for Refugees to submit to its 1931 session a systematic plan for the winding-up of the Refugee Organisation by December 31st, 1939.

These two documents will be circulated at the opening of the Assembly.

14. Slavery.

(a) Annual Report by the Council.

In 1926, the Assembly requested the Council to prepare every year a document mentioning the laws and regulations communicated to the Secretary-General by the parties to the Slavery Convention in conformity with Article 7 of that Convention, together with any supplementary information forwarded by the States Members of the League with regard to the measures taken by them with a view to the progressive abolition of slavery and analogous conditions.

This year, the Council report, which will be distributed in August, will contain, in addition, the report of the International Commission of Enquiry in Liberia and all relevant documents (in accordance with the Council decision of January 24th, 1931). Most of these documents will be found in the *Official Journal* of February 1931.

(b) Information received as a result of the resolution adopted by the Assembly at its eleventh session.

In 1930, the Assembly invited the Members of the League and the States non-members to amplify the information already given by furnishing such particulars as might assist the Assembly to form an idea, not only of the conditions prevailing in their own territories, but also of the present general position in regard to slavery.

The report of the Secretary-General containing all the information received will be circulated in August.

B. Questions inserted on the Proposal of the Council.

15. Nationality of Women.

The Secretary-General will present a report to the Assembly. Certain international women's organisations particularly interested in this question have been invited to make joint proposals which will be annexed to this report. The report will be circulated during the summer.

C. Technical Organisations of the League.

N. B. — The list of questions under this heading is not complete. The object is merely to point out, for the convenience of delegations, the principal subjects dealt with by the technical organisations.

16. Economic and Financial Organisations.

I. Economic Work.

1. Steps taken to carry out the decision of the tenth Assembly regarding concerted economic action.

2. Work of the Economic Committee:

- (a) Study of the agricultural crisis (the report on this question will be circulated in June in document C.239.M.105.1931.II.B);
- (b) Preparation of veterinary conventions;
- (c) Most-favoured-nation clause;
- (d) Establishment of a unified Customs nomenclature.

3. Results of the Conference for the Unification of Laws relating to Cheques. (Three Conventions have been drawn up. They are contained in document C.194.M.77.1931.II.B.)

II. *Financial Work.*

1. Organisation of a system of agricultural credits.
2. Enquiry into the economic depression (the results of this enquiry will be included in a document to be distributed during the summer).
3. Gold (see document C.75.M.31.1931.II).

17. **Communications and Transit Organisation.**

- (a) Conference of Maritime States on the Unification of Buoyage and Lighting of Coasts, held at Lisbon.
- (b) European Conference for the Unification of River Law, held at Geneva (Convention concerning collisions, etc.).
- (c) European Conference on Road Traffic, held at Geneva (Convention on Fiscal Regime for Foreign Motor Vehicles, etc.).
- (d) Work of the Advisory and Technical Committee and its different sub-committees: Preparation of the fourth General Conference for Communications and Transit; question of the installation of an aerodrome near the seat of the League, etc.

The results of this work will be described in the report on the work of the League since the last Assembly.

18. **Health Organisation.**

1. Co-operation of the League with China and South American countries in health matters.
2. Enquiry on the results of the treatment of syphilis.
3. Preparation of the European Conference on Rural Hygiene (June 1931).
4. Study of the principles and methods employed in the prevention of leprosy.

Information on the work on these questions will be found in the annual report of the Health Organisation for 1930 (document A.7.1931.III).

19. **Advisory Committee on Traffic in Opium and Other Dangerous Drugs** (see documents C.168.M.62.1931.XI and C.168(a).M.62(a).1931.XI).

1. Work of the Advisory Committee with regard to the supervision of the application of the Opium Conventions and the suppression of the illicit traffic;
2. Conference for the limitation of the manufacture of narcotics (May 27th, 1931) (see document C.168.M.62.1931.XI).
3. Report of the Commission of Enquiry into Opium-smoking in the Far East.

This report forms two volumes. The first has already been distributed (document C.635.M.254.1930.XI). The second will appear during the summer.

20. **Advisory Commission for the Protection and Welfare of Children and Young People.**

(a) **Traffic in Women and Children Committee:**

1. Application of the 1923 Convention on Obscene Publications.
2. Draft Protocol to the 1921 Convention with regard to the penalties to be inflicted on persons living on immoral earnings.
3. Employment of women police.

The Committee's report is contained in document C.267.M.122.1931.IV.

(b) **Child Welfare Committee:**

1. Establishment of a Convention for the return to their homes of children and young people.
2. Question of the setting-up of a Special Committee to study assistance to foreign minors and the execution of maintenance orders abroad.
3. Study of the auxiliary services of children's courts.

The report of this Committee is contained in document C.249.M.113.1931.IV.

21. Intellectual Co-operation:

(a) Work of the International Committee on Intellectual Co-operation.

This Committee meets in July. Its report, which will be circulated in August, will include information on the work of the International Institute of Intellectual Co-operation, which is the executive organ of the Committee.

(b) Work of the International Educational Cinematographic Institute at Rome.

D. Budget of the League.

22. Budget for 1932, including the Budgets of the International Labour Organisation and of the Permanent Court of International Justice; Audited Accounts for the Twelfth Financial Period (1930); Reports of the Supervisory Commission.

10 AUG 1931

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

Official No. : **A. 6.** 1931.

Geneva, June 15th, 1931.

LEAGUE OF NATIONS

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

Series of League of Nations Publications

GENERAL ✓
1931. 3.

TABLE OF CONTENTS.

	Page
INTRODUCTION	5
 1. LEGAL QUESTIONS :	
I. Amendment of the Covenant of the League of Nations in order to bring it into Harmony with the Pact of Paris	31
II. Ratification of Conventions concluded under the Auspices of the League of Nations	31
III. Preparatory Procedure to be followed in regard to the Negotiation of General Conventions under the Auspices of the League of Nations	32
IV. Tabular Statements showing the Position as regards Signature and Ratification of or Accession to General Conventions	32
V. Progressive Codification of International Law	32
VI. Nationality of Women	33
VII. Work of the International Institute for the Unification of Private Law, Rome	34
 2. FINANCES OF THE LEAGUE :	
I. General Financial Position	36
II. Accounts for 1930	36
III. Disposal of the Surplus for 1930, Reimbursement to States out of the Building Fund and Reimbursement to the Working Capital Fund	37
IV. Budget for 1932	37
V. New Buildings	37
VI. Salaries of Locally Recruited Staff	37
 3. REDUCTION OF ARMAMENTS :	
I. Preparatory Commission for the Disarmament Conference	38
II. Committee of Experts on Budgetary Questions	45
III. The Council and the Preparations for the Disarmament Conference	47
IV. Supervision of the Private Manufacture and Publicity of the Manufacture of Arms and Ammunition and of Implements of War	54
V. Supervision of the International Trade in Arms and Ammunition and in Implements of War	55
VI. Inter-allied Control in Germany under the Treaty of Versailles	55
VII. Statistical Information on the Trade in Arms and Ammunition and in Implements of War. — <i>Armaments Year-Book</i>	55
 4. ARBITRATION AND SECURITY :	
Draft General Convention to Strengthen the Means of preventing War	56
 5. COMMISSION OF ENQUIRY FOR EUROPEAN UNION	
	57
 6. THE AUSTRO-GERMAN PROTOCOL FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A CUSTOMS UNION	
	61
 7. POLITICAL QUESTIONS :	
I. Relations between Poland and Lithuania: Communications from the Governments of Poland and Lithuania	65
II. Territory of Memel	66
III. Sixth Report of the Straits Commission forwarded to the League of Nations under Article 15 of the Straits Convention signed on July 24th, 1923	66
 8. ADMINISTRATIVE QUESTIONS :	
I. Saar Territory	67
II. Free City of Danzig	70
III. Mixed Greco-Bulgarian Emigration Commission	73
IV. Mixed Commission for the Exchange of Greek and Turkish Populations	73
V. Mixed Commission for Upper Silesia	74
 9. PROTECTION OF MINORITIES :	
I. Introduction	74
II. Procedure	74
III. Protection of Minorities in Poland	75
IV. Protection of Minorities in Upper Silesia	76
V. Protection of Minorities in Roumania	80
 10. MANDATES :	
I. General Questions	80
II. Administration of the Territories under Mandate	81
III. Procedure in Times of Disturbance or Emergency	86
 11. SLAVERY :	
I. Execution of the Resolutions of the Assembly	87
II. International Commission of Enquiry in Liberia	87

	Page
12. WORK OF THE TECHNICAL ORGANISATIONS :	
I. Economic and Financial Organisation :	
A. Section of Economic Relations :	
Second Conference for Concerted Economic Action	89
B. Work of the Economic Committee :	
1. Proposals for the Negotiations with a View to Concerted Economic Action	90
2. Veterinary Conventions	90
3. Agricultural Questions	91
4. Most-favoured-nation Clause	92
5. Customs Nomenclature	92
6. Indirect Protectionism	93
7. Methods of Application of Specific Tariffs : Net Weight, Gross Weight, Tare and Packing	93
8. Customs Formalities	93
9. Marks of Origin	94
10. Appellations of Origin	94
11. Dumping : Export Bounties and Subsidies	94
12. Establishment of a Permanent Organ of Conciliation and Arbitration for the Settlement of Disputes which may arise between States in Commercial Matters	94
C. International Conferences and Conventions prepared by the Economic Committee :	
1. International Conference for the Unification of Laws on Bills of Exchange, Promissory Notes and Cheques	95
2. Conference on the Treatment of Foreigners	96
3. Exploitation of the Riches of the Sea	96
4. Protocol on Arbitration Clauses and Convention for the Execution of Arbitral Awards	96
5. International Convention for the Abolition of Import and Export Prohibitions and Restrictions	97
6. Arrangements for the Export of Hides and Skins, and Bones	97
7. International Convention for the Simplification of Customs Formalities	97
D. Economic Intelligence Service :	
1. Work of the Committee of Technical Experts set up under the International Convention relating to Economic Statistics	97
2. Enquiry into the present Economic Depression	98
E. Work of the Financial Committee :	
I. Financial Reconstruction and Settlement Work	98
II. Gold Delegation of the Financial Committee	100
III. Fiscal Committee	101
IV. First Conference of Central Offices for the Suppression of Counterfeiting Currency	101
V. The Agricultural Credits Delegation of the Financial Committee	101
F. Visit to India of the Director of the Economic and Financial Organisation of the League	103
II. Organisation for Communications and Transit	104
III. Health Organisation	112
13. THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS AND CHINA	121
14. REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF LIBERIA	121
15. HUMANITARIAN QUESTIONS :	
I. Protection and Welfare of Women and Young People :	
A. Traffic in Women and Children	123
B. Child Welfare	127
II. Traffic in Opium and Other Dangerous Drugs :	
1. Ratification and Application of the Geneva Convention	129
2. The Illicit Traffic	131
3. Miscellaneous Questions	136
4. Conference on the Limitation of the Manufacture of Narcotic Drugs	137
5. Commission of Enquiry into the Control of Opium-smoking in the Far East	139
6. Work of the Permanent Central Opium Board	141
III. Improvement in Penal Administration	143
16. REFUGEE QUESTIONS	144
17. INTERNATIONAL RELIEF UNION	145
18. INTELLECTUAL CO-OPERATION	145
19. INTERNATIONAL BUREAUX	152
20. ENQUIRY INTO THE ORGANISATION OF THE SECRETARIAT, OF THE INTERNATIONAL LABOUR OFFICE AND OF THE REGISTRY OF THE PERMANENT COURT OF INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE	154
21. VISIT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL TO CERTAIN LATIN-AMERICAN COUNTRIES	155
22. PRESENT SITUATION WITH REGARD TO INTERNATIONAL ENGAGEMENTS REGISTERED WITH THE SECRETARIAT OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS	156

INTRODUCTION

June 30th, 1931.

The work of the League since the last Assembly has been directed mainly to questions connected with the preparation of the Disarmament Conference, the present economic crisis and collaboration with certain Governments which have invited its assistance in technical matters.

International Conferences, however, in preparation for several years, have been held under the auspices of the Organisation for Communications and Transit, dealing with the buoyage and lighting of coasts, river law and road traffic, while a second session of the Conference for the Unification of the Law relating to Bills of Exchange has completed the work of its first session by adopting Conventions dealing with cheques.

The Conference on the Limitation of the Manufacture of Narcotics, convened in accordance with the resolution adopted by the Assembly in 1929, is still in session.

LEGAL QUESTIONS.

AMENDMENT OF THE COVENANT OF THE LEAGUE.

Proposals for the amendment of the Covenant of the League to bring it into harmony with the Pact of Paris, prepared last year by a Committee of Enquiry, were referred by the Assembly in 1930 to its First Committee which made a series of important amendments in the texts submitted. The Assembly was not invited to take an immediate decision on the question of the further amendment of the Covenant, but asked the Secretary-General to submit the texts to the Governments for their observations. The replies of the Governments will be communicated to the Assembly in a special report.

THE SIGNATURE AND RATIFICATION OF GENERAL CONVENTIONS.

The Secretary-General was requested by the Assembly in 1930 to ascertain each year from the Governments their intentions with regard to any general convention which they had signed but failed to ratify before the expiry of one year from the date of the closing of the protocol of signature. He was further asked to ascertain from the Governments Members of the League of Nations which had neither signed nor acceded to a convention within five years of its being opened for signature whether they intended to do so or what their objections might be. The Secretary-General has carried out these instructions in regard to all the conventions to which they apply and the results will be communicated to the Assembly in a special report.

PREPARATION OF GENERAL CONVENTIONS.

The Assembly, in 1930, recommended certain rules for the procedure to be followed in the preparation of general conventions negotiated under the auspices of the League. The rules in question have been communicated to the Technical Organisations of the League and to the Governments, and the Assembly will in September be invited to consider whether they should be modified as the result of any suggestions which may be made.

PROGRESSIVE CODIFICATION OF INTERNATIONAL LAW.

The Council asked the Assembly last year to consider proposals for the continuation of the work of the Conference for the Progressive Codification of International Law held at The Hague in March and April 1930. There was some difference of opinion among the delegations to the Assembly as to the steps to be taken with a view to carrying on the work of codification and the Governments have been invited to give their views on the subject. The question will be considered again this year by the Assembly.

FINANCES OF THE LEAGUE.

During the year 1930, 86.62 per cent of the amount of the contributions due for the year was received from the States Members as against 89 per cent in 1929. The total amount received, including working capital, on account of arrears during 1930 was 1,038,218.21 francs, as compared with 634,981.53 francs during 1929.

The Secretariat of the League showed a surplus of 273,101.07 francs on December 31st, 1930, and the Permanent Court of International Justice a surplus of 385,976.75 francs. On the same date the International Labour Organisation showed a deficit of 535,179 francs.

The budget for 1932 amounts to 35,407,109 francs as compared with 31,637,501 francs for 1931. There is a net increase in the budget of the International Labour Office of 389,158 francs. The Disarmament Conference involves an increased credit of 3,700,000 francs and there is an appropriation of 480,000 francs for the development of liaison with China.

REDUCTION OF ARMAMENTS.

WORK OF THE PREPARATORY COMMISSION FOR THE DISARMAMENT CONFERENCE.

The Assembly, on September 30th, 1930, expressed its conviction that the Preparatory Commission for the Disarmament Conference would, during its next session, to be held in November 1930, be able to complete its work on a preliminary draft Convention for the reduction and limitation of armaments and thus enable the Council to convene a Disarmament Conference at an early date. The Preparatory Commission met at Geneva from November 6th to December 9th, 1930. It drew up a draft Convention and a final report.

THE DRAFT CONVENTION.

The Convention opens with a general article under which the contracting parties agree to limit and as far as possible reduce their respective armaments in accordance with its provisions. The Convention provides for the limitation of effectives in time of peace, a limitation of the period of service in conscript armies, an indirect limitation of land material by means of a limitation of expenditure on armaments, a direct limitation of naval material, a limitation of expenditure on material for naval armaments, a limitation of the total horse-power for dirigibles and aircraft and a total limitation of annual expenditure on land, sea and air armed forces and formations organised on a military basis. It provides for publicity in respect of each of these limitations, for the prohibition, subject to reciprocity, of the use of chemical arms and for the absolute prohibition of bacteriological methods of warfare. It also contains provisions for the creation of a permanent Disarmament Commission.

THE REPORT OF THE PREPARATORY COMMISSION.

The report of the Preparatory Commission contains a commentary on the text of the draft Convention and gives particulars of all the reservations, whether general or particular, submitted by the delegations during the framing of the various texts. Certain Governments state that a reduction of some or all of the categories of armaments is not possible for them, as their present forces are insufficient to guarantee national safety. Other Governments reserve the right to submit further definite proposals to the Disarmament Conference. The German delegation declares that it will vote against the draft Convention as a whole, on the ground that it excludes essential elements from the limitation and reduction of land armaments and may even allow armaments to be increased. The American delegation makes a reservation in regard to the budgetary limitation of armaments, and the delegate of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics declares that the attitude of his Government is negative.

The Preparatory Commission observes that it will be for the Conference itself, not only to decide as to the adoption of the draft Convention, but also to define its practical scope by fixing in figures the extent of the undertakings which it involves. It represents that the successful discharge of this complicated and delicate task will depend first and foremost on a thorough and systematic preparation of the Conference, and in a large measure on the atmosphere that will prevail during its proceedings. It invites the Council to take the necessary

steps for the preparation of the Conference and to fix the date of its meeting. The President of the Preparatory Commission, while recognising that the draft Convention does not settle all divergencies of principle among the various Powers with regard to disarmament, emphasises that never before in the history of the world have the nations contemplated an international regulation of the means of national defence and that this fact alone gives to the work of the Commission a profound significance.

PRELIMINARY MEASURES TAKEN BY THE COUNCIL.

The Council began its preparatory work for the Disarmament Conference during its session held in January 1931. It fixed the date for the convening of the Conference for Tuesday, February 2nd, 1932. It requested the Secretary-General to forward to the Governments the report of the Preparatory Commission and the preliminary draft Convention. It further asked him to obtain from the Governments particulars of the present position as to their armaments and to secure such advice as might be necessary in order to complete the technical scheme embodied in the Convention. He was authorised, in particular, to obtain the views of the Governments on the proposals of the Committee of Experts on Budgetary Questions and to request the Communications and Transit Organisation of the League of Nations to convene a meeting of experts with a view to fixing rules for the adoption of a standard horse-power measurement for aeroplane and dirigible engines.

The Council, during its May session, reviewed the results of this preliminary work. The Secretary-General had, between the January and May sessions of the Council, received particulars of the present position as to their armaments from the Governments of the Grand Duchy of Luxemburg, Finland and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics. He had also received proposals from the British and German delegations as to the form in which the information supplied by Governments concerning their armaments should be given.

The British Government suggested that the preliminary exchange of information between the Governments as to the position of their armaments would be considerably more useful to the Disarmament Conference if it were supplied by each Government on a uniform model, and they submitted detailed proposals based on the publicity tables annexed to the draft Convention. The German Government, while agreeing that the information should be supplied on a uniform model, did not regard information supplied on the basis of the publicity tables annexed to the draft Convention as adequate, and it submitted tables providing for fuller information, particularly regarding material — in service and in stock — of land, sea and air armaments and regarding trained reserves.

The Council considered the German and British proposals at its meetings on May 20th and May 23rd, 1931. The representative of Great Britain emphasised that the publicity tables attached to the draft Convention had been adopted by the Preparatory Commission after full discussion, and that the German proposal was based on principles constantly advocated by the German Government but as constantly rejected by the majority of other countries. The German representative urged that the particulars supplied by the Governments should include all the essential factors of armaments and that the Disarmament Conference could neither obtain a clear idea as to the reduction of war material required by the different States, nor assess the military forces represented by the effectives of the different armies, unless it was supplied with complete and accurate tables.

The representative of Spain, acting as rapporteur, summarised the conclusions of the Council at its meeting of May 23rd, 1931. The British proposal was not ideal, but it was important to concentrate upon what appeared to be feasible, and the German proposal was based upon principles which, after lengthy discussion, had not been accepted by the Preparatory Commission. The Governments invited to the Conference should therefore be asked to supply the information required in accordance with the tables mentioned in the British proposal. The information should be forwarded to the Secretary-General not later than September 15th, so that it might be simultaneously interchanged between the Governments which had supplied it.

The German representative, not wishing to prevent unanimity from being achieved, abstained from voting on the report.

The Council decided, in January, that Geneva should be the seat of the Conference, provided the town was in a position to offer all the requisite facilities. The Secretary-General was able to assure the Council in May that these facilities would be adequate and the Council accordingly confirmed its previous decision.

THE BUDGETARY LIMITATION OF ARMAMENTS.

The Preparatory Commission adopted, during its session in November and December 1930, the principle of the limitation of expenditure on armaments. The Committee of Experts on budgetary questions, first constituted in November 1926, accordingly resumed its work at Geneva in December 1930. It was invited to study the methods of publicity and of the limitation of expenditure on armaments which the Preparatory Commission had decided to embody in the draft Convention. The Committee of Experts adopted a unanimous report, a draft annex to the Convention, a model form of budgetary expenditure and certain tables. The report was sent direct to the Governments in March 1931 in accordance with a decision of the Council.

The Council in May decided that the Governments should be asked to fill in the model form.

PRIVATE MANUFACTURE OF ARMS, AMMUNITION AND IMPLEMENTS OF WAR.

The Assembly, in 1930, recommended that the Special Commission appointed to frame a draft Convention on the supervision of the private manufacture of arms, ammunition and implements of war should be convened as soon as possible after the completion of the work of the Preparatory Commission for the Disarmament Conference. The Council, however, on considering the matter in January 1931, noted that the recommendations of the budgetary experts might have a direct bearing on the solution of certain problems entrusted to the Special Commission and therefore decided to postpone the convening of the Special Commission until the Committee of Budgetary Experts had submitted a final report.

The budgetary experts subsequently found it impossible to recommend any method of detailed publicity by categories in regard to material of war. The Council accordingly came to the conclusion that it would be for the Disarmament Conference to regulate, when the time came, the question of publicity in regard to war material and therefore decided that it would serve no useful purpose to convene the Special Commission until after the Disarmament Conference had met.

ARBITRATION AND SECURITY.

The Assembly, during its session in 1930, considered a report from the Committee on Arbitration and Security on the possibility of transforming into a general Convention the Model Treaty to strengthen the means of preventing War drawn up in 1928. The Committee on Arbitration and Security had not found it possible to submit the text of a general Convention, but, in respect of certain articles, had drafted two alternative texts, subject to reservations. The Assembly noted, however, the degree of progress which had been made in its third Committee in reconciling the different points of view and asked the Council to instruct a special Committee to continue the study of the question.

The special Committee, consisting of representatives of France, Germany, Great Britain, Greece, Guatemala, Italy, Japan, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Spain and Yugoslavia, met at Geneva from May 11th to 15th, 1931, and unanimously adopted a draft general Convention, with certain reservations, covering the questions on which the Committee on Arbitration and Security had only been able to submit alternative texts. The report of the special Committee, with the draft Convention, has been distributed to the Members of the League with a view to its examination by the forthcoming Assembly.

The Council has drawn special attention to a recommendation made by the special Committee to the effect that the Members of the League should give their delegates to the Assembly the necessary instructions to take a definite decision on the text and the necessary powers to sign the Convention, if they so desire, in the event of it being approved by the Assembly.

COMMISSION OF ENQUIRY FOR EUROPEAN UNION.

ORIGIN OF THE ENQUIRY.

During the session of the Assembly in 1929, M. Briand, Foreign Minister of France, announced that he had under consideration a scheme for closer union between the European States. The scheme was embodied in a memorandum which was distributed in May 1930 to the twenty-seven Governments of Europe, Members of the League, and during the months

that followed, certain of these Governments formulated their observations, which were duly forwarded to the Government of France.

On September 9th, 1930, at a private meeting held in the Council Room of the League of Nations at Geneva, representatives of the European Members of the League met and considered what further action should be taken. A resolution was adopted noting the results of the enquiry and expressing the conviction that a close collaboration of European Governments in all fields of activity would provide an essential guarantee for the maintenance of peace in the world. It was explicitly recognised that any action contemplated should be taken in full agreement with the League of Nations and with due respect to all the principles of the Covenant.

As a result of this resolution, the question was placed on the agenda of the Assembly, which, on September 17th, 1930, invited the Governments of the European States Members of the League of Nations, acting with the assistance of the Secretariat as a Commission of the League, to pursue their enquiry into the possibility of a closer co-operation between themselves. It requested that the first results of this enquiry should be embodied in definite proposals to be submitted to the Assembly in 1931. The Governments were reminded that, in so far as such co-operation might seem to them to be useful for the pursuit of their enquiry, it was open to them to conduct it in conjunction with non-European Members and non-member Governments.

There have been three sessions of the Commission of Enquiry — on September 3rd, 1930; from January 16th to January 21st, 1931; and from May 15th to May 21st, 1931.

ORGANISATION AND PROCEDURE.

The Commission has elected for its Chairman, M. Briand, and appointed as its Secretary the Secretary-General of the League.

The Secretary-General was instructed in September 1930 to collect such information as might assist it in carrying out its task, and in January 1931 he presented to the Commission a report on certain technical questions which had already been examined or were in course of examination by the League, bearing directly or indirectly on the economic crisis and of special interest to the European States. The International Labour Office also submitted a memorandum on questions within its competence. The Commission, after considering this material and the proposals of certain Governments, adopted in January 1931 a series of resolutions involving the appointment of special *ad hoc* committees to consider particular questions.

The Commission has declared itself to be a Commission of the League of Nations, whose duty it is to submit reports to the Assembly or the Council, which will decide on the effect to be given to its recommendations, the interests of all the Members of the League being thus secured. It may resort for assistance to the technical bodies and advisory committees of the League. The meetings of the Commission are open to extra-European States Members of the League, even if they do not sit on the Commission.

Members of the Commission desiring to place questions on its agenda are asked to communicate with the Secretary-General. The discussions of the Commission will, in principle, be public.

The Commission has invited the Governments of Iceland, Turkey, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the Free City of Danzig to participate in the enquiry on the economic crisis in so far as it affects Europe.

The Commission, in May, appointed an Economic Co-ordination Sub-Committee to co-ordinate the work of the special committees. The Sub-Committee will submit a general report to the Commission of Enquiry in September.

GENERAL POLITICAL SITUATION.

The Commission, meeting in January, expressed the view that economic recovery was being hindered by lack of confidence in the course of future events, due to widespread political anxiety, and that it was important for the improvement of economic conditions that there should be a firm assurance of European peace. The members of the Commission, as Foreign Ministers or responsible representatives of European States, asserted their determination to use the machinery of the League to prevent any resort to violence.

DISPOSAL OF THE GRAIN SURPLUS OF 1930.

The Commission, during its session in January, suggested that the representatives of the grain exporting countries of Central and Eastern Europe and the European importing countries should meet at an early date and make a common effort to find a means of disposing of the

existing grain surplus. A Conference of the countries concerned met in February and the representatives of certain of these countries undertook to arrange for the necessary contracts to be made for the purchase by the importing countries of the stocks of wheat available.

THE EXPORT OF FUTURE HARVEST SURPLUSES.

The Commission, in January 1931, set up a Committee to study measures which might facilitate the export of future harvest surpluses, including tariff arrangements. The Committee consisting of representatives of Austria, Belgium, Czechoslovakia, Estonia, France, German, the British Empire, Italy, Norway, Switzerland and Yugoslavia, met in February 1931. It expressed the view that it would be an advantage for producers in all continents to co-operate in meeting the crisis which had arisen from the over-production of cereals throughout the world.

The Commission also considered specific proposals for improving the European situation including conditions and cost of transport, banking facilities for the purchase and sale of cereals and methods of payment. More particularly it was requested to examine the Customs advantages which certain European countries had been asked to accord to the exporting countries of Central and Eastern Europe and it is trying to devise some scheme whereby an exceptional preferential system may be regularly applied and co-ordinated as between the exporting and the importing States. The Commission of Enquiry has emphasised that any such facilities would have to be regarded as an exceptional temporary measure and framed with due regard to the interest of third Parties.

AGRICULTURAL CREDITS.

The Commission noted, in January 1931, that the Financial Committee of the League was enquiring into the subject of agricultural credits. It appointed a Committee to keep in touch with the enquiry, so that a detailed programme, both financial and legal, might be submitted to the Council of the League.

This Committee met in April 1931 to examine a draft Convention, a constituent Charter and the Statute of an International Agricultural Mortgage Credit Company prepared by a delegation of the Financial Committee of the League. (For particulars of the scheme, see under "Financial Questions".)

PROBLEMS OF PRODUCTION AND TRADE.

The Commission of Enquiry has closely followed the proceedings of the Conference which met in November 1930 and again in March 1931 with a view to putting into force the Commercial Convention of March 24th, 1930, and it asked the Council, during its session in May, to convene a meeting at an appropriate moment, with a view to the application of the principles formulated in that Convention. Meanwhile, it recommends the European States to conform as far as possible with those principles. (For the proceedings of the Conferences of November 1930 and March 1931 see under "Economic Questions".)

The Commission further decided, during its session in May, to convene a Committee of Experts to examine all likely means of establishing closer and more effective co-operation between the different countries with a view to improving, in the general interest, the organisation of their production and trade. This Committee will work in contact with the Governments and avail itself of the technical services of the League. It will consist of members appointed by Belgium, Great Britain, Czechoslovakia, France, Germany, Italy, Netherlands, Sweden and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

The Commission considered it desirable that the work of mutual aid among the European countries should include an effective policy of financial co-operation more especially in the matter of long-term credit. It accordingly requested the Council to appoint a small committee of Government representatives to consider, with the help of a delegation of the Financial Committee, what practical steps could be taken to facilitate the issue of State loans of an international character, by means of a more active intervention on the part of the League.

UNEMPLOYMENT.

The Commission of Enquiry, during its May session, appointed a Sub-Committee of six of its members to study, with six members of the Governing Body of the International Labour

Office, the problem of unemployment and to consider a scheme submitted by the International Institute of Agriculture for the better use of all the factors constituting production.

AUSTRIA.

The Commission during its May session noted a proposal that a committee should be set up to consider measures by which the difficulties peculiar to Austria might be remedied. The representative of Austria stated that this Government proposed, if necessary, itself to submit suggestions concerning the problems peculiar to Austria for consideration by the Special Committees appointed by the Commission. The Commission approved this procedure.

PACT OF ECONOMIC NON-AGGRESSION.

The Commission further considered a draft Protocol submitted by the delegation of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and referred it for further consideration to the Economic Co-Ordination Sub-Committee.

MISCELLANEOUS QUESTIONS.

The Commission of Enquiry has expressed its interest in a number of economic and transit problems and has asked the Council to have them considered by the appropriate Technical Organisations of the League. Among these questions are the trade in products of animal origin, international exchanges of electrical power, Customs exemption for liquid fuel, Customs nomenclature and the treatment of foreigners.

THE AUSTRO-GERMAN PROTOCOL FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A CUSTOMS UNION.

The Austro-German Protocol for the establishment of a Customs Union was signed and published on March 19th, 1931, in Vienna. It embodied proposals for an agreement between the two countries under which a single Customs law and a single Customs tariff would be put into force in their territories and in accordance with which no Customs duty on imports or exports would be levied on exchanges of goods between them. The question, at the request of the representative of Great Britain, was placed on the agenda of the Council and considered by the Council on May 18th and 19th, 1931.

The British representative, indicating the motives which had led him to take this step, said that doubts had been expressed whether the terms of the Protocol might not be contrary to the stipulations of certain international instruments. The question appeared to involve the consideration of purely legal problems, for the solution of which a system of procedure had been provided by the League. He accordingly moved that the Permanent Court of International Justice should be asked to give an advisory opinion on the question whether the system which Germany and Austria were proposing to establish under the Protocol would be compatible with Article 88 of the Treaty of St. Germain and with Protocol No. 1, signed at Geneva on October 4th, 1922.

Under Article 88 of the Treaty of St. Germain, the independence of Austria is declared inalienable, otherwise than with the consent of the Council of the League, and Austria undertakes to abstain from any act which might directly or indirectly, compromise her independence. The Protocol of October 4th, 1922, was the instrument under which Austria was accorded a loan under the auspices of the League with a view to her financial reconstruction. It includes an undertaking on the part of Austria to abstain from any negotiations calculated directly or indirectly to compromise her independence and not to grant to any State a special regime or exclusive advantages calculated to threaten that independence.

The British proposal to ask for an advisory opinion from the Court was adopted unanimously by the Council. During the discussion, declarations were made by the representatives of Austria, Belgium, Czechoslovakia, France, Germany, Italy and Yugoslavia.

POLITICAL QUESTIONS.

RELATIONS BETWEEN POLAND AND LITHUANIA.

The Council, during its session in January 1931, and on May 24th 1931, considered reports from the representatives of Poland and Lithuania on the direct negotiations carried out between the two Governments at the request made by the Council in September 1930, and on incidents which had occurred in the region of the administrative line between the two countries.

No agreement by negotiation was reached between the parties. The Polish and Lithuanian Ministers for Foreign Affairs, however, have given explicit assurances that adequate measures have been taken to avoid any incidents in future and the Council noted in May that its intervention had resulted in an immediate restoration of tranquillity along the administrative line.

THE TERRITORY OF MEMEL.

The German Government, on September 20th, 1930, forwarded to the Secretary-General a communication on the position which had arisen in the territory of Memel, proposing that the question as a matter of urgency should be placed on the agenda. The German Government represented that the Convention of Memel of May 8th, 1924, had been infringed in the following respects : (1) failure to observe democratic and parliamentary principles in the constitution of the Directorate, (2) obstruction of the Diet's legislative work, (3) encroachment upon judicial sovereignty, (4) hindrances to the operation of the financial regulations laid down in Article 35 of the Statute of Memel, (5) maintenance and application of the state of war, (6) interference with the freedom of suffrage.

The Lithuanian Government contended that the request of the German Government could not be a subject of discussion before the Council. The Council however was advised by a committee of jurists that the question might be placed on the agenda.

The most urgent questions were settled immediately by means of direct conversation between the German and Lithuanian representatives. During the Council session in May 1931, agreement was reached regarding the settlement of the financial questions, for which the Lithuanian representative requested the assistance of League experts. There remained only the legal questions concerning the application of the Memel Convention, in regard to which the Council was informed that the Members of the Council, signatories of the Memel Convention, the British Empire, France, Italy and Japan, were negotiating with the Lithuanian Government on the basis of the application of Article 17 (paragraph 2) of that instrument.

THE STRAITS COMMISSION.

The Secretary-General has received the annual report of the Straits Commission forwarded to the League of Nations under Article 15 of the Straits Convention of July 24th, 1923. The report has been communicated to the States Members of the League, to the Powers that signed the Straits Convention and to the technical organisations of the League.

The Commission protests in its report against the levying of taxes on vessels in transit through the Straits.

ADMINISTRATIVE QUESTIONS.

THE TERRITORY OF THE SAAR.

The Council, during its meetings on September 9th and September 12th, 1930, dealt with the question of freedom of transport and transit on the Saar railways.

The representative of Germany, at a meeting of the Council on September 9th, 1930, urged that, owing to the evacuation of the Rhineland, there was no longer any reason for maintaining forces to protect the Saar railways, and he asked the Council to take an immediate decision for their suppression.

[3] The Saar Governing Commission was accordingly asked to consider whether it could guarantee freedom of transport and transit in the Saar, as provided in the Treaty, and upon what conditions. The Governing Commission declared that, in the event of the Council deciding to

withdraw the forces protecting the Saar railways, it was prepared, on certain conditions, to assume responsibility for their security.

The Council, on September 12th, thereupon decided to suppress the protecting forces and this decision was duly carried into effect.

The French and Belgian troops composing the Railway Commission and the protecting forces left the Saar on December 12th, 1930.

THE FREE CITY OF DANZIG.

The High Commissioner of Danzig, in July 1930, communicated to the Council a law for the amending of the Constitution of the Free City, in order that the League of Nations might decide whether it had any objections to the modifications proposed. The principal amendments relate to the number of deputies elected to the Popular Assembly, the conditions under which the Popular Assembly may be dissolved and the number and constitutional position of the senators.

The Council, on September 9th, 1930, authorised the High Commissioner to inform the Senate of Danzig that the League of Nations had no objection to these amendments.

The recent elections in Danzig resulted in a strengthening of the extreme parties of the right and left, and a situation was created which led to a series of demonstrations and incidents between Danzigers and Poles which ultimately caused the diplomatic representative of Poland at Danzig to resign his post. The Council on May 22nd, 1930, examined a special report of the High Commissioner concerning these incidents and approved the attitude which he had adopted. The Council expressed its disapproval of any action directed against the status of the Free City from any quarter whatsoever, and expressed its conviction that all necessary steps would be taken to restore a spirit of confidence as between Poland and Danzig and to calm public opinion in the two countries.

The Council, on September 9th, 1930, noted an advisory opinion of the Permanent Court of International Justice to the effect that the special legal status of the Free City of Danzig was not such as to enable the Free City to become a member of the International Labour Organisation. The text of this opinion was communicated to the Director of the International Labour Office.

A certain number of agreements during the period under review have been concluded between the Government of Danzig and the Polish Government, either directly or through the High Commissioner, and a certain number of questions have been submitted to the High Commissioner for mediation.

THE PROTECTION OF MINORITIES.

The Council has during the period under review, considered a number of cases relating to Upper Silesia under the provisions of the Convention between Germany and Poland of May 15th, 1922, and it has examined in detail the situation of the German minority in the districts of Silesia, Posnan and Pomorze with respect to incidents which took place during the preparation of the last Polish elections.

The Council was asked, in January 1931, to consider representations to the effect that the German minority in Poland and Silesia had been prevented from freely exercising their electoral rights and had been subjected to attacks against their persons and property.

In accordance with a decision adopted by the Council on the proposal of its Rapporteur on January 24th, 1931, the Polish Government forwarded a statement on the measures and decisions taken as a result of the incidents which had occurred and on the general steps which the Polish authorities were taking to encourage the pacific collaboration of all the elements of the Silesian population. The Council, on May 23rd, 1931, had before it a further statement of its Rapporteur but decided, at the request of the German representative, to postpone its examination until September.

A question raised by the descendants of the members of the former Szekler Hungarian Frontier Guard was placed on the Council agenda by the members of the Committee of Three which had examined the petition. The Council was informed that the Roumanian Government was anxious to find a friendly solution of the question by negotiation with the signatories of the petition, and accordingly decided on May 21st, 1931, to postpone the examination of the question to its autumn session.

The procedure followed in dealing with minorities petitions as set forth in the supplementary report of the Secretary-General submitted to the Assembly in 1925, completed by the supplementary report to the Assembly in 1929, has been regularly applied during the current year.

In conformity with this procedure, in addition to the Minorities Committees which met regularly during the Council sessions, a certain number also met between the Council sessions of January and May 1931. Whenever the examination of a petition was completed without its being placed on the agenda of the Council the members of the Committee concerned informed by letter the other members of the Council of the results.

MANDATES.

SESSIONS OF THE MANDATES COMMISSION.

The Mandates Commission, in 1930, held three sessions — a seventeenth session (extraordinary) held from June 3rd to June 30th, which was devoted to the events which had occurred in Palestine in August 1929 ; an eighteenth session, held from June 18th to July 1st, which examined the annual reports on the administration of Syria and the Lebanon, Tanganyika Territory, Togoland under French Mandate, New Guinea and South West Africa for 1929 ; and a nineteenth session, held in November 1930, which examined the administration of the mandated territories for 1929 of Iraq, the Cameroons under French mandate, Togoland and the Cameroons under British mandate, Ruanda Urundi, Western Samoa, the islands under Japanese mandate and Nauru.

The reports of the Commission on the work of its seventeenth and eighteenth sessions were duly considered and approved by the Council in September 1930. The report of the Commission on the work of its nineteenth session was considered and approved by the Council in January, 1931.

WESTERN SAMOA.

The Mandates Commission, during its session held in November 1930, again reviewed the position which had arisen in Western Samoa as a result of certain incidents which had been reported to the Council by the mandatory Power on its own initiative in January 1930. There had been open resistance to the administration on the part of a native organisation known as the " Mau ". The accredited representative of the mandatory Power assured the Commission that the leaders of the " Mau " had submitted and that the natives accused of offences during the disorders had been handed over to the judicial authorities.

The Mandates Commission learned with satisfaction that the administration of Samoa proposed to co-operate again with the native representatives and to accord them a constantly increasing share in the management of their own affairs.

THE ISLANDS UNDER JAPANESE MANDATE.

The Commission, during its nineteenth session, drew attention to the continuous and rapid fall in the numbers of the native population of the islands under Japanese mandate, especially the island of Yap, and expressed a hope that the efforts made by the Mandatory to discover the causes of this phenomenon would yield positive results.

IRAQ.

The Commission reviewed the administration of Iraq in the light of the recent announcement made by the British Government that it was proposing to terminate the British mandate in Iraq and to recommend that Iraq should be admitted to the League of Nations in 1932. The Commission felt that it had not yet sufficient information at its disposal to justify it in formulating an opinion on the progress achieved by Iraq as a result of eight years under the mandatory system. It accordingly expressed the hope that the mandatory Power would in future reports endeavour to indicate the results so far accomplished which might be attributed to the action of the British officials and those which must be attributed to the efforts of the Iraqi Government itself.

The report of the Commission was examined by the Council on January 22nd, 1931. The British representative on that occasion intimated that steps would be taken to prepare a comprehensive review of the progress made in Iraq under the mandate.

The Mandates Commission, in its observations on the political situation in Iraq, emphasised that respect should be assured for the rights of racial and linguistic minorities and, in this connection, gave special attention to the situation of the Kurdish minority. The Commission

had some misgivings as to the position of the minorities in Iraq in view of the preparations being made for the complete independence of the territory and for the withdrawal of the supervision of the mandatory administration. It noted a statement of the accredited representative of the mandatory Power to the effect that Iraq, on obtaining her freedom, would undoubtedly be prepared to accept international obligations safeguarding the rights of minorities in her territory.

The Kurdish minority had presented to the Commission a petition representing that the provision made for special treatment of the Kurds under the decisions reached by the Council on December 16th, 1925, whereby the area in which it lived had been assigned to Iraq, involved an obligation on the part of the mandatory Power to establish an independent Kurdish Government under the supervision of the League. The Mandates Commission considered this to be an erroneous interpretation of the decision, but recommended that the mandatory Power should be requested to ensure that legislative and administrative measures designed to secure for the Kurds the position to which they were entitled were promptly put into effect.

The Council, on January 22nd, 1931, approved these conclusions and forwarded them to the mandatory Power. The British representative on the Council assured his colleagues that no time would be lost in carrying into full effect the necessary programme of legislative and administrative reforms.

PALESTINE.

The Council, on September 8th, 1930, examined the report of the Mandates Commission on the work of its seventeenth session (extraordinary), held in June 1930, together with the observations of the mandatory Government on that report. It will be recalled that this session was devoted to an enquiry into the events which had occurred in Palestine in August 1929

The Council invited the British Government to adopt such measures as it might think fit to give effect to the recommendations and the conclusions of the Commission. It noted that the report of the Commission contained remarks on the policy to be henceforth followed in Palestine. It did not regard this circumstance as an attempt on the part of the Commission to supplant the mandatory Power in the exercise of its duties, but expressed the view that the Commission had been guided entirely by the letter and spirit of the mandate and by its desire to contribute to the solution of the problem. It added that the difficulties in the way of finding a solution of the Palestine problem were bound to embarrass even a Power with the widest experience in governing peoples of diverse characteristics.

The British representative on the Council said that his Government was in full accord with the observations of the Commission as to the aims and obligations of the mandate for Palestine. He announced that the British Government had sent to Palestine Sir John Hope Simpson, an expert in land settlement and colonisation, to report on the present position in regard to these matters and in particular upon the questions of immigration and development. He assured the Council that the British Government intended to adopt measures with a view to promoting goodwill between the two sections of the population in the conviction that, without such goodwill, the peace and prosperity of Palestine could not be assured by any action of the mandatory Power alone.

ECONOMIC QUESTIONS.

CONCERTED ECONOMIC ACTION : THE COMMERCIAL CONVENTION OF MARCH 24th, 1930.

The Economic Committee, in addition to the problems which it has been considering for some time consequent upon the recommendations of the World Economic Conference of 1927, has in the past year been dealing also with problems arising out of the first Conference for Concerted Economic Action of last year, with special reference to problems which have a direct bearing on the present economic depression.

The first Conference for Concerted Economic Action adopted on March 24th, 1930, a Commercial Convention intended to ensure a certain degree of stability in Customs tariffs over a definite period. Attached to the Convention was a Protocol embodying a programme of future negotiations, to be undertaken by the States concerned, with a view to drawing up collective economic agreements. The entry into force of the Commercial Convention was contingent upon the fulfilment of certain conditions as to its ratification and a second Conference

was called on November 17th, 1930, to consider whether those conditions might be regarded as having been fulfilled. Up to that date only ten ratifications of the Convention had been deposited and the Conference was accordingly obliged to postpone its decision to a second session, which met from March 16th to 18th, 1931.

Twenty-five European countries took part in the Conference and six overseas countries sent observers. At the date of meeting, twelve countries had deposited ratifications and one other country had submitted a request to accede. It was found impossible to put the Convention into force as between these thirteen countries, particularly as the majority made their adherence contingent upon that of other countries which had not yet ratified.

The Conference, after considering a number of proposals put forward with a view to overcoming the difficulties arising from the absence of the necessary ratifications, finally adopted a Protocol to the effect that it was unable to agree upon a date for putting the Convention into force, expressing the opinion, however, that the postponement or lapse of the Convention did not necessarily mean that the negotiations between States with a view to collective economic agreements would not go forward according to the programme laid down in the Protocol of March 24th, 1930.

The second Conference for Concerted Economic Action had also to consider how these negotiations might best be initiated on the basis of a programme drawn up by the Economic Committee. The Economic Committee, after considering various proposals submitted by the Governments, had recommended that special attention should be given to three of them.

The first two proposals, put forward respectively by the British and the Netherlands Governments, related to tariff negotiations in general. The British Government suggested that an endeavour should be made to effect a general reduction of Customs tariffs by means of multilateral agreements between groups of countries to be gradually extended. The Netherlands Government suggested that negotiations should be started between States having an autonomous tariff and States with a conventional tariff, the first group undertaking to maintain their liberal system in return for tariff reductions by the second group. The third proposal was put forward by Hungary, Roumania and Yugoslavia, with whom Poland was also associated. These countries asked that effective steps should be taken to ensure the disposal of their surplus grain produce at prices which would secure to the farmer a better return and they suggested, as a means to this end, that preferential Customs treatment should be accorded to the produce in question by the countries in which it was normally marketed.

It became apparent that, in present circumstances, collective negotiations upon the basis of the British and Netherlands proposals were not likely to lead very far, though several countries expressed willingness to enter into bilateral negotiations with Great Britain and the Netherlands for the improvement of their commercial relations. The proposal of the Danubian States for preferential treatment of their grain produce also met with considerable difficulties, particularly in connection with the most-favoured-nation clause.

The Conference therefore directed its attention to the problem of agricultural credits, of particular importance to the Danubian States, and decided to recommend that the study of this question, already on the programme of the Financial Committee, should be urgently pursued.

VETERINARY RESTRICTIONS.

Attention was drawn during the International Conference for the Abolition of Import and Export Prohibitions and Restrictions, held in 1927, to the difficulties which arose for the international trade in live-stock and meat owing to the imposition of veterinary restrictions. A sub-committee of experts on veterinary matters was accordingly appointed to consider what guarantees should be given by countries exporting live-stock and what facilities might be accorded by importing countries on the basis of these guarantees. The sub-committee, between January 1928 and October 1930, held four sessions, secured the assistance of over-seas experts from the large meat-exporting countries and drafted a report which was submitted to the Economic Committee in November 1930.

The experts agreed as to the principles which should govern the organisation of veterinary health services and reached definite conclusions as to the essential guarantees to be offered by exporting to importing States. The Economic Committee, after carefully considering these conclusions, expressed the view that, pending the introduction of adequate guarantees, States should be allowed to regulate in their own interest a considerable part of the international trade in live-stock and meat and that arrangements for mitigating the severity of the veterinary

measures at present in force would, for the moment, be more completely secured by means of bilateral agreements than by general international action. The conclusions of the experts indicated, however, that the countries concerned would probably accept international conventions dealing with certain aspects of the problem.

Draft conventions have accordingly been prepared concerning: (a) the organisation of veterinary health services and the methods to be adopted for exchanging veterinary health information and ensuring closer co-operation between the different veterinary services; (b) the transit of animals and animal products, including meat and (c) the export and import of animal products other than meat.

The Council has authorised the Secretary-General to communicate these drafts to the Governments for their observations and with a view to an international conference as soon as the texts have been finally approved by the Economic Committee.

THE CRISIS IN AGRICULTURE.

The Economic Committee, in consultation with representatives of the International Institute of Agriculture in Rome, called together in January 1930 a meeting of agricultural experts to give their views on the agricultural crisis, more particularly on the question of cereals. The experts undertook to forward reports to the Secretariat and, in January 1931, a second meeting was convened to consider them. The discussions turned mainly on the question of cereals. Emphasis was laid on the practical difficulties in the way of reducing production, but the way was left open for further negotiations.

The Economic Committee proposes to publish the reports of the experts and has instructed its agricultural delegation to submit to the Council a general review of the agricultural depression to serve as a general introduction to the reports.

THE MOST-FAVoured-NATION CLAUSE.

The Assembly, in 1930, urgently recommended that the Economic Committee should begin a study of certain disputed questions concerning the application of the most-favoured-nation clause. The points to be examined include the question whether Customs quotas and anti-dumping or countervailing duties are compatible with the spirit of the clause. The Economic Committee in October 1930 instructed a Sub-Committee to study these and other points.

DUMPING.

The Committee is continuing its investigations into dumping in all its forms, with particular reference to practices adopted by certain States likely to hinder the free play of economic laws. It has made arrangements for a report to be prepared on dumping, its causes and effects, machinery and the most flagrant forms which it may assume. Particular attention will be paid to export bounties.

CUSTOMS NOMENCLATURE: THE APPLICATION OF TARIFFS.

The work of the experts on the Unification of Customs nomenclature is now virtually completed, and the full scheme will probably be ready before the Assembly meets in 1931.

Among the other questions with which the Economic Committee has dealt during the period under review, are methods of applying specific tariffs, the simplification of Customs formalities, marks and appellations of origin and the establishment of a permanent organ of conciliation and arbitration for the settlement of disputes which may arise between States in commercial matters.

THE CONFERENCE FOR THE UNIFICATION OF LAWS ON BILLS OF EXCHANGE, PROMISSORY NOTES AND CHEQUES.

The Conference convened in June 1930 for the Unification of Laws on Bills of Exchange, Promissory Notes and Cheques established three Conventions dealing with bills of exchange and promissory notes, which were signed by the delegates at the close of the proceedings. The Conference, owing to lack of time and the extreme complexity of the subject,

was unable to deal finally with the unification of laws relating to cheques and it recommended that subsequent enquiries should be made. The Governments were accordingly invited to submit their views upon three preliminary draft Conventions dealing with cheques. Replies received from twenty-three Governments and from the International Chamber of Commerce indicated that there was a unanimous desire for the conclusion of conventions on cheques similar to those which had been drafted to cover bills of exchange and promissory notes.

The Council of the League accordingly convened a second session of the Conference, which met on February 23rd, 1931, and was attended by the representatives of thirty-one countries. The Conference adopted a Convention under which the parties undertook to introduce a uniform law for cheques in their respective countries, a Convention embodying the provisions for the solution of certain conflicts of laws in connection with cheques and a Convention on the stamp laws relating to cheques. The results achieved by the Conference represent the culmination of efforts made during the past twenty years to introduce a certain degree of uniformity in the various countries of the world into the laws relating to cheques.

The three Conventions and the Final Act were, at the close of the proceedings, signed by the representatives of twenty countries.

ECONOMIC STATISTICS.

The International Convention relating to Economic Statistics, which was designed to ensure a measure of uniformity and comparability in the compilation of statistics by the various countries of the world, signed at Geneva in December 1928, came into force in December 1930. The Convention provides for the appointment of a committee of technical experts to which is entrusted an extensive programme of work.

The Committee was appointed by the Council in January 1931 and held its first meeting on March 23rd, 1931. It devoted the major part of its time to the organisation of its future work, but agreement was reached on two specific and urgent questions. First it drew up for adoption by all the parties to the Convention a minimum list of the statistical territories, whether isolated or grouped together, to be specified in the statistics of external trade by countries. Secondly, it submitted definite recommendations for the organisation of an experiment to be undertaken by the contracting parties to the Convention for a period of one year in recording external trade statistics of certain commodities, mainly foodstuffs and raw materials of international importance, according to the three main systems of registration at present in use. The object of the experiment is to render it possible to judge the relative merits of the different systems and prepare the way for the possible adoption of a uniform system by all countries.

ENQUIRY INTO THE PRESENT ECONOMIC DEPRESSION.

The Assembly in September 1930 adopted a resolution to the effect that the Economic and Financial Organisation of the League should undertake a study of the course and phases of the present economic depression and of the circumstances which had led up to it. For this purpose, it was instructed to get into touch with the national organisations which were dealing with the subject.

In pursuance of this resolution, a meeting of representatives of national economic councils and national research institutes was held at Geneva from March 2nd to March 4th, 1931. A scheme of enquiry was discussed, and the delegates agreed to furnish memoranda on a common plan dealing with the phenomena of the depression in their respective countries.

THE VISIT TO INDIA OF THE DIRECTOR OF THE ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL ORGANISATION

The Government of India, in the autumn of 1930, requested that Sir Arthur Salter, Director of the Economic and Financial Organisation of the League, should visit India to advise upon the creation of some organisation for the "study of economic questions, including both the continuous interpretation of current developments and the consideration of plans designed to achieve particular purposes". The results of the specific enquiry which Sir Arthur Salter was invited to make are embodied in a report dated February 16th, 1931, which has been sent to all the Members of the League and to the Indian Government.

The Secretary-General informed Sir Arthur Salter, previous to his visit, that members of the Indian delegation to the Assembly had on many occasions expressed regret at the insufficiency of the knowledge possessed in India regarding the past work and possibilities of future collaboration of the various organisations of the League, and in particular of the technical organisations. Sir Arthur Salter, during his visit to India, was able to acquaint the Indian Government with many aspects of the work of the League, especially in the technical field, and to discuss generally with the authorities the development of India's participation in that work.

FINANCIAL QUESTIONS.

FINANCIAL RECONSTRUCTION.

The Financial Committee, in a report to the Council adopted by that body and by the Assembly in September 1930, pointed out that the scope and character of its work was changing and that the nature of the change had become clearly apparent during the course of the previous twelve months. During the first ten years of its existence the principal work of the Committee had been to assist in financial reconstruction or the establishment of refugees in certain countries, and this work had naturally tended to the postponement of the more normal duties of the Committee as financial adviser to the League within the framework of the Covenant.

The work of the financial reconstruction and refugee settlement is now nearing completion. The Refugee Settlement Commission in Greece has been wound up and the official connection of the Financial Committee with the Greek Government has come to an end, while the work of settling the refugees in Bulgaria will shortly be completed. Owing to the resignation of M. Charron, a new adviser to the Bulgarian National Bank, M. Watteau, has been appointed and the Financial Committee, at the request of the Government of Bulgaria, has undertaken an intensive enquiry into the Bulgarian agricultural co-operative system. The adviser nominated by the Council of the League to the Estonian Central Bank has completed his term of office and his withdrawal closes another chapter in the post-war reconstruction work of the League.

THE ENQUIRY INTO GOLD SUPPLIES.

Apart from the work done in connection with the final stages of these reconstruction schemes, the two principal tasks which have been occupying the attention of the Financial Committees are the enquiry into the monetary gold problem and agricultural credits. These subjects have been referred to two special delegations of the Committee, a Gold Delegation and an Agricultural Credits Delegation. The Gold Delegation has published two interim reports dealing with (a) the current and prospective production of gold in relation to the demand for gold and (b) its distribution.

AGRICULTURAL CREDITS.

The Conference with a view to Concerted Economic Action drew the attention of the Council last year to the fact that the shortage of capital for agriculture constituted a serious hindrance to commercial relations between industrial and agricultural countries and urged a better organisation of agricultural credits. The question was referred by the Council to the technical organisations of the League, including the Financial Committee, with the result that an international convention and the constitutive charter and statutes of a mortgage institute, to be known as the International Agricultural Mortgage Credit Company, were drawn up by a delegation of the Financial Committee, under the chairmanship of M. ter Meulen, of whose work the Commission for European Union and the Council have expressed their warm appreciation.

The Convention has so far been signed by sixteen European Governments. The Council has appointed an Organising Committee to take all steps required for the first issue of the shares of the international company, for its organisation and operations. The Organising Committee held its first meeting in Paris on June 4th, and the Bank should be open early next year.

The purpose of the plan and of the collective effort on the part of European States which it entails is, in the words of the Financial Committee, to "alleviate the burdens which weigh on agricultural production in various countries, to diminish the working expenses which absorb too large a share of the profits and to increase the purchasing capacity of the agriculturists".

TRANSIT QUESTIONS.

UNIFICATION OF BUOYAGE AND LIGHTING OF COASTS.

Three important conferences dealing with transit questions have been held during the period under review: a Conference for the Unification of Buoyage and Lighting of Coasts met at Lisbon on October 6th, 1930; a Conference for the Unification of River Law met at Geneva on November 17th, 1930; a European Conference on Road Traffic met at Geneva in March 1931. The preparatory work for these conferences has taken several years to complete and represents a considerable effort on the part of the Transit Organisation to secure greater simplicity and uniformity in the international organisation of communications and transit.

The Conference for the Unification of Buoyage and Lighting of Coasts adopted two agreements and a series of recommendations. Under the first agreement, signed by twenty-one States, the contracting parties undertake to unify certain descriptions of maritime signals. Under the second agreement, signed by twenty-three States, the contracting parties undertake to unify certain rules in respect of manned lightships which have broken loose from their moorings. The recommendations, signed by twenty-six States, were framed with a view to providing, in a rational and uniform manner for the organisation of new lighthouse systems or the improvement of those already in existence, by means of an effective distribution of the characteristics available. They also laid down certain principles governing the installation and working of radio beacons.

The problem of the unification of buoyage presented serious difficulties and the Conference was unable to establish an agreed convention. It was found that accord on certain fundamental questions was necessary before a complete system of unification could be approved. Twelve countries were prepared to accept a uniform regional solution, but it was realised that any kind of fragmentary agreement might render more difficult the ultimate process of general unification. The Conference accordingly, after framing a series of uniform rules to be applied in the event of a general agreement on the main questions at issue being reached, decided to postpone further work in order that the Governments concerned might endeavour to agree upon a complete solution within the next twelve months. The Conference expressed the hope that it would then be able to meet again with every prospect of ultimate success.

UNIFICATION OF RIVER LAW.

The Conference for the Unification of River Law met at Geneva from November 17th to December 9th, 1930. It was attended by representatives from twenty-one countries and by delegates from the various international river commissions and other international associations interested in the subject. The Conference adopted three Conventions and a final act, to which were appended a number of recommendations.

The first Convention, signed by fourteen States, embodies the provisions which shall govern as between the contracting parties the compensation due in respect of damage to vessels, persons or objects on board as the result of collision between inland navigation vessels. The second Convention, signed by thirteen States, deals with the registration of inland navigation vessels, ownership, mortgages, liens, seizures and enforcement. The third Convention, signed by eight States, determines the conditions under which inland navigation vessels shall be accorded the right to a national flag.

EUROPEAN CONFERENCE ON ROAD TRAFFIC.

The European Conference on Road Traffic was attended by twenty-four States and delegates from the more important international tourist associations and organisations interested in tourist or commercial transport.

The Conference adopted an international Convention for the unification of road signals signed by twelve States, and a recommendation to the effect that a system of codification should, as soon as possible, be internationally established for signs made by traffic police and by drivers of vehicles.

The Conference adopted a Convention on the taxation of foreign motor vehicles, signed by ten States. The Convention exempts from taxation foreign motor vehicles, but not vehicles

use commercially for the transport of persons or goods, circulating for a period of ninety days in the country visited. The Conference, in approving the Convention, recommended that the contracting parties should endeavour, either through internal legislation or by agreement among themselves, to extend as widely as possible the system of tax exemption laid down in the Convention and to improve the methods of applying it.

It further approved an agreement between Customs authorities, signed by eleven States, facilitating the procedure relating to triptychs and removing certain practical difficulties arising for tourists under the present system.

The Conference was unable to come to an agreement upon a convention for the international regulation of commercial motor transport. Owing to the continuous and considerable development of motor traffic during the past few years, it was impossible for many of the delegates to appreciate the exact consequences to the signatories of a convention dealing with the matter. The Conference therefore decided to suspend its work on the convention, at the same time emphasising the expediency of referring to a future conference the task of finding an international solution of the problem. It recommended that, pending the conclusion of an international convention, separate agreements should be made between States on as liberal a basis as possible.

THE FOURTH GENERAL CONFERENCE ON COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSIT.

The Advisory and Technical Committee for Communications and Transit has established the agenda of the Fourth General Conference on Communications and Transit which will meet on October 26th, 1931. Among the specific questions to be discussed are the steps to be taken in the event of grave occurrences of a general character affecting routes of communication and the economic and social aspects of a stabilisation of Easter and of a simplification of the calendar.

HEALTH QUESTIONS.

DEVELOPMENT AND REORGANISATION OF THE WORK OF THE HEALTH COMMITTEE.

The Assembly, in 1930, expressed the hope that the experience gained by the Health Organisation during the previous ten years might be made available in increasing measure to Member States of the League, and noted with satisfaction that its activities were extending to countries in all parts of the world, being specially exercised in those which had invited the technical advice of the League on the development of their public health services.

The Health Committee during its session held in October 1930 reorganised its methods of work in the light of these developments. There are certain permanent duties of the Health Organisation which will be subject to relatively slight modification beyond such technical improvements as may be introduced. The epidemiological and statistical services belong to this class of work, while it will also be a permanent duty of the Organisation to keep continuously in touch with the health administrations of the various countries by means of collective study tours and individual missions. Several commissions of the Health Committee, moreover, such as those dealing with opium questions, malaria, cancer, leprosy, diphtheria, whooping-cough, scarlet fever and the standardisation of sera have, by the nature of their task, more or less permanent duties to perform.

There is, however, another class of questions for which a new method of work has been created. Governments are asking the Health Committee for advice on methods to be applied and technical schemes to be adopted in dealing with the many administrative and medical problems in the field of public health with which they are concerned, and the Committee, in order to meet these requests, has felt it necessary to establish for each question a more limited and adaptable machinery than the old system of commissions. The new method consists in appointing small drafting committees formed of a chairman and three or four experts, who may consult any other technical officers or competent authorities in the course of their enquiries. Such committees have been formed to deal with maternal and infant welfare, the health of the child of school age and adolescence, the campaign against tuberculosis, questions relating to venereal diseases, smallpox, cancer, rheumatism, diseases of the heart, health centres, the

administration of medical assistance by public authorities, the relations between public health and sickness insurance, the teaching of medicine, human sleeping-sickness, the problem of nutrition and physical education.

REORGANISATION OF THE HEALTH SERVICES IN BOLIVIA.

The President of the Republic of Bolivia on June 29th, 1929, requested the assistance of the Health Committee in the reorganisation of the health services of his country. Two experts of the Health Organisation went to Bolivia in April 1930 to make preliminary enquiries and the Bolivian Director-General of Health came to Europe in October of that year to make a study of public health work in several European countries. The Health Committee decided, in May 1931, to assist the Government of Bolivia in training abroad a certain number of public health officers to constitute a nucleus of the new public health services of Bolivia, to study the distribution of diseases in tropical and sub-tropical regions of Bolivia and to advise the Bolivian Government as to the development of the proposed scheme of reorganisation. An expert of the Health Organisation of the League will shortly go to Bolivia as the result of this decision.

THE ENQUIRY INTO INFANT MORTALITY IN LATIN AMERICA.

A Conference of Health Experts on Child Welfare was, at the invitation of the Government of Peru, convened at Lima in July 1930 by the Health Organisation, to discuss the results of the enquiries into infant mortality previously carried out in the Argentine, Brazil, Chile and Uruguay. The Conference was invited to consider the organisation of similar enquiries in other South-American countries and was attended by representatives of Colombia, Ecuador Peru and Venezuela. The Health Organisation was represented at the Conference by Professor Debrée and Dr. Olsen, who subsequently visited Chile, the Argentine, Uruguay and Brazil. A report on the enquiry was approved by the Health Committee in October 1930 in which the economic, legislative, sanitary and educational measures to be adopted with a view to reducing infant mortality were indicated.

SEROLOGICAL CONGRESS AT MONTEVIDEO.

A delegate of the Health Committee was, at the request of the Government of Uruguay, appointed to preside over the South-American Serological Congress held at Montevideo in September 1930 by the Institute for the Prevention of Syphilis in that city and a representative of the Health Organisation attended the Congress. The Conference was attended by experts from the Argentine, Brazil, Chile, Uruguay and Paraguay. It suggested, in view of the importance of the results achieved, that the Health Organisation should invite the Institute at Montevideo to continue its work on the sero-diagnosis of syphilis in collaboration with the Danish State Serum Institute which acts as the central laboratory of the Health Organisation.

REORGANISATION OF THE HEALTH SERVICES IN CHINA.

Proposals of the National Government of the Republic of China for collaboration with the League in public health matters were approved by the Council of the League in May 1930. An important item in this programme was the reorganisation of the quarantine services of Chinese ports, and a scheme of reorganisation, approved by the health and transit experts of the League, was sent to the Chinese Minister of Health in November 1930. A Chinese national quarantine service has now been working for nearly a year in Shanghai and for six months in Amoy.

Another important item in the programme of reorganisation was the establishment of a central field health station at Nanking, to become the nucleus of a national field health service and the headquarters of a technical body of officials who will, in due course, be competent to supervise and initiate the necessary measures of reform. The station is being actively organised and some of its services have begun work.

A first national hospital, established at Nanking, is already rendering excellent services to the local population and will ultimately develop into a large medical and health unit in full activity.

The Chinese Minister of Finance has allocated the sum of \$1,000,000 for the establishment of the institutions considered to be essential for the development of the services of the health station, and of this sum \$400,000 has already been placed at the disposal of the Chinese Minister of Health.

A striking feature of the Chinese development scheme is its insistence upon the value of publicity and propaganda among the younger generation. A national commission, assisted by an expert of the Health Organisation, is drafting a model programme of medical education adapted to the special needs of the country.

REORGANISATION OF THE HEALTH SERVICES IN GREECE.

The reorganisation by Greece of its public health services with the assistance of the Health Organisation of the League is now well under way. Arrangements have been made to ensure permanent contact between the Greek health administration and the technical services created under the new plan. An important element is the School of Hygiene at Athens, which has been working since March of this year.

EPIDEMIOLOGICAL INTELLIGENCE SERVICE.

The work of the Eastern Bureau at Singapore becomes increasingly effective owing to technical improvements in transmitting the notification of infectious diseases on board ship. Contributions to the expenses of the Bureau have been received from Japan, the Straits Settlements, the Netherlands East Indies, French Indo-China, Federal Malay States and the Philippine Islands.

MALARIA STUDIES.

Considerable progress has been made with the studies and enquiries of the Malaria Commission in India, Greece, Bolivia and the river deltas. Important technical studies in the treatment of Malaria have been organised. As a result of an enquiry in New Guinea and the Pacific Islands made under League auspices in 1928-1929, the Malaria Commission has considered the question of an entomological survey in Melanesia, with special reference to malaria and filariasis.

THE LEPROSY COMMISSION.

The Leprosy Commission, which met at Bangkok during the eighth congress of the Far Eastern Associations in Tropical Medicine in December 1930, has succeeded in establishing, for the first time, certain principles of leprosy prophylaxis in keeping with scientific developments and the practical experience acquired during the last thirty years. Its members took part in a Conference on Leprosy convened by the Leonard Wood Memorial for the Eradication of Leprosy at Manila in January 1931.

A representative of the Health Organisation has made a study of leprosy in several countries of Latin America, and an international centre for the study of leprosy has been established in Brazil under the auspices of the League of Nations.

FORTHCOMING CONFERENCE ON RURAL HYGIENE.

The Council in September 1930 on the proposal of the Spanish Government decided that a Conference of European States should be convened at Geneva for a general technical study of the problem of rural hygiene. A preparatory committee has undertaken the preliminary enquiries and the Conference was convened to meet on June 29th, 1931. Three items have been placed on the agenda of the Conference : medical care in rural districts, the organisation of health services in rural districts and sanitation.

HEALTH SCHOOLS AND THE TRAINING OF EXPERTS.

The Health Organisation is taking an increasing interest in the training of health experts. Reference has been made to the health school established at Athens and the central field health station in China. The Health Organisation has inaugurated in recent years a series of meetings between directors of schools of public hygiene : Warsaw in 1926, Budapest and Zagreb in 1927 and Dresden in 1930. These meetings will continue to be held in various countries in order that there may be a periodical exchange of experiences on the part of persons responsible for the direction of health schools with a view to establishing certain principles for the teaching of hygiene in all countries.

The Council of the League on September 24th, 1930, accepted a proposal of the French Government to create an international school of advanced health studies in Paris, with a view

to supplementing the interchanges and individual studies of the League of Nations by means of a permanent teaching institution. The new school will aim at extending the instruction given in national schools of hygiene by means of international courses, thus preparing the directors of national health services for their duties and providing facilities for the training of health experts and administrators.

THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS AND CHINA.

At the request of the National Government of China, the Director of the Economic and Financial Section and the Director of the Communications and Transit Section of the Secretariat visited that country early in the year, in order to discuss the effect of the present world depression on her activities and the specific problems of her inland waterways and the reclamation of land. The Director of the Health Section, as noted above, was already in conference with the Chinese Government and assisting in the re-organisation of the Chinese health services.

The Chinese Government, following this visit, set up a National Economic Council and asked for further advice in connection with its plan of reconstruction. It submitted a draft scheme of co-operation with the technical organisations of the League, which was approved in its general lines by the League Council on May 19th, 1931.

A proposal of the Chinese Government that the League might also assist it in finding advisers for the development of the Chinese educational system and in bringing China's intellectual centres of activity into touch with those abroad has been referred to the international Committee on intellectual Co-operation.

THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS AND LIBERIA.

The International Commission of Enquiry in Liberia, set up in the autumn of 1929 at the request of the Government of Liberia to examine whether forced labour and slavery existed in that country, submitted its report to the Liberian Government on September 8th, 1930, and at the request of the British Government the report was considered by the Council on January 22nd, 1931. The representative of Liberia stated that his Government was prepared to accept the recommendations of the Commission of Enquiry as a basis for improvements in Liberian social policy to the full extent of its resources and he asked the Council to assist his Government in carrying out these suggestions.

The Council appointed a small committee, selected from among its own members, to examine this request. The committee, meeting in January 1931 at Geneva and in February 1931 in London, decided to send to Liberia a mission composed of three competent experts in general administration, finance and public health, considering that further information would be necessary before a scheme under which Liberia might receive the proposed assistance could be framed.

THE TRAFFIC IN OPIUM AND OTHER DANGEROUS DRUGS.

THE RATIFICATION OF THE GENEVA CONVENTION OF 1925.

The Geneva Opium Convention of 1925 has now been ratified by a greater number of States than any other agreement concluded under the auspices of the League. The total number of ratifications in January 1931 stood at forty-four. Despite frequent and urgent appeals, however, by the Council and the Assembly, a large number of States have not yet ratified the largest single group being found amongst the countries of Latin America. Only five out of twenty of these States have deposited ratifications.

THE ILLICIT TRAFFIC: EFFECTS OF THE APPLICATION OF THE IMPORT CERTIFICATE SYSTEM.

The Advisory Committee on the Traffic in Opium, which met for its fourteenth session in January-February 1931, was in a better position than in previous years to appreciate the full effect of the coming into force of the Geneva Convention in the principal manufacturing countries. The Secretariat submitted, for the period 1925 to the second half of 1930, an

exhaustive study in all its aspects of the trade in drugs and especially of the relations between the licit and illicit traffic. It was shown that, while the illicit traffic, particularly during the years 1926-1929, had exceeded all previous estimates, a remarkable change had been effected in the situation at the beginning of 1930. The Geneva Convention had come into effect in the principal manufacturing countries of importance to the traffic, and the esters of morphine had been brought under full control. There was consequently, in 1930, a striking decrease in the manufacture and export of drugs in respect of the chief manufacturing countries of Europe and a notable decrease in the seizures of drugs originating from them. The important results achieved by the effective application of the Geneva Convention were most clearly seen in France, where a new system of control, involving a strict application of the import certificate system, had been introduced by the French Government on January 1st, 1929, and where, as a consequence, the imports and exports of narcotic drugs had fallen to very low figures.

The Advisory Committee was deeply impressed by the fact that, at a moment when the grave situation in regard to the illicit traffic from the European countries had been largely, if not completely, remedied, a new danger had suddenly appeared, owing to the manufacture on a very large scale of morphine and heroin in a country which was not a Member of the League or a party to the Opium Conventions. Evidence was produced showing that Turkey had become the principal source of supply for the illicit traffic in Egypt and there were large exports of drugs from Turkey to countries which had not been notified of such consignments and presumably had not received them. The Committee expressed the view that only a strict application in Turkey of the import certificate system would make it possible to remedy a state of affairs which constituted a real menace to the whole world.

Another source of danger, particularly for India, was noted, arising from the illicit traffic in cocaine from the Far East. A considerable quantity of this cocaine bore Japanese marks of origin and it was admitted by the Japanese delegate that, prior to 1930, when new regulations came into force in Japan, the control of narcotic drugs in that country had not been sufficiently strict. The Japanese delegate explained that, under the new system of control, there would henceforth be a strict supervision in Japan of the trade in narcotic drugs at all stages.

The situation in Persia has for many years caused the Advisory Committee much anxiety. Considerable quantities of Persian opium have recently been illicitly exported into the Far East and the Committee noted with interest a declaration made by the Persian representative on the Council in January 1931, that, under an exclusive concession recently granted by the Persian Monopoly Service for the total export of Persian opium, the holder undertook to submit a certificate from the importing country for each consignment of opium despatched. This arrangement amounts, in fact, to an application of the Geneva Convention.

The Chinese Government enacted new legislation during 1929 amending and supplementing the existing law with a view to introducing a stricter form of control and a national agency for narcotic drugs has been established. The Chinese delegate on the Committee emphasised the necessity of co-operation between China and the other Powers, owing to the enormous quantities of drugs of European and Japanese origin illicitly introduced into China. He submitted principles which in his view should govern co-operation between the Chinese authorities and the Powers which had signed the Hague Opium Convention of 1912 for the suppression of the drug industry in the settlements, concessions and leased territories in China. The Advisory Committee unanimously approved the principle of co-operation between the Chinese Government and the Treaty Powers but was unable to accept the suggestions made by the Chinese Government as presented or to form any definite or final opinion upon them.

The Advisory Committee, after reviewing the illicit seizures and statistics at its disposal, concluded that the suppression of the illicit traffic depended upon three fundamental conditions: adequate legislation, adequate administration to apply that legislation and inter-national co-operation. It requested the Secretariat to study the legislation at present in force in the various countries and ascertain to what extent it was in harmony with the Geneva Convention. It noted that progress had been made on the administrative side, but drew attention to specific defects and indicated how they might in future be remedied. Finally, it urged the necessity of closer co-operation between the authorities of the various countries.

PREPARATION OF THE CONFERENCE ON THE LIMITATION OF THE MANUFACTURE OF NARCOTICS.

The Conference on the Limitation of the Manufacture of Narcotics met in Geneva on May 27th, 1931.

The proposals framed by the Advisory Committee as a basis for the work of the Conference involved extending measures of limitation and control to substances not covered by the Geneva Convention of 1925 and the Secretary-General had accordingly asked the Governments to ensure that their delegates to the Conference should have full powers to discuss the limitation of all derivatives of opium and the coca leaf, as well as the control of the quantities to be limited by the future Convention.

The three fundamental points of the scheme established by the Advisory Committee in 1930 were as follows :

(1) The world manufacture of narcotic drugs should be limited each year to a specific quantity, on the basis of the estimates to be supplied by all countries of the quantities of narcotic drugs required each year for medical and scientific purposes ;

(2) The fraction of this total quantity to be manufactured by each of the manufacturing countries should be fixed in advance by means of agreements concluded between them according to a system of quotas ;

(3) The necessary arrangement should be made to provide each country with supplies of narcotic drugs up to the amounts indicated in its estimates.

A preliminary conference between representatives of the manufacturing countries and of the principal manufacturing firms met in October-November 1930 in London to confer upon the allocation of the quotas of the drugs to be manufactured and upon the arrangements for their distribution among the consuming countries.

The Advisory Committee, in January 1931, devoted the first half of a long session to a detailed examination of the scheme in the light of these preliminary negotiations. Its discussions were based on a draft Convention submitted by the British delegate, which aimed at an objective presentation of the views and decisions reached in London and of the proposals embodied in the scheme which the Advisory Committee had previously approved: It was understood, however, that the acceptance of this draft as a basis did not preclude the simultaneous examination of other schemes and that it was subject to any substantial amendments which might be moved.

The plan met with detailed criticism by representatives of some of the non-manufacturing countries and of countries which had not accepted the quota system as necessarily the most practical and effective method of limitation. The Advisory Committee, in its report to the Council, was careful to indicate that the submission to the Conference of a draft Convention, approved by the majority as basis of discussion, did not exclude the consideration of other proposals and solutions.

ENQUIRY INTO OPIUM-SMOKING IN THE FAR EAST.

The report of the Commission of Enquiry appointed by the Council in March 1929 to undertake a comprehensive review of the facts relating to the control of opium-smoking in the Far East, and the difficulties created for the Government of the Far East by the continued prevalence of the illicit traffic in opium was submitted to the Council in January 1931.

The Commission left Geneva in 1929 and visited Burma, the Straits Settlements, the Federated Malay States, the Dutch East Indies, Siam, the Union of Indo-China and Kwang chow-wan, Hong-kong, Macao, Formosa, Kwantung leased territory, the South Manchuria Railway zone and the Philippine Islands. It received official information regarding the position in the Unfederated Malay States, Sarawak, Brunei and British North Borneo. The Commission thus covered by its enquiry all the territories of the Far East where opium-smoking occurs to an appreciable extent, except China.

The Commission, in its report, reviews the general situation in the Far East with regard to opium-smoking and deals with the main features of the opium policies pursued by the various Governments. It finally concludes against a policy of total prohibition, expressing the view

that it is better for the opium habit to be gradually suppressed by legalising smoking for confirmed addicts and supplying them with Government opium.

THE PERMANENT OPIUM CENTRAL BOARD.

The Permanent Opium Central Board submitted to the Council in January 1931 a report in which, for the first time, it was able to embody definite conclusions and to make definite recommendations as a result of its examination of the statistics submitted to it for 1929. It submitted recommendations with a view to securing more complete and regular statistics from the Governments parties to the Geneva Convention of 1925 and put forward certain suggestions with a view to their consideration by the Conference on the Limitation of the Manufacture of Narcotic Drugs.

PROTECTION AND WELFARE OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE.

THE TRAFFIC IN WOMEN AND CHILDREN.

The Traffic in Women and Children Committee held its tenth session in Geneva, from April 21st to 27th, 1931.

Thirty-six Governments are now parties to the International Convention for the Suppression of the Traffic in Women and Children of 1921. The Committee suggests that all the Governments not Members of the League who have not acceded to the Convention should be asked whether they are prepared to do so.

The successful application of the Convention of 1921 necessarily depends on the efficient organisation and working of the central authorities responsible in the various countries for the co-ordination of all information relating to the traffic and empowered to correspond directly with similar departments established in other countries. The Committee considers that the duties of the central authorities are not sufficiently co-ordinated and not sufficiently uniform. It has therefore suggested that the Governments represented on the Committee should be asked for their observations and suggestions regarding the existing defects of the system and possible remedies.

Twenty-six annual reports were received from the Governments in 1929 on the suppression of traffic in women and children. The Committee has considered these reports, together with those of the voluntary organisations. Among the subjects to which special attention was given by the Committee, was a consideration of the rules to be followed in preparing propaganda films against the traffic, the importance of limiting the validity of passports issued to minors, the employment of women police, the assistance given to deported prostitutes, the protection of music-hall artistes, the abolition of the age-limit, the suppression of obscene publications and the steps taken by the voluntary organisations for protection and relief.

Twenty-six Governments have declared in favour of abolishing the age-limit in the Convention of 1910 as amended by that of 1921. Several Governments, however, have made reservations in regard to this proposal and the Committee will reconsider the question next year.

The Committee has for several years been considering how best to effect the suppression of the *souteneur*. It appointed a legal sub-committee in 1930 which has suggested that a Protocol should be drafted supplementary to the Convention of 1921. The Committee has adopted a preliminary draft Protocol and requested the Council to submit it to Governments Members of the League and signatories of the Convention of 1921 for their observations.

It is provided in the final act of the International Conference for the Suppression of Obscene Publications that the Secretariat of the League should periodically issue a questionnaire on the trade in obscene publications. The Committee framed a questionnaire in 1930 to be sent to the Governments parties to the Convention. Thirty-three Governments have replied to the questionnaire and a very complete collection of the laws on the subject has been obtained.

The Committee has collected further information on the employment of women police as a preventive measure. It is of opinion that definite conclusions would still be premature and that the different countries must be left full latitude in adapting the work of their women police to their own peculiar circumstances. It strongly recommends, however, in view of the results obtained by the employment of women police, that they should be more widely used, and emphasises the effective part which may be played by them in the campaign against the traffic.

The Travelling Commission on Traffic in Women and Children in the Far East is continuing its studies and will present its report in due course.

The International Bureau for the Suppression of the Traffic in Women and Children has submitted to the Advisory Committee a draft Convention for the repatriation of prostitutes. Resolutions protesting against the scheme have, however, been received from thirty-four organisations on the general grounds that it would tend to reintroduce a regulationist system in the countries which have abolished it and would rather facilitate than impede the activities of traffickers. The question has been adjourned, but arrangements have been made to study the whole question of repatriation in the light of the discussions and suggestions put forward

CHILD WELFARE.

The Child Welfare Committee held its seventh session at Geneva from April 14th to April 18th, 1931. It was concerned mainly with the consideration of draft conventions which it has had under preparation for some considerable time and with the study of the organisation and work of the auxiliary services of juvenile courts.

It further amended its preliminary draft Convention for the return of children and young people to their homes, and asked the Council to forward it to all Governments to serve as a model for multilateral or bilateral agreements.

The question was raised at a meeting of the Council on May 15th, 1930, whether the Committee would be well advised to devote further time to its preliminary draft Convention on assistance to foreign minors. It was urged that the question of assistance to foreigners should be considered as a whole and that it was not always easy to make a clear distinction between questions concerning children and questions concerning adults. The Assembly in 1930, however, expressed the view that, while the problem of assistance to foreigners deserved study as a whole, it did not necessarily follow that the Child Welfare Committee should abandon the enquiry to which it had already devoted considerable attention. Some countries have since declared that the Convention is acceptable in its present form; other countries have urged that the question of assistance to foreign minors cannot be dealt with in a satisfactory manner without reference to the families to which they belong. The Committee, feeling that it cannot undertake the study of so extensive a problem without going beyond its competence, now recommends that the Council should set up a special committee, to which experts would be appointed by certain Governments, with a view to preparing a preliminary draft international Convention dealing with the question as a whole.

The Child Welfare Committee in 1930 proposed that an effort should be made to frame international agreements on the recognition and enforcement of maintenance orders abroad. The Council, however, took the view that the question proposed for study went beyond the competence of the Committee, though it saw no objection to the mandate of the Committee being extended to cover it, provided that no objections were raised by the Governments concerned. Seventeen countries have since communicated their views and the Council, in January 1931, asked the Child Welfare Committee to submit a further report on the subject. The Committee recognises that, while the subject has an important bearing on child welfare maintenance orders may benefit adults as well as children. The subject may therefore be outside its competence, and it recommends that the question should be referred to the special Committee to which it proposes to refer the question of assistance to foreign minors.

The Council on May 20th, 1931, approved the recommendations of the Child Welfare Committee. The special committee will be appointed by the Council in September.

The Child Welfare Committee has made further progress with its enquiry into juvenile courts and their auxiliary services and with its enquiry concerning children in moral or social danger and illegitimate children. It has still further developed its system of co-operation with other organisations of the League, such as the International Labour Organisation, the Health Committee and the International Educational Cinematographic Institute.

PENAL ADMINISTRATION.

The Assembly, in 1930, asked the Council to communicate to the Governments States Members and non-members of the League for their consideration a set of standard minimum rules for the treatment of prisoners recently drawn up by the International Prison Commission. The Secretary-General was requested to submit the standard rules to various bodies of the League for their observations and to confer with the representatives of the International

Prison Commission with a view to considering the best way in which the League might assist that Commission in its efforts to secure an improvement in prison administration.

The International Prison Commission has indicated a programme of possible co-operation with the League of Nations, urging that, though the penal systems in force in the various countries are governed by national legislation, which necessarily varies according to circumstances, there are, nevertheless, certain international aspects in regard to which the co-operation of the League might be of the greatest assistance.

REFUGEES.

The Assembly, in 1930, decided that the work on behalf of refugees should be reorganised. The political and legal protection of the refugees remains entrusted to the regular bodies of the League of Nations. The humanitarian side of the work, on the other hand, for which hitherto the High Commissariat has been responsible, will henceforth be entrusted to an international office placed under the authority of the League in accordance with the principles of Article 24 of the Covenant.

The Council, during its session in January 1931, examined and approved the Statutes of the International Office, and, on April 1st, 1931, the Refugees Section of the Secretariat of the League was dissolved and the International Office entered upon its duties.

The Governing Body of the International Office has held two sessions during the period under review. It is preparing a plan for the liquidation of the refugee work by the end of 1939, and has approved the creation of a Nansen Memorial Fund. An appeal on behalf of this fund was issued on April 13th, the first anniversary of the death of Nansen.

INTELLECTUAL CO-OPERATION.

The proposals made by the Committee of Enquiry appointed to study the programme of work and organisation of the Committee on Intellectual Co-operation and of the organisations under its authority were approved by the Assembly in 1930 and have been carried into effect.

The International Committee, as an advisory body of the Council and Assembly, directs the work and supervises the general activity of the Organisation, meeting once a year as a Committee and once a year as a Governing Body of the Institute.

Between the annual sessions of the International Committee an Executive Committee follows and directs the development of intellectual co-operation and carries into effect any decisions which may be taken, while, between the annual sessions of the Governing Body, a Committee of Directors manages the affairs of the Institute. The Executive Committee and the Committee of Directors, which are composed of the same persons, sit simultaneously four times a year in Paris or Geneva.

The Sub-Committees of the International Committee have been suppressed, one of the Sub-Committees, the Sub-Committee for Arts and Letters, being replaced by a permanent committee. The work formerly done by the Sub-Committees is now entrusted to Committees or groups of experts appointed to deal with special subjects.

The International Committee has been partially renewed and the Permanent Committee for Arts and Letters has been duly constituted.

The International Institute of Intellectual Co-operation has adapted its organisation and programme of work to the new scheme. The number of State delegates accredited to the Institute remains at 44.

ENQUIRY INTO THE ORGANISATION OF THE SECRETARIAT, THE INTERNATIONAL LABOUR OFFICE AND THE REGISTRY OF THE PERMANENT COURT OF INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE.

The major part of the conclusions of the Committee of Enquiry appointed by the Assembly in 1929 to prepare a Report on the organisation of the Secretariat, the International Labour Office and the Registry of the Permanent Court of International Justice were approved last year by the Assembly as endorsed or amended by its Fourth Committee. The Secretary-General was requested to amend the Staff Regulations in accordance with these proposals and to take all necessary measures to ensure the application of a staff pensions scheme as from January 1st, 1931.

There were certain questions, however, affecting more particularly the position of the principal officers of the Secretariat, in regard to which the Committee of Enquiry had failed to reach unanimous conclusions, and there were also questions on which the Assembly did not desire at that moment to take a final decision. These questions were referred to a new Committee of Enquiry with instructions to submit a report in due time for examination by States Members of the League of Nations and submission to the Assembly in 1931.

The new Committee of Enquiry met at Geneva from February 2nd to February 5th, 1931, and its conclusions will be presented to the Assembly in September.

VISIT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL TO CERTAIN LATIN-AMERICAN COUNTRIES.

On September 25th, 1930, the Council received a communication from the Government of Uruguay requesting the Secretary-General to take part, as representative of the League of Nations, in the celebration of the first centenary of the independence of Uruguay, which was to be held in Montevideo the following December. The Council authorised the Secretary-General to accept this invitation and also to visit, if he were invited, other Latin-American countries whose capitals were on or near the coast.

The Secretary-General left Geneva on December 3, 1930, and arrived at Montevideo on December 24th. He returned to Geneva on February 16, 1931, having visited — in addition to Montevideo — Rio de Janeiro, Buenos Aires, Santiago de Chile, Lima, Panama and Havana. In all these capitals, the Secretary-General was received by the President and the Minister for Foreign Affairs and, so far as time permitted, met leaders of official and parliamentary, Press and university circles and members of the corps diplomatique.

On May 18th, 1931, the Council took note of a letter from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Uruguay expressing the gratification of the Uruguayan Government and people at having had the opportunity of receiving the Secretary-General at Montevideo. On behalf of the Council, the President expressed its appreciation of this friendly message and also of the warm welcome and generous hospitality accorded to the representative of the League, in the person of the Secretary-General, in Montevideo and in the other Latin-American capitals which he had visited.

1.

LEGAL QUESTIONS.

I. AMENDMENT OF THE COVENANT OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS IN ORDER TO BRING IT INTO HARMONY WITH THE PACT OF PARIS.

The Assembly in 1930 referred to its First Committee certain proposals for the amendment of the Covenant of the League. These proposals had been drawn up by the Committee, known as the Committee of Eleven, appointed by the Council under a resolution adopted by the Assembly on September 24th, 1929. The Committee of Eleven was to report "as to the amendments in the Covenant of the League which are necessary to bring it into harmony with the Pact of Paris".

The First Committee of the Assembly, after a general discussion of the texts proposed by the Committee of Eleven, referred them to a Sub-Committee, which laid before the Committee a series of amendments differing in some important respects from those submitted to it. The Sub-Committee considered it preferable not to invite the Assembly to take an immediate decision upon the subject, but to allow the Governments further time to examine it. It accordingly submitted the following resolution which was approved by the First Committee and adopted by the Assembly on October 4th, 1930.

"The Assembly,

"Believing it to be necessary to incorporate in the Covenant of the League of Nations the general prohibition of resort to war and the principle that the settlement of international disputes should never be sought except by pacific means ;

"Appreciating the great value of the report made by the Committee of Eleven ;

"Taking account of the fact that, on some points, the First Committee has been led to consider changes in the proposed texts, and that, in the course of the discussion, certain political aspects of the question have come into view which render it desirable for it to be further studied :

"Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the Governments of the Members of the League the report of the Committee of Eleven and that of the First Committee, asking them to formulate their observations before June 1st, 1931, and to state, if they so desire, what amendments to the Covenant would, in their opinion, be best suited to attain the objects in view."

The Secretary-General has consulted the Members of the League as required by the above resolution (Circular Letter 304.1930.V, dated November 20th, 1930). A certain number of replies have already been received and have been communicated to the Members of the League. These replies will be reproduced in a document which will be submitted to the Assembly at its session of the present year. The report of the Committee of Eleven, that of the First Committee of the Assembly and a table showing in parallel columns the existing text of the Covenant, the amendments proposed by the Committee of Eleven and the text drawn up by the Sub-Committee of the First Committee were distributed to the Governments with the Secretary-General's Circular Letter (document C.623.M.245.1930.V).

II. RATIFICATION OF CONVENTIONS CONCLUDED UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS.

The resolution on this subject, adopted by the Assembly on October 3rd, 1930, instructed the Secretary-General to address two enquiries to the Governments with regard to conventions already concluded under the auspices of the League.

(a) Under Section I of the resolution, the Secretary-General must each year request any Member of the League, or non-member State, which has signed any such general convention but failed to ratify it before the expiry of one year from the end of the period for which the convention was open for signature, to inform him what are its intentions with regard to the ratification of the convention. This information must be requested in sufficient time to permit of the replies being communicated to the Assembly at its session of the same year.

The Secretary-General gave effect to this resolution by Circular Letter 21.1931.V, dated February 27th, 1931. The replies received will be communicated to the Assembly.

(b) Under Section II of the resolution, the Secretary-General, at such times and at such intervals as seem suitable in the circumstances, is to request any Member of the League which has neither signed nor acceded to a general convention concluded under the League's auspices within five years from the date on which the convention became open for signature, to state its views with regard to the convention — in particular as to whether there is any possibility of

its acceding thereto, or whether it has objections to the substance of the convention which prevent it from accepting it. The replies received are to be communicated to the Assembly.

The Secretary-General considered that it would be in conformity with the intentions of the Assembly that action should be taken in the present year under this section of the resolution as regards all the conventions to which it was applicable. Each Member of the League has accordingly been asked for information as to its attitude with regard to the conventions which have not been signed by it or to which it has not acceded (Circular Letter 55.1931.V, dated April 2nd, 1931). The replies received will be communicated to the Assembly.

Section III of the Assembly's resolution contemplates that eventually the Council, after consultation with any appropriate organ or Committee of the League and in the light of the information available as the result of the enquiries above mentioned and any other enquiries which it may think desirable, may consider for each general convention negotiated under the League's auspices whether it would be desirable and expedient that a conference should be summoned for the purpose of determining whether the convention should be amended or other means be adopted to facilitate its acceptance by a greater number of countries.

III. PREPARATORY PROCEDURE TO BE FOLLOWED IN REGARD TO THE NEGOTIATION OF GENERAL CONVENTIONS UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS.

The resolution adopted by the Assembly on October 3rd, 1930 (Section IV), lays down the preparatory procedure to be followed in the case of all general conventions to be negotiated under the auspices of the League of Nations, except where previous conventions or arrangements have established a special procedure, or where owing to the nature of the questions to be treated or to special circumstances, the Assembly or the Council consider other methods to be more appropriate.

The rules so adopted were to be communicated to the technical organisations of the League, and to the Governments, for the purpose of enabling the Assembly at its session of 1931 to consider whether changes should be made in them as the result of any suggestions received. The results of the consultation of the technical organisations and of the Governments (Circular Letter 10.1931.V, dated February 16th, 1931) will be communicated to the Assembly.

IV. TABULAR STATEMENTS SHOWING THE POSITION AS REGARDS SIGNATURE AND RATIFICATION OF OR ACCESSION TO GENERAL CONVENTIONS.

The Assembly, on September 24th, 1929, adopted a resolution requesting the Secretariat to submit to it each year tables indicating the position as regards signatures, ratifications or accessions in respect of the various conventions concluded under the auspices of the League (document A.20.1930.V). The first number of this publication was presented to the Assembly last year.

By a resolution of October 3rd, 1930, the Assembly expressed the wish that this publication might be converted into one appearing three times a year, and that the Secretary-General, "after consulting the Governments and the central offices of international unions and commissions, should consider the possibility of drawing up similar tables for all general conventions which are in force". The report on the subject presented to the First Committee by its Rapporteur implied, however, that the first of these proposals would not involve any considerable expenditure, and indicated that the second proposal might be difficult to carry out.

The Secretary-General, the Publications Committee of the Secretariat and the Supervisory Commission have since been obliged to give anxious consideration to the administrative and financial consequences of the continuous growth of the publications of the Secretariat which results almost automatically from the expansion of the League's activities. This growth not merely involves greater expenditure on printing but threatens to necessitate further increases in the staff of the Publications Department, and thus tends to cause increases in the budget which appear undesirable during the present economic crisis. The Secretary-General has accordingly been led to feel that the Assembly would approve the postponement for the time being of action on the Assembly resolution of October 3rd, 1930. The information contained in the existing publication is already made available three times a year to the Members of the League, although not in tabular form; its presentation in tabular form appears to have a special value for the purposes of the Assembly but to be of less interest to the Governments at other times. To convert the publication into one appearing three times a year would in fact greatly add to its cost.

Arrangements have accordingly been made to continue the existing publication as an annual publication in accordance with the Assembly's original resolution of 1929, but no credit has been asked for the other publication in the 1932 budget.

V. PROGRESSIVE CODIFICATION OF INTERNATIONAL LAW.

As the result of the Conference which was held at The Hague in March-April 1930, the Assembly was invited by the Council to consider at its last session the question of the progressive codification of international law and, in particular, the recommendations on this subject

formulated by the Conference (Resolution adopted by the Council on May 15th, 1930). Pending the result of the Assembly's deliberations, the Council decided not to convene a further session of the Committee of Experts appointed in pursuance of the Assembly's resolution of September 22nd, 1924.¹

The First Committee of the Assembly, to which this question was referred, received a number of proposals by different delegations, which related to the substance of the problem and showed the existence of divergent views as to the action to be taken. It had not, however, sufficient time for the discussion of these proposals. It felt that they might with advantage be further considered at the next session of the Assembly. It was also of opinion that it would be advantageous to invite the Governments to examine the subject and present observations for consideration by the Assembly. Accordingly, it drew up the following resolution which was adopted by the Assembly on October 3rd, 1930 :

" The Assembly has taken note of the work of the Conference which was held at The Hague in March and April 1930, as a result of the initiative taken by the Assembly by its resolution of September 22nd, 1924, regarding the progressive codification of international law :

" It reaffirms the great interest taken by the League of Nations in the development of international law, *inter alia*, by codification, and considers it to be one of the most important tasks of the League to further such development by all the means in its power.

" The recommendations made by the Conference contain suggestions of the highest value, and must be taken into account in examining what would be the best methods for continuing the work which has been begun.

" The Assembly accordingly decides to adjourn the question to its next session, and requests the Council, in the meanwhile, to invite the Members of the League of Nations and the non-member States to communicate to it, if they so desire, their observations on these suggestions, in order that these observations may be taken into consideration by the Assembly."

On January 19th, 1931, the Council instructed the Secretary-General to consult the Members of the League, in accordance with the Assembly's resolution, to call their attention to the recommendations regarding progressive codification formulated by the Hague Conference and the draft resolutions submitted by the various delegations in the First Committee and to suggest to them that the task of the Assembly would be greatly facilitated if it had before it positive suggestions as to the organisation which should be adopted and the procedure which might be followed. The replies of the Governments to the Secretary-General's communication (Circular Letter 21.1931.V, dated February 27th, 1931) will be communicated to the Assembly.

VI. NATIONALITY OF WOMEN.

On January 24th, 1931, the representatives of Guatemala, Peru and Venezuela submitted to the Council the following draft resolution, which was adopted :

" The Council,

" Decides to place on the agenda of the next session of the Assembly the question of the continued study of the nationality of women, and,

" Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the Assembly a report on the question after consultation of the following organisations which have been specially concerned with the nationality of women :

- " The International Council of Women,
- " The International Women Suffrage Alliance,
- " The Women's International League for Peace and Freedom,
- " The Inter-American Commission of Women,
- " The Equal Rights International,
- " The World Women's Union,
- " The All-Asian Congress of Women,
- " The International Federation of University Women,
- " The Young Women's Christian Association.

" The Secretary-General might, if he thinks fit, request the above-named organisations to entrust to a committee consisting of two representatives of each organisation the task of formulating joint proposals to be attached to the report to be submitted to the Assembly."

On February 13th, the Secretary-General wrote to the organisations mentioned in the resolution informing them that he felt the procedure contemplated in the last paragraph of the resolution would furnish the most convenient method by which they could be consulted and their views put before the Assembly. He therefore invited them to get into touch with one another with a view to the establishment of the contemplated committee.

The Executive Committee of the Young Women's Christian Association has informed the Secretary-General that the Association did not desire to be represented on the Committee.

¹ The results of the Conference and the action taken by the Council were summarised in the report on the work of the League presented to the Assembly in 1930 (*Official Journal*, 1930, *Special Supplement* No. 84, page 251.).

The remaining eight organisations desired to be represented on the Committee. Arrangements have been made for that body to meet at the Secretariat on July 2nd. Its proposals will be annexed to the report which the Secretary-General has been instructed to present to the Assembly.

VII. WORK OF THE INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR THE UNIFICATION OF PRIVATE LAW, ROME.¹

The Governing Body of the Institute for the Unification of Private Law, under the presidency of His Excellency M. Scialoja, met for its ordinary annual session on April 7th and 8th at Villa Aldobrandini, the headquarters of the Institute.

Organisation.

The year 1930 marked the conclusion of the initial stage in the life of the Institute during which it was necessary, above all, to consider methods, the recruiting of staff and the organisation of work.

The higher officials having been appointed and the library being in working order, it was possible to undertake more effectively the investigations and enquiries in view.

While admitting the possibility, if need be, of adopting other methods, the Institute came to the conclusion, based on experience, that the best system was to divide any investigation with a view to unification into two stages: A preparatory stage (general outlines of questions, collection of material, documents, etc.) to be dealt with by the Secretariat, with the possible assistance of other organisations; and a stage of discussion and drafting of proposed uniform regulations, for which it was thought desirable that recourse should be had to committees of international experts appointed by the Governing Body, after a discussion of the general outlines and preparatory documents.

A. Sale of Goods.

As stated in the Institute's report for 1929, ² the preliminary investigation on the subject of the sale of goods led to the Governing Body's requesting M. Rabel, the author of a preliminary report, to prepare a questionnaire for the purpose of obtaining information on several problems by means of an enquiry amongst legal and technical experts.

These preliminary investigations made it possible to hold in Paris, from October 7th to 11th, 1930, a first meeting of the Committee of Experts appointed by the Governing Body. The subjects dealt with were the formation and form of the contract, and obligations of the seller. Agreement was reached on several points.

As regards several questions, it was, however, decided to consult the economic organisations concerned; as regards others, further investigations were found necessary. These were entrusted to Mr. Gutteridge, M. Percerou and M. Hamel, as experts. Lastly, it was decided to postpone to a further session of the Committee of Experts, which took place in Berlin last February, two questions: I. Transfer of Property; II. Displacement of Risks.

The Governing Body has arranged for two further meetings of the Committee of Experts, one in Stockholm and the other in Cambridge.

B. Private Arbitration.

The Governing Body, at its session in April 1930, considered, among other questions, the desirability of awaiting ratifications of the Protocol of Geneva of 1923 and the Convention on the Execution of Arbitral Awards of 1927. It instructed the Secretariat to continue its enquiries, confining itself for the moment to the purely scientific aspect. M. David, the Deputy Secretary-General, was instructed to prepare a report on the subject.

In accordance with the programme indicated, M. David has considered arbitration conventions, special agreements for arbitration and arbitration clauses, from the point of view both of their validity, their interpretation, their effects and the methods of discharging them. He has further considered the various organs and constitution of arbitral jurisdiction and the legal status of arbitrators. He will complete his work by an enquiry into arbitration procedure, appeals from arbitrators' decisions, and the execution of arbitral awards. It is thought that M. David's report may form a basis of discussion for a committee of experts which will be appointed at a suitable moment.

C. Copyright.

In accordance with the decisions of the Governing Body, the Secretariat, with the help of the Institute of Intellectual Co-operation, has prepared a survey of the differences as regards literary and artistic copyright between the Convention of Berne (revised at Rome) and the Convention of Havana.

¹ This section of the report to the Assembly is based on a statement prepared for the purpose by the Institute.

² See document C.421.M.188.1930.V.

This survey, which has been communicated to the Governing Body, was also forwarded, through the Institute of Intellectual Co-operation, to the National Committees on Intellectual Co-operation and to Mr. Brown Scott, who was dealing with the same problem with a view to the summoning of the Pan-American Conference in the near future. The report was accompanied by a questionnaire designed to clear up certain points and indicate the possibilities of harmonising the two Conventions.

Although the Institute has not yet received replies to its questionnaire, it desires to point out that, during 1930, the circles concerned in the United States of America have resumed the movement for the reform of the federal legislation on copyright and for accession to the Berne Convention. Mr. Vestøl, Member of Congress, has re-introduced his Bill for the accession of the United States to the Berne Convention and a proposal for the amendment of the American copyright law.

In this last draft, there is a point which the Institute thinks should be emphasised — namely, the proposal to do away with registration as a condition of protection. If the United States adopted this course, they would, in the Institute's opinion, certainly be followed by the other countries of America; and, in this way, one of the obstacles which has hitherto made it difficult to harmonise the two Conventions would be eliminated. The Institute therefore proposes to follow this movement closely and give it support.

D. *Publishers' Contracts.*

The investigation on this subject, which, like the preceding investigation, was undertaken in collaboration with the Institute of Intellectual Co-operation, was based on documents collected by the Paris Institute as the result of its enquiry amongst National Committees on Intellectual Co-operation. After considering the various laws and customs on the matter, the Secretariat of the Institute drafted a first report which was considered and approved by the Governing Body. In this report, an endeavour was made to determine, on the basis of comparative law, the legal nature of the publisher's contract, the object, the form and the principal obligations of the author and publisher, and to establish the nature of the penalties in case of failure to carry out the contract; the principal clauses of typical contracts were then considered, and finally certain general rules — taken mainly from laws in force on the subject — were proposed. This is a first series of proposals, which will be completed by a study of the case law in different countries, and will then be examined by experts and submitted to the consideration of the various authorities concerned.

E. *Legal Personality of International Non-trading Corporations.*

On this subject, the Governing Body, at its session in April 1930, pointed out that it was difficult to propose a general solution, and that it was preferable to begin by considering a single corporation — for instance, the International Chamber of Commerce, which appeared particularly concerned in the solution of the problem. The Governing Body further agreed with the view of its President that practical results might have been obtained by means of international conventions.

In accordance with these decisions, the Secretariat felt obliged, in the first place, to establish the precedents — *i.e.*, to ascertain how the problem had arisen and how it had been solved. The attention of the Secretariat was directed to the organisation of the International Relief Union, established by the Convention signed at Geneva on July 12th, 1927. In the system adopted for the International Relief Union, the latter automatically acquires legal personality and capacity in each State, as soon as such State has ratified the Convention in accordance with the forms of its constitution. But this capacity is determined by the laws of the different countries (Articles 8 and 12 of the Convention), so that the Union acquires not an *international personality* but a *plurinational personality*. The Secretariat considered that this precedent might be copied by other associations. The Governing Body, however, having been informed that the International Institute of Intellectual co-operation, which had asked the Institute at Rome to take up the question, had suspended its study of the subject, decided not to deal further with it for the moment.

F. *International Conferences :*

Unification of Laws on Bills of Exchange. — Unification of River Law. — International Committee on Agricultural Co-ordination.

I. On the invitation of the League of Nations, the Institute was represented in an advisory capacity at the International Conference for the Unification of Laws on Bills of Exchange, Promissory Notes and Cheques. M. David, who represented the Institute, took an active part in the work of the Conference. It may here be observed that the Conference excluded from the uniform settlement the *aval* by separate instrument, and expressed the hope that the Rome Institute would place this problem on its agenda, in connection with that of the securing of credits. The Secretariat immediately undertook these investigations.

After considering the various aspects of the problem and the situation in comparative law, it reached the conclusion that the best system was that adopted by the Uniform Rules for Bills of Exchange, which considered only the *aval* given on the bill of exchange, leaving it open to contracting States to recognise the validity of the *aval* by separate instrument made within their territory.

Under the system adopted by the Geneva Conference, it will no doubt be always necessary to find out whether the *aval* by separate instrument is recognised by the exchange law of each particular country. But this difficulty does not affect holders of a bill of exchange, because the *aval* is an accessory guarantee which can only improve their situation and not expose them to unpleasant surprises.

The Institute considers that the system followed in the Uniform Rules approved at Geneva is the most satisfactory.

II. The Institute was further invited to take part in the Conference on the Unification of River Law, several problems of which directly concerned private law.

III. As the result of a request from the International Institute of Agriculture, the Institute agreed to give its assistance to the International Committee for Agricultural Co-ordination which met for the first time at Rome during October 1930. At this first meeting the Institute was invited to assist in the enquiry on the subject of international agricultural credits. The Institute has already undertaken a series of investigations into comparative law on agricultural credits, subject to submission to the Governing Body of the question of the method to be followed in such collaboration.

* * *

A list of further enquiries to be undertaken has been prepared.

* * *

The Institute has observed with satisfaction that, not only scientific circles, but also economic circles and other international organisations are showing an ever-growing interest in its activity. The Institute therefore concludes that the idea of harmonising different legal systems, at any rate in certain matters, is making rapid progress, and that even as regards problems for which a uniform solution seemed impossible — for instance certain questions as to sale — there is reason to hope that practical results may be obtained.

2.

FINANCES OF THE LEAGUE.

I. GENERAL FINANCIAL POSITION.

During the year 1930, 86.62 per cent of the amount of the contributions due for that year was received from the States Members as against 89 per cent in 1929.

The total amount received on account of arrears during 1930 was 1,038,218.21 francs as compared with 634,981.53 francs during 1929.

The cash position of the three autonomous organisations of the League on December 31st, 1930, was as follows :

	Surplus	Deficit
	Gold francs	
Secretariat	273,101.07	—
International Labour Organisation.	—	535,179.—
Permanent Court of International Justice.	385,976.75	—
	659,077.82	535,179.—

A general view of the questions relating to League finances dealt with since the last session of the Assembly will be obtained by referring to the report of the Supervisory Commission, which has met on two occasions since last September.

II. ACCOUNTS FOR 1930.

After examining the auditor's report, the Supervisory Commission recommends the Assembly to approve the accounts for 1930 in the form in which they are shown in the document forwarded to the Members of the League (document A.3.1931.X).

The Supervisory Commission feels some misgiving as to the payment of contributions in arrears. It has noted detailed explanations given by the Secretary-General with regard to the negotiations entered into with the Governments concerned and urged him to continue these negotiations steadily. The Commission hopes that positive results may be obtained by the time the next Assembly meets.

III. DISPOSAL OF THE SURPLUS FOR 1930, REIMBURSEMENT TO STATES OUT OF THE BUILDING FUND AND REIMBURSEMENT TO THE WORKING CAPITAL FUND.

The Commission recommends that the reimbursement of the advances, amounting to 535,179 francs, made out of the Working Capital Fund to the International Labour Office during 1930, should be considered as a first charge on the surplus of 659,077.82 francs in respect of the twelfth financial period. The net sum to be returned to the Members of the League during 1932, in accordance with Article 38 of the Financial Regulations, would thus amount to 123,899 francs.

With regard to the reimbursement to be made during 1932 to the States out of the Building Fund, the Commission advises the maintenance of the arrangement made during the last three years whereby the amount actually repaid to the States is fixed at 700,000 francs. Since the sum included every year in the budget as a terminable annuity payable on account of the building operations of the League amounts to 1,375,000 francs, the Building Fund will thus be increased in 1932 by an additional sum of 675,000 francs.

Under a decision of the eleventh Assembly, the difference between the total cost of setting up the new wireless station (2,330,464 francs) and the credit of 795,822 francs inserted in the 1931 budget as a first contribution towards the cost of the station will be drawn from the working capital fund. The Commission, being anxious that this difference should be refunded without undue delay, recommends that a total sum of 373,899 francs (representing the amount equivalent to the surplus plus a round sum of 250,000 francs) should be entered in Part IV of the 1932 budget: "Buildings at Geneva". Item II, "Construction of a Wireless Station". The amount would be entered under a new sub-head: (b) "Partial Reimbursement of the Cost of construction to the Working Capital Fund".

IV. BUDGET FOR 1932.

The budget for 1932, as forwarded to the Members of the League for consideration by the Assembly, amounts to 35,407,109 francs as compared with 31,637,501 francs for 1931. In addition to the net increase in the budget of the International Labour Organisation (389,158 francs), the main sources of expenditure which account for this unusual increase are the Disarmament Conference, involving an increased credit of 3,700,000 francs, and the development of liaison with China by means of a new appropriation of 480,000 francs. Apart from these two items the budget of the Secretariat and the special Organisations of the League, as submitted to the Assembly, is 429,943 francs less than that of the present financial year, notwithstanding the constant increase in the work of the various services of the League and fixed obligations such as annual increments of salaries.

The budget for 1932 includes a credit of 330,847 francs for the lump sum contribution payable in 1932 to the Nansen International Refugees Office. In view of the fact that the Governing Body of the Office has not as yet been in a position to prepare its report on the methods of giving effect to the decision of the last Assembly concerning the liquidation of the work, the Commission decided not to examine at its April session the budget of the Office for 1932 but to draw the "special attention" of the Assembly to this case in accordance with Article 16, paragraph 5, of the Financial Regulations in order that it may "specially examine" the plan of the Governing Body of the Office on which the eventual budgetary solution will entirely depend. Only after the Assembly has taken a decision as to the scale of gradual diminution proposed will the Supervisory Commission be able to intervene.

V. NEW BUILDINGS.

The Supervisory Commission was instructed by the 1930 Assembly "to deal with all future financial questions which may arise in connection with the new buildings". It ascertained that the Building Committee, particularly since it had obtained the assistance of an "Inspector-Reviser" was in a position to keep in touch with the daily progress of the work and thus to keep a close watch over the financial interests of the League.

Being prepared to use all its influence within the limits of its powers to assist the Building Committee, the Supervisory Commission requested the Assembly to ask the Building Committee to notify the Commission of any difficult situation which might possibly result in the estimates being exceeded and further to communicate quarterly to the Supervisory Commission a statement, with explanatory notes, so that the latter may see how the work is proceeding and what expenditure is incurred and anticipated under each item of the estimates.

VI. SALARIES OF LOCALLY RECRUITED STAFF.

According to the decisions of the eleventh Assembly on the report of the Committee of Thirteen, the Supervisory Commission has examined reports submitted to it by the Secretary-General and by the Director of the International Labour Office regarding the salaries of the locally recruited staff of the second division.

It eventually adopted for submission to the Assembly a new scale of salaries based on the following principles :

- (1) The indemnity for expatriation is fixed at a definite figure for each category ;
- (2) Annual increments are fixed at the same figure both for the local and international officials of the same category ;
- (3) It is provided that the maximum of each category should be attained in an equal number of years by local and by international officials.

The Commission refers to the Assembly a further proposal by the Director of the International Labour Office with regard to promotion by seniority within the Second Division, holding that this proposal lies outside the scope of its terms of reference as defined by the last Assembly.

3.

REDUCTION OF ARMAMENTS.

I. PREPARATORY COMMISSION FOR THE DISARMAMENT CONFERENCE.

On September 30th, 1930, the eleventh Assembly adopted the following resolution :

“ The Assembly has noted with satisfaction the results obtained at the London Conference and communicated to it by a letter from the President of that Conference dated April 21st, 1930.

“ It considers that these results are of a nature to facilitate a general agreement on the occasion of the next meeting of the Preparatory Commission regarding the methods to be applied in the matter of the reduction and limitation of naval armaments.

“ It trusts that negotiations, pursued in a spirit of conciliation and mutual confidence and with the determination to arrive at practical solutions, will make it possible to complete and extend the work of the Naval Conference.

“ The Assembly accordingly expresses the conviction that during its session next November, the Preparatory Commission will be able to finish the drawing-up of a preliminary draft Convention and will thus enable the Council to convene, as soon as possible, a Conference on the Reduction and Limitation of Armaments.

“ The Assembly decides that the proceedings and the report of the Assembly regarding disarmament shall be forwarded to the Preparatory Commission. ”

The Commission, having this recommendation in mind, met on November 6th, 1930 and finally broke up on December 9th after having drawn up a draft Convention and a final report (see documents C.687.M.288.1930.IX and C.690.M.289.1930.IX respectively).

ANALYSIS OF THE DRAFT CONVENTION.

The Convention consists of sixty articles, the first of which is of a general character, governing the whole Convention and defining its scope. It reads as follows :

“ The High Contracting Parties agree to limit and, so far as possible, to reduce their respective armaments as provided in the present Convention. ”

The rest of the Convention is divided into six parts, most of which include several chapters and annexes.

Part I deals with personnel. It is subdivided into two chapters, which are accompanied by tables. Chapter A relates to effectives ; Chapter B to the period of service.

Part II is concerned with material for different categories of armaments ; land armaments, Chapter A ; naval armaments, Chapter B, with tables and annexes ; air armaments, Chapter C, with tables,

Part III is devoted to budgetary expenditure.

Part IV concerns the exchange of information. Several tables are annexed to it.

Part V deals with chemical arms.

Part VI contains miscellaneous provisions which are grouped together under four heads ; Permanent Disarmament Commission (Chapter A) ; derogations (Chapter B) ; procedure regarding complaints (Chapter C) ; final provisions (Chapter D).

To summarise, it can be said that the draft Convention provides for :

(1) The limitation of effectives in time of peace.

It limits " the average daily effectives in the land, sea and air armed forces organised on a military basis " where the number of days' duty is performed by men doing their first period of service or by reservist doing periods of training.

(2) The limitation of the period of service in conscript armies.

(3) The indirect limitation of land material by means of the budget :

" The annual expenditure of each High Contracting Party on the upkeep, purchase and manufacture of war material for land armaments shall be limited to the figures laid down for such party, and in accordance with the conditions prescribed, in the annex . . . to this article.

" In pronouncing on this article, the Governments will take into account at the Conference the report requested from the Committee of Budgetary Experts." ¹

The Preparatory Commission accepted the principle of limitation for expenditure by sixteen votes to three, with six abstentions. It furthermore discussed the following resolution :

" The Preparatory Commission for the Disarmament Conference is of opinion that the principle of direct limitation should be applied to land war material. "

Nine votes were cast for this resolution and nine against, with seven abstentions.

Lastly, the Commission considered the principle of a combination of the two methods. Nine members of the Commission voted in favour of this principle, eleven voted against, and five abstained.

(4) The direct limitation of naval material.

Each fleet is limited to a total (global) tonnage figure.

The Convention further shows the way in which each navy intends to distribute its total (global) tonnage among the five different categories of warships. This distribution by categories can be modified during the period over which the Convention remains in force. The tonnage transferred is, however, subject to regulations to be laid down by the general Conference in respect of each of the signatory countries, such regulations to be less strict for small navies than for large ones.

(5) The limitation of expenditure on material for naval armaments.

(6) The limitation of total horse-power, total volume (for dirigibles), and the number of aircraft in service, including aeroplanes in immediate reserve.

The Commission has not proposed special rules for determining horse-power. Nevertheless, the Commission was of opinion that it was desirable for the Council to entrust to experts the preparatory studies required for the laying-down of such rules, and that such rules should then be communicated to the Governments as a preliminary basis for calculating the figures to be inserted in the tables.²

(7) The limitation of total annual expenditure on land, sea and air armed forces and formations organised on a military basis.

(8) An equivalent measure of publicity in respect of each of these limitations.

It should further be noted that the publicity does not apply only to cases in which a limitation is imposed. Thus, publicity is provided for in the case of non-military aviation (number and total horse-power of aeroplanes and dirigibles ; amount of annual expenditure on non-military aviation).

(9) The prohibition, subject to reciprocity, of the use of chemical arms, and the absolute prohibition of bacteriological methods of warfare. •

(10) The creation of a Permanent Disarmament Commission.

(11) The right of any contracting Power to suspend the provisions of the Convention under certain conditions, if a change of circumstance constitutes a menace to its national security.

The exercise of this right is hedged about by a system of precautions, to obviate all risk of abuse.

(12) A procedure regarding complaints, should one of the contracting States violate or endeavour to violate the Convention.

(13) Final provisions, among which mention should be made of :

(a) The article which lays down the principle that the Convention shall not affect the provisions of previous treaties under which certain of the contracting parties have agreed to limit their land, sea or air armaments. The same article further contains a provision which allows the contracting parties which so desire to declare, at the moment of signing the Convention, that the limits fixed for their armaments under the Convention are accepted by them in relation to the obligations referred to in the preceding paragraph, the maintenance of such provisions being for them an essential condition for the observance of the Convention.

The German delegation stated, in connection with the article in question that, in so far as it does not refer to the Washington and London Treaties, the German delegation would

¹ See No II below.

² See page 53

vote against the draft Convention as a whole. In its view the draft, as drawn up by the majority of the Preparatory Commission, excludes essential elements from the limitation and reduction of land armaments. Instead of leading to real disarmament, this draft would serve only to conceal the real state of world armaments or would even allow armaments to be increased. To accept it would at the same time be tantamount to a renewal of the German signature to the disarmament clauses of the Treaty of Versailles.

(b) The provision relating to the intervention of the Permanent Court of International Justice or of an arbitral tribunal in the case of any dispute which might arise in regard to the interpretation or application of the Convention.

(c) Provisions relating to the period of validity of the Convention, its modification and denunciation. One of these covers the case in which the conditions under which the engagements stipulated in the Convention were contracted have undergone, as the result of technical transformations or special circumstances, changes justifying a fresh examination and possibly the revision of such engagements. As stated in the report, "these circumstances might include, for example, an unforeseen development of civil aviation. Indeed, the British, French, Japanese and Polish delegations definitely stated that they had this case in particular in mind."

On the other hand, the German delegation made the following reservation :

"The German delegation is of opinion that the development of a peaceful means of communication must in no case be made a basis for armaments, especially as no account has been taken of the essential and purely military factors of material in reserve or in stock, trained reserves, etc., and other important means of communication, such as the mercantile marine, on which, indeed, preliminary warlike fittings have been authorised."

Note. — The old article EC of the text drawn up at first reading (1927), in which the countries bordering on the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics laid down certain conditions for their accession to the Convention, has been omitted from the final provisions of the draft Convention, the Commission having decided to leave the examination of this proposal to the Conference.

ANALYSIS OF THE REPORT.

The final report of the Commission constitutes a commentary on the text of the draft Convention, the broad outlines of which have been analysed above. It gives details of all the reservations, whether general or particular, submitted by the delegations during the framing of the various texts.

The general reservations are described in the following terms :

"The representatives of a number of Governments, while accepting the principle of limitation and reduction in the spirit of Article 8 of the Covenant, desired to state that the reduction of all or some of the categories of armaments was not possible for them, their present armaments being far from sufficient to guarantee national safety. This reservation was made in precise form, particularly in relation to naval and air armaments, the latter being scarcely developed in the majority of States.

"The Turkish delegation reserved its Government's right to submit to the future Disarmament Conference the proposal it made with regard to standards for the reduction and limitation of armaments and to require any modification of the texts which might be rendered necessary in the event of the adoption of this proposal.

"The German delegation reserved its Government's right to submit to the future Disarmament Conference any proposals regarding the standards of reduction and limitation of armaments which it might consider likely to promote these aims.

"Norway not having taken part in the earlier work of the Commission, in particular the first part of the second reading of the draft Convention, the Norwegian delegate made a general reservation concerning the attitude his Government might adopt at the Conference.

"The delegate of the Irish Free State made a similar statement."

The most important particular reservations, made principally by the German delegation, refer chiefly to the method and extent of the limitation of land effectives and material. The United States delegation made a reservation in regard to the budgetary limitation of land material and the limitation of budgetary expenditure. Particulars of the reservations made by the Soviet delegation will be given later.

The report concludes with the following considerations :

"The Preparatory Commission could only establish a draft Convention, or it would perhaps be more accurate to say the framework of the future Convention.

"In the reservations which have been reproduced in this report, certain delegates expressed the view that, even within those limits, the results were disappointing. The great majority of the Commission, however, so far from sharing this attitude, regards what has been done as marking an important advance on the path of disarmament.

"Be that as it may, it will be for the Conference not only to decide as to the final adoption of the draft that will be laid before it, but also to define its practical scope by fixing in figures the extent of the undertakings it involves.

" This delicate and complicated task can only be successfully discharged on certain conditions, first and foremost among which we place the thorough and systematic preparation of the Conference itself. The German delegation proposed — and this proposal was seconded by the Italian delegation — that the Preparatory Commission should ask the various Governments, with this object in view, to furnish detailed particulars of the present position of their armaments. The Commission welcomed the spirit in which this suggestion was made, but felt that certain correctives must be supplied. In the first place, it held that, as the preparation of the Conference was a matter for the Council of the League, it was for the Council to take the necessary steps to that end. It also regarded the German proposal as too restricted. Indeed, the preliminary work of study and investigation which will have to be done cannot be limited to scheduling existing armaments. It will have to cover every factor, technical or otherwise, which may help to inform the Conference, and to justify such concrete proposals as the Governments may lay before it.

" The Commission further decided to ask the Council of the League to fix the date of the Conference at its next session. The German delegation, with reference to the resolution adopted by the Council on December 8th, 1926, had proposed that a definite date (Thursday, November 5th, 1931) should be recommended. The Commission felt that it would be exceeding its sphere by doing this. It is, of course, anxious that the utmost despatch compatible with practical necessities should be employed, but it took the view that the Council, with which it rests to fix the date, was the only authority qualified to weigh the various factors that must be taken into consideration.

" While the final result depends in part on the preparatory work that has still to be done, it also depends, in large measure, on the atmosphere that will prevail during the subsequent proceedings. In such a matter mutual confidence among peoples is an essential condition of progress. It is our hope that that mutual confidence will be strengthened, and will enable the aim to which our efforts have been directed to be completely attained."

DECLARATIONS.

At the Commission's last meeting, on December 9th, 1930, declarations were made by fifteen delegates. In accordance with the decision taken by the Commission, the Minutes of this meeting were communicated to all Governments for their information.

A summary of each of these declarations, in the order in which they were made, is given below. They reflect the views of the delegations on the Commission's work, the scope of the draft Convention, the task of the coming General Disarmament Conference, and the future of the work of disarmament.

M. Lounatcharsky (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) first declared that the attitude of the Soviet delegation to the draft Convention was definitely negative. He pointed out that during the work of the Preparatory Commission his delegation had constantly endeavoured " to achieve really effective measures in the matter of the reduction of all kinds of armaments ", while, at the same time, opposing any " attempts to make disarmament contingent on security ", and that it was prepared to agree to the abolition of armaments or their reduction to the absolute minimum. M. Lounatcharsky also pointed out that, in rejecting the draft Conventions successively submitted by the Soviet delegation, the Commission had rejected " the only guarantee of peace ".

He added that the Soviet delegation had nevertheless continued its collaboration because it was unwilling to afford anyone a pretext for attributing " the manifest lack of success of the Commission's work " to its absence, and because it hoped that by making concrete proposals it would do something " towards bringing this draft nearer to the conception which must underlie any draft Convention for the reduction of armaments". He added :

" Unhappily the overwhelming majority of the Preparatory Commission, by systematically rejecting the Soviet motions and following the line of least resistance, deprived the Commission's draft, from which all figures had already been omitted, of all real meaning, using the draft to mask and justify the maintenance and increase of existing armaments ".

M. Lounatcharsky then explained in detail his delegation's principal and most general objections to the draft Convention. These objections referred chiefly to the absence of a " clear and definite statement that existing armaments must be appreciably reduced "; to the method of limiting effectives and land and air armaments; to certain aspects of the limitation of naval material; to the execution of the Convention being entrusted to an organ of the League of Nations; to the reference to the Disarmament Conference of the article in the draft Convention specifying the conditions laid down by Estonia, Finland, Latvia, Poland and Roumania for their accession to the Convention.

M. Politis (Greece) sought to show that the work of disarmament was alike bold in the extreme and an urgent necessity. It was bold because what it required was that States should " by contract, renounce part of their own guarantees of security, although the international community has not yet given them the fullest measure of collective guarantees".

The conditions of the world were such that they should not hesitate to attempt this experiment, both by reason of the solemn promise given to the peoples and also because it was a practical necessity. If nothing were attempted in this direction, he added, " there was bound to be a repetition of the competition in armaments which took place at the beginning of this century, and another war, which would destroy civilisation for ever ".

Viscount Cecil of Chelwood (British Empire) first pointed out that the majority of the criticisms levied against the draft Convention were, in his opinion, based on an erroneous conception of the Commission's task. It was not the Commission's function to draft a disarmament convention, but merely to construct the framework. In his view, it was possible to fit into the framework of this draft a really effective step towards the realisation of the ideal of complete disarmament.

He endeavoured to prove this statement by analysing the principal points of the Convention. He added :

“ One of the most valuable features in our scheme is that it expressly contemplates that there is to be no finality ; that the first Conference and the first advance are only to be the prelude to greater advances later on ; that we are to have a revision every five or ten years of everything that we do, so that, even if our first advance should be disappointing — and I have not given up hope that it will be the very reverse — then five or ten years afterwards we can advance still further.

“ We have created, or proposed to create, in the Permanent Disarmament Commission, a piece of machinery which I believe to be of the most enormous value to the cause of disarmament. For the first time, we are going to bring into existence, if our proposals are adopted, an international organ of disarmament whose duty it will be to watch over the gradual, or let us hope, the rapid, progress of disarmament ; because I believe, once we have started on this line, the pressure to go on and to proceed with vigour will become enormous.”

Mr. Gibson (United States of America) said he was happy to note that friendly relations had always existed between the members of the Commission despite their conflicting views and theories. He added :

“ I have throughout been sensible of the very real difficulties under which many members of this Commission have laboured. Overshadowing our discussions, though seldom spoken of, have been the anxieties and worries that have arisen from the special preoccupations felt by numerous Governments for their national security.”

The United States delegate went on to say that the draft Convention fell short of the hopes and expectations of the American delegation. In his own words :

“ It fails to contain many factors in which we have always believed and which in our opinion would lead to a real reduction of armaments. What we have achieved does not hold out the promise of bringing about that immediate reduction of armaments we would like to see. Make no mistake, it is not my purpose to belittle what we have done. We can at least foresee a stabilisation of armaments, the setting-up of machinery to receive and disseminate information on armaments, to educate public opinion and to prepare systematically for the work of future conferences, as successive milestones in the continuing process of disarmament. If these things can be achieved by the coming Conference, and from present indications I think we are justified in assuming that they can be achieved, we shall have a situation obviously better than we have at present.

“ We are all in agreement that an immense amount of preparatory work remains to be done before the meeting of the General Conference. The technical preparation for that Conference is in all conscience great enough, but a more difficult and more responsible task lies ahead of all our Governments in informing public opinion as to the facts, as to the difficulties, and as to the possible measures which may, with mutual concession, help us toward the goal we all desire to reach. This end can be served only by stating our achievements and our difficulties with moderation.”

Count Bernstorff (Germany) after reminding the Commission that the German delegation had been obliged to reject the draft Convention, which, in its opinion, was “ full of the most serious and fundamental defects and omissions ”, emphasised the importance of the coming Conference :

“ The Conference will afford the very last opportunity of achieving the final goal of disarmament, for which the German Government will work ceaselessly and with all its strength, as it has done hitherto. The Conference will be faced with an historic task ; it will have to approach the problem in an entirely different way from that chosen hitherto and so achieve the ideal — the true security of peace. It cannot succeed, however, unless it feels itself supported and urged on by public opinion throughout the world.

“ It is therefore to the peoples that I now address a last and most urgent appeal. I ask them to do their utmost to get their Governments to realise the magnitude of their task, and to see that they do not shrink from it. The peoples must not for a moment lose sight of the great dangers which might arise if, in the end, the work of disarmament failed.”

M. Sato (Japan), after emphasising the importance of American co-operation in the Commission's work, said that the first stage of disarmament would probably be a modest one :

“ No great work can be carried out at one step. If we tried to do so, we should encounter immense difficulties, and might even risk causing the failure of the Conference.

My Government, therefore, has always favoured moderate courses and steady but gradual progress."

He added :

" I earnestly hope that the representatives whom the Governments send to the Conference will all be armed with full powers to sign the future Convention; otherwise public opinion would be deeply disappointed, and that would be most regrettable. We must therefore do our utmost to bring about this result."

M. Massigli (France) first of all defined the Commission's task :

" We were faced with a grave problem which had been probed for many years and yet, in some respects, was new. At every step, unexpected difficulties arose and our duty, therefore, was not to recommend to the Governments one of those futile manifestations which leave behind them nothing but a memory of disappointment in the minds of the peoples — our duty (and we have fulfilled it) was to state the bases on which, after conscientious and laborious enquiry, we consider it possible at the present time to establish a general treaty for the limitation of armaments."

He reminded the Commission that the unanimous decisions of successive Assemblies had framed a League doctrine in the matter of disarmament, and that the first Conference would only be able to take a first step.

" It is this first step that the Governments are now asked to take. When they come to the Conference they will bring with them facts, proposals, justifications.

" On this point, the Governments must ask themselves — and, if they were likely to forget, public opinion in the different countries would remind them — what progress has been made in the organisation of security; or, if you prefer the phrase used by our Rapporteurs, who regard things from the psychological point of view, let us say the progress made in the growth of confidence since our Commission started its work.

" What has been done with the drafts prepared by the Arbitration and Security Committee? What has been done to promote the conclusion of regional agreements, whether for the purpose of preventing or of penalising war? What has been done in the field of arbitration? What is the position as regards accessions to the General Act?

" All these are questions which the Governments will have to ponder before the Conference is held, and the solutions which have been found for them, or which will be found for them in the coming months, will determine how great the first step to be taken will be."

Referring to the words formerly spoken by M. Politis in regard to the important advance represented by the transfer of the problem of national armaments to the field of international law, he added :

" That is the essential truth which Governments imbued with the will to peace, or, to speak more simply, Governments animated by goodwill — it amounts to the same thing — must have the courage to proclaim, even though to do so they have to withstand the pressure of public opinion; and assuredly it may prove far from easy to bring public opinion back to the right path when once it has been allowed to stray from it. Yet if there is a firm resolve, public opinion can easily be enlightened while there is still time."

M. Morfoff (Bulgaria), while recognising that very useful work had been done, pointed out that the Commission's work left his country in a " state of flagrant insecurity " :

" Bulgaria remains open to all comers, by land, by sea and by air, for her reduced army, although it is very expensive and is a heavy charge upon her financial situation, is hardly sufficient for local duties.

" We hope that the experts and the future Permanent Disarmament Commission will be given a chance of finding a practical solution which, while creating no dangers for any party concerned, will put an end to our state of insecurity."

M. Antoniade (Roumania) said that he did not share the pessimism of certain persons. In his view an important step had been made. He pointed out that the League's doctrine in the matter of disarmament established an indissoluble connection and interdependence between disarmament and security :

" When the time comes to fill in the framework we have prepared, the state of general and regional security will determine the limitations which can be agreed to.

" The Roumanian delegation hopes that, between now and the meeting of the forthcoming Conference, certain facts, tendencies and manifestations liable to diminish security will have disappeared, and that general and regional security will have made sufficient progress to permit of an important first step being taken."

M. Westman (Sweden) defined the attitude of his Government towards the draft Convention and the future work of disarmament :

" The Swedish delegation is among those which have made no express reservations to the provisions voted by the majority. It did not feel called upon to make reservations, although the proposals which it put forward or which it supported with regard to certain

vital points in the Convention did not meet with the approval of the majority, in order that the differences of opinion which have been manifested in our Commission should not be still further accentuated ; and it made a point of refraining from any action which might exercise an unfavourable influence on the heavy and difficult work of disarmament undertaken by the League of Nations.

“ This attitude has not involved, and cannot involve, any renunciation on the part of the Swedish Government of the opinions which it has stated since the outset of our work, through the members of its delegation and in the best interests of disarmament. My Government therefore emphasises its right, in the course of the subsequent proceedings, to take any action and to support any proposal likely to make the International Disarmament Convention as effective and as just as possible.”

M. Markovitch (Yugoslavia) expressed the opinion that from the technical standpoint the draft Convention afforded “ a well-defined and well-considered framework ”. As regarded the political aspect, he reminded the Commission that the work of disarmament was to be carried out “ within the framework of the international organisation created by the Covenant ”, and emphasised the interdependence of all the articles of the Covenant, which formed an indivisible whole :

“ This correlation between the methods for the reduction and limitation of armaments and the political factors of the problem, the absolute observance of the Covenant and the faithful execution of all the obligations contained therein — in short, the degree of national and international security — should have found a place in the draft Convention.

“ The omission from the Convention itself of any special rule regarding the interdependence between disarmament and security in no way modifies the actual problem, and does not imply any weakening of the value of the Assembly’s formal resolutions or any relinquishment on our part of the principles on which disarmament must be based.”

General Kasprzycki (Poland) stressed the necessity of proceeding by stages and of coping with a form of propaganda which sought to detract from the value of the work already done. In his opinion, the draft Convention provided “ a sound basis and framework ”. After endorsing the views expressed by several delegations in regard to security in connection with disarmament and the interdependence of the various articles of the Covenant, General Kasprzycki stated that, in his view, there were three aspects of the problem of security — namely : Guarantees of mutual assistance, respect for treaties, and the securing of a general detente. He regretted that nothing practical had so far been done to bring about moral disarmament.

“ The problem of moral disarmament is an urgent problem, which is closely bound up with that of material disarmament.

“ You cannot expect to enhance, or even to preserve, the feeling of security in an atmosphere of growing disquiet.

“ The flagrant contradiction between demands for an appreciable reduction of armaments, demands for total disarmament, and an increasingly violent propaganda tending to promote disorder or even war, must be brought home to the general public.

“ World public opinion must be convinced of the absolute necessity of practical results in moral disarmament. A study of the practical means to that end is becoming more and more essential. It is one of the most indispensable conditions of the success of the future Conference.”

M. Woo Kaiseng (China) observed that the first stage had now been passed, but that numerous difficulties remained to be overcome :

“ The limitation and reduction of land, naval and air armaments is a positive means of arresting preparation for war. The work of abolition must be carried into other fields as well. We must deal with the deep-lying causes, the moral causes.

“ More than anything else, mutual understanding, a clear comprehension of the issues which divide nations, will contribute towards the abolition of war among States. We must get to know each other better and better.”

M. Fierlinger (Czechoslovakia) observed that, in most cases, the declarations made by the delegates reflected “ a moderate optimism based on a sense of realities ”. He emphasised the interdependence of disarmament and the problem of security :

“ The idea of peace has doubtless gained ground and valuable guarantees of security have been provided which must not be underestimated. These guarantees and the successful results of the League’s efforts have made it possible for our Commission to complete its work.

“ We hope that, when the Conference meets, we shall be in a position to record fresh progress calculated still further to facilitate the Conference’s work, but we must not close our eyes to the distance we still have to travel before the Covenant is carried into full effect ; there is still a long road ahead of us. We must not forget that we shall have to exert ourselves very considerably, sometimes in one direction, sometimes in another, in order to achieve our purpose. At the same time, if we make this our chief concern I do not doubt but that we shall fulfil the highest aspirations of mankind, the aspirations embodied in Article 8 of the Covenant.”

General de Marinis (Italy) said that the Italian Government would participate in the Disarmament Conference with an earnest desire to achieve results in the form of the equitable regulation of armaments, taking into account the requirements of each country from the point of view of defence :

“ It should be the object of such regulation to abolish the very great discrepancies which at present exist ; these are the chief cause of the competition in armaments, and are highly detrimental to international security. I am firmly convinced that the absence of a just proportion between armaments and the real requirements of each country for defence, which exists at present, is the chief obstacle to the framing of an effective scheme for the reduction of armaments.

“ I am convinced that, if we succeed in modifying this state of affairs, we shall have made great progress in the direction of disarmament and shall greatly facilitate the next stage of our work.”

Lastly, the President, after referring to the task which the Commission had been called upon to fulfil, made the following observations :

“ Does the preliminary draft which we have just adopted show that we have accomplished what we set out to do ?

“ To those who expected us to settle all divergencies of principle among the different Powers with regard to disarmament, I would frankly reply : No ! Even before we began our work, all the Governments knew that this would be impossible.

“ On the other hand, to those who realise that, in the present state of the world, an initial effort, however incomplete, in the direction of limitation — and, as far as possible, the reduction — of armed forces is of capital importance, I do not hesitate to reply : Yes !

“ What we have prepared is, as it were, a well-thought-out framework in which the figures will be filled in by the General Conference. Only then will our draft Convention be signed and become the first Convention for the Limitation and Reduction of Armaments. It will no doubt be revised and amended many times, as mutual trust between the nations increases, by means of what has been termed moral disarmament.

“ If the provisions which we have framed appear to be incomplete, it is none the less true that never before in the history of the world have the nations, which are so jealous of their sovereign rights, contemplated the international regulation of their means of national defence. Does not this fact alone give to our work, however imperfect it may be at this initial stage, a profound significance ? ”

In conclusion, he congratulated in particular the Vice-President (M. Politis), the Rapporteurs (M. Cobián and M. Bourquin) and the members of the Drafting Committee (M. Westman, M. Jean Paul-Boncour and M. Malkin).

On behalf of the whole Commission, Viscount Cecil of Chelwood and M. Politis congratulated the President on the manner in which he had conducted its work for the last five years.

II. COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS ON BUDGETARY QUESTIONS.

The Committee of Experts on Budgetary Questions appointed by the Preparatory Commission for the Disarmament Conference held two sessions at Geneva, one from December 11th to 20th, 1930, and the other from February 5th to 28th, 1931, under the chairmanship of M. Jacomet, First-Class Army Comptroller (French).

The following took part in the work :

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- HALIT Bey (Turkish), Inspector-General at the Ministry of Finance ;
- Brigadier-General ELIAS (Czechoslovak), General Staff (replaced at the last session by Major DASTICH, Army Staff) ;
- M. Iro (Japanese), Deputy Director of the Japanese League of Nations Bureau, member of the Economic Committee ;
- M. JACOBSSON (Swedish), Former member of the League Secretariat ; former Secretary-General of the Economic Defence Council of Sweden ; Kreuger & Toll, Ltd., Stockholm ;
- M. JARVINEN (Finnish), Professor of the High Commercial School, Helsinki, former Minister of Finance ;
- Brigadier-General NENADOVITCH (Yugoslav) ;
- Mr. G. H. S. PINSENT, *General Rapporteur* (British), Treasury Chambers, London ;
- M. H. PRENEN (Belgian), Inspector-General at the Ministry of National Defence ;
- M. C. TUMEDEI (Italian), Member of the Chamber of Deputies ;
- Dr. WORBS (German), Geheimrat. Ministry of Finance.

The Committee of Experts on Budgetary Questions was first constituted in November 1926 by the Bureau of the Preparatory Commission for the Disarmament Conference, chiefly with a view to drawing up a model statement of expenditure on national defence, showing, in a simple form, intelligible from an international standpoint, the armament expenditure of every country.

In the course of three sessions held in the first half of 1927, the Committee drew up a report which was submitted to the Preparatory Commission. This report was never discussed by the latter, which confined itself to noting it.

During the second part of its sixth session, held in November and December 1930 the Preparatory Commission adopted the principle of the limitation of expenditure on armaments. In this connection, Articles 10 (Limitation of Expenditure on Land Material), 24 (Limitation of Expenditure on Naval Material) and 29 (Limitation of Total Annual Expenditure) were inserted in the draft Convention drawn up by the Commission.

In addition, the draft Convention contains Articles 33 and 38, concerning publicity in regard to expenditure in connection with the various categories of land and naval war material on the one hand, and, on the other, publicity in regard to the total expenditure on land, sea and air armaments.

The Commission decided to reconstitute the Committee of Experts on Budgetary Questions, and to request it to study the methods of publicity and of limitation of expenditure provided for in the draft Convention, with special reference to the necessity :

- (a) Of limiting the total expenditure in question ;
- (b) Of taking into account the diversity of methods of presentation and discussion of the budgets customary in the various countries ;
- (c) Of adapting the methods of limitation contemplated to the possible differences in the purchasing power of the various currencies, with particular reference to the cost of war material ;
- (d) Of determining the conditions under which the carrying forward of credits from one budgetary year to the next year or the following years might be effected.

The Committee was also asked, in connection with the application of Article 29, to examine the possibility of a separate limitation of expenditure on land, naval and air armaments.

In the course of the two sessions held in December 1930 and February 1931, the reconstituted Committee undertook these studies, which also necessitated the re-examination and completion of its previous work. The Committee of Experts unanimously adopted a report, incorporating a draft annex to the Convention, together with a model statement and certain annexed tables.

In conformity with the Council's resolution of January 24th, 1931, this report was sent direct to the Governments on March 30th.

The system proposed by the Committee may be summarised as follows :

1. Limitation will deal, not with budget votes, the significance of which varies greatly according to the country, but with payments made in the course of each financial year and included in the final accounts which are made out, published and audited in all countries.

The budgets proper will nevertheless retain their importance, and Governments will have to explain publicly how their budget estimates can be reconciled with the limits accepted by them for payments. Credit purchases involving deferred payments which might render this limitation ineffective are dealt with in special provisions.

2. Expenditure on armaments is to be shown in a model statement. This model will serve both for purposes of publicity and for the definition of the expenditure to be limited. The model statement is accompanied by instructions which constitute the draft annex.

Each Government may be authorised to depart from the instructions to the extent required by its administrative practice, provided that the method employed by it for filling in the statement is accepted by the Disarmament Conference and remains unchanged during the period of the Convention.

With a view to the application of these provisions, the Committee of Experts recommended that each Government should fill in the model statement for the first time before the Conference, on the basis of the last final accounts, and should submit the result to the Conference, explaining the exact method employed.

3. All expenditure on armaments must appear in the model statement and be included in the limitation, whatever the source of the funds from which, or the authority under which, the expenditure is made, whether it is incurred out of ordinary budget votes, supplementary, extraordinary or excess votes, in the budgets of the defence departments or of other departments, credits carried forward from previous years, credits opened by administrative action, special funds or receipts, including loans raised privately or on the markets or made by other Governments, resources made available by regional or local authorities, and, finally, all gifts by private persons.

The list contained in the draft annex is purely indicative in character, and any expenditure on new arms, or, in general, any expenditure intended for national defence, must be included in the model statement, even if it is not explicitly mentioned.

The expenditure to be shown in the model statement must represent the true and final application of the sums in question.

In those countries where the provision for gross expenditure can be directly ascertained, this gross expenditure should be entered in the return. In other countries, Governments must reconstitute the gross amount of the expenditure by taking into account the expenditure effected out of certain receipts in respect of services. These rules apply to expenditure relating to the pay of the personnel, and to expenditure in respect of the sale or cession of property and material.

Where additional expenditure is incurred by the forces as a result of help given in emergency to the civil population, such expenditure may be omitted from the returns.

Any grants and loans made to undertakings having among their objects the furnishing of goods or services for purposes of national defence, and any participation in the said undertakings (including the purchase of shares, bonds, etc.), shall be deemed to be expenditure on the said goods or services, save only loans, participations or grants based on general economic, fiscal or social considerations, or those representing purely temporary advances, provided that these advances are not renewed.

All expenditure other than pensions and allowances for loss of office occasioned by reductions in the strength of the forces will be included in the returns — *e.g.*, indemnities paid to towns for the withdrawal of garrisons, etc.—owing to the difficulty in making any distinction between other items of expenditure occasioned by a reduction in the strength of the forces and expenditure not arising out of that reduction.

Whenever these principles cannot be strictly applied, the necessary explanations must be given in the form of special publicity.

4. As regards possible fluctuations in the purchasing power of the various currencies, with particular reference to the cost of raw material, the Committee considered that an automatic system (involving the compilation of a general index or special indices) for this purpose was not practicable ; however, it formulated technical suggestions concerning the procedure which might be followed for the examination of any request made by a Government with a view to the adjustment of the limits provided for on account of fluctuations in the purchasing power of its currency.

5. Limitation will apply to the average expenditure during each consecutive period of four years, expenditure during any given year not to exceed the limit by more than a certain percentage to be agreed upon for each country.

6. In case it should be decided to adopt the separate limitation of the expenditure of each of the three categories of forces, land, naval and air — which, in the Committee's opinion, is technically possible — transfers might be authorised between the three categories under conditions to be determined.

The Committee desired to point out that, although the returns of the defence expenditure fail to provide a basis for a comparison of the levels of armaments of the different countries, the figures given in the returns will nevertheless prove a useful criterion for appreciating the development of each country's armaments from one year to another so long as the methods of administration remain the same.

The Committee concluded its report as follows :

“ The Committee has tried to indicate as fairly as possible both the technical shortcomings of the system it has suggested and also the technical advantages which are inherent in that system. If the Governments are not only fully aware of those advantages, but also on their guard against the difficulties and prepared to apply the system loyally, the Committee is unanimous in considering that from a technical point of view, a satisfactory working of the system can be obtained. ”

As regards Article 33 of the draft Convention, the Committee came to the conclusion, after an exhaustive study and discussion of the questions raised by the application of this article, that it could not recommend any method of detailed publicity by categories of material.

III. THE COUNCIL AND THE PREPARATIONS FOR THE DISARMAMENT CONFERENCE.

A. SIXTY-SECOND SESSION OF THE COUNCIL, JANUARY 1931.

In describing the result of the Preparatory Commission's work, the Rapporteur, the representative of Spain, laid stress on the considerable amount of work done by the Commission. He added that the draft Convention still awaited completion in the following respects : Methods of applying Articles 10, 24, 29, 33 and 38, laying down the principle of the limitation of armaments by the budgetary method ; rules to be adopted for the determination of the horse-power of aeroplanes and dirigibles. The Council would also be called upon to fix the date of the opening of the general Conference (paragraph 304 of the Preparatory Commission's report), and to take the necessary steps to obtain from the Governments particulars of the present position of their armaments and all technical and other data which might enlighten the Conference and support such proposals as the Governments might lay before it (paragraph 303 of the Preparatory Commission's report).

* * *

In the course of the discussion which followed the Rapporteur's statement, the representative of Great Britain, the President, after reminding the Council of the obligations assumed by the Members of the League, in particular under Article 8 of the Covenant, in regard to the limitation and reduction of armaments, pointed out that there were also considerations of material self-interest in favour of a policy of disarmament, and observed that a mere limitation of existing forces would not be an adequate beginning. Referring to the talk of war, “ as

ill-timed as it was dangerous", the British representative expressed the hope that all States would do everything in their power to ensure the success of the Conference.

The representative of Germany, while expressing his satisfaction that the Disarmament Conference could at last be convened, did not conceal the fact that Germany considered inadequate a draft Convention which, in his opinion, represented at most a stabilisation of existing armaments. The Conference would have to revise the methods proposed in the draft on the basis of the principle of equality as between the Members of the League.

The representative of Italy, after defining the Italian view in regard to the relation between disarmament and security, which would have to be taken into account, but which was "not a preliminary condition" of disarmament, advocated, for the successful preparation of the Conference, discussion among the various Governments, and was of opinion that the persons who had to carry out this preparatory work should harmonise in their own minds, so to speak, the different tendencies.

The representative of France said that the Preparatory Commission for the Disarmament Conference had given them "the framework of a possible Convention" which would enable the future Conference to bring about what all the nations of the world desired, as far as was compatible with the present factors of security. They must not insist on the Conference's achieving what was at present impossible, because the Conference would merely mark a first stage in their journey, which would be followed by others. After expressing the hope that the time would come when in every sphere all nations would be placed on a footing of equality, he protested against "panic" campaigns. In conclusion, he said that if the Conference was well prepared they might expect ample results.

The representative of Japan expressed the opinion that the draft Convention provided a very suitable framework for the discussions of the Conference, which he regarded as a first step towards the goal they had in view.

The representative of Poland, after stating that the draft Convention provided a solid basis for the work of the Conference and was the first step towards disarmament, expressed the hope that an increased feeling of security would allow them gradually to achieve yet more definite results.

The representative of the Irish Free State said that he hoped that the Conference would improve on the draft Convention, which, in his view, was an attempt at a first step towards a solution, but nothing more.

At its meeting on January 24th, the Council adopted the following draft resolution submitted by the Rapporteur :

" The Council of the League of Nations,

" (1) Notes the report of the Preparatory Commission and the preliminary draft Convention concerning the Reduction and the Limitation of Armaments ;

" (2) Thanks the members of the Commission for their tireless efforts ;

" (3) Requests the Secretary-General to transmit to the Governments the preliminary draft and the report, together with the Minutes of the Council's meetings of to-day and of January 20th ;

" (4) Fixes the date of the convocation of the General Disarmament Conference for the Tuesday following the end of the Council's session which is due to open on January 25th, 1932 ;

" (5) Chooses Geneva as the place of this Conference, on the understanding that the report submitted in this connection by the Secretary-General in May is such as to convince the Council that this town is in a position to offer all the requisite facilities, particularly as regards meeting premises, accommodation, transport, telegraphic, telephonic and postal communications, etc., both for the delegations and Press, and for the persons wishing to follow the work of the Conference ;

" (6) Decides to appoint the President of the Conference at one of its next sessions ;

" (7) Instructs the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Rapporteur, to undertake, between now and the May session, the initial work for the technical preparation of the Conference, particularly as regards the following questions mentioned in the report adopted on January 20th :

" (a) Particulars to be obtained from the different Governments with regard to the position of their armaments and all data, technical or otherwise, which might help to inform the Conference and to justify such concrete proposals as the Governments may lay before it in conformity with the wish expressed in paragraph 303 of the Preparatory Commission's report ;

" (b) Preparatory studies to be undertaken by experts through the intermediary of the Communications and Transit Organisation of the League of Nations, with a view to the fixing of rules relative to the adoption of a standard horse-power measurement for aeroplane and dirigible engines ; these rules will have to be communicated to the Governments, who will be invited to accept them as a preliminary basis for calculating the figures to be inserted in the corresponding table in the preliminary draft Convention ;

" (c) Communication of the report of the Committee of Budgetary Experts to the Governments, who will be asked, if need be, to express their opinion on the solutions proposed by the Committee ;

“ (8) Instructs its Rapporteur to inform it at its May session of the progress of the work of preparation ;

“ (9) Authorises the Secretary-General to take the necessary administrative measures for carrying out the foregoing decisions ;

“ (10) Adopts the present resolution.”

After the adoption of this resolution, the President expressed his satisfaction at the decision taken. In substance, he said that during the coming year each Government must fill in figures in the tables in the draft Convention representing the largest possible reduction in its existing armaments.

The representative of Germany, pointed out that the preliminary draft Convention was not binding on the parties concerned, and could not be taken as a legal basis. Without re-examining all the questions, the Governments should settle some of them between themselves before the Conference.

The representative of France, recalling the exhaustive discussions which had taken place in the Preparatory Commission prior to the adoption of certain principles, said that, at the Conference, all the nations could restate their views, but that if everything were to be begun all over again, the chances of reaching the desired results would be seriously reduced.

B. MEASURES TAKEN BY THE SECRETARIAT AND THE SIXTY-THIRD SESSION OF THE COUNCIL.

1. Particulars with regard to the position of armaments (paragraph 7(a) of the Council resolution).
2. Proposals relating to the seat of the Conference.
3. Appointment of the President of the Conference.
4. Committee of Experts appointed to fix rules relative to the adoption of a standard horse-power measurement for aeroplane and dirigible engines (paragraph 7(b) of the Council resolution).

* * *

In execution of the resolution of January 24th, 1931, the Secretariat, in February last, proceeded to make arrangements for the technical preparation of the Conference.

In particular it took measures to obtain from Governments the information mentioned in paragraph 7(a) of the resolution, especially with regard to the position of armaments, and, on the basis of the instructions laid down in paragraph 5 of that resolution, proceeded to examine the proposals made by Geneva and other towns offering to house the Conference. It also convened a Committee of experts to fix rules relating to the adoption of a standard horse-power measurement for aeroplane and dirigible engines. An account of the work of the Secretariat prior to the sixty-third session of the Council will be found in the reports to the Council of the representative of Spain and of the Secretary-General (documents C.310.1931.IX, C.319.1931.IX and C.339.1931.IX).

1. *Particulars with regard to the Position of Armaments.*

The Secretary-General, having requested Governments to forward the information mentioned in paragraph 7(a) of the Council resolution (see documents C.L.23.1931.IX and C.L.23 (a).1931.IX), received information on the subject from the Governments of the Grand Duchy of Luxemburg, Finland and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics. He also received the two proposals mentioned hereunder concerning the form in which the information requested should be supplied.

In a letter of March 12th (see document C.198 (1).M.80 (1).1931.IX. [C.P.D.305]) the Government of the United Kingdom pointed out that the value of the preliminary exchange of information provided for in paragraph 7(a) of the Council resolution would be greatly enhanced if the information could be supplied by each Government on a uniform model. The Government of the United Kingdom submitted in its letter detailed suggestions based on the publicity tables annexed to the draft Convention. It reserved the right to supplement its proposal when the Committee of Budgetary Experts had concluded its work.

The German Government, in a communication of March 27th (see document C.214.1931.IX), also felt bound to ask that the information mentioned in paragraph 7(a) of the resolution of January 24th should be supplied on a uniform model, in order that the future Disarmament Conference might have a complete picture of the factors which it should have before it when fixing the methods for, and extent of, the reduction and limitation of armaments. The German Government, from whose letter it would seem that the publicity laid down in the Convention would not meet its own views in the matter, asked that the following question might be included in the agenda of the sixty-third session of the Council: Addition to paragraph 7(a) of the Council's resolution of January 24th last of a resolution concerning the distribution of a suitable questionnaire.

In support of its request the German Government, by a further communication of April 25th, forwarded to the Secretariat model tables to be taken as a uniform basis for the publication of information relating to the armaments of the different countries (see document C.283.M.133.1931.IX. [C.P.D.302]). These tables provided for fuller information than the tables annexed to the draft Convention and, in particular, for data concerning the material in service and in stock of land, naval and air armaments and also concerning trained reserves.

On May 18th, three Governments — the Danish, French and German — had expressed their opinion on the British proposal (see, respectively, documents C.292.M.136.1931.IX, C.318.M.147.1931.IX. [C.P.D.305], and C.287.M.135.1931.IX.) In a letter of April 30th, the German Government pointed out that its proposal, being more comprehensive than the British proposal, seemed better calculated than the latter to fulfil the requirements of the resolution of January 24th.

The letters of the Danish and French Governments accepted the British proposal in principle. The French Government's acceptance (letter of April 28th, 1931) was accompanied by certain reservations. These referred, for example, to the difficulties that Governments would have in supplying, before the Conference, certain of the particulars mentioned in the draft Convention, the impossibility of filling in the tables mentioned in the British proposal in such a way as to permit of a comparison of the figures supplied by the different Powers, and, lastly, to the fact that a uniform model was not enough in itself to permit of a useful comparison between the armaments of the different countries, since such a comparison could be undertaken only in the light of the explanations and comments furnished by each individual country.

The German and British proposals, based on the same principle — that of obtaining particulars established on a uniform basis — but differing as regards the means of applying that principle, were examined by the Council at its meetings on May 20th and 23rd.

At the opening of the meeting on May 20th, the representative of Spain, as Rapporteur¹, briefly summarised the German and British proposals and gave an analysis of the correspondence exchanged on the subject between the Secretariat and the British, Danish, French and German Governments. He then requested the Council to settle a question of procedure relating to the communication of information supplied by Governments, this question having been raised in a letter from a Government not a Member of the League which, having forwarded to the Secretary-General, for the use of the Conference, particulars with regard to the position of its own armaments, asked that similar particulars, submitted by other Governments, might be communicated to it. The representative of Spain had suggested further, in his general report², that Governments should be requested to forward their replies by a certain date — for example, at latest by September 15th — in order that these might be published and communicated together to all the Governments. He announced, in the same report, that the Secretariat was preparing a special edition of the *Armaments Year-Book*, for the use of delegates to the Disarmament Conference, which would be based mainly on the replies of Governments to the Secretary-General's letter concerning the position of armaments.

The representatives of the United Kingdom, Germany, France, Poland, Italy, Japan and Yugoslavia intervened in turn in the discussion on the British and German proposals.

The representative of the United Kingdom pointed out, in support of the British proposal, that the publicity tables adopted by the Preparatory Commission were the result of lengthy discussion, and that it was preferable to adopt those tables rather than to re-open the discussion. He was doubtful whether, in practice, the German proposal, which had been worked out with great care and might even be regarded as an ideal, but which was based on certain principles constantly advocated by the German Government and as constantly rejected by other countries, would really facilitate or expedite the preparatory work of the Conference.

In pointing out, further, that the British Government had reserved the right to supplement its proposal after the completion of the work of the Committee of Budgetary Experts, the representative of the United Kingdom stated that his Government took up strongly the position that the Council should adopt the recommendations embodied in the report of those experts.

The representative of Germany made a brief statement in support of the German proposal, pointing out that the questionnaire, if it was to satisfy the object intended by the Council resolution, should include all the essential factors of armaments and that the Disarmament Conference could neither obtain a clear idea as to the reduction of war material required in the case of the different States, nor adequately assess the military forces represented by the effectives of the different armies, unless it had before it a complete and accurate picture of the present position of armaments, including more particularly documentary material as to the material in service and in store and also trained reserves. The German representative added that the scheme proposed by the British Government would not, in his opinion, permit of a complete statement of armaments, as it made no provision for the important factors to which he had just referred.

The representative of France urged the necessity to avoid destroying something which had been built up laboriously after discussions extending over several years. Admirably framed though it was, the German proposal would give rise to the same objections as had continually been encountered by the very principles on which it was based. If the discussion were reopened, there would be the risk of delaying preparations for the Conference. The French representative then pointed out that the French Government, in its letter of April 28th, 1931, had accepted the British proposal, subject to certain conditions, as in its view that proposal was calculated to improve in certain respects what had already been accomplished, without any risk of destroying it. The German proposal, to his regret, he could not accept.

The Polish representative stated that he was prepared to support the British proposal if it were applied in the light of the observations submitted by the French Government in its note of April 28th, 1931.

¹ See document C.319.1931.IX.

² See document C.310.1931.IX (Preparatory work for the Disarmament Conference: Report by the representative of Spain).

He then drew the Council's attention to the fact that the documentary material in the *Armaments Year-Book* concerning certain countries not Members of the League was marked by a number of serious omissions. The data concerning certain of those Powers were incomplete and had not been obtained from official sources. He thought that that state of affairs placed other countries, and particularly countries which were neighbours of such Powers, in an unequal situation, when they were called upon to give precise information concerning their armaments.

The representative of Italy, feeling that agreement had been reached as regards the presentation of these data on a uniform model, urged that the information should be submitted by all States before a given date. Proceeding to examine the German and British proposals, he expressed the opinion that the German tables were very complete, and stated that the German proposal contained certain suggestions of which the Italian Government approved; he pointed out, however, that that proposal might mean reopening the discussion and involve a long technical examination.

As regards the tables annexed to the draft Convention, the Italian Government considered them in certain respects incomplete and had only accepted them subject to reservations. He was convinced, however, that at the moment nothing more or better could be obtained. Mainly, therefore, in order to avoid any further impediment to the convening of the General Disarmament Conference, the Italian representative was prepared to adopt in principle the procedure suggested by the British Government.

The representative of Japan, while agreeing in principle with the other Governments that information should be supplied regarding the scale of its armaments, stressed the three principles of uniformity, universality and simultaneity which should, in his view, be observed in matters of practical application. As regards the principle of universality, which he regarded as the most important of the three, it was necessary to avoid excessive rigidity in framing a formula which all Governments would perhaps not be able to accept. In his view, it would be best to trust the various countries, leaving each free to interpret the Council resolution of January 24th in the light of its own conscience.

The representative of Yugoslavia declared that the German and British proposals relating to information concerning the present position of armaments in the different countries, and not the information necessary to enlighten the Conference and serve as a basis for the concrete proposals that Governments might wish to submit to it, would, in his view, modify to some extent what was contemplated in the resolution of January 24th. He thought the Conference should not take the present position of armaments as a starting-point, but should adopt more objective criteria: this would diminish the importance of statistical data, and he would then agree to the latter being furnished within the general framework of the British proposal. He urged, however, that Governments, in giving this information, would always have to take into account the necessity of substantiating concrete proposals that they might submit to the Conference.

Deducing from the discussion at the meeting on May 20th the conclusion that the British proposal was in principle generally accepted, the representative of Spain, in a report¹ submitted to the Council on May 23rd, pointed out that the considerations on which the German proposal was based had been discussed at length in the Preparatory Commission, without, however, appearing to be acceptable to the majority of the members of that Commission. The Council, though it did not consider this circumstance conclusive, nevertheless held it to be very important, and, although the proposals of the United Kingdom were not ideal, the Spanish representative thought that, for the moment, it was important to concentrate on what appeared feasible, without aiming at perfection.

Referring next to the three rules of uniformity, universality and simultaneity stipulated by the representative of Japan, the Rapporteur, while recognising the justice of this view, noted that the Council could only make recommendations in this very important matter. Since, moreover, the French Government had pointed out in its letter that a Government might find it impossible to supply, before the Conference, even the details mentioned in the proposal of the United Kingdom, the Rapporteur could only suggest that the Council should recommend each Government invited to the Conference to do its best to supply the information requested in the tables referred to in the British letter. This would permit of the wide application of the first two rules — uniformity and universality. The fact that certain distant countries whose armaments are not extensive might perhaps have some difficulty in complying with the Council's request would not, in the Rapporteur's view, constitute so considerable a departure from the rule of universality as to prevent the forwarding of information received from one Government to the other Governments invited to the Conference.

Nevertheless, in order to eliminate certain possible misunderstandings in regard to universality, the Rapporteur proposed, in connection with the rule of simultaneity, that all the Governments invited to the Conference should be asked to forward such information to the Secretary-General not later than September 15th. The Secretary-General would be asked, after consulting the President of the Conference, to arrange in due course for the interchange of the information received between Governments which had complied with his request and furnished the particulars asked for. Should any unforeseen difficulty arise, the Council, being in session, could always be consulted. In this way the information would not only be communicated simultaneously, but would be exchanged between the respective Governments which had supplied it.

The Rapporteur then suggested that, as the representative of the United Kingdom had proposed, the Governments should be asked to fill in the model for statement expenditure on

¹ See document C.383.1931.IX.

the basis of the last figures, in conformity with the recommendation of the Committee of Budgetary Experts.

In conclusion, the Rapporteur pointed out that the request for information concerning the position of armaments would in no way affect the method that might be adopted by the Conference to give effect to Article 8 of the Covenant. The proposals which had just been formulated represented, in his view, a reply to only one of the heads of the resolution of January 24th : they would help to enlighten the Conference as to the situation of the different Governments in the matter of armaments without, however, preventing Governments from supplying supplementary information in support of concrete proposals that they might submit to the Conference. The Rapporteur added that the Conference, when it met, could of course ask Governments for any further information, should it consider this necessary to enable it to complete its work.

In conclusion, the representative of Spain called upon his colleagues to support the proposal which he had put forward in his report, convinced as he was that by so doing the Council would be facilitating the work of the Conference.

At the meeting on May 23rd, the representatives of Japan, Germany, Norway, the Irish Free State and the United Kingdom took part in the discussion on the report.

The representative of Japan stated that he accepted the report and that his Government would do its best to forward the information asked for to the Secretary-General by the desired date, but that for various reasons — for example, the geographical situation of Japan — there might be some delay in forwarding this documentary material.

The Rapporteur noted that in that case the information received from other countries would be forwarded to the Japanese Government on or after the date on which the Japanese reply reached the Secretariat.

The representative of Germany, referring to his previous statements as to the importance of supplying the Conference with complete documentary material concerning all the factors of existing armaments, expressed his regret that the report, which was based on a much discussed preliminary draft Convention, did not mention the measures to be taken to supply the Conference with the data required for its work. The public, he added, would be amazed to learn that States, before assembling to conclude an agreement on the reduction of armaments, should have notified only a small part of their effectives and have supplied no figures concerning the implements at their disposal. He could not accept a report which omitted all mention of the essential factors of armaments and was so little in harmony with the principle of a full and frank interchange of information as laid down in Article 8 of the Covenant. Not wishing, however, to prevent the necessary unanimity and hence the execution, although inadequate, of the decision taken by the Council on January 24th, he would abstain from voting.

The representative of Norway, feeling that the choice between the above-mentioned proposals did not imply a decision regarding the questions of substance to be dealt with by the Conference, stated that, while seeing no objection in principle to the adoption of the German Government's proposal, he would be prepared to accept the Rapporteur's proposal if the German proposal did not meet with the general support of the Council.

In accepting the report, the representative of the Irish Free State said that the German proposal did not appear to him too idealistic and that the fact of the report having been accepted by the Council would not involve any obligation to confine the discussion to the questions arising out of the draft Convention.

The representative of the United Kingdom stressed the point that in accepting the British proposal the Council was in no way restricting the rights of the Conference. Should the latter, when it got to work, find certain information inadequate, it would have the right to take any measures it might wish with the object of obtaining further information.

On the conclusion of this discussion, the Council adopted the report of the representative of Spain.

2. *Seat of the Conference.*

In order to give effect to paragraph 5 of the resolution of January 24th, 1931, selecting Geneva as the seat of the Conference on the understanding that the offers made by that town were regarded as satisfactory by the Council, the Secretary-General set up a Special Committee to examine the various aspects of this question. This Committee has made a special study, in conjunction with the members of a Temporary Commission appointed by the Council of State of Geneva and under the presidency of M. Fatio, of the proposals put forward by Geneva.

The representatives of the two Committees have considered the following questions mentioned in paragraph 5 of the Council's draft resolution : meeting premises, accommodation, transport, telegraph, telephonic and postal communications, etc.

In the course of these negotiations the authorities of the Republic and Canton of Geneva informed the Secretary-General in a letter dated March 11th of the measures which they were prepared to take to enable the Council to choose Geneva definitely as the place of the Conference.

The Secretary-General also received offers from certain other towns (Barcelona, Lausanne, Aix-les-Bains, Cannes, Biarritz) each suggesting that the Conference might be held there.

The letters from the Geneva authorities, together with the requests made by the other towns, were transmitted to the Council on March 25th (see documents C.201, 201(a), 201(b). 1931. IX).

In his report to the Council (see document C.339.1931.IX) the Secretary-General mentioned the measures which the town of Geneva had offered to take to comply with the various conditions laid down in paragraph 5 of the Council's resolution of January 24th. Reverting at the meeting of May 20th, 1931, to the principal points of his report, he concluded that,

apart from the difficulty which the various delegations might have in housing the whole of their staff in the same hotel, the conditions which the Council had laid down for the choice of Geneva as the seat of the Conference were satisfactorily fulfilled.

After a few brief remarks by the representatives of the United Kingdom and Yugoslavia and a declaration by the Spanish representative, who withdrew the candidature of Barcelona, while expressing the hope that this offer would be accepted another time, the Council approved the Secretary-General's conclusions and selected Geneva as the seat of the Conference. It approved the construction of Conference halls on the north side of the Secretariat on the conditions stated in the Secretary-General's report.

3. *Appointment of the President.*

At a private meeting held on May 19th, the Council, on the proposal of the Spanish representative, Rapporteur for disarmament questions, unanimously selected Mr. Henderson as President of the Disarmament Conference.

Mr. Henderson thanked his colleagues for the mark of confidence they had paid him, but added that, before accepting the office of President of the Conference, he would be obliged to consult the British Government.

The British Government gave its consent and on May 21st Mr. Henderson informed the Council of his definitive acceptance of the office.

4. *Committee of Experts to fix Rules for the Adoption of a Standard Horse-power Measurement for Aeroplane and Dirigible Engines (Paragraph 7(b) of the Council's Resolution).*

On the Secretary-General's request, the Chairman of the Advisory and Technical Committee for Communications and Transit appointed a Committee of Experts to draw up a formula for the horse-power measurement of aeroplanes and dirigibles. This Committee, which was under the chairmanship of Mr. Mervyn O'Gorman (Great Britain), consisted of eight experts belonging to the following countries: Czechoslovakia, France, Germany, Great Britain, Italy, Japan, Spain and the United States of America and met at Geneva from April 20th to 24th. Unanimity was arrived at in regard to a formula, taking into account both the total volume of cylinders and the weight of the engine. Although he accepted this formula, the Italian expert stated that he preferred the formula by weight alone. The Committee's report has been communicated to the Council and the Governments (see documents C.259.M.115.1931.VIII and C.260.M.116.1931.VIII).

C. RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE COUNCIL REGARDING THE WHOLE OF THE PREPARATORY WORK FOR THE GENERAL DISARMAMENT CONFERENCE.

After the discussion on the German and British proposals concerning the particulars to be furnished with regard to the position of armaments, the Rapporteur submitted to the Council on May 22nd the following resolution, which was adopted. This resolution covers all questions connected with the preparatory work except civil aviation (see below) and the questionnaire regarding the position of armaments, dealt with above:

“ The Council of the League of Nations :

“ 1. Notes the action taken upon the general indications contained in its resolution of January 24th last, more particularly with regard to the questions dealt with in Sections 5, 7(a), 7(b) and 7(c) ;

“ 2. Approves the preliminary measures taken by the Secretary-General for the technical preparations for the Conference ;

“ 3. Chooses Geneva as the place of the Conference ;

“ After having examined the three draft building schemes offered for its choice, gives its preference to the solution consisting in the erection of conference halls on the north side of the Secretariat on the conditions laid down in the report of the Secretary-General ;

“ Expresses its thanks to the Genevese authorities and to their representative, M. Guillaume Fatio, for the efforts they have made and for those which they intend to make where necessary in order to provide the city with all the material and other guarantees necessary for the satisfactory organisation of the Conference ;

“ 4. Appoints the Right Honourable Arthur Henderson, representative of Great Britain on the Council, to be President of the General Disarmament Conference ;

“ 5. Expresses its thanks to the Committee of Experts on Budgetary Questions for the zeal and devotion with which they have carried out their difficult tasks and to the members of the Committee appointed to study rules relative to the adoption of a standard horse-power measurement for aeroplane and dirigible engines ;

“ 6. Instructs the Secretary-General :

“ (a) To publish prior to the opening of the Conference a special edition of the *Armaments Year-Book* ;

“ (b) To invite to the General Disarmament Conference convened at Geneva for February 2nd, 1932, the Governments of the States Members of the League and those of the following States non-members : Afghanistan, Brazil, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Egypt, Mexico, Turkey, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, and the United States of America. ”

D. PROPOSALS BY THE GERMAN GOVERNMENT CONCERNING THE PREPARATION OF AN INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENT FOR THE PUBLICATION OF INFORMATION WITH REGARD TO CIVIL AVIATION.

In a letter to the Secretary-General dated March 12th, 1931 (see document C.200.M.110.1931.IX), the German Government pointed out that at the last session of the Preparatory Disarmament Commission "certain delegations proposed the conclusion of a special international convention" with regard to the publication of information concerning civil aviation, as provided for in Article 37 of the draft Convention. It requests the Secretary-General to place the following item on the agenda of the sixty-third session of the Council:

"Preparation of an international agreement for the publication of information with regard to civil aviation."

The Secretary-General received from the German Government a second letter dated April 15th, showing how that Government would propose to pursue the study of this question (see document C.246.M.111.1931.IX). The German Government pointed out that it had always taken the view that a convention for the reduction and limitation of armaments should not deal with civil aviation. In its opinion, civil aviation was a means of communication used solely for peaceful purposes and it would therefore be inconsistent to include civil aviation in such a convention and on the other hand to leave out of account the stocks of material for military aviation. It approved in principle the publication of information with regard to civil aviation and had itself been publishing such information for some considerable time past; and this publication should form the subject of a special agreement. In conclusion, the German Government expressed the desire that the Council at its May session would request the Advisory and Technical Committee for Communications and Transit to prepare, without delay, a draft convention on this subject, which would be submitted to the Council at its sixty-fourth session and if necessary to the twelfth Assembly.

These two letters were dealt with in a report to the Council by the Spanish representative (see document C.311.1931.IX).

At the sixty-third session of the Council exchanges of views between the delegations concerned showed the desirability of collecting particulars concerning the publication of information with regard to civil aviation and, without having recourse to a committee, of consulting the Governments invited to the Conference and studying the present position in regard to civil aviation. The Rapporteur submitted to the Council, which adopted it, the following draft resolution:

"The Council,

"Considering that the Preparatory Disarmament Commission in its report drew the Disarmament Conference's attention to the fact that, although the majority of this Commission adopted Article 37 of the draft Convention governing the publication of information in regard to civil aviation, certain delegations questioned whether the stipulation contained in this article would not be more in place in an international convention other than that on disarmament;

"Recognising that it is for the Disarmament Conference to take a decision on this subject;

"Being anxious to facilitate the Conference's task,

"Requests the Secretary-General:

"1. To arrange for the Communications and Transit Organisation to proceed to an enquiry among all the Governments invited to the Disarmament Conference and to a methodical study of the present situation concerning the publication of information of civil aviation, whether as regards national regulations, multilateral conventions or special obligations.

"2. To prepare on this basis for the use of the Conference a collection of all the provisions in force relating to the exchange or publication of information regarding non-military aviation."

IV. SUPERVISION OF THE PRIVATE MANUFACTURE AND PUBLICITY OF THE MANUFACTURE OF ARMS AND AMMUNITION AND OF IMPLEMENTS OF WAR.

The Third Committee of the eleventh Assembly unanimously expressed the desire that the Special Commission responsible for framing a draft Convention on the Supervision of the Private Manufacture and Publicity of the Manufacture of Arms and Ammunition and of Implements of War should be convened as soon as possible after the completion of the work of the Preparatory Commission. In expressing this desire, the Third Committee had in mind the resolution of September 24th, 1929, of the tenth Assembly, mentioning the reservations made in respect of the preliminary draft Convention by several Governments, which had stated that they were "unable to express a final opinion on the methods of securing publicity for State manufactures" until they knew "the conclusions reached by the Preparatory Disarmament Commission on the question of publicity of war material".

At the sixty-second session of the Council, the Rapporteur, the representative of Spain, pointed out that the enquiries entrusted by the Preparatory Commission to the Committee of

Budgetary Experts might have a direct bearing on the solution of certain problems entrusted to the Special Commission. He proposed to the Council that this Commission should be convened by its President as soon as the Committee of Experts on Budgetary Questions had submitted its final report ; and the Council agreed to this course.

After two sessions, the Committee of Experts on Budgetary Questions concluded its work on February 28th, and its report was communicated to the Governments (document C.182.M.69.1931.IX).

This document states that the Committee found it impossible to recommend, in accordance with Article 33 of the Draft Convention drawn up by the Preparatory Commission, any method of detailed publicity by categories of material. As mentioned in its report the Committee did not seek to ascertain how far its conclusions might affect the work of the Special Commission responsible for framing a draft Convention on the Private Manufacture of Implements of War.

In the report submitted to the sixty-third session of the Council, the Rapporteur stated, *inter alia*, that a positive solution in this particular field — namely, the method of publicity in regard to material — would undoubtedly have had a direct influence on the progress of the Special Commission's work. As this had not been attained, however, the Rapporteur considered that it was for the general Disarmament Conference to regulate, when the time came, the question of publicity in regard to war material. He accordingly submitted to the Council, which adopted it, a resolution :

“ . . . Requesting the President of the Special Commission to postpone the convening of that Commission until after the settlement by the general Disarmament Conference of the question of publicity in regard to the employment of implements of war.”

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

Since the eleventh ordinary session of the Assembly the Convention signed at Geneva on June 17th, 1925, for the Supervision of the International Trade in Arms and Ammunition and in Implements of War has been ratified by Australia. This ratification has been given subject to the following reservation : the accession of Australia will not take effect until the ratifications of Austria, Belgium, Czechoslovakia, Germany, Italy, Japan, Spain, Sweden and the United States of America have been deposited in the archives of the French Government.

At the sixty-third session of the Council the representative of the United Kingdom pointed out that so far only eleven countries had announced their intention of ratifying, and observed that these results were “ somewhat disappointing ”. He expressed the hope that those States which had not yet announced their intentions in this matter would consider whether they could not by their ratification contribute to the bringing into force of the Convention.

M. Hussein Alâ said on behalf of the Persian Government that his country could not sign and ratify the Convention for reasons which had on several occasions been stated. While Persia fully accepted the principle on which the Convention was based, she could not adhere to it unless certain changes were made in the text so as to safeguard her sovereignty and interests.

VI. INTER-ALLIED CONTROL IN GERMANY UNDER THE TREATY OF VERSAILLES.

The Secretary-General has received from the President of the Conference of Ambassadors a letter dated March 16th, 1931, concerning the cessation of the duties of the military experts attached in Berlin to the diplomatic missions of the countries represented at the Conference. This letter has been communicated to the Council and members of the Permanent Advisory Commission for Military, Naval and Air Questions (see document C.226.1931.IX [C.P.C./290]).

VII. STATISTICAL INFORMATION ON THE TRADE IN ARMS AND AMMUNITION AND IN IMPLEMENTS OF WAR. — “ ARMAMENTS YEAR-BOOK ”.

The Secretariat continues to publish the *Armaments Year-Book (general and statistical information regarding land, naval and air armaments)* and *Statistical Information on the Trade in Arms, Ammunition and Implements of War*. At the present time the former contains particulars concerning 62 and the latter 58 countries.

Certain monographs in the *Armaments Year-Book*, *inter alia* that of China, which, in 1931, contained only brief particulars, have been expanded in the 1931 edition. This edition also contains a new monograph, that of Egypt.

In accordance with the above-mentioned Council resolution¹, the Secretariat has been instructed to publish for the use of the delegates to the Conference a special edition of the *Armaments Year-Book*, drawn up primarily with the aid of the information furnished by Governments on the position of their armaments, in pursuance of the Council's resolution of January 24th.

¹ Resolution of May 22nd, Point 6(a), see page 53.

4.

ARBITRATION AND SECURITY.

DRAFT GENERAL CONVENTION TO STRENGTHEN THE MEANS
OF PREVENTING WAR.

The Assembly during its session in 1930 considered a report from the Committee on Arbitration and Security on the possibility of transforming into a general convention the model treaty to strengthen the means of preventing war established in 1928.

The Committee on Arbitration and Security had not submitted the text of a general convention but in respect of certain articles had offered two alternative texts accompanied by reservations. The Third Committee of the Assembly noted that, though the transformation of the model treaty into a general convention raised numerous and delicate problems, substantial agreement had been obtained as between the various points of view. It accordingly asked the Council to instruct a special committee to study the question.

The Council during its session in January 1931, in accordance with the resolution of the Assembly, invited the Governments of the following States to appoint representatives to the Special Committee : Chile, France, Germany, Great Britain, Greece, Guatemala, Italy, Japan, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Spain and Yugoslavia. It further asked the Governments Members of the League to forward to the Secretary-General any observations or suggestions which they desired the Special Committee to examine.

The Special Committee met at Geneva from May 11th to May 15th, 1931, under the chairmanship of M. Nicolas Politis (Greece). All the Governments invited by the Council sent delegations except the Government of Chile. A draft General Convention was unanimously adopted with certain reservations, the Japanese delegation abstaining from the vote.

The Committee succeeded in drafting a single text covering the questions concerning which the Committee on Arbitration and Security had only been able to submit alternative texts — namely, the conservatory measures of a military character which the Council might recommend the parties to a dispute to take under the Convention, the supervision of the execution of such measures, the sanctions to be applied in the event of the violation of such measures and the sanctions applicable should war break out as a consequence of any such violation.

In subscribing to the obligations embodied in the draft General Convention, States which so desired would, subject to reciprocity, agree that their vote should not be taken into account in determining unanimity in the Council when they were parties to a dispute if the Council decided to recommend the adoption of conservatory measures of a non-military character relating to the substance of the dispute or if, in the event of a threat of war, it recommended the conservatory measures of a military character specified in the Convention. The Council might also take a decision, without the vote of the parties being taken into account in determining unanimity, to ensure, subject to the conditions laid down in the Convention, the supervision of the execution of the conservatory measures of a military character and in the event of the violation of these measures, the execution of the Convention. Moreover, if war should break out as a consequence of such violation, the contracting parties would regard this violation as *prima facie* evidence that the party guilty thereof had resorted to war within the meaning of Article 16 of the Covenant.

The Committee, while emphasising the practical importance of the draft Convention, considered that it represented only a modest advance in the direction of strengthening the means of preventing war. For that reason it suggested that the title "General Convention to *improve* the Means of preventing War" should be substituted for the title "General Convention to *strengthen* the Means of preventing War", as the former title appeared to correspond more exactly to the character of the text proposed.

The Council, during its session in January, asked the Secretary-General to communicate the report of the Special Committee to the Members of the League in order that it might be examined by the Assembly during its twelfth ordinary session. The report and draft Convention attached to it have been distributed as document No.A.9.1931.VII. The Council subsequently decided, during its session in May, that the Minutes of the Special Committee, completing those of the Committee on Arbitration and Security, should be published and distributed to the Members of the League. The Council has also drawn attention to a recommendation made by the Special Committee which expressed the hope that the Members of the League would consider it desirable to give their delegates to the Assembly the necessary instructions and powers to take a definite decision on the text of the draft General Convention and, if they were disposed to do so, to sign it in the event of it being approved by the Assembly.

The representative of Poland, moreover, asked the Council to call the attention of the Assembly to a question which the Swedish Government had proposed for examination by the Special Committee and in regard to which the Polish delegate on the Committee had submitted a recommendation. It was suggested in this recommendation that the Assembly should study the possibilities of guarding against the dangers which might arise at a time of international crisis from irresponsible campaigns in the Press and the publication of incorrect or tendentious information.

The representative of Spain, acting as Rapporteur, pointed out that the Swedish proposal and the Polish recommendation were mentioned in the report of the Special Committee and said he was sure the Assembly would not overlook the matter but consider what action should be taken in regard to it.

5.

COMMISSION OF ENQUIRY FOR EUROPEAN UNION.

The Assembly, on September 17th, 1930, adopted a resolution inviting the Governments of the European States Members of the League of Nations, acting as a Commission of the League with the assistance of the Secretariat, to continue their enquiry into the possibility of a closer co-operation between them. It requested that the first results of this enquiry should, as far as possible, be embodied in the form of definite proposals to be submitted to the Assembly in 1931. It was understood that the Governments might conduct their enquiry in conjunction with non-European Members of the League and with non-member Governments.

I. FIRST SESSION OF THE COMMISSION.

The Commission of Enquiry met for the first time on September 23rd, 1930, and elected for its Chairman M. Briand (France). The Secretary-General of the League was appointed Secretary to the Commission and requested to collect such information as might assist it in carrying out its task. He was further asked to submit a report to the Commission on the work of the Second Conference with a view to Concerted Economic Action which had been convened to meet on November 17th, 1930.¹

II. SECOND SESSION OF THE COMMISSION.

The Commission met for its second session from January 16th to January 31st, 1931.

The Secretary-General submitted a report reviewing the work of the Economic and Financial, Transit and Health Sections of the League upon certain technical questions, already examined or in course of examination, which bore directly or indirectly on the economic crisis and were of special interest to the European States. A memorandum from the International Labour Office on the relevant questions dealt with by that organisation was also presented to the Commission.

M. Colijn, President of the Second International Conference with a view to Concerted Economic Action, made a statement to the Commission on the work of the Conference.

The Commission, after considering this material and the proposals of certain Governments, adopted a series of resolutions :

(a) *Participation of the Government of Iceland, Turkey and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.*

The Commission invited the Governments of Iceland,* Turkey and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to participate in the study of the World Economic crisis in so far as it affected the European countries as a whole.

(b) *Disposal of the Available Grain Surplus.*

The Commission expressed the view that the agricultural crisis through which the countries of Central and Eastern Europe were passing might be alleviated if the representatives of the grain-exporting countries of Central and Eastern Europe and the European importing countries were to meet at an early date and make a common effort to find a means of disposing of the grain surplus at that moment available.

(c) *The Export of Future Harvest Surpluses.*

The Commission expressed the hope that the overseas countries affected would consent to take part in the Wheat Conference which was to meet at Rome in March 1931. It proposed that for Europe a Committee should be set up to study all measures which might facilitate the solution of the problem, including tariff arrangements. It suggested that this Committee should consist of representatives from Austria, Belgium, the British Empire, Czechoslovakia, Estonia, France, Germany, Italy, Norway, Switzerland and Yugoslavia. The Committee was requested to submit its conclusions as quickly as possible.

¹ The proceedings of the Conference with a view to Concerted Economic Action are summarised in the chapter of the present report dealing with the work of the Economic and Financial Organisation.

(d) *Agricultural Credits.*

The Commission noted that the Financial Committee had already presented an interesting report on the subject and was continuing its investigation. It decided to appoint a Committee of eleven members, consisting of the representatives of Bulgaria, British Empire, Denmark, France, Germany, Hungary, Italy, the Netherlands, Poland, Roumania and Sweden, to keep in touch with the Financial Committee in order that a detailed programme, both financial and legal, might be submitted to the Council of the League of Nations in May 1931 with a view to prompt executive measures being taken with a full knowledge of the facts.

(e) *The Commercial Convention of March 24th, 1930.*

The Commission urged its members to do all in their power to ensure that the Commercial Convention of March 24th, 1930, should be speedily put into force and expressed the hope that the bilateral negotiations opened as a sequel to the Conference with a view to Concerted Economic Action of November 1930 would be actively pursued.

(f) *Unemployment.*

The Commission requested the Secretariat of the League to acquaint it at its next session with the first results of the work undertaken by the Economic and Financial Organisation and the International Labour Office to solve the problem of unemployment.

(g) *Organisation and Procedure.*

The Commission appointed a Committee consisting of the representatives of the British Empire, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Poland, Portugal, Spain, Switzerland and Yugoslavia to examine the constitution, organisation and procedure of the Commission.

(h) *General Political Situation.*

The Commission expressed the view that economic recovery was being hindered by lack of confidence in the course of future events, due to widespread political anxiety, and that it was important for the improvement of economic conditions that there should be a firm assurance of European peace. The members of the Commission, as Foreign Ministers or responsible representatives of European States, asserted their determination to use the machinery of the League to prevent any resort to violence.

These resolutions were submitted to the Council with the request that it should authorise the technical organisations and Secretary-General to take the action required. The Council gave the necessary approval.

III. EXECUTION OF THE DECISIONS OF THE COMMISSION.

(a) *Conference for the Disposal of the Grain Surplus of 1930.*

A Conference of the grain-exporting countries of Central and Eastern Europe and of certain European importing countries met on February 23rd, 1931, under the chairmanship of M. François-Poncet (France).

The Final Act was signed by seventeen countries. It was noted that the wheat surplus of 1930 represented only a very small proportion of the needs of the wheat-importing countries of Europe. The representatives of countries normally purchasing foreign wheat and of those not normally importing wheat from the countries with surpluses declared their willingness to participate as far as possible in the purchase of stocks. The Conference felt it impossible to fix the conditions of sale on a uniform plan, but the signatories of the Final Act undertook to arrange for the necessary contracts to be made with a view to carrying out these transactions.

The Conference also studied the position in regard to maize and barley, and noted that the importing countries were disposed, as in the case of wheat, to reserve a portion of their imports of foreign maize and barley for products available in the countries with surpluses.

(b) *Committee to consider the Export of Future Harvest Surpluses.*

The Committee to consider the export of future harvest surpluses met on February 26th, 1931, under the chairmanship of M. François-Poncet (France). It recognised that the marketing of European surplus cereals was a universal question and that an adequate solution was only possible by agreement between all parts of the world concerned and that it would be an advantage for producers in all Continents to co-operate in meeting the crisis. The Committee nevertheless considered proposals for improving the European situation and began with an examination of the Customs advantages which certain European countries had been asked to accord to the exporting countries of Central and Eastern Europe. The Committee noted that this question had been dealt with by the Conference for Concerted Economic Action in November 1930 and that practical steps were about to be taken by certain European countries within the limits laid down in the Final Act of that Conference.

The Committee then considered other measures which might facilitate a regular disposal of the surplus of cereals, particularly the conditions and cost of transport, banking facilities for the sale and purchase of cereals and methods of payment.

Finally, the Committee suggested that the problems raised by the production and trade in European cereals might, if necessary, be the subject at an appropriate moment of further consultations under the auspices of the Commission of Enquiry.

(c) *Sub-Committee for Agricultural Credits.*

The Sub-Committee for Agricultural Credits met on April 20th, 1931, under the chairmanship of M. François-Poncet (France), and again on May 13th under the chairmanship of Mr. W. R. Smith (Great Britain), to examine a draft Convention, a Constituent Charter and the Statute of an International Agricultural Credit Society prepared by a delegation of the Financial Committee of the League of Nations. The contents and history of these documents are summarised in the chapter of the present report dealing with financial questions.

(d) *Reports from the League Organisations.*

Reports on certain aspects of the economic depression and on the question of unemployment were, subsequent to the Second Session of the Commission of Enquiry, prepared by the Economic and Financial Organisation and the International Labour Office respectively.

(e) *Meeting of the Committee on Organisation and Procedure.*

The Organisation Committee met on March 24th, 1931, under the chairmanship of M. Briand. It adopted the report on the constitution, organisation and methods of work of the Commission of Enquiry presented by its Rapporteur M. Motta (Switzerland). The Commission of Enquiry is a Commission of the League of Nations whose duty it is to submit reports to the Assembly and the Council, which will decide on the effect to be given to its resolutions. The Commission may, with the permission of the Assembly and the Council, resort for assistance to the technical bodies and advisory committees of the League. Its meetings are open to States Members of the League who do not sit upon it but who may wish to submit observations and participate in its work. It will appoint *ad hoc* Committees to study special questions, determining their composition, duties and terms of office. Members of the Commission desirous of placing questions on the agenda are asked to communicate with the Secretary-General one month before the opening of its sessions, sending at the same time a statement explaining the subject and specifying its European aspects. The discussions of the Commission will in principle be public.

IV. THIRD SESSION OF THE COMMISSION.

The Commission of Enquiry met for its third session from May 15th to May 21st, 1931. The proceedings opened with a general discussion of the economic situation in Europe in the course of which declarations of policy were made by its members.

The Commission finally adopted a series of resolutions which were considered and approved by the Council on May 22nd, 1931.

(a) *Organisation and Procedure.*

The Commission of Enquiry adopted the report of its Committee on Organisation and Procedure and decided to forward it to the next Assembly of the League. It approved a recommendation of the Organisation Committee to the effect that the Free City of Danzig should be invited to participate in its work.

The Commission decided that Governments not represented on committees appointed to consider special questions might submit to those committees memoranda or proposals and, if necessary, delegate a representative to support them.

(b) *Agricultural Credits.*

The Commission approved a scheme for the creation of an international agricultural Mortgage Credit Company as set out in texts, including a draft convention, prepared by the Financial Committee with the co-operation of the Special Committee appointed at the previous session. The Commission recommended the scheme for approval to the Council, and with the agreement of the Council the Convention was opened for signature at a meeting of the Commission of Enquiry. The Convention has been signed by sixteen European Governments¹.

(c) *Appointment of an Economic Co-ordination Sub-Committee.*

The Commission of Enquiry appointed an Economic Co-ordination Sub-Committee upon which all the European States are to be represented to co-ordinate the work of its Special Committees. The Sub-Committee will meet at Geneva on July 6th, 1931, and submit a report to the Commission of Enquiry at a session to be held before the Assembly. The Sub-Committee will be free to make to the Commission of Enquiry any proposals on economic questions which it may think fit, and its competence is not necessarily limited to questions dealt with by the Special Committees.

¹ For the list of Governments having signed the Convention, see page 102.

(d) Agricultural Problems.

The Commission of Enquiry decided that the Committee to study the problem of future harvest surpluses of cereals, enlarged by the addition of the delegates of Hungary, Poland, Roumania, Turkey and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, should meet again on June 10th, 1931, to consider proposals made by various delegations concerning agricultural problems. It was understood that the Committee would take into account the results of the Wheat Conferences held in Rome and London and, if it thought fit, get into touch with the overseas wheat-exporting countries which took part in them. The first wheat Conference met in Rome during March 1931 under the auspices of the International Institute of Agriculture. It was a Conference of all countries interested in the production and trade in wheat. In the course of its proceedings the representatives of the wheat-exporting countries decided to hold a further Conference in London during May to discuss the marketing of supplies.

The Commission considered a communication from the International Institute of Agriculture regarding the establishment of an international organisation for short-term agricultural credit and asked to be kept informed of the progress of future work on this question.

The Commission recognised that, apart from measures now in course of preparation or execution, such as the organisation of the grain market and the scheme for agricultural mortgage credits, the establishment of agricultural preferences would ensure better prices for the Central and Eastern European grain exporters. It suggested that the Committee, meeting on June 25th to consider the problem of the export of harvest surpluses, should be entrusted with the task of ensuring the application of an exceptional system of this nature and of co-ordinating the various arrangements made or contemplated by the exporting States in agreement with importing States. The Commission considered that facilities of this character could be granted only as an exceptional temporary measure, subject to the interests of third States and that any concessions made in return for agricultural preferences should not themselves be preferential. The facilities would for the moment apply only to grain, and the question of extending them to other agricultural products will be considered by the Co-ordination Sub-Committee in July on the basis of material prepared by the Secretariat. Several Governments made reservations on the subject of agricultural preference.

(e) Problems of Production and Trade.

The Commission requested the Council to convene a meeting with a view to the application of the principles formulated in the Commercial Convention of March 24th, 1930. The Council, acting upon this suggestion, authorised the Secretary-General to convene this meeting at a suitable moment and after consulting the Economic Committee or its Bureau and the President of the Conference with a view to Concerted Economic Action. Meanwhile the Commission recommends the European States to conform as far as possible henceforward to the principles laid down in the Convention.

The Commission decided to convene a Committee of highly qualified Experts to examine all means likely to improve, as between the different countries, the organisation of production and trade. The Committee of Experts will work in contact with their Governments and with the economic organisations of the League and the International Labour Office. Its members will be appointed by the following countries: Belgium, Great Britain, Czechoslovakia, France, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Poland, Sweden and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

(f) Credit Problems.

The Commission considered it highly desirable that the work of mutual aid among the European countries should include an effective policy of financial co-operation in the matter of long-term credit. It accordingly requested the Council to appoint a small Committee of five members consisting of Government representatives to consider, in co-operation with a delegation of the Financial Committee, what practical steps could be taken to facilitate the issue of State loans of an international character by means of a more active intervention on the part of the League of Nations, acting within the scope of its organisation and in agreement with the bodies controlling the principal markets. The Council requested the following countries to nominate members: Belgium, Great Britain, France, Sweden and Switzerland.

(g) Unemployment.

The Commission proposed that a Sub-Committee composed of six members of the Commission should study, together with six members of the Governing Body of the International Labour Office, the problem of unemployment and, in particular, the possibility of developing forthwith the international placing of workers and the migration of workers in Europe. The Sub-Committee will also consider a scheme submitted by the International Institute of Agriculture for a better use of all the factors constituting production. The countries nominating members are Austria, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Germany, Great Britain and Yugoslavia.

(h) Farm Products of Animal Origin.

The Commission decided to refer to its Sub-Committee on Economic Co-ordination any conclusions which the Economic Committee may reach in dealing with the problem of the trade in, and transit of, farm products of animal origin.

(i) *Transit Questions*

The Commission requested the Council to ask the Communications and Transit Organisation to study the question of international exchanges of electric power in Europe and to secure for this purpose the assistance of the Belgian, Czechoslovak, Norwegian and Spanish Governments.

The Commission requested the Council to ask the Communications and Transit Organisation to study also the question of Customs exemption for liquid fuel, if necessary, in collaboration with the Economic Organisation. It invited the States Members of the Commission to forward to the Secretariat particulars of the regulations applying to this subject in the different countries.

(j) *Customs Nomenclature.*

The Commission requested the Council to invite the Committee of Experts appointed to frame a draft unified nomenclature to expedite its work, in order that its conclusions might be submitted to the next Assembly.

(k) *Treatment of Foreigners.*

The Commission emphasised that effective co-operation between the European States was impracticable unless the nationals and undertakings of one State received in the territory of the other States equitable treatment approaching as near as possible to that accorded to the nationals and undertakings of the State concerned. It noted that steps had already been taken by several of its members to ensure the success of a second session of the International Conference on the Treatment of Foreigners and that substantial agreement had been reached on the majority of the important points at issue. It expressed its confidence in the successful issue of the combined efforts of its members in dealing with the problem and hoped that the delegates of the European States would at the next session of the Conference be furnished with instructions allowing of the conclusion of a Convention representing a real improvement in the present system.

(l) *Austria.*

The Commission noted a proposal that a committee be set up to consider measures by which the difficulties peculiar to Austria might be remedied. The representative of Austria stated that this Government proposed, if necessary, itself to submit suggestions concerning the problems peculiar to Austria for consideration by the Special Committees appointed by the Commission. The Commission approved this procedure.

(m) *Pact of Economic Non-Aggression.*

The Commission considered a draft protocol submitted by the delegation of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and referred it for further consideration to the Economic Co-ordination Sub-Committee.

6.

AUSTRO-GERMAN PROTOCOL FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT
OF A CUSTOMS UNION.

The Austro-German Protocol for the establishment of a Customs Union was signed and published on March 19th, 1931, at Vienna. It embodied proposals for an agreement between the two countries under which a single Customs law and a single Customs tariff would be put into force in their territories and no Customs duty on imports or exports levied on exchanges of goods between them. The question, at the request of the representative of Great Britain, was placed on the agenda of the Council and considered by the Council on May 18th and 19th, 1931.

PROPOSAL OF THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED KINGDOM TO REQUEST THE
PERMANENT COURT OF INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE FOR AN ADVISORY OPINION.

The British representative indicated the motives which had led him to bring the matter before the Council. The compatibility of the Protocol with existing international obligations appeared to involve a consideration of purely legal problems, for the solution of which a system of procedure had been provided by the League. He had therefore felt it his duty, not only as representing his Government, but as Acting President of the Council, to request the Council to consider them at the first convenient opportunity.

The British representative moved that the matter should be referred for an Advisory Opinion to the Permanent Court of International Justice in the following terms :

“ The Council of the League of Nations has the honour to request the Permanent Court of International Justice to give an Advisory Opinion, in accordance with Article 14 of the Covenant, on the following question :

“ Would a regime established between Germany and Austria on the basis and within the limits of the principles laid down by the Protocol of March 19th, 1931, the text of which is annexed to the present request, be compatible with Article 88 of the Treaty of St. Germain and with Protocol No. I signed at Geneva on October 4th, 1922 ? ¹

“ The Council requests that the Permanent Court will be so good as to treat the present request for an Advisory Opinion as a matter of urgency.

“ The Secretary-General is authorised to submit the present request to the Court, to give any assistance required in the examination of the question and, if necessary, to take steps to be represented before the Court. ”

The British representative hoped that his Austrian colleague would agree that, until the Council had taken a decision on the Advisory Opinion of the Court, no further progress should be made towards the establishment of the Customs Union.

He declared, in the course of his observations, that, in his opinion the issue raised important economic and even political questions. He asked the Council, however, to confine itself for the moment to the legal aspect of the question.

THE FRENCH MEMORANDUM.

The French Government, previous to the meeting of the Council, stated its views on the Austro-German Protocol in a memorandum forwarded to the Secretary-General on May 14th, 1931. The French Government contended :

1. That the Austro-German Protocol was calculated to compromise the independence of Austria and was inconsistent with the provisions of the Treaty of St. Germain and the Protocol of October 4th, 1922 ;

2. That the action taken by Austria and Germany might give rise to protests by third States both on the ground of commercial agreements in force and in accordance with the traditionally recognised principles of international law, particularly in connection with the application of the most-favoured-nation clause ;

3. That the proposed arrangement would present no real advantages for Austria but might, on the contrary, seriously disorganise her economic life ;

4. That the general effect of an Austro-German economic union on European economy, far from representing a contribution to the economic reorganisation of Europe by means of regional understandings, would introduce further disorder and confusion into international relations ;

5. That the negotiation of the Protocol, outside any European organisation and under conditions of secrecy, was calculated to put the States whose co-operation was desired in the cause of European union on the defensive and to prejudice public opinion against the arrangement.

STATEMENT OF THE AUSTRIAN REPRESENTATIVE.

The representative of Austria accepted the proposal that the Permanent Court should be asked for an Advisory Opinion. He felt it his duty at the same time to state the views of the Austrian Government on the legal aspect of the question.

Austria, under the Protocol of October 4th, 1922, had assumed an obligation to shape her financial policy in such a way that no financial burden would be imposed on the Powers guaranteeing the reconstruction loan. That obligation had been fulfilled and was not under consideration.

She had further undertaken not to alienate her independence. Neither had that obligation been violated. The proposed Customs Union, which gave equal rights to both parties in every respect, would in no sense compromise the independence of Austria. The two Governments, in drafting the Protocol, had constantly borne in mind the stipulations of the Treaties of St. Germain and Versailles and the provisions of the Geneva Protocol, and the whole scheme had been conceived in all sincerity on lines of absolute equality as between the parties. The proposed treaty aimed at a free exchange of goods between the two countries and co-operation in the

¹ Article 88 of the Treaty of St. Germain states :

“ The independence of Austria is inalienable otherwise than with the consent of the Council of the League of Nations. Consequently Austria undertakes, in the absence of the consent of the said Council, to abstain from any act which might directly or indirectly or by any means whatever compromise her independence, particularly and until her admission to membership of the League of Nations, by participation in the affairs of another Power.”

The Protocol of October 4th, 1922, was the instrument under which Austria was accorded a loan under the auspices of the League with a view to her financial reconstruction. The Protocol includes an undertaking on the part of Austria to “ abstain from any negotiations . . . calculated directly or indirectly to compromise her independence ” and “ not to violate her economic independence by granting to any State a special regime or exclusive advantages calculated to threaten this independence ”.

sphere of commercial policy, Austria retaining her right to conclude, on her own behalf, commercial treaties with third States.

The Geneva Protocol not only imposed on Austria the obligation to maintain her independence, but also imposed on the Powers which had guaranteed the reconstruction loan the obligation to respect that independence, and the Geneva Protocol should not be interpreted in such a way that she must lose all freedom of action in her relations with foreign countries.

The Austrian representative, alluding to certain points contained in the French memorandum, urged that it was for the Austrian Government itself to decide whether a Customs Union with Germany would be of advantage. He contested the view that the Austro-German Protocol might give rise to difficulties in the application of existing commercial agreements and denied that the negotiations had been conducted in a particularly clandestine manner.

The Austrian representative, replying to a question put by the British representative, gave an assurance that no further progress would be made towards the establishment of the proposed Customs Union pending a decision of the Council on the Advisory Opinion of the Court.

STATEMENT OF THE FRENCH REPRESENTATIVE.

The French representative, referring briefly to the points contained in the memorandum which he had presented to the Council, welcomed the statement of the British representative to the effect that the action of Austria and Germany raised important economic and even political questions. He agreed that, for the time being, the problem was essentially a legal one, but emphasised that there were other problems, based on economic and political considerations which the Council would, at the proper moment, have to examine.

STATEMENT OF THE ITALIAN REPRESENTATIVE.

The Italian representative said that the examination of the economic aspect of the proposed union carried out by the Italian technical departments had not led the Italian Government to conclude that the economic evils from which Germany and Austria were suffering could be remedied by a solution of the kind proposed. He agreed that, before going any further into other aspects of the proposed union, it was necessary to consider whether it was compatible with existing international obligations, and he supported the proposal to refer the matter to the Permanent Court.

The proposed Austro-German Union had ostensibly purely economic aims, but it was not always possible to distinguish between political and economic issues, and the development of a situation sometimes exceeded the intentions of those who created it. The Italian Government reserved the right, after considering all the elements of the problem, to form its own opinion of the true scope of the proposal. He understood that, for the moment, all further negotiations would be discontinued.

STATEMENT OF THE GERMAN REPRESENTATIVE.

The President of the Council, speaking as the German representative, said that his Government was convinced that the principles embodied in the Austro-German Protocol were in complete accord with existing treaties. Austria retained her capacity for free economic action and there was no alienation of her independence. Economically he did not regard the proposed Customs Union as the only means of salvation for Germany and Austria or contend that such unions were the only key to all the difficulties with which Europe was beset. He considered, however, that regional agreements should be organised as a necessary supplement to action on collective and international lines.

He maintained that earlier instances of Customs unions did not go to show that they necessarily involved far-reaching political consequences.

The German Government agreed that the Permanent Court should consider the legal question, but any attempt to go further than that and to raise in the Council the point whether the Austro-German plan implied a disturbance of good understanding or peace in Europe was, to his mind, inadmissible. It was not possible for the Council of the League to examine treaties, once their legal admissibility had been settled, from the standpoint of whether they were acceptable or otherwise to third parties, and there had never yet been a case in which such action had been taken. Special treatment in the present instance could only be justified by reference to existing treaty provisions, and, once the legal question had been eliminated, any attempt by the League to deal with the other issues involved would imply that the two States concerned were regarded as having an inferior legal status.

STATEMENT OF THE CZECHOSLOVAK REPRESENTATIVE.

The Czechoslovak representative agreed that the Council should, for the moment, concern itself only with the solution of the legal aspect of the problem. He considered, however, with the British, French and Italian representatives, that the dispute had also economic and political

aspects. The main lines of the Austro-German Protocol were not, in the opinion of the Czechoslovak Government, in accordance with the provisions of the Treaty of St. Germain and the Geneva Protocol. The Customs Union could hardly fail to impair the economic independence of Austria. The complete independence of the two States might be legally reserved, but experience showed that the realities of political life developed regardless of such formal stipulations. These considerations applied also to the intentions of the two Contracting parties fully to honour their engagements towards third Powers and to enter into negotiations with other States with a view to making similar arrangements. The proposed treaty, in the view of Czechoslovakia, showed all the marks of an attempt to grant to one State a special regime and exclusive advantages, which would be likely to threaten Austria's independence and which was expressly forbidden by the Geneva Protocol of 1922.

Moreover, the conclusion of a Customs Union of the kind proposed, followed by such political consequences as might be expected, would inevitably bring about the formation in Europe of new political and economic groups with conflicting tendencies, and this would render more difficult the ultimate achievement of a European Union such as might provide a natural solution for the present difficulties. It would moreover raise the whole question of the application of the most-favoured-nation clause and might result in a denunciation of commercial treaties, leading to a further period of direct economic war in Europe.

The proposed Customs Union was calculated seriously to injure Czechoslovakia both politically and economically. Austrian goods would be substituted for goods hitherto supplied to Germany by Czechoslovakia, and German goods for Czechoslovak goods hitherto supplied to Austria. Czechoslovakia, moreover, would be placed in a state of dependence as regards access to the sea and compelled to send her goods in transit through the united Customs territories for delivery to practically any other country.

He was convinced that the Council, when it had received the advisory opinion from the Permanent Court and was in possession of all the necessary data, would, as guardian of the peace of Europe and taking into consideration the interests of all the States concerned, take a decision which would preserve intact his country's legitimate interests and reassure public opinion.

STATEMENT OF THE YUGOSLAV REPRESENTATIVE.

The representative of Yugoslavia argued that, apart from the question of legal texts, the Council would be entitled to consider the Austro-German Protocol to decide whether on political grounds it was likely to disturb international relations. No Power had the right to oppose absolutely the examination of any question which a Member of the League of Nations might think fit to submit to the Council, and it was essential that no question which might be laid before the Council should be made a question of national prestige. He desired to preserve the Council's rights for the future, and accepted the proposal of the British representative subject to these reservations.

FURTHER STATEMENT OF THE GERMAN REPRESENTATIVE.

The President, speaking as German representative, insisted that the question under consideration was that of Austria's legal obligations. The Council was not concerned with economic considerations. It would, in his view, be intolerable, in the event of the Permanent Court deciding that the legal obligations of Austria had been fulfilled, that the Austrian and German Governments should be reproached with having caused a disturbance of the peace. He was convinced that the plan for a Customs Union could be fitted into the framework of European unity; groups of a different character were already in process of formation, as, for example, groups of agrarian countries in opposition to industrial countries. In every direction regional combinations were coming into force and would, in the end, find their place in the European system.

REPLY OF THE FRENCH REPRESENTATIVE.

The French representative, in reference to the question raised by the representative of Yugoslavia, emphasised that all international problems were governed by an article of the Covenant, under which any Member of the League was entitled to bring to the notice of the Council any question calculated to disturb public opinion or prove harmful to the cause of peace. No question of prestige was involved. Every Power should be prepared to agree to a friendly and cordial discussion of any problem concerning its Members in a spirit of co-operation. The question at present under consideration had become a general problem and one in which all the European nations were concerned.

STATEMENT OF THE BELGIAN REPRESENTATIVE.

The Belgian representative declared his agreement with the proposal to request the Permanent Court for an advisory opinion.

The draft resolution submitted by the British representative was adopted.

7.

POLITICAL QUESTIONS.

I. RELATIONS BETWEEN POLAND AND LITHUANIA : COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE GOVERNMENTS OF POLAND AND LITHUANIA.

The Lithuanian Government, in a letter dated from Kaunas on July 31st, 1930, asked that there should be placed on the agenda of the Council a question concerning incidents which had occurred in the region of the administrative line, infractions of the provisional arrangement signed at Königsberg and a suggestion that the Council should appoint a commission composed of the nationals of neutral Powers.

The Secretary-General communicated this letter to the Polish Government, which replied on August 20th, 1930. The Polish Government, without giving any opinion on the substance of the allegations made by the Lithuanian Government regarding the frontier incidents and the infraction of the provisional arrangement of Königsberg, expressed the view that there was no reason to modify the procedure for dealing with frontier incidents defined in the seventh paragraph of the Council resolution of December 10th, 1927, and declared that it could not consent to the appointment of the Commission suggested by the Lithuanian Government. The Polish Government stated, moreover, that it was prepared to undertake direct negotiations with the Lithuanian Government with a view to completing the arrangement of Königsberg by an agreement defining methods of settling on the spot any frontier incidents which might arise and with a view to settling, in agreement with the Lithuanian Government, the question of traffic on the frontier waterways.

The Council, by its resolutions of December 10th, 1927, and December 14th, 1928, had already recommended that the Governments of Poland and Lithuania should enter into direct negotiations in order to establish such relations between the two neighbouring States as would ensure "the good understanding . . . upon which peace depended". It decided on September 18th, 1930, to apply the same method. It asked the Governments to enter forthwith into direct negotiations, to keep it informed of their progress and to report on the resulting situation in January 1931.

The two parties submitted a report to the Council on January 24th, 1931. The negotiations which had taken place at Berlin and at Geneva from December 15th, 1930, to January 20th, 1931, had related to three draft agreements — namely, two draft agreements on the settlement of incidents or conflicts arising out of the supervision or the crossing of the Polish-Lithuanian administrative line (Polish draft and Lithuanian counter draft) and a draft arrangement relative to the joint utilisation of the fluvial sectors of the Polish-Lithuanian administrative line drawn up by the Polish delegation. The two parties had not arrived at an agreement, and the Council decided to postpone the consideration of the question to its next session.

The Council received a further report from the representatives of Poland and Lithuania during its session in May 1931. The two parties declared that they had not been able to conclude the agreement contemplated and that the negotiations had terminated at Geneva on May 16th, 1931.

The Council expressed its regret that the negotiations had been unsuccessful and declared, through its Rapporteur :

" I have felt it my duty to direct the attention of the representatives of the two Governments to the responsibility which they would incur vis-à-vis the Council should any act occur calculated to compromise order and tranquillity in the districts in question. I have very great pleasure in informing you that the Polish and Lithuanian Ministers of Foreign Affairs have given me on behalf of their Governments most explicit assurances that adequate measures have been taken to avoid incidents — and will be taken in future should this be necessary.

" The Council's efforts in this direction have been manifold, constant and invariably effective, its last intervention having produced an important result: the immediate restoration of tranquillity along the administrative line. Your Rapporteur is accordingly in the happy position of being able to state to-day that no incident has occurred for close on a year.

" In case, however, despite the goodwill of the two parties and despite the measures already taken by them or that may be taken by them in the future, fresh incidents should occur, it is my duty as Rapporteur to remind the representatives of Poland and Lithuania on behalf of the Council :

" 1. That the provisional Arrangement of Königsberg provides in Article 10 that ' facilities other than those mentioned ' in that Arrangement may be accorded, and in Article 11 that any difficulties shall be settled direct by the local authorities ; and

" 2. That the Council, in paragraph 7 of its resolution of December 10th, 1927, laid down the procedure to be followed in the case of an incident or threat of an incident. "

II. TERRITORY OF MEMEL.

The German Government, by a letter dated September 20th, 1930, forwarded to the Secretary-General a communication on the position which had arisen in the Territory of Memel, proposing that the question should, as a matter of urgency, be placed on the agenda of the Council.¹

The communication was immediately forwarded to the members of the Council and to the Lithuanian Government. The Lithuanian Government, by a letter dated September 22nd, 1930, which was also distributed to the Council, maintained that the request of the German Government as formulated could not be the subject of discussion before the Council.

The Council, on the proposal of its President, appointed a committee of jurists who expressed the view that the question might be placed on the agenda of the Council.

The representative of Lithuania, while making reservations on the procedure followed, assented to the question being discussed. Certain of the questions to which the attention of the Council had been drawn by the German Government were immediately settled by means of direct conversation between the parties. The Rapporteur to the Council said that, in respect of other questions of a legal and financial character, he hoped to communicate to the Council a report embodying definite suggestions at its next session. The question, however, was again adjourned by the Council in January 1931.

During the session of the Council held in May 1931 an agreement was reached on the financial questions, the Lithuanian Government having requested the assistance of experts of the League of Nations.

The Council noted, in respect of the legal questions, that the Powers referred to in paragraph 2 of Article 17 of the Memel Convention had entered into negotiations with the Lithuanian Government regarding the application of the provisions of that paragraph and that the legal questions submitted to it were therefore at that moment being dealt with according to the appropriate procedure.

III. SIXTH REPORT OF THE STRAITS COMMISSION FORWARDED TO THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS UNDER ARTICLE 15 OF THE STRAITS CONVENTION SIGNED ON JULY 24th, 1923.

On April 1st, 1931, the Chairman of the Straits Commission sent a note to the Secretary-General of the League of Nations accompanied by a report on the work of the Commission for the year 1930. The report is divided into three parts: The first part deals with the work of the Commission in 1930; the second part contains information as at January 1st, 1931, on the conditions governing the passage of ships and aircraft through the Straits; the third part contains documentary annexes.

In the first part the Commission gives the composition of the most powerful naval force in the Black Sea, which was that of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, as at January 1st, 1930. It then reports on the passage of naval vessels through the Straits during the past year and declares that the passage into the Black Sea of two Russian vessels from the Baltic was in conformity with the provisions of the Straits Convention.

The report also deals with the health regulations in force in the Straits. The Commission as in 1928 protests against the levying of taxes on vessels in transit. The vessels proceeding to a foreign port on the Black Sea pay duties twice as high as those levied on vessels proceeding to Istanbul. They pay these duties in crossing the Straits in either direction. In 1930, owing to exceptional circumstances resulting from the application in Russia of the five-year plan, the taxes thus levied by the Turkish authorities on international shipping amounted to £70,000 for the total traffic through the Straits. The Commission considers that no tax should be levied on vessels in transit which do not engage in any commercial transaction in Turkey.

The Commission declares that the taxes for salvage which are levied at three times the pre-war rate are disproportionate to the services effectively rendered to shipping by the Turkish Salvage Department.

The Commission draws attention to the increase of maritime commercial traffic in the Straits. The amount of traffic in 1930 was 40 per cent higher than in 1929, being 17,864,753 tons in 1930 as compared with 12,767,012 in 1929.

The Secretary-General, acting under a resolution adopted by the Council on June 5th, 1928, has communicated the report of the Straits Commission to the States Members of the League of Nations, to the Powers which signed the Straits Convention and to the technical organisations of the League — namely, the Health Committee, the Permanent Committee of the Office international d'Hygiène publique, the Permanent Advisory Commission for Military, Naval and Air Questions and the Advisory and Technical Committee for Communications and Transit.

¹ The German Government complained that the Convention of Memel of May 8th, 1924, had been infringed in the following respects: (1) failure to observe democratic and parliamentary principles in the constitution of the Directorate; (2) obstruction of the Diet's legislative work; (3) encroachments on judicial authority; (4) hindrances to the operation of the Financial Regulations laid down in the Statute of Memel; (5) maintenance and application of the state of war; and (6) interference with freedom of suffrage (*Official Journal*, November 1930, page 1619).

8.

ADMINISTRATIVE QUESTIONS.

I. SAAR TERRITORY.

The Council, during its sessions held in September 1930 and January 1931, dealt with two questions relative to the Territory of the Saar — namely, freedom of transport and transit on the Saar railways and the appointment of the chairman and members of the Governing Commission.

The Council and the Members of the League of Nations have been kept informed of the various questions relating to the Saar by the periodical reports of the Governing Commission published in the *Official Journal* of the League.

APPOINTMENT OF THE GOVERNING COMMISSION.

The Council, on January 22nd, 1931, appointed the Chairman and the five members of the Governing Commission for a period of one year as from April 1st, 1931. The Commission is at present composed of the following members :

M. D'EHRNROOTH (Finnish) ;
M. KOSSMANN (Saar Territory) ;
M. MORIZE (French) ;
M. VEZENSKY (Czechoslovak) ;
Sir ERNEST WILTON (British), *Chairman*.

FREEDOM OF TRANSPORT AND TRANSIT ON THE RAILWAYS OF THE TERRITORY OF THE SAAR.

The Council, during its meetings on September 9th and 12th, 1930, dealt with the question of freedom of transport and transit on the Saar railways. On March 12th, 1927, it had decided to establish forces for the protection of the Saar railways and of the Railway Commission and had fixed their maximum number at eight hundred men. It was understood that the Governing Commission might, if it considered that a reduction were possible, take any step which might be necessary for that purpose without referring the matter to the Council.

The Governing Commission informed the Council in July 1930 that the Railway Commission of the Saar had been reduced by a certain number of units.¹ The Commission added, in a report submitted to the Council in August 1930, that the evacuation of the left bank of the Rhine in June 1930 had created a new situation and that, in view of this fact, it had reduced the number of the forces protecting the railways of the Territory. On August 31st, 1930, these numbers stood at two hundred French and fifty Belgian units. The numbers of the Railway Commission had been reduced to seventy-five units, and enquiries were in progress with a view to a further reduction. Any further decision in the matter was left by the Governing Commission to the Council.

The representative of Germany, at a meeting of the Council on September 9th, 1930, observed that, owing to the evacuation of the Rhineland, there was no longer any reason for maintaining forces to protect the Saar railways, and he asked the Council to take an immediate decision for their suppression. The Council, on the request of the representative of France, asked the representatives of France and Germany to go into the question together with the assistance of the representative of Italy, who was acting as Rapporteur to the Council.

This Committee met on September 10th. It asked the Governing Commission to consider whether it could guarantee freedom of transport and transit in the Saar as provided in the treaty and upon what conditions. The Governing Commission met at Geneva and unanimously adopted the following declaration :

“ In the event of the Council deciding to suppress the Railway Commission and the Defence Force, the Governing Commission would declare itself in a position to accept the responsibility for the security of transport and transit on the Saar railways in the following manner :

“ 1. In fixing the number of, and the training and assignment of their duties to, the local gendarmerie, the Governing Commission will take into special account the necessity of ensuring the protection of transport and transit.

“ 2. It will complete the arrangements — which are already in course of preparation — for the establishment of a special organ to ensure, from the technical point of view, the security of transport and transit.

¹ See *Official Journal*, 1930, Special Supplement No. 84, V. page 358.

“ 3. In the event of disturbances, the Governing Commission has already, by interpretation of the provisions of the Peace Treaty, reserved to itself the right to call for the units, technical or military, requisite for the maintenance of traffic.”

The Council, on September 12th, noted the declaration of the Governing Commission and decided to suppress the protecting forces and the Railway Commission. This decision was to be carried into effect within three months.

The representatives of Germany and France expressed the hope that the Governing Commission would never need to ask for the assistance to which in the event of disturbances it contemplated having recourse with a view to guaranteeing security of transport and transit in the Territory.

The Council on December 1st and 15th, 1930, was informed by the Governing Commission that the resolution of September 12th had been carried into effect. A hundred members of the local gendarmerie of the Saar would, in case of need, be entrusted with the protection of the railways. For the security of transport and transit from the technical point of view a body had been established, employing about one thousand officials entrusted with protective and technical duties.

The French and Belgian troops composing the Railway Commission and the protecting forces left the Saar on December 12th, 1930.

The Governing Commission in its forty-fifth periodical report states that, following the departure of the protecting forces, the buildings thus becoming available were transformed into housing accommodation or assigned to the public services.

CHANGES IN THE POSITION OF DOCUMENTS PRESERVED WITH A VIEW TO THE PLEBISCITE OF 1935.

The Provisional Records Commissioner for the Saar Plebiscite made certain recommendations in his report dated October 31st, 1923, concerning the official notification to the Secretariat of the League of Nations and to the Saar Governing Commission of any change in the position—as indicated in the original returns prepared by him—of documents preserved with a view to the plebiscite.

The seven landräte of the Territory and the bürgermeister of the town of Saarbruck have, in accordance with these recommendations, sent quarterly reports for the period April 1st, 1930, to March 31st, 1931. The Governing Commission has also sent two half-yearly reports for the year 1930. The local authorities continue to send a special notification of any change in the position of documents, as laid down in the recommendation.

MINING DISASTER AT MAYBACH.

The Governing Commission on November 6th, 1930, sent to the Council a detailed report on the mining disaster which occurred at Maybach in October 1930.

GENERAL QUESTIONS.

The Council on May 17th, 1920, approved an arrangement under which the Saar Governing Commission was to provide the League with detailed information on all political, economic, financial, social and other questions connected with the Saar Basin which might be of interest to the League, together with all the official publications of the Governing Commission.

The Governing Commission has, under this arrangement, sent to the League of Nations its forty-third, forty-fourth and forty-fifth periodical reports, covering the third and fourth quarters of 1930 and the first quarter of 1931.

Certain questions dealt with in these reports are indicated below.

1. *Political Situation.*

The Advisory Council and Technical Committee, during their sessions held within the period July 1930 to March 1931, considered certain draft decrees submitted for their opinion by the Governing Commission. These drafts dealt with various questions, including social insurance, taxation, commerce, industry and rents.

The term of office of the members of the Advisory Council which expired on March 31st, 1931, has been prolonged for one year. The term of office of the member of the Technical Committee, appointed for one year has been prolonged up to December 31st, 1931.

The Governing Commission, during the month of February 1930, dealing with the state of the labour market, considered the situation of workers inhabiting Germany and coming to take up work in the Saar (Saargänger) and receiving subsidies from the German Government. These subsidies not only include a repayment of travelling expenses but a direct allowance of from 7 to 14 marks per month. The practice gives rise to a very special situation, and the Governing Commission has asked the German Government to negotiate with a view to putting an end to it.

Negotiations were held during February 1930, at Wiesbaden between the delegates of the Governing Commission and the delegates of the German Government. The Governing Commission submitted economic arguments and raised serious legal objections to the system of subsidies which results in giving workers not inhabiting the Saar privileges as compared with the inhabitants themselves. The delegates of the German Government refused to suppress the subsidies, and the delegates of the Governing Commission, explicitly reserving the right of the Commission to regulate and control the labour market in the Saar Territory, confined itself to asking the German delegates to submit to the German Government any proposal which they might consider expedient in order to put an end to the abuses to which their attention had been drawn.

2. *Economic and Social Situation.*

The periodical reports contain, in addition to detailed information on production and the index figure for the cost of living, information on the conditions of the labour market. During the third quarter of 1930 the situation of the labour market did not improve and it became worse during the following quarter. It became necessary to introduce unemployment days in the mines, the heavy industries and the pottery works, and certain firms have been obliged to close their works and to dismiss their staff. The number of unemployed increased from 6,335 on July 2nd, 1930, to 7,185 on September 10th, 1930; from 7,458 on October 1st, 1930, to 12,900 on December 10th, 1930; and from 17,195 on January 7th, 1931, to 20,435 on March 6th, 1931. In the corresponding period of last year the number diminished from 10,206 to 9,846. During the first quarter of 1931 there was a strike of glassworkers, quarrymen and cutters. The Governing Commission has taken various steps to provide work for the unemployed.

The metallurgical industry denounced their collective wages contract as from January 1st, 1931. The employers claimed a reduction of 12 per cent in wages, but this proposal has not been accepted by the syndicates. The Conciliation Committee was unable to settle the dispute, and the Governing Commission, at the request of the parties, intervened in December 1930, and recommended an arrangement. The Governing Commission, moreover, declared itself ready to negotiate with the syndicates upon the course to be adopted in the event of partial unemployment.

In January 1931 the State mines denounced their collective wage contracts, and as the result of negotiations the miners' wages were reduced by 6.5 per cent in two stages upon March 1st and May 1st, 1931. In certain cases unemployment benefit was accorded for days on which no work was done. On March 1st, 1931, a new collective contract was signed, reducing wages as above described. The mines have also announced their intention of reducing the salaries of their employees by 6 per cent as from April 1st, 1931.

3. *Finances of the Territory.*

The report for the first quarter of 1931 contains detailed information on the Budget and the general financial position of the Territory.

The general budget, as finally established for the financial period April 1st, 1931, to March 30th, 1932, shows a total expenditure of 521,299,080 French francs, with a credit balance of 1,431,014 French francs. To ensure budgetary equilibrium a sum of 35,700,851 French francs has been taken from the surplus for the 1927 financial period.

The Governing Commission has brought up to date the figures relating to the general financial situation given in its forty-first periodical report, for the period January-March, 1930¹. The assets of the Governing Commission amounted on March 10th, 1931, in round figures to 180,285,000 French francs, derived from the surplus of the previous financial periods. These assets are not, however, liquid and the funds immobilised for general utility purposes (various loans) amount to 74,345,472 French francs. The Governing Commission cannot count upon a repayment of its loans when they fall due in all cases, and the financial position of the Governing Commission makes it necessary to pay more attention than in the past to the liquidation of its assets.

The Governing Commission states that only the reserves, constituted in prosperous years with a view to periods of crisis, have enabled it to avoid resorting to further fiscal measures at a moment when the situation is affected by the general economic depression. The present state of the finances of the Territory, in the opinion of the Governing Commission, require the strictest economy and the most prudent management.

4. *Public Education.*

In April 1931, the centre group of the Advisory Council of the Saar submitted to the Governing Commission a complaint concerning certain cases of pressure alleged to have been exercised in connection with the entry of pupils for the primary schools of the French State Mines in the Saar. It is alleged that certain miners were urged by teachers or officials of the mines to enter children for these schools under more or less explicit threats that they might otherwise suffer prejudice.

The Governing Commission has also considered documents submitted by the Mines Administration formulating similar complaints against certain teachers, members of the clergy or municipal administrations alleged to have brought pressure to bear by various means upon parents with children at the State schools.

¹ See *Official Journal*, 1930, Special Supplement No. 84, page 276.

In conformity with the decision taken by the Governing Commission on April 15th, 1930, an enquiry was instituted into these complaints and the Commission has annexed to its forty-fifth periodical report a detailed account of this enquiry.

The Governing Commission reports in the following terms :

“ There is nothing to show that the Mining Administration has exercised direct or indirect pressure on miners to enter their children for the State school. On the contrary, it must be admitted that the Mining Administration has faithfully conformed to the statement of the Governing Commission of February 6th, 1925.¹ The only question that might be raised is whether certain intermediate officials or teachers may not have acted contrary to this statement.

“ It has not been possible to establish whether or not the complaint of the Mining Administration against the teachers is founded in a majority of cases. The Press mentions that the teaching corps and various members of the clergy are showing considerable activity. There are also numerous complaints against the relief departments of certain communes. Although, in general, it has been possible to establish whether the complaints are founded, it is certain that acts have been committed which are contrary to the decision of the Governing Commission of February 6th, 1925. ”

The Commission affirms that propaganda is being made for and against the State schools, but is of opinion that it has neither the right nor the power to prohibit it unless it resorts to illegitimate methods. It asks those concerned “ to avoid any acts or words that might have a character or even a semblance of compulsion ”. It adds that the only factor that can be taken into consideration is the free decision of the parents, and this factor must be respected by all.

5. *International Agreements.*

The Governing Commission on March 13th, 1930, ratified the Additional Protocol to the International Air Navigation Convention, signed on December 11th, 1929.

6. *Administrative Activities of the Governing Commission.*

The periodical reports of the Governing Commission, in addition to detailed information upon its activities, include chapters on the following subjects : finance, economic questions, mines administration, air questions, public works, railways, posts, telegraphs and telephones, justice, education, public relief and social hygiene, agriculture and forests, labour and social insurance.

II. FREE CITY OF DANZIG.

The Council, during its sessions in September 1930 and May 1931, considered the following questions relating to the Free City of Danzig : admission of Danzig to the International Labour Organisation, amendments to the constitution of Danzig, renewal of the term of office of the High Commissioner at Danzig, appointment of the Chairman of the Harbour Board, the treatment of Polish nationals and other persons of Polish origin or speech at Danzig, the special report of the High Commissioner concerning Danzig-Polish relations.

The Council, during its session in September 1930, also dealt with the question of the loan of the Free City (1927) and, during its session in May 1931, with the loan of the Municipality of Danzig (1925).

RENEWAL OF THE TERM OF OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER.

The term of office of Count Gravina as High Commissioner of the League of Nations at Danzig will expire on June 22nd, 1932. The Council has asked Count Gravina to consent to a renewal of his appointment, and Count Gravina has acceded to that request. Accordingly on May 22nd, 1931, the Council appointed him High Commissioner at Danzig for a further period of three years as from June 22nd, 1932.

APPOINTMENT OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE DANZIG HARBOUR BOARD.

The High Commissioner, in a letter dated April 8th, 1931, asked the Council to appoint a President of the Harbour Board, in accordance with paragraph 2 of Article 19 of the Convention between Poland and Danzig of November 9th, 1920. Article 19 provides that, failing an agreement between the Danzig and Polish Governments on the choice of a President of the Harbour Board, the Council of the League shall be requested by the High Commissioner to appoint a President of Swiss nationality. The Council on May 22nd, 1931, appointed M. Karl Benziger President of the Harbour Board for a period of three years from the date on which he took up his duties. M. Benziger assumed office on June 2nd, 1931.

¹ In this resolution the Commission states that it is the right of all mine employees to send their children to the public school or to the State School, and that this decision must not involve any prejudice to those concerned.

AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION.

Article 49 of the Constitution of Danzig stipulates that amendments to it shall only enter into force after they have been communicated to the League of Nations and after the League has declared that it has no objection to them.

The High Commissioner at Danzig in July 1930 referring to this article, communicated to the Council the text of a law for the amendment of the Constitution of the Free City.

The principal amendments relate to the number of deputies elected to the Popular Assembly, which has been reduced from 120 to 72; the conditions under which the Popular Assembly may be dissolved; and the number of Senators, which has been reduced from 22 to 12. The last amendment further provides that all the members of the Senate shall in future be elected for an indefinite period and that they must all secure, individually and collectively, the confidence of the Popular Assembly.

The Council on September 9th, 1930, after examining these amendments in the light of its previous resolutions, authorised the High Commissioner of Danzig to inform the Senate that the League of Nations raised no objections to them.

QUESTION OF THE ADMISSION OF DANZIG TO THE INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANISATION.

The Council, on September 9th, 1930, noted an Advisory Opinion of the Permanent Court of International Justice on the question whether the special legal status of the Free City of Danzig permitted of the Free City becoming a member of the International Labour Organisation. The text of the Advisory Opinion was communicated to the Director of the International Labour Office for the information of the Governing Body of that Organisation.

SPECIAL REPORT OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER.

The High Commissioner on April 25th, 1931, addressed a special report to the members of the Council on the recent crisis in the relations between Danzig and Poland.

The High Commissioner declared that a general state of tension had come about in Polish-Danzig relations at a moment when internal disputes provoked by the extremists of the right and left, who had gained considerable ground in the last elections at Danzig, had begun to be frequent. An atmosphere liable to give rise to incidents between Danzigers and Poles had thus been created and these incidents had given rise from the autumn of 1930 to complaints on the part of the diplomatic representative of Poland addressed to the Senate of the Free City. The High Commissioner in this report gave a detailed account of these events which had led the representative of Poland at Danzig to resign his post and of the attitude adopted by himself in the circumstances.

The Council examined this report on May 22nd, 1931. It approved the attitude of the High Commissioner and the line of policy which he had adopted. It further approved the conclusions of the report submitted by the representative of Great Britain embodying a statement concerning the duties of the High Commissioner. The Rapporteur emphasised, in particular, that the duties of the High Commissioner, though of a judicial character, might be described as those of a mediator and representative of the League.

The Council asked the High Commissioner to renew the representations which he had already made to the Senate of Danzig regarding the abuse of the habit of wearing uniform within the territory of the Free City. The Council further expressed its disapproval of any demonstrations or any action directed against the status of the Free City from any quarter whatsoever. It invited the parties to take all necessary steps towards restoring a spirit of confidence and collaboration in the relations between Poland and Danzig and towards calming public opinion in the two countries.

The High Commissioner was invited to submit a new report on the situation at the next session of the Council.

TREATMENT OF POLISH NATIONALS AND OTHER PERSONS OF POLISH ORIGIN OR SPEECH IN THE FREE CITY OF DANZIG : REQUEST FOR AN ADVISORY OPINION FROM THE PERMANENT COURT OF INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE.

The High Commissioner at Danzig, in a letter dated March 31st, 1931, asked the Council to request the Permanent Court of International Justice for an Advisory Opinion on the legal points in regard to which differences of opinion had arisen between the Danzig and Polish Governments in connection with the question, at that moment subject to his decision, relating to the treatment of Polish nationals and other persons of Polish origin or language at Danzig. The Council on May 22nd, 1931, asked the Permanent Court for an Advisory Opinion on the two following questions :

“ 1. Is the question of the treatment of Polish nationals and other persons of Polish origin or speech in the territory of the Free City of Danzig to be decided solely by reference to Article 104 (5) of the Treaty of Versailles and Article 33, paragraph 1, of the Convention of Paris (and any other treaty provisions in force which may be applicable), or also by

reference to the Constitution of the Free City ; and is the Polish Government, accordingly entitled to submit to the organs of the League of Nations, by the method provided for in Article 103 of the Treaty of Versailles and Article 39 of the Convention of Paris, disputes concerning the application to the above-mentioned persons of the provisions of the Danzig Constitution and other laws of Danzig ?

“ 2. What is the exact interpretation of Article 104 (5) of the Treaty of Versailles and of Article 33, paragraph 1, of the Convention of Paris, and, if the reply to Question 1 is in the affirmative, of the relevant provisions of the Constitution of the Free City ? ”

PARTICIPATION OF DANZIG IN INTERNATIONAL TREATIES AND AGREEMENTS.

In conformity with the procedure adopted by the Council on September 6th, 1929, for the exercise of the right of veto of the High Commissioner in respect of treaties applying to Danzig, the Council has been informed by the High Commissioner of the participation of the Free City in the following Conventions and Agreements : International Convention relating to Motor Traffic of April 24th, 1926 ; Universal Postal Convention of June 28th, 1929 ; Convention of Berne for the Protection of Literary and Artistic Works of September 9th, 1886, revised at Berlin on November 13th, 1908, and at Rome on June 2nd, 1928 ; Agreement relating to Railway Traffic between Eastern Prussia and Other Countries (through Poland, Danzig and Germany) and Traffic between Germany and Other Countries (through Poland, Danzig and Eastern Prussia), concluded at Berlin on November 21st, 1930 ; International Convention for Saving Life at Sea of May 31st, 1929.

The Council in August 1930 was informed that the Polish Government, under the resolution of the Council of May 17th, 1922, had decided to give effect to a request of the Danzig Senate concerning the deposit of a declaration under which the Free City would, in conformity with paragraph 2 of Article 36 of the Statute of the Permanent Court of International Justice, be subject for a period of five years to the jurisdiction of the Court in respect of disputes with States which, so far as they were concerned, had assumed an identical obligation.

The High Commissioner declared that in his opinion there was no reason for him in the above cases to exercise the right of veto provided in Article 6 of the Convention between Poland and Danzig of November 9th, 1920. No member of the Council had, within the period prescribed by the procedure to be followed in regard to the veto, asked that these questions should be placed on the agenda of the Council.

RELATIONS BETWEEN DANZIG AND POLAND.

(a) *Agreements concluded between Danzig and Poland.*

According to information received by the High Commissioner a certain number of agreements have been concluded between the Government of Danzig and the Polish Government, either directly or through the High Commissioner.

(b) *Decisions of the High Commissioner.*

Article 39 of the Convention concluded between Poland and Danzig on November 9th, 1920, provides that any dispute arising between the Danzig and Polish Governments should be referred for decision to the High Commissioner. A certain number of questions have been submitted to the High Commissioner either for decision under Article 39 of the Convention or with a view to mediation.

The following is a brief list of some of these questions :

1. *Ice-breaking on the Vistula.* — The High Commissioner on July 18th, 1930, gave a decision on this subject which was accepted by the two Governments.

2. *Acquisition of sites for the extension of the railway belonging to the Harbour Board.* — The High Commissioner on July 18th, 1930, gave a decision on this subject which was accepted by the two Governments.

3. *Railway questions.* — The High Commissioner in 1930 requested advice under the procedure laid down on June 11th, 1925 on certain questions relating to the Danzig railways¹. These questions related to the management of the Polish railways at Danzig, the question of the “Aufsichtsbehörde”, the status of Danzig employees in the service of the Polish railway administration and the competence of the Danzig delegate in dealing with the Polish administration.

The Permanent Legal Committee of the Advisory Committee for Communications and Transit, to which these questions were submitted, considered them in June and September 1930. Its opinion was communicated to the High Commissioner on October 1930.

Other railway questions related to the allocation of railway material, the liberty of railway employees to select schools for their children and the relations between the “Macierz Szkolna”, a Polish School Association at Danzig, and the Polish railway administration at Danzig.

4. *Use of the Port of Danzig by Poland.* — The Government of Danzig in May 1930 asked the High Commissioner for a decision concerning the competition between the ports of Gdynia

¹ See *Official Journal*, 1930, Special Supplement No. 84, page 360.

and Danzig. The High Commissioner, in accordance with the procedure approved by the Council on June 11th, 1925, requested a legal opinion on the following question :

“ Does the decision of the High Commissioner of August 15th, 1921, Point VII (“ The Polish Government will engage to make full use of the Port of Danzig, whatever other ports she may open in the future on the Baltic coast ”) constitute an obligation for Poland, or is it merely a recommendation and what is its legal scope ? ”

The Rapporteur to the Council for Danzig questions, in conformity with the customary procedure, appointed as members of a Legal Committee with a view to advising the High Commissioner, the following persons : M. RAESTAD, former Minister for Foreign Affairs of Norway, member of the Permanent Arbitration Court of The Hague, Sir John Fischer WILLIAMS, Privy Councillor, formerly Legal Adviser of the British Government on the Reparations Commission, and M. HOSTIE, member of the Legal Committee of the Advisory and Technical Committee for Communications and Transit. The Committee, under the chairmanship of M. Raestad, held two sessions in January and February 1931, in the course of which it heard statements from the representatives of the Governments of Danzig and Poland.

The opinion of the Committee was communicated to the High Commissioner on April 16th, 1931.

5. *Treatment of Polish nationals and other persons of Polish origin or language at Danzig.* — This question was examined by the Council during its session in May 1931 (see above).

6. *Registration at the Secretariat of the League of Nations by Poland of the Danzig-Polish Agreement concluded at Warsaw on October 24th, 1921.* — The Agreement was registered by Poland on May 5th, 1931.

7. *The Polish Postal Service in the port of Danzig.*

8. *Case of the Life Insurance Company of Eastern Prussia.*

9. *Case of the Crèche for children of the Polish minority directed by the “ Macierz Szkolna ”, a Polish School Association at Danzig.*

10. *Distribution of the Customs Receipts between Poland and Danzig.* — At the request of the High Commissioner and in agreement with the two Governments, the Secretary-General has appointed M. Häusermann, Inspector-General of the Swiss Customs, to assist the High Commissioner in establishing a technical basis with a view to arriving at a friendly settlement of this question.

11. *The establishment of passports for Danzig nationals.*

12. *Application to employees and officials in Polish offices at Danzig of a Danzig decree concerning the tax known as the “ Festbesoldetensteuer ”.*

III. MIXED GRECO-BULGARIAN EMIGRATION COMMISSION. ¹

ADVISORY OPINION OF THE PERMANENT COURT OF INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE.

The Council on January 16th, 1930, asked the Permanent Court of International Justice to give an Advisory Opinion, for the guidance of the Mixed Commission, on the interpretation of the clauses of the Greco-Bulgarian Convention of November 27th, 1919, relating to communities.

The Council on September 8th, 1930, noted the Advisory Opinion of the Permanent Court and forwarded it to the Mixed Commission.

IV. MIXED COMMISSION FOR THE EXCHANGE OF GREEK AND TURKISH POPULATIONS. ²

GRECO-TURKISH CONVENTION OF JUNE 10TH, 1930, AND OPINION OF THE NEUTRAL MEMBERS OF THE MIXED COMMISSION, DATED JUNE 12TH, 1930.

The Secretary-General in September 1930 communicated to the Council for information the text of the Greco-Turkish Convention concluded on June 10th, 1930, together with the

¹ The Mixed Commission set up under the Convention of November 27, 1919, between Greece and Bulgaria consists of members appointed by each of the two contracting States and of two members (one of whom must be elected Chairman) appointed by the Council of the League of Nations. The present Council nominees are Mr. CORËE (New Zealand) and M. DE REYNIER (Switzerland).

² The Mixed Commission set up under the Convention concluded between the Greek and Turkish Governments on January 30th, 1923, consists of two representatives of Greece, two representatives of Turkey and three neutral members chosen by the Council of the League of Nations. The Commission is presided over in turn by each of the three neutral members. The present Council nominees are M. ANDERSEN (Denmark), M. HOLSTAD (Norway) and M. RIVAS VICUNA (Chile).

opinion which the neutral members of the Mixed Commission had been asked to give under Article 4 of the Convention on the settlement of the question of the liquidation of the property of the populations exchanged. That opinion has been accepted by the two Governments.

V. MIXED COMMISSION FOR UPPER SILESIA.

In August 1930, M. Calonder, Chairman of the Mixed Commission for Upper Silesia, tendered his resignation for family reasons as from the end of July 1931. The Council on September 18th, 1930, at the request of the representatives of Germany and Poland, urgently begged him to reconsider his decision.

The Council was informed on September 27th, 1930, that M. Calonder had withdrawn his resignation in accordance with the wishes expressed.

9.

PROTECTION OF MINORITIES

I. INTRODUCTION.

During the period covered by the present report, the activities of the League of Nations in regard to the protection of minorities have in general been twofold : An examination by the Council of the questions placed on its agenda and an examination of petitions by the Minorities Committees in conformity with the usual procedure.

The Council, since the last session of the Assembly, has examined a certain number of cases relating to Upper Silesia submitted by persons belonging to a minority under the provisions of the Convention between Germany and Poland of May 15th, 1922, relating to the right to petition and to methods of appeal. The situation of the German minority in the Voivodie of Silesia (Poland) with respect to the incidents which took place during the preparation of the last Polish elections was examined in detail by the Council as the result of two notes submitted by the German Government and a petition from the "Deutscher Volksbund". The Council at the same time examined the situation of the Polish minority in the Voivodies of Poznan and Pomorze, also with reference to the preparation of the last elections. The matter was brought before the Council by a note received from the German Government.

The Council has, moreover, been asked to deal with a question concerning the Hungarian minority in Transylvania raised in a petition presented by the descendants of the former Szekler (Hungarian) frontier guard regiment. It was placed on the agenda of the Council, together with the observations of the Roumanian Government in regard to it, at the request of the representatives of Persia, Great Britain and Norway, members of the Minorities Committee, which examined these petitions under the Council resolution of October 25th, 1930.

The procedure followed in dealing with minorities petitions as set forth in the supplementary report of the Secretary-General to the Assembly in 1925, completed by the supplementary report to the Assembly in 1929, has been regularly applied during the period covered by the present report. In conformity with this procedure, in addition to the Minorities Committees which met regularly during the Council sessions at Geneva, a certain number of Committees met between the Council sessions of January and May 1931 in Paris and in London. Whenever the examination of a petition was completed without the members of the relevant Committee asking that it should be included in the agenda of the Council, they have informed by letter the other members of the Council of the result of the examination.

II. PROCEDURE.

INTERPRETATION OF THE COUNCIL RESOLUTION OF JUNE 10TH, 1925.

The representative of Yugoslavia asked the Council to consider, during its session in January 1931, the interpretation to be given to the resolution of the Council of June 10th, 1925, on the procedure to be followed in questions affecting the protection of minorities. The Council, on the proposal of its President, decided on January 23rd, 1931, in view of the fact that its agenda was an extremely heavy one, to postpone this question to a later session.

III. PROTECTION OF MINORITIES IN POLAND.

POSITION OF THE GERMAN MINORITY IN THE VOIVODIES OF SILESIA, POZNAN AND POMORZE (POLAND).

- (a) NOTES OF THE GERMAN GOVERNMENT OF NOVEMBER 27TH AND DECEMBER 9TH, 1930.
- (b) PETITION OF THE " DEUTSCHER VOLKSBUND " OF JANUARY 7TH, 1931.
- (c) NOTE OF THE GERMAN GOVERNMENT OF DECEMBER 17TH, 1930.

The German Government, in three notes — two referring to the position of the German minority in the voivodie of Silesia and one to the situation in the voivodies of Poznan and Pomorze — asked the League of Nations to consider certain facts and circumstances which they deemed to be infractions of the provisions of the Polish Minorities Treaty, so far as the voivodies of Poznan and Pomorze were concerned, and of the Polish-German Convention relating to Upper Silesia of May 15th, 1922, so far as the voivodie of Silesia was concerned. The " Deutscher Volksbund " also submitted a petition concerning the voivodie of Silesia. The contentions embodied in these various documents were to the effect that the German minority, during the elections which had taken place in Poland in November 1930, had by various means been prevented from freely electing its representatives, either by attacks on the free exercise of electoral rights or by attacks on the personal property of members of the minority calculated to create a state of terror. The Polish Government in a note dated January 6th, 1931, submitted a whole series of considerations to explain that this decrease in the parliamentary representation of the minority was due to causes which were unconnected with those mentioned by the German Government.

The Council, at its meeting of January 19th, 1931, in adopting its final agenda, decided to examine simultaneously the questions dealt with in these various documents. The meetings held on January 21st were entirely devoted to statements by the representatives of Germany and Poland explaining their respective views.

The Council, on January 24th, adopted a report presented by the representative of Japan. The report dealt separately with the attacks on the free exercise of electoral rights properly speaking and the attacks on the persons and property of members of the minority. As regarded the free exercise of electoral rights, it expressed the view that the Council would be wise to avoid taking any decision on the substance of the information which had been supplied to it as these questions, according to the explicit declaration contained in the petition of the " Deutscher Volksbund ", formed the subject of claims addressed to the national judicial authorities and as the petitioner expressly reserved the right to submit a special petition on this subject to the Council. As to the voivodies at Poznan and Pomorze, the Rapporteur thought that the Council might well assume that events would take a similar course.

Turning to the attacks on the persons and property of members of the minority, the Rapporteur continued as follows :

" I should now like to consider the second element in the question — namely, that relating to the attacks alleged to have been made on the persons and property of members of the minority. The ' Volksbund ' petition gives a detailed account of 255 cases of this kind. I do not think I should now enter upon a detailed consideration of these cases. No one has denied that attacks of this kind took place and that such attacks were sufficiently serious and widespread to justify the conclusion that there was, in numerous cases, an infringement of Articles 75 and 83 of the Geneva Convention. I would add, moreover, that the Polish Government at once opened an enquiry into this matter. These are the first points which the Council should note.

" But, as the representative of Germany said in his speech before the Council, the decisive factor in this matter is the attitude of the authorities. In this connection, I shall venture to draw a distinction between what I might call direct responsibility and indirect responsibility in the matters with which we are concerned. As to direct responsibility — the Polish Government has informed us that all the cases mentioned in the ' Volksbund ' petition have been the subject of thorough enquiry. We are told that, as a result of those enquiries, 125 cases were brought before the courts, that in 28 cases the Public Prosecutor of the Republic instituted proceedings and that in 10 of these the competent courts have already pronounced judgment. It is stated that disciplinary action has been taken against 17 officials and that 9 have been reprimanded. In 83 cases of minor importance, the enquiry is still in progress. In 41 cases, the authorities have, for various reasons, had to stop the proceedings. I think that the Council might take note of this series of measures adopted by the Polish Government. Further, the Council will desire to receive from the Polish Government, before its next session, a complete and detailed statement of the results of the enquiries ordered in these different cases and also of any penalties imposed and measures for compensation that may have been taken in consequence of these enquiries.

" I am fully aware of the particularly delicate character of anything relating to indirect responsibilities. I should like in the first place to emphasise the great importance that,

in regions like the voivodie of Silesia, should be attached — in the interest, not only of internal consolidation, but also of international peace — to the avoidance of anything that might directly or indirectly help to excite men's minds or arouse passion. It is obvious that, for the authorities, this involves responsibilities and obligations which are particularly heavy and which demand of them a scrupulous respect for the rights of minorities and a broad spirit of understanding.

“ In particular, it is essential that the authorities, whoever they may be — and the more highly placed the authority, the more imperious its obligation — should not in any case be suspected of taking part in political struggles, particularly when these struggles assume a minority character. Further, the documents which have been submitted to the Council and the discussions which have taken place at this session lead to the impression that the association called the ‘ Insurgents’ Union ’ is actuated by a spirit which is certainly not calculated to facilitate a *rapprochement* between the two elements of a population whose reconciliation is one of the conditions of the political consolidation of that part of Europe. It is obvious that, in regions like Upper Silesia, with a mixed population, no association with an accentuated national tendency should enjoy a privileged position of such a kind as to prejudice the interests of a minority. It is therefore desirable that, in order to achieve this aim and in the absence of other means, the Polish Government should take the steps required to remove any special connection that might exist between the authorities and associations engaged in political activities, such as the association just referred to. It is, in any case, essential that the German minority in the voivodie of Silesia should regain that feeling of confidence which, unfortunately, seems to have been profoundly shaken, but without which it would be impossible to establish between the minority and the State that co-operation which, in the treaties and the resolutions of the Assembly and the Council of the League of Nations, constitutes a duty equally imperious for the State and for the minority concerned. The Council will certainly desire to be informed, in due time before its next session, of any decisions which the Polish Government may have felt right to take in this matter.”

When the report had been adopted, the representative of Great Britain, as President of the Council, congratulated the Rapporteur, the Council, and particularly the two members most closely concerned upon the results achieved. He declared his satisfaction that the system of the protection of minorities, which formed part of the public law of Europe and of the world, had been so firmly upheld by the Council. He declared that questions concerning the application of the Minorities Treaties were not national but international questions. He appealed to the majority in Upper Silesia to recognise that it was not in their true interests to suppress the rights of the minority and he appealed also to the minority to recognise that it was in their true interests to work loyally with the Government under which they lived. He concluded by expressing his conviction that the case under consideration marked the beginning of a new effort to give final shape to the system set up by the Minority Treaty of 1919 and the Upper Silesia Treaty of 1922.

The Polish Government, in conformity with the wish expressed by the Council, forwarded, in a letter dated May 14th, 1931, a statement of the measures and decisions taken as a result of the incidents under consideration. The first part of the statement, to which five sub-annexes were attached, contained a summary of the measures adopted and detailed particulars according to districts as to each of the cases of violence which had been brought to the notice of the Council. The second part of the statement, to which five sub-annexes were also attached, explained the situation in the voivodie of Silesia and referred to general measures which the authorities had decided to take in order to encourage the pacific collaboration of all elements of the Silesian population.

The Council again dealt with this question at its meeting of May 23rd, 1931.

In the course of this meeting, when the Council was about to examine a draft report, presented by the representative of Japan, the representative of Germany asked that the question should be adjourned to the next session of the Council on the ground that the latest Polish information had been communicated to the members of the Council after the beginning of the session and that he had not had time to study this information and was not in a position to form a definite judgment in regard to it. This proposal gave rise to an exchange of views, during which certain members of the Council, particularly the representative of Poland, raised objections to adjourning the question. Finally, at the suggestion of the representative of Great Britain, acting as President of the Council for the examination of this question, the Council decided to adjourn its examination of the report presented by the representative of Japan to its next session, to be held in September.

IV. PROTECTION OF MINORITIES IN UPPER SILESIA.

A. POINTS 3 AND 4 OF THE REPORT PRESENTED BY THE REPRESENTATIVE OF JAPAN TO THE COUNCIL ON DECEMBER 15TH, 1928, REGARDING ENTRIES TO THE MINORITY SCHOOL IN THE VOIVODIE OF SILESIA.

During the meeting held on September 9th, 1930, the Rapporteur for minorities questions reminded the Council that on June 12th, 1929,¹ he had informed it that

¹ See *Official Journal*, 1929, Special Supplement, No. 75, page 235.

the German and Polish Governments, as signatories of the Geneva Convention for Upper Silesia, had not succeeded, in the negotiations undertaken with a view to settling a certain number of points of interpretation of the Convention, in reaching a settlement of the points under consideration regarding (a) the obligation imposed on persons responsible for the education of children belonging to the minority to appear personally when entering their children for the minority school, and (b) the setting-up of special enrolment committees for minority schools.

The Council, in respect of point (b), confined itself, on the proposal of its Rapporteur, to noting the opinion of three jurists appointed by the President of the Council — namely, Professor Burckhardt (of the University of Berne), Sir William Malkin (of the British Foreign Office) and M. Buero (Legal Adviser to the Secretary-General of the League of Nations). According to the opinion of these lawyers, of which the Council had been informed by its Rapporteur on March 9th, 1929, the existence of special enrolment committees was not contrary to Article 131 of the Convention. The committees, however, should abstain from exercising any pressure on the person making the declaration or from taking any measures of verification in regard to declarations relating to the language of the child.

The Council agreed with its Rapporteur that point (a) might be regarded as satisfactorily settled, owing to a decision just taken by the Polish Government. The Polish Government, taking into account the opinion of the jurists, had decided that the provision making compulsory the personal appearance of persons responsible for the education of children before the enrolment committees should not in future be applied.

B. APPEALS ADDRESSED TO THE COUNCIL UNDER ARTICLES 149 AND FOLLOWING OF THE GERMANO-POLISH CONVENTION OF MAY 15TH, 1922.

1. *Appeal from the "Deutscher Volksbund" concerning the Non-renewal of the Contracts of Thirty-two Doctors by the Management of the "Spolka Bracka" at Tarnowskie-Gory.*¹

The Council, on September 9th, 1930, was informed by its Rapporteur for minorities questions that the Polish Government had intimated that, while wholly maintaining its previous point of view, it had decided in the interests of conciliation to accept the opinion given by the President of the Mixed Commission for Upper Silesia on June 30th, 1929. The "Spolka Bracka" had accordingly been invited by the competent authorities to conform with the conclusions of that opinion. The Rapporteur had, in these circumstances, considered that the appeal no longer served any useful purpose and that the examination of the question by the Committee of Jurists appointed by the Council at its meeting on May 15th, 1930, had accordingly become unnecessary.

The representative of Germany hoped that, for reasons of humanity and out of regard for the circumstances of the doctors concerned, account would be taken of the opinion of the Mixed Commission with as little delay as possible. The representative of Poland declared that the Polish authorities would do their utmost, but that the possibilities of accelerating matters were limited since the legal proceedings had not yet been terminated.

The Council adopted the conclusion of the Rapporteur and noted the declarations of the representatives of Germany and Poland.

2. *Appeal of the "Deutscher Volksbund" concerning the Non-admission to the Minority Schools for the School Year 1929-30 of Sixty Children formerly examined by the Educational Expert, M. Maurer.*

The Council adjourned this question on September 9th, 1930, and resumed its consideration at its meeting on September 27th, 1930. On that occasion the Rapporteur alluded to the previous history of the question and explained the present situation to the Council. The Polish authorities, not accepting the opinion of the President of the Mixed Commission given in the course of the local proceedings, had refused admission to the minority school, which had again been requested, for sixty children among the eight hundred who, as a result of the language examinations instituted by the Council, had been previously transferred to the Polish schools owing to an insufficient knowledge of the minority language. The Polish Government considered that the resolution of the Council of March 12th, 1927, was to be interpreted in the sense that the results of the language examinations were to be regarded as permanent and final.

As this question raised serious legal difficulties, the Council adopted the proposal of the Rapporteur that the Permanent Court of International Justice should be asked for an advisory opinion both on the specific question forming the subject of the appeal of the "Deutscher Volksbund" and upon certain aspects, not yet settled, of the question of principle concerning the right of entry to minority schools in Upper Silesia. It was decided that the Rapporteur, in agreement with the German and Polish Governments as signatories of the Convention of May 15th, 1922, relating to Upper Silesia, should draft the text of the questions on which the advisory opinion of the Court would be asked. It was understood that these questions would be submitted to the Council at its next session.

The Rapporteur, on January 24th, 1931, informed the Council that, as a result of his conversations with the representatives of the two Governments, it had been judged preferable to keep for the moment to the special question of the sixty children whose admission to the minority schools for the 1929-30 school year had been requested upon a declaration, according

¹ See *Official Journal*, 1930, Special Supplement, No. 84, page 283.

to the prescriptions in force, that their language was German, but whose admission had been refused because the President of the Mixed Commission, as a result of the tests instituted by the Council on March 12th, 1927, had decided upon their exclusion. It was understood that the other aspects of the question would be examined when it was thought advisable.

The Council, as a result of the declaration of the Rapporteur, decided, upon his proposal, to ask the Permanent Court to give an advisory opinion on the following question :

“ Can the children who were excluded from the German minority schools on the basis of the language tests provided for in the Council’s resolution of March 12th, 1927, be now, by reason of this circumstance, refused access to these schools ? ”

The Council, at its meeting on May 23rd, 1931, noted the opinion of the Court delivered on the 15th of that month in the following terms :

“ The Court, by 11 votes to 1, is of opinion :

“ That the children who were excluded from the German Minority Schools on the basis of the language tests provided for in the Council’s resolution of March 12th 1927, cannot now, by reason of this circumstance, be refused access to these schools. ”

The Rapporteur proposed that the Council should decide that the sixty children in question should be transferred without delay to the minority schools to which their admission had been requested. The Council, however, decided, on the proposal of the representative of Poland, to adjourn the examination of the question to its next session. The Polish representative observed that the opinion of the Court had been communicated to the Council only after the beginning of the session and that he had not had time to study the arguments urged in support of it.

3. *Appeal of the “ Deutscher Volksbund ” of September 17th, 1930, concerning the Non-admission of the Child Anna Berger to the Minority School.*

Owing to difficulties arising in respect of declarations made by Mme. Berger concerning her nationality and the language of her child, the latter, contrary to the opinion expressed by the President of the Mixed Commission, has not been admitted to the minority school.

At the meeting of the Council held on January 24th, 1931, the Rapporteur, without going into certain questions of principle raised by the Polish Government, pointed out that in the present case the Council was not concerned with a change of declaration, but in ascertaining the real meaning and significance of Mme. Berger’s statements to the Polish administrative authorities, in regard to which misunderstandings had certainly arisen.

Finally, the Rapporteur informed the Council that the Polish Government, in view of the fact that the system of requiring persons responsible for the education of a child to appear personally before the authorities had been suppressed, had intimated that, for reasons of equity, the child Berger would be transferred to the Holdunow minority school, provided Mme. Berger submitted a fresh application to that effect. As that application could now be submitted in writing, the Council, endorsing the view of its Rapporteur, considered that there was no reason to fear that any fresh misunderstanding would arise, and confined itself to noting the statement of the Polish Government.

4. *Appeal of the “ Deutscher Volksbund ” of August 9th, 1930, concerning the Case of M. Paul Michalik.*

This appeal arose out of the refusal of the Polish authorities to grant an application made by M. Michalik with a view to obtaining the allocation of a hectare of land in the colonisation of the commune of Studzionka. On January 24th, 1931, the Rapporteur drew the Council’s attention to certain information given by the Polish Government. It appeared, among other things, that, after the President of the Mixed Commission had given his opinion on this question, the Land Office had offered M. Michalika lot which he, however, had refused to accept. The Council, considering that the Polish Government had satisfactorily taken the request of the petitioner into account, noted the information received.

5. *Appeal of the “ Deutscher Volksbund ” of August 8th, 1930, concerning the Case of M. Paul Besuch.*

The petitioner maintained that the decision to dismiss M. Besuch from his post as meat inspector, which was the subject of the appeal, had been taken solely on the ground that he belonged to the German minority. The President of the Mixed Commission, in conformity with the request of the petitioner made during the local proceedings, invited the competent authority to communicate to him the files of the Rybnik Starostie relating to the dismissal.

The Voivode refused to forward these files on the ground that they were intended solely for the use of the Administration, and contained no information with regard to the facts other than that already communicated to the President of the Mixed Commission. The latter thereupon expressed the opinion that the competent authority was bound to communicate to him the files of the Starostie relating to the dismissal of the meat inspector, and that, pending this communication, any further examination of the petition would not be possible.

The Polish Government considered that the appeal submitted by the petitioner was not receivable, since the opinion of the President of the Mixed Commission did not concern the relations between the petitioner and the authorities, but only between the authorities and the President of the Mixed Commission.

In these circumstances, in accordance with the report submitted by the Rapporteur on January 24th, 1931, the Council considered that it was not in a position to express any opinion on the question whether the dismissal of M. Besuch was contrary to the Geneva Convention. It decided to adjourn the question of procedure respecting the communication of the documents requested by the President of the Mixed Commission, expressing the hope that it would be settled by common agreement between the President and the competent authority in a manner appropriate to the circumstances.

The Council was subsequently informed by a letter dated May 4th, 1931, from the Permanent Delegate of Poland, that the Polish Government had agreed with the Chairman of the Mixed Commission on a practical solution of the controversy relating to procedure. The Council, in adopting the final agenda of its 63rd session, decided on May 18th, 1931, on the proposal of its Rapporteur, to remove this item from the list and expressed its satisfaction at the agreement that had been reached.

C. PETITIONS SUBMITTED IN CONFORMITY WITH ARTICLE 147 OF THE GERMANO-POLISH CONVENTION RELATING TO UPPER SILESIA OF MAY 15th, 1922.

1. *Petition of the "Deutscher Volksbund" of November 14th, 1929, concerning the Withdrawal from M. Otto Ochmann of Permission to plead before the Lubliniec Kreis Court.*

The Council, at its meeting of May 15th, 1930, adjourned the examination of this question.¹

The Rapporteur for minorities questions informed the Council on September 9th, 1930, that the Polish Government had intimated that M. Ochmann, following a new request, had in the meantime obtained, by a decision of the president of the Kattowitz district court, authorisation to plead before the Lubliniec court.

The German representative hoped that it would be possible to compensate M. Ochmann for the losses which he had suffered. The Polish representative declared that he could give no reply to this request before this aspect of the question had been examined. The Council considered that the question raised in the petition had been satisfactorily settled and declared its examination of the matter to be terminated, noting the declarations made by the representatives of Germany and Poland.

2. *Petition of Mme. Pauline Sock of September 5th, 1930, relating to the Admission of her Son to the Minority School at Ruda (Voivodie of Silesia), and to Administrative and Judicial Measures taken against her for infringing School Laws.*

The Council, on January 24th, 1931, adopted the conclusions of a report in which its Rapporteur, observing that, according to information given by the Polish Government, the question of the admission of the child Sock to the minority school had been satisfactorily settled, declared that the circumstances of the case appeared to justify the decision taken by the Polish Government to grant the petitioner generous pecuniary compensation. The Rapporteur added that the representative of Poland would keep him informed as to the effect given to their decision by the Polish authorities.

3. *Petition of M. Johann Wiesner of August 14th, 1930, concerning in particular the Dismissal of M. Wiesner and Five Other Employees, Members of the German Minority, by the Management of the "Königs- und Laurahütte".*

The petition referred to the two following questions: (a) Irregularities and delays alleged to have taken place at the time of the elections to the Employees Committee of the Richter pit of the United Königs- und Laurahütte in 1927 and 1928, and (b) the dismissal of the petitioner and that of five other employees of the Richter pit. These questions had been the subject of a petition from M. Wiesner which had been submitted to the Council on January 15th, 1930. The Council had then decided, that the matter should be dealt with in accordance with the local procedure instituted under Articles 149 and following of the Geneva Convention.

The Council, on January 24th, 1931, agreed as to point (a) with its Rapporteur that, if the petitioner were not satisfied with the solution given to the question by the Polish authorities, who had accepted the view of the President of the Mixed Commission that the irregularities and delays in question could not be regarded as constituting an infraction of Article 75 of the Geneva Convention, he should not have addressed a direct petition to the Council under Article 147 of the Convention, but should have lodged an appeal in accordance with the terms of Articles 149 and following.

In regard to point (b), the Rapporteur observed that the President of the Mixed Commission had declared himself incompetent, owing to the judicial character of the decision in question. The petitioner had thus been able to address a petition to the Council under Article 147 of the Geneva Convention. The Council confined itself to noting the observations of the Polish Government, considering that the allegations made by the petitioner did not prove that his dismissal had been due to the fact that he belonged to the German minority.

¹ See *Official Journal*, 1930, Special Supplement, No. 84, page 283.

4. *Petition from Dr. Prince von Pless of January 7th, 1931, concerning the Situation of His Father's Property in the Voivodie of Silesia.*

The Rapporteur for minorities questions having been informed by the representative of Poland that the petitioner and the Polish authorities were in direct negotiation, the Council decided, on January 24th, 1931, on the Rapporteur's proposal, to adjourn its examination of the question to the next session.

The permanent delegate of Poland accredited to the League of Nations informed the Council, in a letter dated May 19th, 1931, that the competent Polish authorities were examining the points raised by the taxes imposed on the properties of the Prince de Pless which were the subject of the petition under consideration. He added that, as this examination would necessitate very detailed enquiries, the Polish Government had suspended until July 15th, 1931, all measures to collect the taxes in arrears. He concluded by saying that the examination in question would be conducted in a spirit of the utmost consideration towards the person concerned.

The Council in these circumstances decided on May 23rd, 1931, on the proposal of its Rapporteur, to note the communication of the Polish Government and to adjourn the consideration of the question to its next session, expressing the hope that the Polish Government would inform it of the result of the examination in progress before its next session.

The representative of Germany, in consenting to the adjournment of the question, expressed the hope that, in conformity with the declarations made by the Polish Government in its letter to the Secretary-General, the negotiations would be conducted in the spirit there described, and that, until the Council had again examined the question, no modification in the legal situation would be made.

The representative of Poland declared, in accepting the report, that he had nothing to add to the written declaration of the Polish Government.

V. PROTECTION OF MINORITIES IN ROUMANIA.

PETITIONS FROM THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE DESCENDANTS OF THE FORMER SZEKLER (HUNGARIAN) FRONTIER GUARD REGIMENT.

The question forming the subject of these petitions was placed on the agenda of the Council at the suggestion of the representatives of Persia, Great Britain and Norway, members of the Minorities Committee which, in conformity with the resolution of October 25th, 1920, had examined these petitions and the observations upon them of the Roumanian Government.

The permanent delegate of Roumania accredited to the League of Nations informed the Council, in a letter dated May 15th, 1931, that his Government, wishing to find a friendly solution of the question under consideration, had appointed a Commission with instructions to negotiate with the signatories of the petitions and to study possible methods of settling it by a compromise.

The Council, in these circumstances, at the request of the Roumanian Government, decided on May 21st, 1931, on the proposal of its Rapporteur, to postpone the examination of this question to its next session.

10.

MANDATES.

I. GENERAL QUESTIONS.

1. GENERAL CONDITIONS REQUIRED FOR THE TERMINATION OF THE MANDATE REGIME IN A TERRITORY UNDER MANDATE.

The Council, on January 13th, 1930, having been notified of a proposal of the British Government to terminate the British mandate for Iraq and to recommend that Iraq should be admitted to the League of Nations in 1932, requested the Permanent Mandates Commission to study the problem of the conditions to be fulfilled before a mandate might be brought to an end in a mandated territory. The Mandates Commission began its examination of the problem during its nineteenth session held in November of that year. The point arose whether the Council had intended to consult the Commission merely on the general problem of the cessation of a mandate, or whether on the contrary the problem was to be studied in the light of the special case on which the question had arisen.

The Council, on January 22nd, 1931, intimated that the Commission should undertake a general study of the problem. It desired advice as to the fundamental and general conditions

which must be fulfilled before a territory placed under mandate might, in accordance with Article 22 of the Covenant, be emancipated. The Rapporteur to the Council, replying to a question put by the Vice-Chairman of the Mandates Commission, further explained that the question of the conditions governing the termination of a mandate was quite a different matter from the question of the conditions which should govern the admission of a mandated territory to the League of Nations, on which the Commission was not invited to express an opinion.

The British representative on the Council hoped that the Mandates Commission would complete its study of the question during its session to be held in June 1931, and be able to submit definite recommendations in its report on the work of that session.

2. TREATMENT EXTENDED IN COUNTRIES MEMBERS OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS TO PERSONS BELONGING TO TERRITORIES UNDER A AND B MANDATES AND TO PRODUCTS AND GOODS COMING FROM THOSE TERRITORIES.

The Council, on September 6th, 1929, invited the mandatory Governments to communicate their views as to the necessity and expediency of concluding an international Convention in order to secure for the territories under A and B mandates the benefits of reciprocity in respect of the economic equality which those territories are obliged to grant to States Members of the League.

In response to this request, the Belgian Government declared itself in favour of a Convention; the French Government replied that it would facilitate the task of the mandatory Power in future; the British Government, although of opinion that such a Convention would be welcome, did not consider it indispensable.

The Mandates Commission considered the views of the mandatory Governments during its session held in June 1930. It doubted whether the suggested advantages were really sufficient to justify it in proposing to the Council so complicated a procedure as the establishment of an international Convention, and confined itself to suggesting that the Council should ask the Members of the League to give favourable consideration to any request for reciprocity which might be made to them by the mandatory Powers concerned.

The Council, on September 9th, 1930, endorsed this suggestion of the Mandates Commission, and asked the Secretary-General to invite the States Members of the League of Nations to give favourable consideration to any requests that might be made to them by the mandatory Powers, with a view to securing to persons belonging to territories under A and B mandates, or at all events to goods coming from those territories, advantages corresponding to those enjoyed in them by their own nationals and goods.

3. PUBLIC HEALTH.

The Mandates Commission in its report to the Council on the work of its nineteenth session, held in November 1930, submitted the conclusions of its enquiry into the question of public health in the mandated territories. The Council, on September 6th, 1929, had decided to ask the mandatory Powers to reply to certain questions raised by the Commission with regard to the public health services in the mandated territories, and the conclusions of the Mandates Commission were based on a careful consideration of the replies received. The Commission was of opinion that the data obtained as a result of this enquiry showed that it was necessary still further to develop the public health services. It accordingly recommended the Council to invite the mandatory Powers to conform to certain rules in recruiting officials for the medical services, to encourage and promote the medical work of the missions, and to admit fully qualified doctors and public health research workers to the mandated territories irrespective of their nationality.

The Council, on January 22nd, 1931, decided to invite the mandatory Powers to conform with these recommendations, subject to the requirements of public order and local legislation.

II. ADMINISTRATION OF THE TERRITORIES UNDER MANDATE.

Territories under A Mandate.

1. IRAQ.

(a) *New Judicial Agreement between the British Government and the Government of Iraq.*

The Council, on September 24th, 1930, acting upon a request of the British Government, invited the Mandates Commission to examine the Anglo-Iraqi draft Judicial Agreement initialled at Baghdad on June 30th, 1930. This agreement was intended to replace the Judicial Agreement of March 25th, 1924. The Mandates Commission was requested to submit its views in time for their discussion at the session of the Council to be held in January 1931.

The Mandates Commission reviewed the Agreement during its nineteenth session, held in November 1930. It concluded that, while abolishing special privileges granted to the nationals of certain foreign States under the previous agreement, it seemed to offer to all foreigners in Iraq essential guarantees for the dispensation of justice and that it constituted an improvement in criminal procedure in favour of all persons in the country subject to Iraqi criminal jurisdiction. It observed that, under the new Agreement, close co-operation between the British and Iraqi authorities and the responsibilities of the mandatory Power arising out of the Covenant were duly maintained.

The Commission advised the Council that there was no objection to approving the new Agreement subject to the condition, laid down at a previous meeting of the Council on March 9th, 1929, that the mandatory Power should previously obtain the consent of the States whose nationals enjoyed privileges under the previous agreement of March 25th, 1924.

The Council, on January 22nd, 1931, noted the views of the Mandates Commission and duly approved the Agreement of June 30th, 1930, subject to the consent of the States concerned. The British Government, on March 21st, 1931, announced that the fourteen interested Powers had all notified their approval of the new Agreement, which had been signed at Baghdad on March 4th, 1931, by the High Commissioner for Iraq and the Iraqi Prime Minister. The necessary steps were being taken to put the new arrangement into force as soon as possible.

(b) *Administration of the Territory of Iraq.*

The Mandates Commission, during its nineteenth session held in November 1930, examined the annual report of the mandatory Power for 1929 with a view to ascertaining the progress made by Iraq towards political maturity. The report submitted by the mandatory Government was supplemented to a considerable extent by the oral replies of the accredited representative. The Commission felt nevertheless that it had not yet sufficient information at its disposal to justify it in formulating an opinion on the progress achieved by Iraq as a result of eight years under the mandatory system.

The Commission accordingly felt it necessary to renew a recommendation made in the previous year to the effect that the mandatory Power should endeavour in future reports to indicate the results which, in the work so far accomplished, might be attributed to the action of the officials of the British Government in the service of the mandated territory and those which must be attributed to the efforts of the Iraqi Government itself. It again emphasised the desirability of describing as far as possible the extent to which the Iraqi authorities were dependent upon British support, the efforts made, the opposition encountered and the results achieved in each particular sphere of administration. The Commission was fully confident that the mandatory Power, which had clearly intimated its desire to ensure complete independence for Iraq by 1932, would do everything in its power to make the general statement as comprehensive and detailed as possible with a view to providing the Commission with the elements which were essential for its examination of the question.

The report of the Commission was examined by the Council on January 22nd, 1931. The British representative intimated that steps would be taken to prepare a comprehensive review of the progress made in Iraq under the mandatory regime. The report would include a general statement on the existing situation, with all the information which the Commission was likely to require, and it would be submitted in time for its examination at the session of the Commission to be held in June. It would thus be possible for any deficiencies to which the Commission might draw attention in June to be remedied during the November session, either by means of a supplementary report or information given verbally by the accredited representative when the annual report for 1930 came to be examined.

The report of the Mandates Commission on the work of its nineteenth session held in November 1930 contains several observations on the political situation, on education, on public health, on the administration of justice and on the economic development of the territory.

The Commission, in its observations on the political situation, emphasises that, under all circumstances, respect for the rights of racial, linguistic and religious minorities should be assured in Iraq, being one of the main guarantees of the security, public order and prosperity of the country. The Commission set up by the Council on September 30th, 1924, to examine on the spot the question of the frontier between Turkey and Iraq and the Council itself, in a resolution adopted on December 16th, 1925, referred to the necessity of satisfying the aspirations of the minorities of Iraq and of affording equal protection to all elements of the population. The Mandates Commission echoed the apprehensions felt, not only by the parties concerned, but also by a considerable section of the public in several countries, regarding the lot of the minorities in Iraq now that the country is preparing for complete independence, and the supervision of the administration of the mandatory Power is being gradually relaxed. The accredited representative of the mandatory Power has declared that Iraq, on obtaining her freedom, will undoubtedly be prepared to accept international obligations safeguarding the rights of minorities in her territory. The Commission feels that this statement should dispel the anxiety of the persons concerned and those who, outside Iraq, are anxious about the future of the minorities.

The Commission repeats its previous recommendations that the public health and education services should be improved and developed and the credits allocated for this purpose increased.

The Commission recalls the observations it had made in the previous year regarding the production of oil. It had expressed the hope that the responsible authorities would see their way, should any fresh concessions be granted, to impose on the companies receiving them, conditions which would ensure the effective development of the oil deposits in Iraq. The Commission, alluding to this previous declaration, trusts that the competent authorities will pursue a policy entirely in conformity with the interests of the territory, not only in the event of application being made for new concessions but in the event of it being necessary to interpret the agreements already concluded with the existing companies. The Council on January 22nd, 1931, decided to forward these observations to the mandatory Power.

Two petitions relating to Iraq were examined by the Commission during its nineteenth session.

The first was a petition from the British Oil Development Company, Ltd., concerning the exploitation of the oil fields. The Commission considered the petition together with the observations submitted by the British Government on the subject. It requested the Council to ask the mandatory Power whether there existed a judicial authority competent to deal with the matter which formed the subject of the petition. This request was prompted by a desire on the part of the Commission to observe one of its essential rules in dealing with petitions, namely, that it should regard as non-receivable petitions in respect of a dispute with which the courts had competence to deal.

The second petition was from the representatives of the Kurdish minority in Iraq. Under the decisions reached by the Council on December 16th, 1925, the area in which the petitioners lived was assigned to Iraq, provision being made for special treatment of the Kurds. The Kurdish minority interprets this decision as involving an obligation on the part of the mandatory Power to establish an independent Kurdish Government under the supervision of the League. The Mandates Commission represents that this is an erroneous interpretation. On the other hand, it recommends the Council to request the mandatory Power to see that the legislative and administrative measures designed to secure for the Kurds the position to which they are entitled, are promptly put into effect and safeguarded if and when the guarantees now afforded by the presence of the mandatory Government are withdrawn.

The Council, on January 22nd, 1931, approved these conclusions and forwarded them to the mandatory Power. The British representative on the Council assured his colleagues that no time would be lost in carrying into full effect the programme of legislative and administrative reforms recommended by the Mandates Commission. He was confident that, in the event of Iraq being released from mandatory control, Iraq would be willing to furnish the League with satisfactory guarantees regarding the future welfare of her minority populations.

2. SYRIA AND THE LEBANON.

The Council, on September 9th, 1930, noted the observations on the administration of Syria and the Lebanon contained in the report of the Mandates Commission on the work of its eighteenth session, held in July 1930.¹ It decided to forward these observations to the mandatory Power with a request that it should take the action suggested by the Commission.

It was recalled that the mandatory Power had, in 1930, issued the Organic Law for Syria and the Lebanon mentioned in Article 1 of the Mandate. The representative of France on the Council expressed his appreciation of the special congratulations which had been addressed by the Mandates Commission to the High Commissioner of the mandatory Power upon this event. He represented that the issue of the Organic Law indicated a desire on the part of the mandatory Power to pursue in Syria a liberal co-operation with the population with a view to the political and social development of the country. He added that it would depend on the spirit in which the population interpreted this co-operation whether the experiment thus undertaken could be further developed.

3. PALESTINE.

The Council, on September 8th, 1930, examined the report of the Mandates Commission on the work of its seventeenth session (extraordinary) held in June, 1930, together with the comments of the mandatory Government on that report. It invited the British Government to adopt such measures as it thought fit to give effect to the recommendations and conclusions of the Commission, and to take the action suggested by the Commission in its observations on the annual report for 1929.²

The Rapporteur to the Council commended the wisdom of the Commission in keeping its investigation within the bounds prescribed by the Covenant. He commented on the fact that the report of the Commission contained remarks on the policy to be henceforth followed in

¹ Summarised in the supplementary report presented to the Assembly in 1930 (See *Official Journal*, 1930, Special Supplement, No. 84, page 365).

² The observations and conclusions of the Mandates Commission and the comments of the mandatory Government upon them were summarised in the supplementary report on the work of the League presented to the Assembly in 1930 (See *Official Journal*, 1930, Special Supplement, No. 84, page 361).

It will be recalled that the seventeenth session (extraordinary) of the Mandates Commission was devoted to an enquiry into the disturbances of August 1929, and on the various problems arising out of them. The Commission had been invited by a resolution adopted by the Council on September 6th, 1929, to express its opinion on these events.

Palestine but represented that this circumstance must not be regarded as an attempt on the part of the Commission, to supplant the mandatory Power in the exercise of its duties under the mandate. He declared that the Commission had been guided entirely by the letter and spirit of the mandate for Palestine and by its desire to contribute to the solution of the problem, and he expressed the view that the difficulties in the way of finding a solution of the Palestine problem were bound to embarrass even a Power with the widest experience in governing people with diverse characteristics.

The British Government, in its comments on the report of the Commission, had referred to a statement which appeared to require elucidation by the Council. The Commission had expressed the view that, in the interests of the restoration of a peaceful atmosphere in Palestine, the time had come to give a definition of the obligations imposed by the mandate on the mandatory Power and had declared itself to be in substantial agreement with the mandatory Power as to the principles and obligations implicit in the mandate. The twofold object of the mandate was the establishment of a Jewish national home in Palestine and the establishment of self-governing institutions; the immediate obligations of the mandatory Power were to place the country under such conditions as would ultimately secure these objects. The Mandates Commission had emphasised that, between the two terms of this obligation, the mandate recognised no primacy in order of importance and no priority in order of execution. The Mandates Commission had based its conclusions in regard to these principles upon statements made by the British Prime Minister in the House of Commons on April 3rd, 1930, and by the accredited British representative to the Commission on June 9th, 1930: (1) that the obligations laid down by the mandate in regard to the two sections of the population were of equal weight; (2) that the two obligations imposed by the mandate were in no sense irreconcilable.

The Commission had explicitly declared that these statements accurately expressed what it conceived to be the aims of the mandate for Palestine.

The Rapporteur to the Council associated himself with the observations of the Mandates Commission and expressed his conviction that the policy laid down by the Commission on the basis of the statements of the British Government itself would be fully appreciated by his colleagues. He expressed the view that the carrying out of that policy entailed a sustained effort, not merely on the part of the mandatory Power, but also on the part of both elements of the population towards mutual understanding and co-operation whose success would furnish the best proof of the country's political maturity.

The British representative on the Council expressed his appreciation of the observations of the Rapporteur in regard to the difficulties of the task of the mandatory Power and declared that His Majesty's Government, which recognised that it was the duty of the Mandates Commission to criticise, was in full accord with the observations of the Commission and of the Rapporteur as to the aims and obligations embodied in the mandate for Palestine. He assured the Council that the policy of the British Government in Palestine would be governed by the two fundamental principles to which the Rapporteur had referred.

He further announced that the British Government had sent to Palestine Sir John Hope Simpson, an expert in land settlement and colonisation, to report on the present position in Palestine in regard to these matters and in particular upon the questions of immigration and economic development. He assured the Council that the British Government intended to adopt measures with a view to promoting goodwill between the two sections of the population in the conviction that, without such goodwill, the peace and prosperity of Palestine could not be assured by any action of the mandatory Power alone. The British Government hoped to present at no distant date a full statement of its intentions with regard to future policy and to communicate that statement to the Council of the League.

The Mandates Commission received the report of Sir John Hope Simpson from the British Government shortly before the opening of its nineteenth session in November 1930, together with a declaration made by the British Government in October, 1930, on its policy in Palestine. The Commission thought it would be well to postpone the examination of these documents to its session to be held in June 1931, when it would be able to study them together with the annual report on Palestine and to have the benefit of the collaboration of the accredited representative of the mandatory Power. The Council took note of this decision on January 22nd, 1931.

Territories under B Mandate.

1. TANGANYIKA.

The Council on September 9th, 1930, noted the observations formulated by the Mandates Commission during its eighteenth session upon the administration of Tanganyika¹ and decided to forward them to the Government of the mandatory Power with the request that it should take the action suggested by the Commission.

The British Government had informed the Commission that a Joint Committee of the two Houses of Parliament would be examining the question of a closer administrative Customs and fiscal union between the mandated territory of Tanganyika and the neighbouring British

¹ Summarised in the supplementary report presented to the Assembly in 1930 (See *Official Journal*, 1930, Special Supplement No. 84, page 366).

possessions of Kenya and Uganda. The accredited representative for Tanganyika hoped that the observations of the Mandates Commission on the proposals before the Joint Committee would be formulated during the session to be held in the autumn of 1930, as they could not fail to be of interest and value to the Joint Committee. The Council, on September 9th, 1930, left to the Mandates Commission to decide to what extent it might be expedient or possible to accede to this request of the mandatory Power.

The Mandates Commission considered the question during its nineteenth session, held in November 1930. It felt that to express an opinion at that stage would not release it from the obligation to examine the final conclusions reached by the British Government on the advice of the Joint Committee, and that it was accordingly desirable to defer any consideration of the subject until the British Government had communicated them. It should be recalled in this connection that the British Government on September 6th, 1929, undertook to communicate any decision it might reach to the Mandates Commission before that decision was enforced, so that the Commission might be in a position to submit its observations to the Council.

The Council noted these observations of the Commission on January 22nd, 1931.

2. TOGOLAND UNDER FRENCH MANDATE.

The Council, on September 9th, 1930, decided to forward to the French Government the observations formulated by the Mandates Commission during its eighteenth session, held in July 1930, on the administration of Togoland under French Mandate.

3. CAMEROONS UNDER FRENCH MANDATE.

The Mandates Commission, during its nineteenth session held in November 1930, examined the report of the French Government on the administration of the Cameroons under French mandate for the year 1929. The Commission, in its report to the Council, made certain observations on the public finances of the mandated territory, the admission of foreigners to the territory and the suppression of abuses arising out of the liquor traffic. It congratulated the mandatory Power for the remarkable work done in the campaign against sleeping-sickness.

The Council, on January 22nd, 1931, decided to communicate these observations to the Government of the mandatory Power with a request that it would be good enough to take the action upon them suggested by the Commission.

4. TOGOLAND AND CAMEROONS UNDER BRITISH MANDATE.

The annual reports for 1929 on the administration of these two territories were examined during the nineteenth session of the Mandates Commission in November 1930. The observations, of the Commission deal more particularly with the budgetary situation of the territories, suggested improvements in the establishment of trade statistics, the elaboration of reports on labour conditions, the traffic in alcoholic and spirituous liquor and the activity of the administration in the field of public health, particularly in regard to sleeping-sickness.

The Council, on January 22nd, 1931, decided to forward these observations to the mandatory Power with a request that it would take the action suggested by the Commission.

5. RUANDA-URUNDI.

The administration of Ruanda-Urundi during 1929 was reviewed by the Mandates Commission during its nineteenth session. The Commission, in its report to the Council, comments on the interesting programme of road development given in the report of the mandatory Power, on the financial position of the territory, on the high mortality amongst the workers recruited for the *Union minière* of Haut-Katanga and on the liquor traffic.

The Council, on January 22nd, 1931, decided to forward these observations to the Belgian Government with a request that it should take the action requested by the Commission.

Territories under C Mandate.

1. SOUTH-WEST AFRICA.

The Council, on September 9th, 1930, noted the observations formulated by the Mandates Commission during its eighteenth session on the administration of South West Africa during 1929.¹

It forwarded these observations to the Government of the Union of South Africa with the request that it should take the action requested by the Commission.

¹ Summarised in the supplementary report presented to the Assembly in 1930 (see *Official Journal*, 1930, Special Supplement, No. 84, page 366).

² Summarised in the supplementary report presented to the Assembly in 1930 (see *Official Journal*, 1930, Special Supplement, No. 84, page 367).

2. NEW GUINEA.

The Council, on September 9th, 1930, noted the observations formulated during its Eighteenth Session by the Mandates Commission on the administration of New Guinea in 1928 and 1929.¹

The Council decided to forward these observations to the Australian Government with the request that it should take the action requested by the Commission.

3. WESTERN SAMOA.

The annual report on the administration of Western Samoa for 1929 was examined by the Mandates Commission during its nineteenth session in November 1930.

The period under examination had been marked by regrettable incidents which had been reported to the Council of the League by the mandatory Power on its own initiative in January 1930. There had been open resistance to the administration on the part of a native organisation known as the "Mau", which had been organised some four years previously.

The Commission, during its nineteenth session, obtained from the accredited representative of the mandatory Power important information supplementing previous accounts. He assured the Commission that the "Mau" might now be regarded as having virtually ceased to exist, that its native leaders had submitted and that the natives accused of offences during the disorders had been handed over to the judicial authorities.

The Mandates Commission learned with satisfaction that the administration of Samoa proposed to co-operate again with the representatives selected by the native population, and to give a constantly increasing share to the Samoa population in the management of its own affairs as soon as it was in a position to assume this duty and responsibility.

The Council, on January 22nd, 1931, forwarded the observations of the Mandates Commission to the New Zealand Government.

4. ISLANDS UNDER JAPANESE MANDATE.

The Mandates Commission, during its nineteenth session, drew attention to the continuous and rapid fall in the numbers of the native population of the islands under mandate, especially the island of Yap. It expressed the hope that the efforts made by the mandatory Power to discover the causes of this phenomenon would yield positive results and asked to be kept informed of the steps taken by the administration to check the depopulation of the archipelago.

The Council, on January 22nd, 1931, decided to forward these observations to the Japanese Government with a request that it should take the action requested by the Commission.

5. NAURU.

The administration of the territory of Nauru during 1929 did not give rise to any observations on the part of the Mandates Commission.

III. PROCEDURE IN TIMES OF DISTURBANCE OR EMERGENCY.

PETITION FROM THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS UNION IN LONDON.

The Mandates Commission, during its nineteenth session, considered a petition from the League of Nations Union, London, dated June 13th, 1929. It was suggested in this petition that a speedier form of procedure might be introduced to deal with serious disturbances entailing the suspension of ordinary laws and the proclamation of a state of siege in mandated territories, following invasion or the rebellion of the inhabitants or other events which might paralyse the normal administration of the country. It was proposed that the League of Nations should be immediately informed of such events by the mandatory Power through the Chairman of the Mandates Commission.

The Mandates Commission, after considering the observations presented on this petition by the Governments of Australia, Belgium, the British Empire, France, Japan, South Africa and New Zealand, decided that it was unnecessary to take any further action.

The Council, on January 22nd, 1931, approved the conclusions of the Commission.

¹ Summarised in the supplementary report presented to the Assembly in 1930 (see *Official Journal*, 1930, Special Supplement, No 84, page 367).

11.

SLAVERY.

I. EXECUTION OF THE RESOLUTIONS OF THE ASSEMBLY.

The Assembly, in a resolution adopted on September 25th, 1926, asked the Council to communicate every year a list of the laws and regulations forwarded to it under Article 7 of the Convention relative to Slavery, together with any supplementary information furnished by States Members of the League on the steps taken by them to ensure the progressive abolition of slavery and analogous conditions.

The Council, on May 20th, 1931, noted the following communications received from the British Government :

Communication dated October 27th, 1930, referring to the colony of Gambia and the Somaliland Protectorate ;

Communication dated January 17th, 1931, referring to the Nyasaland and Uganda Protectorates ;

Communication dated January 28th, 1931, referring to Northern Rhodesia ;

Communication dated February 17th, 1931, referring to the Gold Coast Colony, to Ashanti and to the northern territories of the Gold Coast.

The Council further noted that the Secretary-General had also received a letter from the Government of the Sudan dated March 13th, 1931, and a letter from the Government of Persia dated December 16th, 1930.

The Council decided to forward these communications to the Assembly. The report of the International Commission of Enquiry in Liberia with all relevant documents, already distributed to the States Members of the League, will be regarded as annexed to these communications.

Further, the Secretary-General was authorised to forward direct to the Members of the League of Nations and to the Assembly, without further reference to the Council, any additional information which might arrive previous to the meeting of the Assembly in September 1931.

Again, the Assembly, in 1930, invited the Members of the League of Nations and States non-members to amplify the information which they had already given under the Assembly resolution of 1929 by furnishing all such particulars as might assist the Assembly to form an idea, not only of the conditions prevailing in their own territories, but also of the present general position in regard to slavery. The information received in accordance will be summarised in the supplementary report to the Assembly.

II. INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION OF ENQUIRY IN LIBERIA.

The International Commission of Enquiry in Liberia,* set up in the autumn of 1929 by the Government of Liberia to examine whether forced labour and slavery existed in that country, began its work in Liberia at the beginning of April 1930, and submitted its report to the Liberian Government on September 8th, 1930. The enquiry was conducted under the Presidency of Dr. Christy, appointed to the Commission, at the request of the Liberian Government, by the Council of the League.

The permanent delegate of the Republic of Liberia on October 6th, 1930, asked the Secretary-General to communicate to the Council and the Members of the League a summary of certain of the findings of the Commission and a statement of the measures taken by the Liberian Government by Presidential Decree and Proclamation on October 1st, 1930. He subsequently forwarded to the Secretary-General, on December 15th, 1930, a copy of the report of the Commission of Enquiry, together with a letter commenting upon the conclusions of the report and giving certain details of the conditions under which the enquiry had been conducted. The reforms already introduced by the Liberian Government were enumerated and the programme of improvements which it proposed to effect in the administration of the country was described.

The Commission of Enquiry, with a view to preparing its report, had, over a period of five months, heard numerous witnesses, examined a considerable quantity of documentary evidence and travelled through a large part of the Liberian territory. The Commission dealt first with the problem of slavery and analogous conditions, and secondly with forced labour for public and private purposes. It formulated certain conclusions which it issued in the form of a reply to the " terms and conditions " of the enquiry as defined by the Government of Liberia. Further, in conformity with the desire expressed by the Government of Liberia, the Commission made a certain number of suggestions and recommendations which were calculated in its opinion to improve the situation.

The permanent delegate of Liberia, in communicating the report of the Commission of Enquiry to the Secretary-General, stated that the recommendations and suggestions of the Commission had been carefully considered by his Government. His Government was firmly resolved :

- (a) To take account as far as possible of all the recommendations and suggestions of the International Commission of Enquiry ;
- (b) To make every effort to stamp out every vestige of domestic slavery, the pawn system and forced labour, except for public works allowed by the Convention abolishing Forced Labour adopted by the International Labour Conference in 1930 ;
- (c) To take steps to promote the intellectual, moral, social and economic development of the country.

The British Government, in a letter dated December 19th, 1930, asked the Secretary-General to place the consideration of the report of the Commission of Enquiry on the agenda of the sixty-second session of the Council.

The permanent delegate of the Republic of Liberia, in continuation of his letter dated December 15th, 1930, informed the Secretary-General, in a communication dated January 9th, 1931, that, being desirous of giving evidence of its sincerity by definite acts at the earliest possible moment, his Government had instructed him to make the following declaration :

“ The Government of the Liberian Republic accepts in principle the recommendations made by the International Commission of Enquiry in its report on Slavery and Forced Labour in Liberia and adopts these recommendations as a basis for regulating any improvement which may be made in the social policy of the Republic to the full extent of its resources.”

The Secretary-General, at the request of the Secretary of State of the United States of America, forwarded, for information, to the Governments parties to the International Slavery Convention of 1926, two communications which the Government of the United States of America had sent to the Government of Liberia on November 5th and November 17th, 1930.

The Council, at its meeting of January 22nd, 1931, heard an historical account of the question from its Rapporteur, the representative of Poland, together with a statement from the representative of the Republic of Liberia. The Liberian representative made some reservations in regard to the procedure followed by the Commission of Enquiry and the conclusions which it had reached. He explained that his Government had already effected certain reforms; it had accepted in principle the recommendations of the Commission as a basis for improvements in Liberian social policy and had adopted them within the limits of its powers. He emphasised that Liberia had hitherto been confronted with financial difficulties and that present conditions were caused by that circumstance. He concluded by stating that his Government would receive with gratitude any definite proposals which the Council might make to facilitate the application of certain suggestions and recommendations of the Commission.

Dr. Christy, Chairman of the Commission of Enquiry, commented on the criticisms which the representative of Liberia had made in reference to the report of the Commission. He expressed his conviction that the present situation in Liberia could be improved, provided assistance were given to the Liberian authorities, which had in principle accepted the recommendations of the Commission. The President of the Council expressed the hope that the Government of Liberia would immediately carry out the reforms which had been suggested, without awaiting the results of the enquiries to which the request of the Liberian Government for assistance might give rise.

The Council, on January 24th, 1931, adopted a report in which it was proposed :

(1) To communicate the report of the International Commission of Enquiry to the next Assembly, in accordance with the resolution adopted by the Assembly on September 25th, 1926 ;

(2) To recommend the Government of Liberia :

- (a) To put in hand immediately the plan of reforms which it had drawn up, and,
- (b) To ratify the Draft Convention on Forced Labour adopted in June 1930, by the International Labour Conference ;¹

(3) To appoint a small committee to examine the problem raised by the request of the Liberian Government for assistance in carrying out the recommendations and suggestions of the International Commission of Enquiry.

¹ The permanent delegate of the Republic of Liberia deposited on May 1st, 1931, the instruments of ratification of the Convention on Forced Labour signed on June 28th, 1930.

12.

WORK OF THE TECHNICAL ORGANISATIONS.

I. ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL ORGANISATION.

A. SECTION OF ECONOMIC RELATIONS.

SECOND CONFERENCE FOR CONCERTED ECONOMIC ACTION.

(a) *Ratification of the Commercial Convention.*

The first Conference for Concerted Economic Action drew up, in March 1930, a Commercial Convention with the object of ensuring a certain degree of stability in Customs tariffs over a definite period. The Conference further adopted a Protocol embodying a programme of future negotiations to be undertaken by the States concerned with a view to drawing up collective economic agreements.

The entry into force of the Commercial Convention was contingent upon the fulfilment of certain conditions as to its ratification. It was therefore laid down in Article 13 that the Secretary-General of the League should convene, between November 1st and 15th, 1930, a meeting of the contracting parties which had ratified or submitted a request to accede to the Convention, with a view to fixing the date of its coming into force and drawing up a list of the Members of the League and non-member States whose accession was regarded as indispensable.

The Secretary-General duly convened this second Conference on November 17th, 1930. It was attended by representatives from twenty-six European States, and eight overseas States sent observers.

Up to that date, only ten ratifications of the Convention had been deposited. The process of ratification in certain other countries, however, was sufficiently advanced to permit the hope that their ratifications might be deposited within a short time, while several countries had announced that their accession would depend on the progress of the negotiations to be undertaken under the Protocol.

The Conference accordingly postponed to a second session its decision with regard to the putting into force of the Convention and it was agreed that ratifications deposited before January 25th, 1931, should be considered as having been deposited within the period fixed by the Convention.

The Conference, in accordance with this decision, met for a second session from March 16th to 18th, 1931. Twenty-five European countries took part in the Conference, and six overseas countries sent observers. At the date of meeting, the twelve following countries had deposited ratifications: Belgium, Denmark, Finland, Great Britain, Greece, Italy, Latvia, Luxemburg, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden and Switzerland. Spain, moreover, had submitted a request to accede.

It was found impossible to put the Convention into force between these thirteen countries, particularly as the majority made their adherence contingent upon that of other countries which had not yet ratified.

The Conference considered a number of proposals put forward with a view to overcoming the difficulties arising from the absence of the necessary ratifications. The proposal put forward by the British representative, to postpone the decision to a later session, though supported by a number of delegations, did not secure the agreement of all of them—those of Germany and Switzerland being of the opinion, for example, that the provisions of the Convention, which had been concluded for one year as from April 1st, 1930, did not permit of a postponement beyond April 1st, 1931.

Another proposal, submitted by the President of the Conference, to put the Convention into force provisionally, with a resolving clause to the effect that the Governments would regain their freedom if certain conditions had not been fulfilled by a certain not too distant date, was also rejected by the Conference.

The Conference, in these circumstances, adopted a Protocol to the effect that it was unable to agree upon a date for putting the Convention into force. The signatories, in recording this result, explicitly declared that they did not express any opinion as to the possibility of putting the Convention into force at a date subsequent to April 1st, 1931.

The Conference, however, expressed the opinion that the postponement or lapse of the Convention did not necessarily mean that the negotiations between States with a view to collective economic agreements would not go forward according to the programme, laid down by the first Conference in March 1930.

The Council, during its session in May 1931, acting upon a request of the Commission of Enquiry for European Union, authorised the Secretary-General to summon, at a suitable

moment and after consulting the Economic Committee and the President of the Conference, a new meeting of the Conference for the purpose of taking steps to put into force the principles embodied in the Commercial Convention.

The Council expressed its gratitude to the President of the Conference, M. Colijn, and requested him to continue to afford it his assistance.

(b) Negotiations with a View to Concerted Economic Action.

The Council, in October 1930, acting upon a recommendation of the eleventh Assembly, decided that the second Conference for Concerted Economic Action should be asked to set on foot the negotiations to be undertaken under the Protocol of March 24th, 1929, on the basis of a programme drawn up by the Economic Committee. The Economic Committee, after considering various proposals communicated by the Governments, recommended that the Conference should give special attention to three of them.

The first two proposals, put forward respectively by the British and the Netherlands Governments, related to tariff negotiations in general. The British Government suggested that an endeavour should be made to effect a general reduction of Customs tariffs by means of multilateral agreements between groups of countries to be gradually extended. The Netherlands Government suggested that negotiations should be started between States having an autonomous tariff and States with a conventional tariff, the first group undertaking to maintain their liberal system in return for tariff reductions by the second group.

The third proposal was put forward by Hungary, Roumania and Yugoslavia, with whom Poland was also associated. These countries suggested that negotiations should be undertaken concerning the trade of the agricultural countries of Eastern Europe. They asked that effective steps should be taken to ensure the disposal of their surplus grain produce at prices which would secure to the farmer a better return and they suggested, as a means to this end, that preferential Customs treatment should be accorded to the produce in question by the countries in which it was normally marketed.

The Conference devoted considerable time to the consideration of the British and Netherlands proposals and, simultaneously with the official deliberations of the Conference, private conversations were carried on between the countries particularly interested with a view to examining the possibility of opening the negotiations suggested. It soon appeared that, in the present circumstances, collective negotiations between all the countries concerned were not likely to lead to satisfactory results. Several countries, however, expressed their willingness to enter into bilateral negotiations with Great Britain and the Netherlands with the object of improving their commercial relations.

The proposal of the Danubian States for preferential treatment of their grain produce also met with great difficulties. In spite of the willingness of the interested States to find a formula which would allow them to give some satisfaction to the requests of the Danubian States, the objections of principle to which the question of a preferential treatment gave rise (in particular, in connection with the most-favoured-nation clause) proved strong enough to prevent the negotiations from reaching a tangible result.

The Conference therefore directed its attention to the problem of agricultural credits, of particular importance to the Danubian States, and decided to recommend to the Council that the study of this question, already included in the programme of the Financial Committee, should be urgently pursued.

B. WORK OF THE ECONOMIC COMMITTEE.

1. PROPOSALS FOR THE NEGOTIATIONS WITH A VIEW TO CONCERTED ECONOMIC ACTION.

The Economic Committee, under the provisions of Article I of the Protocol of March 24th, 1930, embodying the programme of the negotiations to be undertaken with a view to concerted economic action, established the proposals which served as a basis for the negotiations which took place during the second Conference for Concerted Economic Action of November 1930. The proposals of the Economic Committee were framed on the basis of the replies received from the Governments to the questionnaire attached to the Protocol (see Section A above).

2. VETERINARY CONVENTIONS.

The International Conference for the Abolition of Import and Export Prohibitions and Restrictions which met at Geneva from October 17th to November 8th, 1927, recommended the Council of the League, as the result of a declaration submitted by the countries exporting live-stock products, to undertake enquiries with a view to summoning a conference or conferences of experts on the prevention of diseases of animals and plants. It was proposed that these experts should suggest to the various Governments joint effective action against the evils which they desired to combat, having regard, however, to the sovereign rights of States and the interests of international trade.

The Council of the League, in December 1927, asked the Economic Committee to study the problem. The Economic Committee expressed the view that, before any definite steps were

taken, it would be expedient to explore the possibilities and establish a framework for future international action with the assistance of experts chosen in about equal proportions from countries in favour of international agreements on those matters and countries which had hitherto opposed them. It further recommended that the question of the protection of animals should first be considered.

The Economic Committee accordingly appointed a Sub-Committee of Experts on Veterinary Matters. It was the aim of this Committee to consider what guarantees should be given by countries exporting live-stock and what facilities might be accorded by importing countries on the basis of these guarantees.

The Sub-Committee of Experts, between January 1928 and October 1930, held four sessions and drafted a report which was submitted to the Economic Committee on November 4th, 1930.

The Sub-Committee of Experts agreed as to the principles which should govern the organisation of veterinary health services and the publication of veterinary health reports and reached definite conclusions as to the essential guarantees to be offered by exporting to importing States. It made a thorough study of the sanitary veterinary measures at present applied to the export, import and transit of animals and suggested a series of modifications in the veterinary measures applicable to international trade. It devoted special attention to risks of contagion by meat and meat preparations and by other animal products such as skins and hides, pelts, horns, hooves, wool, hair, bristles, etc. It considered that these problems should be further studied from the scientific point of view by the International Office for Contagious Diseases of Animals in Paris and that further international co-operation in this matter would be of real assistance to international trade.

The Economic Committee, after carefully considering these conclusions, expressed the view that States, pending the introduction of the conditions and guarantees considered necessary by the experts, should be allowed to regulate, in their own interest, a considerable part of the international trade in live-stock and meat. It reached the conclusion that arrangements for mitigating the severity of the veterinary measures at present regulating the export and import of such products might, for the moment, be more appropriately secured by means of bilateral agreements than by general international action. The conclusions of the experts indicated, however, that the countries concerned would probably accept an international convention regulating the transit of animals and animal products and a multilateral international agreement dealing with the export and import of animal products with the exception of meat. Finally, it appeared that the recommendations of the experts regarding veterinary organisation and services and the publication of veterinary health reports might also be dealt with in a multilateral international convention acceptable to the countries concerned.

The Economic Committee accordingly appointed a delegation of its members to draft, with the help of the veterinary experts, preliminary draft conventions concerning: (a) the organisation of veterinary health services and the methods that should be adopted for exchanging veterinary health information and for ensuring closer co-operation between the different veterinary services; (b) the transit of animals and animal products (including meat); and (c) the export and import of animal products other than meat.

These drafts are in preparation and will be examined by the Economic Committee in June. The Council has meanwhile authorised the Secretary-General to communicate them to the Governments for their observations and with a view to an international conference as soon as the texts have been finally approved by the Committee.

3. AGRICULTURAL QUESTIONS.

The Economic Committee, in consultation with representatives of the International Institute of Agriculture in Rome, called together early in January 1931 a Sub-Committee of Agricultural Experts. The members of this Sub-Committee, at a previous meeting, convened in January 1930, had been invited to give their views on the agricultural crisis, more particularly on the question of cereals and they had undertaken to forward reports to the Secretariat. The second meeting was convened to consider these reports.

Experts attended from the following countries: Argentine, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Great Britain, Hungary, India, Irish Free State, Latvia, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Roumania, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the United States of America and Yugoslavia. Representatives of the International Institute of Agriculture and the Secretary-General of the Federation of Land-workers were also present.

The discussions turned mainly on the question of cereals, and most of the experts recommended that the producing countries concerned should endeavour to arrive at an understanding. This suggestion was taken up by the Wheat Conference, which met in Rome from March 26th to April 2nd, and led the overseas and European exporting countries to decide to hold a meeting on May 18th in London to prepare a common plan for the export of the wheat crop of 1931-32 and of existing stocks. The Rome Conference invited the Economic Organisation of the League and the International Institute of Agriculture at Rome to keep in touch with the endeavours to be made by various countries to deal effectively with the problem of the production and sale of wheat.

The Economic Committee proposes to publish the reports of the experts and it has instructed its agricultural delegation to submit to the Council a general review of the agricultural depression, as revealed by these consultations, to serve as a general introduction. The Council has approved these suggestions.

The Economic Committee in February 1931 noted with satisfaction the establishment of an international committee representing national and international co-operative organisations of agriculturists and consumers. This new body began work at Geneva in February 1931 and the Economic Committee hopes to be represented at its next session, to be held in June 1931.

The Economic Committee also noted in February 1931 the important work done by the Financial Committee in the matter of international agricultural credit and requested its Chairman to follow closely the further development of the problem.

4. MOST-FAVOURED-NATION CLAUSE.

The Assembly, in 1930, urgently recommended that the Economic Committee should begin a study of certain disputed questions concerning the application of the most-favoured-nation clause. The points to be examined included the question whether Customs quotas and anti-dumping or countervailing duties were compatible with the spirit of the most-favoured-nation clause, and the question of the interpretation to be given to the expression "similar products" used in commercial treaties. The countries which had raised the question in the Assembly (Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Latvia, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden and Switzerland) were invited to send experts to take part in the discussion.

The Economic Committee entered upon a discussion of the subject during its session in October 1930. It expressed the view that the question of Customs quotas could not be considered solely from the theoretical standpoint and it felt that further information was necessary as to the nature and causes of some of the instances under investigation.

The object of the enquiry into the question of the interpretation to be given to the expression "similar products" was to ascertain whether certain countries, in applying commercial treaties, exercised discrimination based on the essential characteristics of commodities, or whether discrimination was made in respect of purely unessential characteristics and exercised with a view to restricting artificially the operation of the most-favoured-nation clause.

The Committee instructed a Sub-Committee to study these points and to examine also the problem of anti-dumping or countervailing duties. In this connection, it should be noted that the Committee decided to continue its investigations into dumping in all its forms, with particular reference to the means adopted by certain States which were likely to hinder the free play of economic laws, such as export bounties and subsidies.

The Economic Committee considered the results of these preliminary studies during its session held in February 1931. Certain conclusions were reached as regards the compatibility or non-compatibility of Customs quotas with the most-favoured-nation clause. These conclusions will be set forth in a draft report, and a final decision will be taken by the Committee in June.

The Committee found it impossible to express any definite opinion in regard to anti-dumping and countervailing duties. It felt that the investigation of measures to prevent dumping could hardly be considered apart from the general enquiry into dumping in all its forms, and this enquiry was not yet concluded. The Sub-Committee was invited to continue its studies and the Committee will consider this further material in June.

The Committee, in February 1931, discussed at length the question of "similar products", and came to the conclusion that particular cases should be considered separately and on their merits. It suggested that the eight countries which had raised the question at the Assembly in 1930 should be invited to communicate to the Committee for special consideration the cases which they had in mind.

Another question which arose in connection with these discussions concerning the most-favoured-nation clause was the criterion to be applied in determining the *nationality of goods*. The Committee has felt it desirable to lay down certain fundamental principles. It realises, however, that the application of these principles may give rise to technical difficulties and it has asked a Sub-Committee of Experts to consider the problem further from that point of view. The Committee will establish its final conclusions on this subject during the session to be held in June.

5. CUSTOMS NOMENCLATURE.

The Sub-Committee of Experts for the Unification of Customs Nomenclature has, since the meeting of the Assembly in 1930, held three sessions. It has established the nomenclature for Sections XII, XIII, XVI, XVII, and XVIII of the draft scheme on which it started work in 1928.

Eighteen out of the twenty-one sections, in other words almost the whole of the scheme, have now been drafted. The three remaining sections relate only to goods of relatively secondary importance and the work will be completed before the Assembly meets in 1931. A series of reports will be attached to the scheme explaining, in respect of each section, the principles followed by the experts in establishing the nomenclature proposed.

The Sub-Committee also contemplates compiling a list in which all the goods will be given in alphabetical order with references to their position in the nomenclature established by the

experts. This list and the explanatory notes attached to the sections will constitute an indispensable supplement to the nomenclature itself.

6. INDIRECT PROTECTIONISM.

The Economic Committee, in January 1930, laid down a programme of detailed studies of certain aspects of the problem of indirect protectionism, involving hindrances to international trade, which were considered to be particularly embarrassing. This enquiry is still in progress. The Committee is dealing in particular with the method of application of specific tariffs, with certain questions of Customs technique and Customs formalities and with the problem of marks of origin (see below).

7. METHODS OF APPLICATION OF SPECIFIC TARIFFS ; NET WEIGHT, GROSS WEIGHT, TARE AND PACKING.

The Economic Committee, after examining in detail various systems of levying Customs duties on the basis of gross weight, net weight or other factors and the treatment of packing by the Customs, decided to submit these questions to a group of experts consisting of representatives of Customs administrations and traders. It asked the experts to indicate how it might be possible :

- (1) To render uniform the definitions relating to weight and packing ;
- (2) To provide guarantees against certain practices of indirect protectionism arising from an arbitrary application of the rules governing these matters ;
- (3) To establish more equitable methods of passing goods of high value through the Customs.

The Economic Committee, in February 1931, examined the proposals of the experts and decided, in view of their technical character, to complete them by an examination of the economic effects of the various systems of levying duties.

8. CUSTOMS FORMALITIES.

The Economic Committee, with a view to further progress in the simplification of Customs formalities has undertaken an examination of four distinct questions :

(a) *The Customs Treatment of Samples of No Value and Printed Advertising Matter.*

The majority of States accord privileged treatment to samples of no value, but the lack of precision in the terms employed has given rise to divergent interpretations. The Customs treatment accorded to printed advertising matter also varies from country to country. This lack of uniformity gives rise to difficulties in international trade. The Economic Committee has enquired whether it may be possible to establish uniform rules dealing on these matters and has submitted the question to a Committee of Experts whose recommendations will be further considered at the session to be held in June.

(b) *Stamping of Temporarily Imported Samples of Articles made of Precious Metals.*

The formalities, to which samples of articles made of precious metals temporarily imported by commercial travellers are subject, vary, according to countries, from a mere checking of the identity of the articles to checking the owner's trade mark and the official stamping. The Economic Committee feels it desirable that these formalities should be simplified. It accordingly decided in October 1930 to make enquiries of the administrations concerned in order to determine the conditions under which such simplification might be possible.

(c) *Procedure for Appeal in Customs Matters.*

The Economic Committee decided, during its session in June 1930, to undertake a comparative study of the laws and regulations governing appeals against the classification and taxation of goods. This enquiry has not yet enabled it to form definite views on all the points involved in the application of these laws and regulations, particularly as to the adequacy or inadequacy of the period during which appeal may be made, the costs incurred by the persons concerned and the consequences for such persons of an appeal not being admitted. The Economic Committee decided, in October 1930, to ask advice of the International Chamber of Commerce, in order that the views of interested circles might be ascertained.

(d) *Customs Treatment of Consignments in course of Dispatch.*

On the introduction of new duties higher than those existing previously, certain States accord the benefit of the previous duties to consignments which are in course of dispatch at the moment when the tariff modifications are published. Other States, on the contrary, apply the new duties without exception. The Economic Committee decided, in June 1930, to make an enquiry in order to ascertain not only which States accorded this benefit but also what reasons had decided them to introduce the system.

9. MARKS OF ORIGIN.

The Economic Committee in October 1930 expressed the view that the various laws in force as regards marks of origin constituted an important problem for international trade. The Committee had previously considered certain questions of principle but felt that, as the manner in which the provisions relating to this matter are applied was often of capital importance, further information as to the actual situation was necessary before its investigations could be usefully continued.

It accordingly decided that the information which had been prepared on the subject by the Secretariat should be submitted to a small group of experts, including officials of countries with laws relating to marks of origin for foreign goods and exporters who were nationals of countries where serious complaints as to the obstacles encountered as a result of the application of these laws were frequently made.

The Sub-Committee met in April 1931. It was attended by two members of the Economic Committee who will submit a report to the Committee during the session to be held in June.

10. APPELLATIONS OF ORIGIN.

The principle governing the use of appellations of origin are embodied in an international arrangement reached at Madrid in 1891 and revised at The Hague in 1925. The countries which signed the Protocol regarding the programme of Future Negotiations, on March 24th, 1930, agreed to undertake, in connection with the problem of unfair competition, a special study of the desirability of revising this agreement with a view to its more effective application and possible extension.

The Economic Committee, in February 1931, came to the conclusion that, before examining the problem in detail, it was desirable first to determine whether such action met a need that was really felt by a considerable number of countries and whether a revised arrangement, under which a large number of countries might be protected, might not cause an undesirable hindrance to international trade.

It accordingly instructed the Secretariat to determine what were the products, natural, industrial or typical, for which the countries signatory of the Protocol of Future Negotiations desired to secure special protection under the Madrid arrangement or in some other form.

11. DUMPING : EXPORT BOUNTIES AND SUBSIDIES.

The Assembly, in 1930, asked that the subject of concerted action, not only in regard to the various forms of indirect protectionism but also in regard to every aspect of dumping, should be studied with the least possible delay, within the framework of the programme of future negotiations embodied in the Protocol of March 24th, 1930. The Economic Committee has had a preliminary exchange of views on the subject on the basis of a memorandum submitted by one of its members, and it has instructed a Sub-Committee to complete the data already collected. The Sub-Committee will submit a report on dumping, its causes and effects, machinery and the most flagrant forms which it may assume. Particular attention will be paid to export bounties which have recently become general and which give rise to very characteristic cases of dumping.

12. ESTABLISHMENT OF A PERMANENT ORGAN OF CONCILIATION AND ARBITRATION FOR THE SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES WHICH MAY ARISE BETWEEN STATES IN COMMERCIAL MATTERS.

It was suggested in the Protocol to the Commercial Convention of March 24th, 1930, that a permanent organ of conciliation and arbitration should be constituted for the settlement of disputes which might arise between States in commercial matters. The Economic Committee made a preliminary study of the subject in July 1930, and a considerable amount of preparatory work has now been done by the Secretariat under the guidance of the Committee.

A memorandum has been compiled containing information on the provisions in force in bilateral and multilateral conventions for the settlement of disputes between the contracting parties as to the interpretation and application of the conventions. Another memorandum contains preliminary drafts of an Act and of Statutes for the proposed organisation, based on a note presented by the French delegation which raised the question at the first Conference for Concerted Economic Action in 1930. To these two documents are appended the observations of the Legal Section of the Secretariat.

They will be considered by the Economic Committee during its session to be held in June.

C. INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES AND CONVENTIONS PREPARED BY THE ECONOMIC COMMITTEE.

1. INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE FOR THE UNIFICATION OF LAWS ON BILLS OF EXCHANGE, PROMISSORY NOTES AND CHEQUES.

The Conference, convened in June 1930 for the Unification of Laws on Bills of Exchange, Promissory Notes and Cheques, established three draft Conventions dealing with bills of exchange and promissory notes, which were signed by the delegates at the close of the proceedings. The Conference, owing to lack of time and the extreme complexity of the subject, was unable to deal finally with the unification of the laws relating to cheques and it recommended that supplementary enquiries should be made.

The Governments were accordingly invited to submit their views upon three preliminary draft conventions dealing with cheques. Replies received from twenty-three Governments and from the International Chamber of Commerce indicated that there was a unanimous desire for the conclusion of conventions on cheques similar to those which had been drafted to cover bills of exchange and promissory notes.

The Council of the League accordingly convened a second session of the Conference which met on February 23rd, 1931.

The following countries were represented: Austria, Belgium, Czechoslovakia, Danzig, Denmark, Ecuador, Finland, France, Germany, Great Britain, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Luxemburg, Mexico, Monaco, the Netherlands, Norway, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Roumania, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Venezuela and Yugoslavia. The United States of America sent an observer.

Representatives of the Economic Committee, the International Chamber of Commerce and the Rome Institute for the Unification of Private Law also attended in an advisory capacity.

The Conference adopted three Conventions:

(1) A Convention under which the parties undertake to introduce a uniform law for cheques in their respective countries. The text of the Uniform Law is attached to the Convention, together with the reservations and special provisions which will enable contracting parties to substitute for the provisions of the Uniform Law the special rules of their own laws, to specify the conditions for the application of the provisions of the Uniform Law, or in some cases to amplify them.

(2) A Convention embodying provisions for the solution of certain conflicts of laws in connection with cheques.

(3) A Convention on the stamp laws relating to cheques by which the contracting parties undertake not to subordinate the validity of obligations arising out of a cheque to the observance of provisions concerning the stamp.

The three Conventions are mutually independent and a State may be a party to one of them without being a party to the others.

The results achieved by the Conference represent the culmination of efforts which have been made during the last twenty years to introduce a certain degree of uniformity in the various countries of the world into the laws relating to cheques. As early as 1912, the second Hague Conference had pointed to the desirability of such unification, but no convention was drafted and no immediate result was obtained. The Hague Conference, however, drew up a series of resolutions embodying certain regulations concerning cheques which were recommended to the States for adoption. These regulations form the basis of the draft Uniform Law approved by the present Conference.

The problem of cheques presents special difficulties owing to the fact that they are of recent origin. Some countries have not yet any special laws on cheques, and the custom and usage relating to them are various and in some cases indefinite.

The present Convention may be repudiated two years after it comes into force, or immediately in urgent cases. A real and effective unification, however, is expected as a result of it. It is anticipated that, when the Uniform Law has been introduced into the legislation of the signatory States and has been in force for four years, it will be possible to convene a further conference in order to examine and possibly to eliminate all or most of the reservations which have been made. The Convention expressly stipulates that any signatory State may, up to the expiration of the four years following its entry into force, request the Secretary-General to convene a conference for its revision.

The following States at the conclusion of the Conference signed the three Conventions and the Final Act: Austria, Belgium, Czechoslovakia, Danzig, Denmark, Ecuador, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, Luxemburg, Mexico, Monaco, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Spain, Sweden and Turkey.

Great Britain signed only the Stamp Convention. The Yugoslav delegation stated that it intended to sign all three Conventions. The Japanese and Swiss delegations made statements to the effect that their countries would probably sign the three Conventions within the time-limit allowed. The Conventions will remain open for signature until July 15th, 1931.

The Conference, realising the necessity for leaving the various Governments sufficient time to have the necessary studies and measures of adaptation carried out in their own countries before proposing to the competent authorities the ratification of the Conventions, fixed relatively long time-limits for the deposit of ratifications. The Council will use all its influence to induce the Governments concerned to take in due time the measures necessary to give effect to the results achieved.

The Conference, in its Final Act, drew attention to the great importance of the periodical publication by the League of Nations of the laws giving effect to the obligations assumed in regard to bills of exchange, promissory notes and cheques, and of any official materials concerning such instruments, particularly decisions given by the Supreme Courts of the contracting parties. The Council, during its session in May, expressed the view that such a publication would be very useful and, indeed, necessary, to keep merchants and jurists informed of the legislation and legal practice of countries introducing uniform laws on bills of exchange and cheques. It instructed the Secretary-General to examine the suggestion and to report upon it in January 1932.

2. CONFERENCE ON THE TREATMENT OF FOREIGNERS.

The first session of the Conference on the Treatment of Foreigners was held in Paris from November 5th to December 4th, 1929. The discussions showed that a more thorough examination of the many questions involved in the treatment of foreigners would have to be undertaken by certain Governments before there could be any hope of establishing an acceptable international convention.

The Conference accordingly decided to consider the meeting of 1929 as a first session, and to meet for a second session after the Governments had carefully reviewed the documents relating to its work. This decision was embodied in a Protocol signed at Paris on December 5th, 1929, whereby the signatories undertook to forward to the Secretary-General, before June 1st, 1930, any observations and suggestions they might wish to make upon the documents relating to the Conference. It was provided that these observations and suggestions should be sent with the documents themselves to the advisory bodies of the Council of the League and to the International Labour Office with a view to obtaining their opinion. A certain number of States, however, preferred to postpone sending their observations until they had considered the results of negotiations undertaken by them with a view to securing agreement on a draft convention which, in their opinion, would constitute a real progress as compared with the existing situation.

These negotiations have been successfully concluded, and the Secretariat hopes shortly to receive the observations of the Governments concerned. These observations, together with all relevant documents, will be submitted to the advisory bodies mentioned in the Protocol.

3. EXPLOITATION OF THE RICHES OF THE SEA.

The Economic Committee, during its session in July 1930, approved a preliminary draft Convention for the regulation of whaling, and suggested that this draft should be sent to all Governments for their observations. A large number of States have since forwarded to the Secretariat their comments on the draft Convention, and these comments have been communicated to the States Members and non-members of the League. The replies of the Governments are, on the whole, favourable to the Convention, and the amendments suggested for the most part refer to secondary matters.

The Council, during its session in May 1931, considered that, owing to the limited number of States directly interested in the question, it would hardly be necessary to summon an international conference in order to draw up a convention. It suggested that the Economic Committee, after considering the replies of the various Governments, should decide whether it appeared desirable to open a convention for the regulation of whale fishing for signature during the forthcoming session of the Assembly. The Secretary-General was authorised, in the event of the Economic Committee's deciding in favour of this proposal, to place the matter on the supplementary agenda for the Assembly and to take all necessary steps to summon to a meeting the experts to whom the Economic Committee would wish to entrust the final drafting of the text.

4. PROTOCOL ON ARBITRATION CLAUSES AND CONVENTION FOR THE EXECUTION OF ARBITRAL AWARDS.

The Protocol on Arbitration Clauses has, since the last report of the League to the Assembly, been signed by Bolivia, Peru and Portugal, and the total number of signatures is now thirty-six. The Protocol has been ratified by Siam, Luxemburg and Portugal, and Great Britain has adhered to it on behalf of the Bahama Islands.

The Convention, during the same period, has been signed by Bolivia, and the total number of signatories of the Convention is now twenty-four. The Convention has been ratified by Germany, Italy, Luxemburg and Portugal. Great Britain has adhered to the Convention on behalf of Newfoundland.

5. INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION FOR THE ABOLITION OF IMPORT AND EXPORT PROHIBITIONS AND RESTRICTIONS.

This Convention, signed on July 11th, 1928, came into force as from January 1st, 1930, between the following States : Denmark, Great Britain, Japan, the Netherlands, Norway, Portugal and the United States of America.

6. ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE EXPORT OF HIDES AND SKINS, AND BONES.

These arrangements, signed at Geneva on July 11th, 1928, came into force as from October 1st, 1929, between the following eighteen countries : Austria, Belgium, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Great Britain, Hungary, Italy, Luxemburg, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Roumania, Sweden, Switzerland and Yugoslavia.

7. INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION FOR THE SIMPLIFICATION OF CUSTOMS FORMALITIES.

There has been no change in the number of ratifications and accessions to this Convention since the last Assembly. The Convention has up to now been ratified by twenty-nine countries and there have been two accessions.

D. ECONOMIC INTELLIGENCE SERVICE.

1. WORK OF THE COMMITTEE OF TECHNICAL EXPERTS SET UP UNDER THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION RELATING TO ECONOMIC STATISTICS.

The International Convention relating to Economic Statistics, which was designed to secure a measure of uniformity and comparability in the compilation of statistics by the various countries of the world, was signed at Geneva in December 1928. The Convention was to come into force on the ninetieth day following the receipt, by the Secretary-General of the League, of ratifications or accessions on behalf of not less than ten Members of the League of Nations or non-member States. The tenth ratification was received on September 15th, 1930, and the Convention accordingly came into force in December last.

The following States had then ratified the Convention : Bulgaria, Canada, Denmark, Egypt, Great Britain, Greece, the Irish Free State, Norway, South Africa, Sweden and Switzerland. Austria and Czechoslovakia have since ratified and India has acceded, Australia and Southern Rhodesia have asked for permission to accede, subject to certain reservations.

The Convention provides for the appointment of a committee of technical experts to which is entrusted an extensive programme of work. The Council, in March 1929, referred to the Economic Committee for consideration the questions of the relationship of this committee to the technical organisations of the League and of its composition. The Economic Committee reported on the first question in April 1929 and on the second in October 1930.

At the meeting of the Council on January 22nd, 1931, at which a representative of the Egyptian Government was present, Egypt having ratified the Convention, the following persons were chosen to serve on the Committee :

- Mr. R. H. COATS, Dominion Statistician, Ottawa ;
- Mr. E. Dana DURAND, formerly Chief of the Statistical Research Division, Department of Commerce, Washington ;
- Mr. A. W. FLUX, Head of Statistical Department, Board of Trade, London ;
- Professor GINI, President of the Central Statistical Institute, Rome ;
- M. HUBER, Directeur de la Statistique générale de la France, Paris ;
- M. JAHN, Directeur en chef du Bureau central de statistique, Oslo ;
- Dr. H. W. METHORST, Directeur général du Bureau de statistique, The Hague ;
- M. E. SZTUM DE SZTREM, Director of the Central Bureau of Statistics, Warsaw ;
- Dr. E. G. WAGEMANN, President of the Statistisches Reichsamt, Berlin ;
- Dr. LORENZ, Président de la Commission des statistiques sociales et Expert auprès du Département fédéral d'Economie publique, Berne ;
- M. Miguel CASARES, Director of the Caja de Convección, Buenos Ayres.

It was also arranged that the Head of the Statistical Department of the International Institute of Agriculture should be invited to take part in the work of the Committee.

The Committee held its first meeting on March 23rd, 1931. It devoted the major part of its time to the organisation of its future work, recommending in particular that, in view of the highly technical character of the problems with which it was called to deal, it should be empowered to appoint sub-committees on which outside experts in the various branches of statistics might be invited to sit.

Agreement was reached on two specific and urgent questions. First, the Committee of Experts is instructed under the Convention to draw up as soon as possible a minimum list of the statistical territories, whether isolated or grouped together, to be specified in the statistics of external trade by countries. The Committee drew up such a list for adoption by all the parties to the Convention.

Secondly, it is provided in the Convention that the contracting parties shall undertake an experiment, for a period of one year, in recording external trade statistics of certain commodities, to be chosen by the various administrations, according to the three main systems of registration at present in use. The object of this experiment is to render it possible to judge the relative merits of the different systems and thus prepare the way for the possible adoption of a uniform system by all countries. The Committee proposed that a few important commodities should be tested by all countries undertaking the experiment and compiled a list of articles, mainly foodstuffs and raw materials of international importance. It recommended that countries undertaking the experiment in 1932 or subsequent years should include in their lists a selection of these articles. The list should be treated as provisional until October 1931, pending the receipt of preliminary results from the countries conducting the experiment this year, and the Committee has empowered a special Sub-Committee to modify the list before it is finally circulated to Governments.

The following questions were also discussed and referred to sub-committees for further examination : statistical classification ; index numbers of prices ; occupational statistics ; industrial statistics ; statistics relating to minerals and metallurgical products ; statistics relating to industrial establishments and industrial production ; indices of industrial activity and statistics of electrical power.

2. ENQUIRY INTO THE PRESENT ECONOMIC DEPRESSION.

The Assembly, in September 1930, adopted a resolution to the effect that the Economic and Financial Organisation of the League should undertake a study of the course and phases of the present economic depression and of the circumstances which had led up to it. For this purpose the Economic and Financial Organisation was instructed to get into touch with the national organisations, whether consultative or planning councils or research institutions, which were dealing with the subject.

In pursuance of this resolution, a meeting of representatives of National Economic Councils and National Research Institutes was held at Geneva from March 2nd to 4th, 1931. At the meeting, representatives of organisations and institutes in Belgium, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Great Britain, Hungary, Italy, the Netherlands, Portugal, Spain and the United States of America were present. Representatives of the International Labour Office and the International Institute of Agriculture also attended.

The meeting devoted the major part of its time to discussing the scheme of enquiry which had been prepared by the Secretariat, and the members agreed to furnish memoranda on a common plan dealing with the phenomena of the depression in their respective countries. These memoranda will be used as raw material for the report to be submitted by the Secretariat to the Assembly.

A further meeting of experts has been arranged for the beginning of July.

E. WORK OF THE FINANCIAL COMMITTEE.

The two principal subjects with which the Financial Committee is at present dealing have been entrusted to two delegations of the Committee, consisting in both cases of certain of its members and of experts from outside. These two delegations are the Gold Delegation and the Agricultural Credits Delegation. Distinct from the Financial Committee, but in close contact with it, is the Fiscal Committee, which is also engaged in work on financial questions.

The Financial Committee, in a report to the Council adopted by that body and by the Assembly in September 1930, pointed out that the scope and character of its work was changing, and that the nature of the change had become clearly apparent during the course of the previous twelve months. During the first ten years of the Committee's existence, its principal, though by no means its sole, work had been to assist in financial reconstruction or the establishment of refugees in certain countries. This class of work, a natural feature of the post-war years, although heavy and exacting while it lasted, could not be considered as other than temporary and exceptional, but it naturally tended to the postponement of the more normal duties of the Committee as Financial Adviser to the League within the framework of the Covenant.

During the past year the Committee has been occupied (a) in completing the work of financial reconstruction and refugee settlement, and (b) in tasks of a more general order, such as the study of the gold question and the problem of agricultural credits.

I. FINANCIAL RECONSTRUCTION AND SETTLEMENT WORK.

1. Greece.

Settlement of Refugees.

The measures taken to wind up the Refugee Settlement Commission, with a short historical sketch of the work of the Commission, were described in the report on the work of the League submitted to the Assembly in 1930. The winding-up of the Commission was completed according to programme on December 31st, 1930, and the property and liabilities of the Commission passed to the Hellenic Government.

Economic and Financial Situation.

During the past year, the official connection of the Financial Committee with the Hellenic Government also came to an end. For the past three years the Government has sent reports on its budget situation to the Council of the League every three months, in accordance with an undertaking given under the Protocol of September 15th, 1927, in connection with the issue, under the auspices of the League, of the loan for financial reconstruction.

The Financial Committee, on sending the last report of the Hellenic Government to the Council (document C.456.1930.II), expressed its satisfaction with the results obtained, and congratulated the Hellenic Government in the following terms :

“ The contact between the Hellenic Government and the League of Nations was not limited to the communication of written reports ; on many occasions, representatives of the Greek Ministry of Finance have come to Geneva to attend the discussion of the quarterly reports in the Financial Committee and to consult with the Committee upon various budget problems. These consultations with the Greek representatives have been mutually instructive, and the Financial Committee ventures to think that they have facilitated the task of the Hellenic Government and Administration.

“ The Hellenic Government is to be congratulated on the results achieved. The Greek budget has shown a surplus during each of the last three years. The total of the budget is at a figure which would not seem out of proportion to the economic capacity of the country.

“ In the Protocol, the Hellenic Government undertook to carry out certain measures of budget reform in regard to the unity of the budget, the centralisation at the Bank of Greece of all receipts and payments of the State and State enterprises, the monthly publication of statements concerning the situation of the public finances, etc. These measures have been carried out and have proved their utility. In so far as, for special reasons, they have not yet been completed (unity of the budget and centralisation at the Bank of Greece of all receipts and payments of the State and State enterprises), the Government intends to complete them.”

2. Bulgaria.

Settlement of Refugees.

The work of settling the refugees in Bulgaria has made good progress, and is expected to finish in the course of the present calendar year.

Economic and Financial Situation.

Bulgaria, like other agricultural countries of Eastern Europe, has been severely affected by the present economic depression — though less severely than some. The influence of the depression has shown itself, as far as the Government finances are concerned, in a marked falling-off in receipts, with the result that the Government has had to make use of the Treasury facilities allowed it under the stabilisation Protocol embodying the terms of the Bulgarian Reconstruction Loan of 1928, in order to meet the considerable deficit in the budget. The situation can be met, but it will demand constant care and attention during the coming year.

The position of the National Bank, thanks in large part to the careful policy which it pursued during 1930, is still satisfactory, despite the difficulties of the year. This fact contributes substantially to the stability and economic well-being of the country.

Enquiry into the Co-operative System.

In September 1930, the Government requested the Council of the League to assist it in the re-organisation of the co-operative system in Bulgaria, and the Financial Committee expressed the opinion that such a reform was an indispensable part of the work of financial restoration already undertaken in Bulgaria under the auspices of the League. Accordingly, with the approval of the Council, M. Gebhard and M. Treybal, two well-known experts in co-operative matters, went to Bulgaria in the autumn of 1930 and carried out an intensive enquiry into the Bulgarian agricultural co-operative system. Their final report will be completed shortly. Meanwhile, they have drawn up a note, approved by the Financial Committee, in which are indicated the lines along which, in their opinion, the Bulgarian Government would be well advised to proceed in order to carry out the contemplated reform.

Resignation of the Commissioner of the League.

M. René Charron, Commissioner of the League for Refugee Settlement and Adviser to the National Bank of Bulgaria, has resigned his dual position as from March 31st in order to take up new duties elsewhere. The Financial Committee, expressing its appreciation of M. Charron's work in its report to the Council (document C.143.M.44.1931.II) observed :

“ The settlement of refugees is now nearly completed, and the situation of the National Bank, notwithstanding the general economic depression, is satisfactory. It is only in

looking backwards down the road of the last four years that it is possible to realise the nature of the difficulties that have been overcome. M. Charron, thanks to his courage, his loyal spirit of collaboration with all parties concerned, and his high sense of public responsibility, has contributed a large part to the progress which has been made."

It has fortunately been possible to arrange for M. Charron, acting in an honorary capacity, to remain responsible for the execution of the tasks still to be carried out in connection with the refugee scheme.

M. Watteau has been appointed by the Council as adviser to the National Bank.

3. Estonia.

Under the Protocol for Banking and Currency Reform in Estonia, signed on December 10th, 1926, an adviser nominated by the Council of the League was appointed to the Estonian Central Bank for a period of three years. This period ended in September 1930, and Sir Walter Williamson, C.M.G., the adviser, then retired. The Financial Committee has expressed its high appreciation of the valuable services which he had rendered. His withdrawal closes another chapter in the post-war reconstruction work of the League.

II. GOLD DELEGATION OF THE FINANCIAL COMMITTEE.

The Gold Delegation, in September 1930, published its first interim report. The report is an attempt to answer the question whether the current and prospective production of gold, on the one hand, and the normal increase in demand as world production and trade increase, on the other, are such as to make it likely that the general trend of prices over a series of years (apart from short-term oscillations) will be in an upward or downward direction. In order to throw light on this question, special efforts were made to collect as complete and accurate statistics and estimates as possible concerning the production of gold in the past, the probable course of production in the future, and the demand for gold arising from monetary and non-monetary causes. As a result of its analysis, the Delegation reached the conclusion that the inadequacy of the supply of new gold available for money is likely at no very distant date to exercise an influence in lowering prices.

The Gold Delegation observes in its second interim report, to which reference is made below, that, since the publication of its first report, wholesale prices have fallen very sharply; and that, if prices were to settle down at, for instance, approximately to-day's level, the supplies of new gold likely to become available for money would meet the demand for an appreciably longer period of time than they would if the former level were to be restored. The Delegation adds:

"Whatever the tendency of prices may be when the present economic depression is past, we believe that measures can be found which should prevent the quantity of the supplies of new gold becoming available for monetary purposes from exercising a decisive influence."

Among the remedial measures which the Delegation recommends are: (1) the reduction of the reserve ratios of Central Banks; (2) the extension of the use of cheques and other means of payment not involving the use of money; (3) the replacement of notes of small denominations by subsidiary coin; (4) the concentration in Central Banks of foreign assets belonging to countries on the gold exchange standard; and (5) the making of an international agreement providing that gold reserves held abroad should not be subject to seizure or confiscation in time of war.

To this question, it is understood, the Delegation will revert in its final report.

At the time of the issue of its first interim report, the Delegation recommended the publication of two other volumes: "Selected Documents submitted to the Gold Delegation of the Financial Committee", and "Legislation on Gold". In the former are reproduced several of the memoranda which were submitted to the Gold Delegation by its members and others. In the latter, the legal provisions of seventy countries relating to the monetary use of gold are summarised and compared and the texts of the relevant passages of the laws of each country are reproduced in full.

In January 1931, the Delegation issued its second interim report. This report is confined to the problem of the distribution of gold, a subject which the Delegation, in its first interim report, had specifically reserved for further study.

With reference to the Delegation's second interim report, the Financial Committee observes in its report to the Council:

"In the first place, it did not fall within the Delegation's terms of reference to enquire whether or not there has been any relationship between the present economic depression and the distribution of gold. Indeed, its terms of reference were formulated before the present depression began to make itself felt. In view of this fact, it is natural that the present report should not deal in direct terms with this problem.

"In the second place, the Delegation has confined itself to indicating the principles on which the efficient working of the gold standard must, in its opinion, primarily depend.

These principles are concerned with the general policy of central banking. They do not and cannot imply an arbitrary or mechanical contrivance for the distribution of gold. The successful application of these principles, however, must depend to a large extent upon the existence of settled economic conditions, and will necessarily be impeded, if there is a lack of public confidence. The movement of gold is directly influenced by the movement of capital, and a steady flow of capital and credit cannot be maintained when the necessary conditions of security are lacking."

The Delegation proceeds to consider a number of monetary reforms and to describe the banking principles which it considers would contribute to a more efficient working of the gold standard.

In connection with its second interim report, the Gold Delegation recommended the publication of a second volume of selected documents. The volume contains four memoranda dealing with recent gold movements into and out of France, Great Britain, Germany and the United States, to which are added tables showing the recent changes in the distribution of gold.

The Delegation proposes to prepare its final report for submission to the Financial Committee in the autumn of this year.

III. FISCAL COMMITTEE.

An important meeting of the Fiscal Committee was held at the end of May. The work of the Committee will be reviewed in the supplementary report to the Assembly.

IV. FIRST CONFERENCE OF CENTRAL OFFICES FOR THE SUPPRESSION OF COUNTERFEITING CURRENCY.

In accordance with Recommendation V, adopted on April 20th, 1929, by the International Conference for the Suppression of Counterfeiting Currency, the Council convened a first Conference of Representatives of Central Offices to meet at Geneva from March 4th to 7th, 1931.

The principal object of the Conference was to ensure and develop direct international co-operation between the central police offices of the various countries in the prevention and punishment of counterfeiting currency. To this end it adopted a set of administrative regulations and a number of recommendations regarding the relations between the central offices and the International Police Office in Vienna and between the central offices themselves.

The Conference afforded an excellent opportunity for the delegates of the central offices to get into touch with one another. Twenty-seven nations were represented, in addition to the International Criminal Police Commission. The Conference marks an important step forward in the field of international police co-operation.

The Conference presented a report to the Council, communicating the regulations and recommendations which it had adopted.

On May 20th, 1931, the Council instructed the Secretary-General to draw the attention of the Governments to this report, and to ask them for their observations on two of the recommendations.

V. THE AGRICULTURAL CREDITS DELEGATION OF THE FINANCIAL COMMITTEE.

The Conference with a view to Concerted Economic Action drew the attention of the Council last year to the fact that the shortage of capital for agriculture constituted a serious hindrance to commercial relations between industrial and agricultural countries and urged a better organisation of agricultural credits. The question was referred by the Council in May to the technical organisations of the League, including the Financial Committee, with the result that an International Convention and the Constitutive Charter and Statutes¹ of a mortgage institute to be known as the International Agricultural Mortgage Credit Company were drawn up by a delegation² of the Financial Committee under the chairmanship of M. ter Meulen, of whose work the Commission for European Union and the Council have expressed their warm appreciation

¹ See C.375.M.155.1931.II.A. This document contains :

- (a) First Report of the Financial Committee to the Council (January 27th, 1931).
- (b) Second Report of the Financial Committee to the Council (May 11th, 1931).
- (c) Report of the Commission of Enquiry for European Union (May 20th, 1931).
- (d) Resolution adopted by the Council (May 21st, 1931).
- (e) Convention ; Annex — Charter, Statutes.
- (f) Note on the Essential Principles of Mortgage Legislation.
- (g) List of Members of the Organisation Committee.

² The delegation was composed as follows :

- M. TER MEULEN (Chairman), member of the Financial Committee ;
- Professor MLYNARSKI, member of the Financial Committee ;
- Dr. POSPISIL, member of the Financial Committee (replaced by Dr. Roos, Director-General of the Zemská Banka, Prague) ;
- Sir Henry STRAKOSCH, G. B. E., member of the Financial Committee (replaced by Mr. Dudley Ward, British Overseas Bank, and Mr. Pinsent, H. M. Treasury, London) ;
- M. DI NOLA, Chairman of the Economic Committee, Director-General of the Istituto Italiano di Credito Fondiario ;
- Dr. VAN RIJN, member of the Permanent Committee of the International Institute of Agriculture (replaced by M. PAVLOWSKI, Chief of the Economic Service of the Institute) ;
- Dr. KISSLER, Director of the Deutsche Rentenbank-Kreditanstalt ;
- M. REGARD, Vice-Governor of the Crédit foncier de France.

These instruments were approved, subject to slight amendments by the Financial Committee. They were considered at various stages by a special Committee of the Commission for European Union appointed for the purpose, which made a few modifications. They were then approved by the full Commission and finally by the Council.

The Convention has so far been signed by sixteen European Governments¹. The Council has appointed an Organising Committee to "take all steps required for the first issue of shares of the International Company, for its organisation and by way of preparation for its operations". The Organising Committee held its first meeting in Paris on June 4th and the Bank should be open early next year.

The purpose of the plan and of the collective effort on the part of European States which it entails is, in the words of the Financial Committee², to "alleviate the burdens which weigh on agricultural production in various countries, to diminish the working expenses which absorb too large a share of the profits and to increase the purchasing capacity of the agriculturists".

The initial capital consists of shares amounting to five million dollars to be issued to the public, placed so far as possible with mortgage institutions in countries which are parties to the Convention. As need arises, additional shares to an amount of forty-five million dollars will gradually be issued. In addition, Governments ratifying the Convention will make, in proportion to their contributions to the League Budget, repayable advances, amounting also to five million dollars, in order to create a special reserve and thus give greater financial and moral solidity to the institution. Since the Company is allowed to issue bonds up to ten times its subscribed capital and special reserve of five million dollars, and since its total authorised capital is fifty million dollars, it will be able ultimately, when the capital is fully subscribed to issue bonds for five hundred and fifty million dollars.

The business of the Company will be :

(1) To make long-term loans with amortisation, or medium-term loans with or without amortisation, to mortgage or agricultural credit companies or institutions which, either directly or through other companies having their registered offices in the same country, make loans upon first mortgage on immovable property which is the subject of agricultural cultivation or used for the purposes of such cultivation ;

(2) To create and negotiate bonds the sums repayable on which may not exceed the amount of the debts due from the national companies to the International Company and which are to be secured by first mortgages registered in the name of the national companies, belonging to them or held by them as security.

This international organisation will operate as a limited liability company, adopting to the greatest possible extent the normal business procedure familiar to the general public. It is intended to be primarily, not a profit-making concern but a public utility company designed for the benefit of agriculturists. The Company, which is entitled to make loans in any country which is a party to the Convention, will deal only with national or local mortgage institutes and make advances only on the security of first mortgages. These will usually only be offered for long-term credits ; but the Company is not precluded from granting intermediary credits.

The Board is to be composed as far as possible of persons with an intimate knowledge of finance and of mortgage credit banks. The Council of the League will appoint the President and Vice-President and also two other directors if the right to nominate them is not exercised respectively by the Bank of International Settlements and the International Institute of Agriculture. Nine directors are appointed by the share-holders and must be representatives of mortgage credit institutes or experts in banking and credit business. Finally, the Board so constituted has power to co-opt by majority five other directors with the object of promoting the general interests of the International Company and, in particular, encouraging the participation of the chief financial markets in the placing of the Company's bonds.⁴

The institution, which will have its seat at Geneva, is placed under the auspices of the League. Apart from appointing the President and Vice-President and possibly two other

¹ As on May 29th, 1931 : Belgium, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Estonia, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Latvia, Luxemburg, Poland, Portugal, Roumania, Switzerland and Yugoslavia.

² The Organising Committee is composed of the following persons :

Dr. BACHMANN, President of the National Bank of Switzerland ;
Dr. KISSLER, General Manager of the "Deutsche Rentenbank-Kreditanstalt" ;
Professor MLYNARSKI, former Vice-Governor of the Bank of Poland ;
M. DI NOLA, General Manager of the "Istituto italiano de Credito Fondiario" ;
Dr. POSPISIL, Governor of the National Bank of Czechoslovakia ;
M. E. REGARD, Vice-Governor of the "Crédit foncier de France" ;
M. VAN RIJN, member of the Permanent Committee of the International Institute of Agriculture ;
M. RYDBECK, Manager of the "Skandinaviska Kreditaktiebolaget" ;
Sir Henry STRAKOSCH, G.B.E., Chairman of the Union Corporation Ltd. London (replacing Sir Otto Niemeyer during his absence in Brazil).

³ Report of the Financial Committee of May 11th, 1931, paragraph 6.

⁴ Statutes, Article 23, paragraph 4.

Directors, the Council will receive the annual report and statement of accounts, and the Financial Committee will appoint the auditors.

It is not possible within the scope of the present summary to review the technical details of the present plan. Its essential features are the patronage of the League, the constitution of the Board, the special provisions with reference to administration and to the limitation of dividends, the reserve fund subscribed by Governments, the provision that Government guarantees will be required where local conditions do not offer sufficient security. All these provisions are designed to attain the main object of creating a public utility company which may command general confidence and which it is hoped may bring about "those changes in production and that increase in demand which are necessary for a general improvement in agricultural conditions in Europe".¹

The scheme was drawn up at the request of the Council, with a view, in the first instance, to reducing the working expenses of agriculturists. Participation in it has been confined during the first five years to European countries in many of which the rates of interest are still abnormally high — sometimes 15-20 per cent or even more. It was felt that permission to do business in all parts of the world during the first years of the life of such an organisation would so increase overhead expenses as to defeat the very object for which the scheme was elaborated — namely, the reduction in interest rates. There is nothing, however, in the Convention establishing the Company or in the Statutes controlling it to prevent it extending its field of activity to any country in the world Member of the League of Nations once the first difficult years of initial organisation and development are past.

The Financial Committee and the European Commission have both emphasised that the new Company should in its work be very careful to avoid exposing itself to criticism on the ground that it has encouraged an injudicious increase of agricultural production.

Legislation relating to the mortgaging of property and the foreclosure of existing mortgages should be perfected as rapidly as possible in all those countries in which it is at present defective, and the Financial Committee has drawn up a set of principles which it is hoped may be accepted as a basis for legislative reform in a number of European countries. In the opinion of the Committee, these reforms should do much to improve the credit of agriculturists and thus to lower the rate at which they can borrow.

Finally, the Committee points out that no mere financial technique will enable capital to be obtained except at a relatively high cost: "It is undoubtedly, in the first place, considerations of a political nature which at present keep capital away from certain parts of Europe. Nothing would be more helpful in starting this flow of capital, which would be so very beneficial from all points of view, than measures which would create a feeling of confidence which is at present lacking."²

F. VISIT TO INDIA OF THE DIRECTOR OF THE ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL ORGANISATION OF THE LEAGUE.

The Government of India, in the autumn of 1930, requested that Sir Arthur Salter, Director of the Economic and Financial Organisation of the League, should visit India in order to give advice upon the creation of some organisation for the study of economic questions, including both the continuous interpretation of current developments and the consideration of plans designed to achieve particular purposes".

The results of the mission are embodied in a report to the Indian Government dated February 16th, 1931, which has been circulated for information to all the Members of the League.

The Secretary-General informed Sir Arthur Salter, previous to his visit, that members of the Indian delegation to the Assembly had, on many occasions, expressed regret at the insufficiency of the knowledge possessed in India regarding the past work and possibilities for future collaboration of the various organisations of the League, and, in particular, of the technical organisations. The Secretary-General felt that the invitation to Sir Arthur by the Government of India would afford him an opportunity of acquainting the Indian Government with many aspects of the work of the League, and asked him to take the opportunity of discussing generally with the authorities the development of India's collaboration in the work of the technical organisation. Sir Arthur Salter devoted such time as was at his disposal to the study and discussion of these problems.

¹ *Loc. cit.*

² Report of the Financial Committee of January 27th, 1931.

II. ORGANISATION FOR COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSIT.

A. CONFERENCE FOR THE UNIFICATION OF BUOYAGE AND LIGHTING OF COASTS.

The Conference for the Unification of Buoyage and Lighting of Coasts was convened by the Council at its meeting on January 15th, 1930, on the invitation of the Portuguese Government, to meet at Lisbon.

The Advisory and Technical Committee for Communications and Transit, with the assistance of experts from most of the countries concerned, has during the last few years carried out the necessary studies mainly in the Mediterranean, the Baltic, the United States of America and Canada. The Special Committee entrusted with this task was at the outset composed of experts from the principal maritime States in Continental Europe, Japan and Chili. At a later stage an American expert was invited to participate and, in the course of a mission to the United States and Canada, the Rapporteurs of the Special Committee got into touch with the competent departments in those countries. Great Britain did not participate in the preliminary work, but sent an important delegation to the Conference.

The Conference met from October 6th to 23rd, 1930. It was attended by delegations from the following thirty-two States : Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, China, Cuba, the Free City of Danzig, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Greece, Iceland, India, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Mexico, Monaco, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Roumania, Spain, Sweden, the United States of America, Uruguay, Yugoslavia. The International Association of Merchant Marine Officers, the International Hydrographic Bureau, the Lighthouse Administration of the former Ottoman Empire, the *Compagnie universelle du Canal maritime de Suez*, the International Shipping Conference, and the Portuguese Merchant Marine Officers' Association were also present. Most of the States were represented by the heads or senior officials of their lighthouse and buoyage departments.

The Conference adopted an Agreement concerning maritime signals, an Agreement concerning manned lightships not on their stations and a series of recommendations on lighthouse characteristics and radio-beacons.

Under the first Agreement the Contracting Governments undertake to unify certain descriptions of maritime signals. They undertake that only measures in conformity with the regulations attached to the Convention will be taken by the competent authorities in their territories, communicating to navigators by means of visual signals the information or warnings described. The provisions of these regulations may be departed from only in cases where, owing to local conditions or exceptional circumstances, they cannot reasonably be carried into effect, and particularly where their adoption might endanger navigation or where the expenditure involved would be out of proportion to the traffic concerned.

The Agreement was signed by the delegates of Belgium, Cuba, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Monaco, Morocco, the Netherlands, Portugal, Spain, Sweden and Tunis.

Under the second Agreement the contracting Parties undertake to unify certain rules in respect of manned lightships not on their stations and to put into force a series of provisions attached to the Convention.

The Agreement was signed by the delegates of Belgium, Cuba, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Greece, India, Monaco, Morocco, the Netherlands, Portugal, Spain, Sweden and Tunis.

The recommendations on lighthouse characteristics were framed with a view to providing in a rational and uniform manner for the organisation of new lighthouse systems or the improvement of existing systems by means of an effective distribution of the available characteristics. It was understood that the recommendations would not be regarded as laying down absolute rules or as necessitating in the near future any changes in existing systems. The recommendations on radio-beacons lay down certain requirements which, upon expert opinion and as the result of experience, are considered to be desirable in their equipment, and it is recommended that, so far as circumstances and resources permit, such beacons should be established throughout the world at all points where they are likely to be useful to maritime navigation. The Conference further recommended that the band of wave lengths assigned to radio-beacons, which experience has shown to be inadequate, should be increased by 20 kilocycles on the occasion of the next revision of the Radio Telegraphic Convention of 1927.

The Recommendations were signed by representatives of Belgium, Brazil, China, Cuba, the Free City of Danzig, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Greece, India, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Monaco, Morocco, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Roumania, Spain, Sweden, Tunis and the United States of America.

The problem of the unification of buoyage characteristics presented serious difficulties and the Conference was unable to establish an agreed convention. Two principal systems of buoyage are at present employed : a *lateral* system, which lends itself more particularly to the marking of well-defined channels and in which the marks show the location of dangers in relation to the route to be followed by navigators in their vicinity, and the *cardinal* system, which lends itself more particularly to the marking of shoals in the open sea and in which the direction of the mark from the danger is indicated by characteristics appropriate to the nearest cardinal point of the true compass.

The most serious technical difficulty which arose in the discussion was the position of red buoys and red lights in the lateral buoyage system. The Committee of Experts dealing with the question on behalf of the Advisory and Technical Committee had, up to 1927, favoured what is known as the St. Petersburg system (red to port) which had been adopted by several countries of Southern Europe and which other countries were ready to adopt. The views of the Committee of Experts, however, as the result of the co-operation of the United States, were modified in 1929. The Committee then thought it might be possible to achieve a wider unification by adopting an alternative system which had been approved at Washington in 1889 for the regulation of day signals. It was suggested that the Washington rules should be extended to night signals and it was thought that on this basis a wider unification might be achieved.

The British Government, which had not participated in the preparatory work was inclined to favour the original opinion of the Committee of Experts and it soon became apparent that general agreement was not likely to be obtained for the universal adoption of the Washington system. As a result, a large number of countries, which would have accepted the Washington rule proposed in 1929 to facilitate general uniformity, were inclined, during the discussions of the Conference, to revert to the alternative system.

The question arose whether the European countries which were prepared to accept the St. Petersburg rule should not immediately establish, as between themselves, a regional agreement for the unification of their buoyage and lighting upon this basis. Most of the Continental countries had indicated that they were willing to accept either solution for the sake of obtaining a worldwide uniformity. They preferred the St. Petersburg rule, and had only agreed to accept the Washington system if universal unification could thereby be secured. As, however, such unification appeared impossible, the question was raised whether a regional solution should not be adopted.

The delegations of Belgium, France, Germany, Greece, Monaco, Morocco, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Roumania, Spain and Tunis, signed a declaration expressing their conviction that a full agreement on the questions left unsettled by the Conference could be reached immediately as between their countries. It was pointed out, however, that such an agreement, involving a partial solution of the problem of unification, might seriously compromise the prospects of a more general agreement at a later stage. They accordingly consented not to take any immediate steps towards its conclusion, but indicated that, if a general agreement were not rapidly obtained, they reserved full freedom of action to their respective Governments to secure as complete as possible a unification of their own buoyage rules.

During these discussions a series of uniform rules, to form the basis of a draft agreement on the unification of buoyage, were provisionally drafted. It was realised, however, that these rules could only be approved as part of a relatively complete system of unification; that previous agreement on the fundamental questions in dispute was essential; and that the adoption of fragmentary regulations would only render more difficult the ultimate process of general unification.

The Conference in these circumstances, and believing that a further discussion within a short time would secure agreement between all the maritime nations of the world, adopted the following resolution:

“ The Conference,

“ Expressing its satisfaction that the work of its Buoyage Committee and of its Drafting Committee has permitted uniform rules to be drawn up regarding a certain number of buoyage questions capable of facilitating the elaboration of a complete international buoyage system, and that these rules have been unanimously agreed upon with a view to the organisation of such a system;

“ Noting, however, that it hardly seems possible to apply these rules, except as part of a sufficiently general agreement dealing with the main questions of buoyage as a whole;

“ Noting, further, that no immediate agreement seems possible with regard to certain of these important questions, such as the allocation of colours by day and by night of odd and even numbers in the lateral buoyage system;

“ Believing that further efforts must be made to secure agreement between all the maritime nations of the world before the expediency of examining the possibilities of agreement between certain of these nations only is considered:

“ Takes note of the proceedings of its Buoyage Committee and of the texts prepared by the Drafting Committee;

“ Decides to postpone its work on buoyage questions, and expresses the hope that it will be given an opportunity of resuming its work in about a year's time with a view to allowing the Governments concerned to make fresh efforts to reach complete agreement after consideration of the proceedings of the present Conference.

“ The present Resolution, to which will be annexed an extract from the Minutes of the Conference with regard to buoyage, and a copy of the Minutes of the Buoyage Committee and of the texts concerning buoyage prepared by the Drafting Committee, will be communicated to all the Governments represented at the Conference or invited to send representatives thereto.”

B. CONFERENCE FOR THE UNIFICATION OF RIVER LAW.

The Council on January 15th, 1930, decided to convene a Conference on the Unification of River Law to meet on November 17th, 1930, at Geneva. The Advisory and Technical Committee for Communications and Transit has been engaged upon preparatory work for this Conference since 1922, when it secured the co-operation of the River Commissions of the Danube, Elbe and the Rhine and appointed a Committee of Jurists which, after work that has lasted for seven years and in which the Central Commission for Rhine Navigation has taken a prominent part, has drawn up three draft Conventions for the unification of certain rules of river law applicable to navigation on the main systems of navigable waterways in Continental Europe.

The Conference met at Geneva from November 17th to December 9th, 1930. It included representatives of the following countries : Albania, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Danzig, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Italy, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Roumania, the Saar Territory, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey and Yugoslavia. The Central Commission for Rhine Navigation, the International Danube Commission, the International Elbe Commission, the International Oder Commission, the International Maritime Committee (Antwerp), the International Institute of Private Law (Rome) and the International Chamber of Commerce, were invited to send representatives in an advisory capacity.

The Conference adopted :

- (1) A Convention for the unification of certain rules concerning collisions in inland navigation ;
- (2) A Convention on the registration of inland navigation vessels, rights *in rem* over such vessels and other cognate questions ;
- (3) A Convention on administrative measures for attesting the right of inland navigation vessels to a flag ;
- (4) A Final Act to which were appended a number of recommendations.

The Convention for the unification of certain rules relating to collisions in inland navigation embodies the provisions which shall govern, as between the contracting parties, the compensation due in respect of damage to vessels, objects or persons on board as the result of collisions between inland navigation vessels. It lays down that if the collision is an accident, if due to *vis major* or if there is doubt as to its causes, the damage shall be borne by the person suffering it ; if due to an error on the part of one of the vessels, that vessel shall be liable for compensation for damage ; if caused by two or more vessels, such vessels shall be jointly and severally liable for compensation for damage caused to innocent vessels and to persons and objects on board such vessels. The liability of each vessel is proportionate to the gravity of its error, and arises notwithstanding that the collision may be caused by error on the part of the pilot even if a pilot be compulsory. The provisions of the Convention do not affect the rules governing the limitation of the liability of owners of vessels laid down in each country or the obligations arising from transport or other contracts.

The Convention was signed by Belgium, Czechoslovakia, Danzig, France, Germany, Hungary, Italy, the Netherlands, Poland, Roumania, Switzerland and Yugoslavia.

The Convention on the registration of inland navigation vessels deals with the registration of inland navigation vessels, ownership, mortgages, liens, seizures and enforcement. It is provided that registers for inland navigation vessels shall be established by the parties in accordance with their national laws which shall determine the conditions which a vessel must fulfil in order to be registered. All vessels with a displacement of at least 20 metric tons must be registered if they fulfil the conditions laid down by the laws of one or more parties, but can only be registered in the territory of a single State to be chosen by the owner of the vessel. A vessel registered in one State cannot be registered in another unless the first registration is cancelled.

The provisions relating to ownership and mortgages lay down generally that the regulations in respect of these matters shall be governed by the law of the country of registration. Certain general provisions, however, secure adequate publicity and a certain degree of uniformity. The provisions relating to liens define the claims which are to be regarded as privileged, establish the priority of such claims among themselves and determine the conditions for their extinction. The provisions relating to seizure and enforcement lay down that the validity of the effects of these measures shall be governed by the law of the country in which the vessel is seized. The record of the seizure or enforcement must, however, be forwarded to the office of registration, and a certain procedure followed for the publication of the seizure.

The Convention does not apply to vessels exclusively employed in any capacity by the public authorities.

The contracting parties whose laws are not adequate to ensure the execution of the Convention undertake to make the necessary arrangements for the purpose. They agree in particular to communicate to each other through the Secretary-General of the League the legislative provisions or regulations severally adopted to ensure the execution of the Convention, a list of the authorities responsible for keeping the registers and the initial letters used by the registration offices.

The Convention was signed by Belgium, Czechoslovakia, Danzig, France, Germany, Hungary, Italy, the Netherlands, Poland, Switzerland and Yugoslavia.

The Convention on administrative measures for attesting the right of inland navigation vessels to a flag provides that a vessel employed in inland navigation may only have the right to a single national flag. The contracting parties reserve their right to prescribe the conditions governing the acquisition and loss of the right to a flag. Vessels must be entered on a special register kept by a competent authority of the State granting the right. A vessel complying with the conditions prescribed by the law of two or more contracting parties may only be entered on the register of one of the parties, to be chosen by the owner of the vessel.

Each party reserves its rights to require its nationals to enter on its register vessels of which they own more than half, fulfilling the conditions prescribed by two or more States, if such nationals are habitually resident or, in the case of companies, if the chief seat of management of their business is situated, in the territory of their home State. For vessels belonging to physical persons similar conditions obtain in respect of nationals not residing habitually in their home territory, if their vessels are used solely for navigation in the waters of that territory. A vessel entered on one register cannot be entered on another before its name is removed from the first.

The Convention was signed by Belgium, Czechoslovakia, France, Hungary, Italy, Poland and Yugoslavia.

The formal clauses are virtually the same in all three Conventions. The Conventions must be ratified, and the instruments will be forwarded to the Secretary-General, who will advise all signatory or acceding States of the deposit. The Conventions will remain open for signature until May 31st, 1931, for all States which were represented at the Conference or invited to send representatives. From June 1st, 1931, any State represented at the Conference will be able to accede to the Conventions.

Ninety days after ratification or accession by three States, the Conventions will come into force for those States. For States ratifying or acceding to them later, they will come into force ninety days after the deposit of their instruments. Each State can make its ratification or accession dependent upon the ratification or accession of one or more States. After the Conventions have been in force for five years, they may be revised at any time at the request of at least three of the parties.

Three recommendations were attached to the Final Act :

(1) That countries availing themselves of the reservation to the Convention relating to collisions in respect of waters in which navigation is exclusively reserved for their nationals should bring their laws applicable to these waters into conformity with the provisions of the Convention ;

(2) That, pending the conclusion of a Convention on assistance in saving of life and property in river navigation, the laws of every State should impose on the captain or master of each ship involved in a collision the duty of rendering to the other ship and its crew and passengers such assistance as he can without serious danger to his own ship, crew and passengers ;

(3) That a Convention should in the near future be concluded on the subject of attachment (*saisie conservatoire*).

The work accomplished by the Conference was substantial, objective and practical. Various delegations, while remaining true to the legal conceptions of their countries, made appreciable sacrifices with a view to establishing an international system universally acceptable. The work may be regarded as a first stage in the unification of river law in Europe.

The Organisation for Communications and Transit, in continuation of the work of the unification of river law, is dealing with a number of problems such as assistance and saving of life and property in river navigation, questions of procedure, responsibility in matters of river law, insurance and other technical subjects.

C. EUROPEAN CONFERENCE ON ROAD TRAFFIC.

The Advisory and Technical Committee has for some years had under consideration the framing of an international agreement on commercial motor transport. The Assembly has on various occasions shown its interest in the question, and the Preliminary Conference with a view to Concerted Economic Action in 1930 expressed the hope that the work being done with a view to the drafting of an international agreement on the subject would be brought to a successful issue as rapidly as possible.

The Advisory and Technical Committee represented by its Permanent Committee on Road Traffic has further considered, jointly with the Fiscal Committee of the League of Nations, the question of the taxation of foreign motor vehicles ; the draft of an international convention on this subject was established at a joint meeting of the Permanent Committee on Road Traffic and the Fiscal Committee in August 1930.

The Advisory and Technical Committee recently addressed to the Governments certain recommendations for the unification of road signalling. Most of the Governments welcomed these recommendations, but the Committee realised that unification could hardly be attained except by the conclusion of an international agreement on the subject. A draft agreement was accordingly prepared and was ready for transmission to the Governments in October 1930.

Finally, as a result of requests put forward by tourist organisations, the Committee was led to consider whether it would not be possible to facilitate, by agreement between the Customs authorities of the various countries, the application of the triptych system for the benefit of motorists, by recognising a certificate issued by a Customs authority in lieu of a consular visa in cases where a triptych had been lost or had not received a final or provisional exit visa.

The preparatory work of the Advisory and Technical Committee in dealing with these questions has been summarised in previous reports on the work of the League and in particular the supplementary report presented to the Assembly in 1930.¹

The Council on September 18th, 1930, acting upon a recommendation of the Advisory and Technical Committee, decided that a European Conference on Road Traffic should be convened to meet in March 1931, to which would be invited all the States which had previously attended European conferences held on the recommendation of the Communications and Transit Organisation. It was decided that the agenda of the Conference should include :

- (1) The conclusion of a convention on the international regulation of commercial motor transport ;
- (2) The conclusion of an international agreement on the unification of road signalling ;
- (3) The conclusion of a convention on the taxation of foreign motor vehicles ;
- (4) The conclusion of an agreement between Customs authorities to facilitate the procedure to be followed in the case of undischarged or lost triptychs.

The Conference met in Geneva on March 16th, 1931. In addition to the twenty-four States represented, delegates from the more important international tourist associations and organisations interested in tourist or commercial traffic also attended.

The Conference was unable to come to an agreement upon a convention on international commercial motor transport. Owing to the continuous and considerable development of motor traffic during past few years, it was impossible for many of the delegates to appreciate the exact legal consequences for the signatories of a convention dealing with the matter. The Conference therefore decided to suspend its work on the convention, at the same time laying emphasis on the expediency of referring to a future conference the task of finding an international solution of the problem, after the necessary supplementary investigations into the legislation of the various countries had been made. It recommended that, pending the conclusion of an international convention, separate agreements should be made between States on as liberal a basis as possible.

The Conference adopted an international Convention concerning the Unification of Road Signals. It stipulates that the contracting parties shall adopt an international system of road signalling, and the system proposed, with the standardised signals suggested, is described in an annex to it.

The Convention was signed by eleven States : Belgium, Czechoslovakia, Danzig, Denmark, France, Italy, Germany, Luxemburg, Poland, Switzerland and Yugoslavia.

The Conference adopted a draft Convention on the Taxation of Foreign Motor Vehicles. It provides that touring-cars registered in the territory of one of the contracting parties and circulating temporarily in the territory of another contracting party shall be exempt from the taxes and charges levied in the country visited for a period of ninety days in the year. The exemption does not apply to vehicles used commercially for the public conveyance of passengers for payment or for the transport of persons and goods on a commercial basis. Persons claiming exemption will be required to hold a fiscal permit valid for one year from the date of issue. The permit may be issued, not only by the competent authority of the country in which the vehicle is registered, but by any organisation to which this authority has delegated the necessary competence.

The Convention was signed by ten countries : Belgium, Czechoslovakia, Danzig, Denmark, Great Britain, Italy, Luxemburg, the Netherlands, Poland and Switzerland. The French delegate announced that his Government would sign the Convention subsequent to a pending re-organisation of the system of motor-car taxation in France.

The Conference approved an Agreement between Customs authorities to facilitate the procedure relating to triptychs. The Agreement is designed to remove certain practical difficulties which have arisen for tourists under the present system.

The Agreement was signed by nine States : Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany, Great Britain, Luxemburg, the Netherlands, Switzerland and Yugoslavia.

The Conference further adopted a recommendation to the effect that a system of codification should as soon as possible be internationally established for signals used by officials directing traffic and by drivers of vehicles.

¹ See *Official Journal*, 1930, Special Supplement No. 84, page 373.

Finally the Conference, in approving the Convention on the Taxation of Foreign Motor Vehicles, recommended that the contracting parties should endeavour, either through internal legislation or by agreements among themselves, to further and extend as widely as possible the system of tax exemption laid down in the Convention and to improve the methods of applying it.

D. PREPARATIONS FOR THE FOURTH GENERAL CONFERENCE ON COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSIT.

The Council on January 19th, 1931 decided to convene the Fourth General Conference on Communications and Transit on October 26th, 1931. The Third General Conference met from August 23rd to September 2nd, 1927, and under the Statute of the Communications and Transit Organisation a Conference must be held every four years.

The Advisory and Technical Committee considered the agenda of the Conference in September 1930. The agenda as approved by the Council will include :

- (1) Examination of the report on the work of the Advisory and Technical Committee for Communications and Transit since the last General Conference ;
- (2) Examination of the report submitted by the Secretary-General of the League on the measures taken in execution of the decisions of the previous Conferences ;
- (3) Renewal of the membership of the Advisory and Technical Committee for Communications and Transit ;
- (4) Steps to be taken in case of grave occurrences of a general character affecting routes of communication ;
- (5) Examination of the expediency from an economic and social standpoint :
 - (a) Of fixing movable feasts ;
 - (b) Of simplifying the Gregorian calendar.

The first three items are statutory ; the fourth item has been placed on the agenda as the result of a recommendation made by the Third General Conference, and the fifth item in response to a desire expressed by the Assembly in 1929.

The Advisory and Technical Committee on Communications and Transit has set up a Preparatory Committee which will examine reports on the reform of the calendar presented by the different national committees which have been established in nearly every country for the study of the problem. It will draw up a summary of conclusions and define the questions to be discussed by the General Conference. The Report of the Preparatory Committee will be submitted to the various Governments before the Conference meets. ¹

The Advisory and Technical Committee, in a report addressed to the Council on March 3rd, 1931, expressed the view that all questions of a purely religious nature arising in connection with the calendar must be left to the religious authorities concerned. The Conference will deal only with the views expressed by civil bodies and by the various Governments on the economic and social aspects of the question. It is suggested that the various religious authorities should nevertheless be invited to send observers to the Conference.

E. UNIFICATION OF TRANSPORT STATISTICS.

A draft Convention on the statistics relating to the transport of goods, together with regulations to be applied to statistics covering maritime, inland navigation and railway transport, has been established by the Drafting Committee of the Committee for the Unification of Transport Statistics. Under this Convention the statistics compiled would include, for each of the three methods of transport, annual statements of the transports effected from one territory to another and within a single territory. For maritime navigation they would also include an annual statement of the movements of maritime shipping. For the establishment of transport statistics the territories of the States concerned would be divided into districts, this division being made principally on economic and technical grounds without there being necessarily a coincidence with administrative boundaries.

The draft Convention will be submitted to the Committee for the Unification of Transport Statistics for approval and subsequently to the Advisory and Technical Committee. It will serve as a basis of discussion for an International Statistical Conference, which will probably meet in 1933.

The Advisory Committee will further be asked to consider a report drafted in co-operation with the International Institute of Statistics, which has been asked to co-ordinate the work undertaken. This report fully confirms the conclusions reached by the Committee for the Unification of Transport Statistics, and the recommendations of the joint Committee of the two bodies reproduce almost in their entirety those which were formulated by the Unification Committee.

¹ The conclusions of the Preparatory Committee will be summarised in the Supplementary Report on the Work of the League.

F. SPECIAL COMMITTEE OF ENQUIRY INTO THE QUESTION OF THE NEGOTIABILITY OF RAILWAY TRANSPORT DOCUMENTS.

The Advisory and Technical Committee decided during its thirteenth session to study the question of the negotiability of railway transport documents and appointed for that purpose a Special Committee, which met for the first time in October 1930.

Representatives of the International Chamber of Commerce and the International Union of Railways were present at this meeting in an advisory capacity. These bodies had for some time been studying the question on their own behalf.

The Special Committee noted that the negotiable transport document used in a large number of countries in America and recognised by the legislation of certain European countries was formally prohibited by the International Convention of Berne regulating the transport of goods by railway. The International Convention of Berne recognises only the waybill, which is essentially a different class of transport document, particularly in respect of the right of disposing of the goods in course of consignment.

Persons interested in production and trade, as the Committee noted, have recognised the great utility of negotiable transport documents guaranteeing payment of the goods and enabling them to be sold in course of consignment, delivery being effected by handing over the document to the person acquiring the goods. Such documents also permit credit to be obtained on the goods transported and, in particular, enable the document to be given as security for bills which the bearer of the negotiable document may draw. These credit operations are of special advantage during the present credit crisis. Admittedly, on the other hand, the creation of these negotiable documents would involve a number of difficulties of a legal, administrative and technical character.

The Committee considered that it would be well for the International Chamber of Commerce and the International Union of Railways to continue their study of the question as soon as possible, basing their enquiries on the information given and the observations exchanged during the session. It decided to meet again as soon as the two organisations had communicated the results of their enquiries.

G. CONDITIONS OF ENGAGEMENT AND EMPLOYMENT OF STAFF EMPLOYED IN INLAND EUROPEAN NAVIGATION.

The Organisation for Communications and Transit and the International Labour Office have appointed a Joint Committee to study the question of the conditions of engagement and work of the staff engaged in European inland navigation. Information had been collected on this question as the result of a suggestion made by the Committee for the Unification of River Law which, in the course of its work, became interested in the labour conditions of bargees.

The Joint Committee considered it desirable to appoint a committee of experts to indicate what questions might be a suitable subject for international regulation and to what regions these regulations should apply. The committee of experts would also determine what questions might, failing such regulations, give rise to conflicts of laws for which a solution should be sought.

The Committee of Experts is composed of members of the Committee for the Unification of River Law, one of these members acting as chairman, experts appointed by the employers and workers groups of the Governing Body of the International Labour Office, and experts chosen for their administrative experience and personal competence.

The Committee of Experts, during its first session, thought it desirable to enter upon a study of the question of the regulation of working-hours and to begin this enquiry, in respect of boats making a voyage, by taking up the question of night watches. It further decided to study the question of the conflict of laws and of administrative co-operation in social insurance matters, limiting this last enquiry, for the moment, to an examination of insurance against accidents, sickness, old age and invalidity.

The information collected will be completed in order to facilitate these enquiries and the Committee of Experts will meet again towards the end of 1931 or the beginning of 1932.

II. MARITIME NAVIGATION. — A COMPARATIVE STUDY OF NATIONAL LEGISLATIONS REGULATING THE RIGHT TO A FLAG.

The Advisory and Technical Committee for Communications and Transit in March 1930 examined, at the request of the Economic Committee of the League, certain measures studied by that Committee for the suppression of the smuggling of alcohol into Finland. The Advisory Committee noted that some of the difficulties to which its attention had been drawn arose from the conditions under which the right to a flag was sometimes granted to ships engaged in smuggling. It felt it was highly desirable, not only from the point of view of the specific question referred to it, but from a more general point of view, that a comparative study should be undertaken of the national legislations regulating the right to a flag. It accordingly instructed the Secretariat to collect from the Governments concerned such information as might be necessary.

The Secretary-General, giving effect to this decision, addressed a circular letter on April 24th, 1930, to all States concerned, including a questionnaire concerning the conditions required

by national laws and practice for the grant of the right to a national flag, either within the country or abroad.

The Secretariat has up till now received detailed memoranda from forty-three States, which will enable the Advisory Committee to undertake an examination of the question at its next session.

I. NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN POLAND AND LITHUANIA ; TRANSIT QUESTIONS.

The Advisory and Technical Committee for Communications and Transit considered during its session in 1930 the proposals of a special Sub-Committee which it had appointed to undertake a technical and legal study of certain communications and transit questions raised by the Council during its examination of the situation which had arisen in the course of negotiations between Poland and Lithuania. The Advisory and Technical Committee adopted a report and forwarded it to the Council on September 5th, 1930. It expressed the view that transit should be resumed over the Niemen and the railway between Landwarow and Kaisiadorys.

The Council in January 1931 decided to ask the Permanent Court of International Justice for an advisory opinion under Article 14 of the Covenant on the following question :

“ Do the international engagements in force oblige Lithuania in the present circumstances, and if so in what manner, to take the necessary measures to open for traffic or for certain categories of traffic the Landwarow-Kaisiadorys railway sector ? ”

The Advisory and Technical Committee and the Secretary-General of the League were asked to give to the Court any assistance which it might need for the examination of this question.

J. RAILWAY ORGANISATION AT DANZIG.

The Permanent Legal Committee and the Administrative Section of the Permanent Railway Committee were asked in March and May 1930 to advise the High Commissioner of the League of Nations at Danzig on certain questions concerning railway organisation in the Free City. The question was examined at meetings in Paris and Geneva with the assistance of a Committee of Enquiry which conducted investigations on the spot. The representatives of Poland and the Free City of Danzig have on several occasions furnished explanations and indicated the views of their Governments.

A final report was sent to the High Commissioner on September 29th, 1930.

K. APPLICATION OF ARTICLE 304 OF THE TREATY OF TRIANON AND ARTICLE 320 OF THE TREATY OF ST. GERMAIN.

The Advisory and Technical Committee for Communications and Transit has, at the request of the Council, considered several requests addressed by railway companies situated near to one another on the territories of the Successor States of the former Austro-Hungarian Monarchy for the appointment of arbitrators to decide, under Article 304 of the Treaty of Trianon and Article 320 of the Treaty of St. Germain respectively, upon disputes between the States concerned and the companies. The Advisory and Technical Committee expressed the opinion that it was for the Council to appoint such arbitrators. The Council has, on several occasions, adjourned the appointment of arbitrators in the hope that a friendly agreement might be reached between the parties.

In the majority of cases such agreements have been concluded and the Council, at the request of the railway companies, definitely withdrew from its agenda the relevant requests during its session in May 1931.

In two cases only the Council has appointed arbitrators who, in the absence of any agreement concluded before March 15th, 1931, between the States territorially concerned and the railway companies, have constituted themselves as an arbitral tribunal. Negotiations between the parties concerned have, however, resulted in preliminary agreements and the arbitral tribunal has adjourned its first meeting to allow of the accomplishment of the formalities necessary to put these agreements into force.

L. THE LEAGUE WIRELESS STATION.

The Secretary-General on October 4th, 1930, signed four contracts for the purchase of equipment for the League wireless station with the Marconi, Telefunken and Bell Telephone Companies. Under these contracts the cost of equipping the station will be 2,280,264 francs, to which must be added 50,000 francs for additional equipment considered desirable by the experts.

The construction of the buildings, carried out by the Société Radio-Suisse, began on April 1st, 1931, and they were to be completed towards June 15th. The purchase of the necessary sites was made during the month of May.

Under the contracts the installation and complete equipment of the station should be finished by December 1st, 1931. The station will be worked by the Société Radio-Suisse for itself and on behalf of the League of Nations according to the principles laid down in the agreement concluded between the Secretary-General of the League and the Société Radio-Suisse on June 9th, 1930.

M. ADOPTION OF A STANDARD HORSE-POWER MEASUREMENT FOR AEROPLANE AND DIRIGIBLE ENGINES.

In accordance with a resolution of the Council on January 24th, 1931, a Committee of Experts met in Geneva from April 20th to 24th, 1931, to study the fixing of rules relative to the adoption of a standard horse-power measurement for aeroplane and dirigible engines in preparation for the Disarmament Conference to be called in 1932. The Committee sought a simple formula which would not result in an appreciable distortion of engine design. The Committee, after a full discussion of possible horse-power rating rules, decided to combine the formulæ suggested on the weight of the power unit and the "volume swept".

III. HEALTH ORGANISATION.

1. PROGRAMME AND METHOD OF WORK OF THE HEALTH COMMITTEE.

The report on the work of the Health Organisation, adopted by the Assembly in 1930, reviewed the progress made during the previous nine years in the health work undertaken by the League of Nations. It was noted that the questions taken up by the Health Organisation passed through three stages. First, the question was studied and information in regard to it collected; secondly, on the basis of this material a general judgment was formed; thirdly, the stage was reached in which action became possible and when it fell to the individual Governments to take the necessary measures.

Attention was drawn to the importance of the relations existing between health work and economic conditions. Health measures necessarily reacted upon communications and transit and upon the agricultural, industrial and financial economy of States; they were one among many factors which determined, in the various countries, a certain standard of living and the general progress of nations. Full approval was expressed concerning the development of the work of the Health Organisation considered under this aspect, and more particularly the work done in the field of social hygiene.

The delegates of Japan, India, Persia, Australia, the Netherlands and Venezuela submitted definite suggestions.

The delegate of Japan laid emphasis on the special interest taken by his Government in the medical and health problems of China, and in the working of the Eastern Bureau at Singapore as a centre of information and enquiry. He hoped there would be a close collaboration between Japan and the Health Organisation in the campaign against leprosy.

The delegate of India referred to important problems in the study of which his country desired the assistance of the Health Organisation; universal problems, such as the protection of maternity and child welfare, and problems of special importance to India, such as the campaign against malaria and measures taken to prevent the spread of cholera, plague and kala-azar; problems even more specific in character, such as the use of rice as a foodstuff and the endeavour to standardise a single serum against snake-bite.

The delegate of Persia associated himself with the observations of the delegate of India upon cholera and plague.

The delegate of Australia said that his country was particularly interested in the studies which were being made of cancer, infant mortality and the health situation in New Guinea and the Pacific Islands.

The delegate of the Netherlands, expressing his appreciation of the work of the Bureau at Singapore, emphasised that it formed an important link between the League of Nations and the Eastern countries.

The delegate of Venezuela suggested that the Health Organisation should secure the co-operation of Governments in a systematic enquiry into the cultivation, use and distribution of medicinal plants, of which cinchona was one of the most important.

It was observed in this connection that the delegations to the Assembly, in approving the work of the Health Organisation, far from fearing that it might be extending its field of action too far, invariably suggested new subjects for study and research.

The Assembly on September 29th, 1930, finally adopted the following resolution :

- “ The Assembly ;
- “ Recognising the importance of the work of the Health Organisation to the League as a whole, and the value of that work in connection with problems of development in all countries :
- “ Expresses the hope that the experience gained by this Organisation may be made available in increasing measure to Member States of the League ;
- “ Notes with satisfaction that the activities of the Health Organisation continue to extend to countries in all parts of the world, and that during the past year they have been specially exercised in certain countries which have invited the technical advice of the League in the development of their public health services ;
- “ Approves the work carried on by the Organisation since the last session of the Assembly ; and
- “ Expresses its appreciation to the members of the Health Committee, as well as to the different health administrations and individual experts who have contributed in so large a measure to the success of their activities.”

The development of the activities of the Health Organisation, noted by the Assembly, extends also to its methods of work.

There are certain permanent duties of the Health Organisation which, now that the Organisation has been definitely constituted, will be subject to relatively slight modification beyond such technical improvements as may be introduced. The work of the Epidemiological and Statistical Services belong to this class. Another permanent duty of the Organisation is to keep continuously in touch with the health administrations of the various countries. This work involves collective study tours and individual missions. The organisation of these activities will shortly be completed by the establishment of an International School of Health Studies in Paris, which the French Government has generously promised to support. There will be a further reference to this matter in the present chapter. Several Commissions of the Health Committee, moreover, such as those dealing with opium questions, malaria, cancer, leprosy, diphtheria, whooping-cough, scarlet fever and the standardisation of sera have, by the nature of their work, more or less permanent duties to perform which may require some considerable time for their completion.

There is another class of questions for which a new method of work has been organised. Governments are asking the Health Committee to formulate advisory opinions on methods to be employed and technical schemes to be adopted in dealing with their manifold administrative and medical problems in the field of public health. The Health Committee, in dealing with these matters, cannot refer solely to the individual experiences of its members. The Governments concerned hope to obtain a technical opinion based on the experience of many countries, which may constitute, as it were, a declaration of the present state of practice and knowledge in the domain of public health and provide them with an executive programme. Such advice is especially valuable in regard to problems of social hygiene, the aim being to decide how the economic, financial and technical resources of a particular country may be used for the development of its public health services.

The Health Committee, responding to this necessity, has established for each question a lighter and more adaptable machinery than the old system of commissions. The new method is to appoint small drafting committees, each consisting of a chairman and three or four experts, which may consult such other technical officers or competent authorities as they may consider desirable in the course of their enquiries. The drafting committees will report to the Health Committee, which will alone be competent to adopt, after debate, conclusions endorsed by the technical authority of the Organisation.

Drafting committees have been established for each of the following questions : maternal and infant welfare, the health of the child of school age and of the adolescent, the campaign against tuberculosis, questions relating to venereal diseases, smallpox, cancer, rheumatism, diseases of the heart, health centres, the part played by public authorities in the administration of medical assistance, public health and sickness insurance, the teaching of medicine, human sleeping-sickness, the problem of nutrition and physical education.

2. COLLABORATION OF THE HEALTH ORGANISATION WITH THE GOVERNMENTS OF VARIOUS COUNTRIES IN PUBLIC HEALTH MATTERS.

(a) COLLABORATION WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF CHINA.

The proposals of the National Government of the Republic of China for collaboration with the League in public health matters were approved by the Council of the League in May 1930.¹

The first proposal was for a re-organisation of the quarantine services of the Chinese ports, to be carried out on the basis of an enquiry made by the experts of the Health Organisation

¹ These proposals and the various missions and enquiries undertaken by the Health Organisation in connection with them were summarised in the General and Supplementary Reports on the work of the League presented to the Assembly in 1930 (*Official Journal*, 1930, Special Supplement No. 84).

and the Organisation for Communications and Transit in collaboration with Chinese officials. The Health Committee in October 1930 approved a scheme of re-organisation, subject to any modifications which it might be necessary to make after conferring with the experts delegated by the Organisation for Communications and Transit. A consultation with the transit experts was held in Paris on October 20th, 1930, and, on November 3rd, the final plans were forwarded to the Chinese Minister of Health. The National Quarantine Service of China has now been working for some ten months in Shanghai and four months in Amoy. A definite sum, sufficient to meet all expenditure, has been set aside by the Minister of Finance from the Customs revenue of the port of Shanghai, and the necessary services are already to a large extent organised and working satisfactorily.

The second proposal of the Government of China was for the establishment of a central field health station at Nanking, to become the nucleus of a national field health service. The fundamental factor in dealing with the problems of medical assistance and social hygiene in China is the training in modern methods of doctors and health experts. The central field health station will in effect be the headquarters of a technical body of officials, who will in due course be competent to direct the health services of the country. The station is being actively organised and will shortly begin its work. It is divided into nine sections : (1) Bacteriology and epidemiology ; (2) Chemistry ; (3) Sanitary engineering ; (4) Parasitology and malarology ; (5) Maternity and child welfare services ; (6) Vital statistics ; (7) School health and physical education ; (8) Medical relief and industrial hygiene ; and (9) Public health propaganda and education. The nine services will come into action one by one in response to the immediate demands of the situation. Four foreign experts are being invited to strengthen the staff, and the Chinese authorities hope to secure the services of further experts from abroad. The School Health and Physical Education Section will organise a health department in each of the sixteen more important colleges in the country ; the requisite staff for this purpose being trained at the central station. One of the first efforts of the station will be to establish an efficient medical service for schools, and particular attention will also be paid to maternity and child welfare.

The services of Dr. B. Borčić, Director of the Institute of Hygiene at Zagreb, have been placed at the disposal of the Chinese Government for the equipment and organisation of the station for a period of two years.

A first national hospital has been established at Nanking which is already rendering excellent services to the local population and forms a nucleus of what will ultimately develop into a large medical and health unit in full activity. Another central hospital will shortly be opened in the province of Chekiang.

The Chinese Administration defines the national activities to be undertaken in the field of health during the next three years as follows :

(a) The establishment of the Central Field Health Station and the development of the Central Hospital as a nucleus of the national medical and health services, this station to operate within selected regions as regards all major problems of sanitation, preventive medicine and medical relief.

(b) The creation of an Experimental Medical School, and the reinforcement of the few existing national medical colleges of the higher type, for the training of suitable officers for the later work.

(c) The gradual extension of the National Quarantine Service.

(d) The co-ordination of the various modern centres of public health activity in the country.

The Chinese Minister of Finance has allocated the sum of \$1,000,000 for the development of the health services of the Administration. Of this sum \$400,000 has already been placed at the disposal of the Chinese Minister of Health.

The Minister of Education of the Government of the Republic of China, in December 1929, requested the Health Organisation to nominate an expert to co-operate with a National Commission on medical education established by the Chinese Ministries of Education and Health. Dr. Knud Faber, professor of medicine at Copenhagen University, visited the medical schools in China in response to this invitation and assisted the National Commission to draft a model programme. The Health Committee, in May 1931, examining the conclusions embodied in Dr. Faber's report, emphasised three essential points :

1. A central authority should be set up to centralise, co-ordinate, supervise and direct the work of medical education and practice ;

2. The medical education given should be essentially practical, and clinical training, both therapeutic and preventive, should predominate ;

3. Experiments should be made to ascertain what kind of model school is best suited to provide China with physicians qualified to carry out its health policy.

The Health Committee expressed its preference for a single type of model school at which a minimum standard of training would be given to a single type of physician, emphasising, however, that the studies should not be simplified to the detriment of the scientific character

of the training. The Committee realised, moreover, the necessity for creating a body of specialist physicians and medical assistants, and it recognised the need of a thorough secondary education before admission to the medical school.

One striking feature of the Chinese development scheme is its insistence upon the value of instruction and propaganda among the younger generation. New China is being built up by its elementary and secondary teachers and its agricultural instructors, and an endeavour will be made to train these people to become active agents in the initiation and promotion of sound health measures regarded as a social activity intended to raise the general standard of life. The Chinese Government has decided to organise within a single framework health measures, measures of public relief, the development of the army medical service and public education. Full use will be made of the educational movement, which presents one of the most helpful signs of constructive work in the country.

A certain number of candidates for the Quarantine Service, members of the staff of the Central Field Station and its educational departments, directors of health departments in the colleges and professors will receive fellowships which will enable them to pursue their special studies abroad under arrangements approved by the Council in May 1930 and by the Assembly in 1930.

The co-operation of the Health Organisation of the League was requested under the original proposals of the Chinese Government in the organisation of a campaign against cholera and smallpox in the Shanghai area. Three successive conferences have been held in Shanghai, presided over by the Chinese Minister of Health, in January 1930, December 1930, and March 1931. As a result of these conferences an experiment of mass inoculation against cholera has been organised in Greater Shanghai, the International Settlement and the French Concession. Experts of the Health Organisation participated in these conferences and were consulted on various aspects of the campaign. 200,000 persons were vaccinated against smallpox and about 500,000 persons against cholera in 1930. These experiments are being continued.

(b) COLLABORATION WITH THE GREEK GOVERNMENT.

The steps taken by the Health Organisation in response to the request of the Greek Government for assistance in the re-organisation of its public health services and the measures adopted to carry into effect the plan of re-organisation of the Greek Government have been summarised in previous reports to the Assembly. An Under-Secretary of State for Health, attached to the Prime Minister's office, is also Director-General of the Health Centre at Athens. Permanent contact is thus secured between the Greek health administration and the technical services created under the plan of the Greek Government, including the new school of hygiene.

The Health Centre at Athens is composed of the following six divisions : (1) Division of Hygiene and Preventive Medicine, including the School of Hygiene ; (2) Division of Malariology ; (3) Division of Sanitary Engineering ; (4) Division of Pharmacology and Biochemistry ; (5) Division of Research ; and (6) Division of School Hygiene.

The School of Hygiene under the direction of Dr. Norman White, seconded for three years from the Health Section of the League, was opened on March 16th, 1931.

A special Council has been established to direct the campaign against malaria, and certain districts have been chosen in which anti-malarial measures will be applied and practically demonstrated. Three health centres are in process of establishment, at Corfu, Arta and Canea (Crete).

Special attention is being paid to the organisation of the health services in the Athens-Piræus metropolitan area. Professor Julius Tandler of Vienna has been sent by the Health Organisation, by arrangement with the Greek Government, to advise and report on the services in this district.

(c) COLLABORATION WITH THE GOVERNMENTS OF LATIN AMERICA.

1. *Bolivia*. — At the request of the President of the Republic of Bolivia, two experts of the Health Organisation were sent to Bolivia in April 1930 to undertake preliminary studies for a re-organisation of the health services of the country according to a programme prepared by the Bolivian authorities. A survey was made of the following specific subjects : vaccination against smallpox, malaria, ankylostomiasis, child welfare and the organisation of departmental health services.

The Health Committee decided as a result of these studies to place at the disposal of the Bolivian authorities the facilities available under its system of liaison with health administrations and made arrangements for the programme of collaboration to be further considered in consultation with the Bolivian Director-General of Health.

The Bolivian Director-General of Health, accompanied by his assistant, came to Europe in October 1930 and made a study of public health work in several European countries, including those where conditions were analogous to those prevailing in Bolivia. He communicated to the Health Committee the programme which he proposed to put into execution, and requested the further help of the Health Organisation.

The Health Committee, during its session in May 1931, considered the programme of re-organisation and decided to assist the Government of Bolivia :

1. In training abroad a certain number of public health officers to constitute a nucleus of the new public health service of Bolivia ;
2. In studying the distribution of diseases in tropical and sub-tropical regions of Bolivia ;
3. By advising as to the development of the proposed plan of re-organisation ;
4. By studying through its Malaria Commission should the Bolivian Government so desire, the resources of the country in respect of cinchona bark.

2. *Enquiry into Infant Mortality.* — The Health Organisation of the League, on the invitation of the Government of Peru, convened a Conference of health experts on child welfare in connection with the Sixth Pan-American Congress on Child Welfare in July 1930. The object of the Conference was to discuss the results of the enquiries into infant mortality previously carried out under the auspices of the Health Organisation in the Argentine, Brazil, Chile and Uruguay and to compare these results with those of the investigations which had been made in Europe. The Conference was invited to consider the organisation of similar enquiries in other South American countries and was attended by representatives of the Argentine, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Uruguay and Venezuela.

A comparison of the studies made in Europe and South America showed that in both cases, the two main factors in infant mortality were : (1) still-births and infant mortality during the first days of life and (2) deaths occurring later due to diseases of the digestive system, acute infectious diseases and diseases of the respiratory system. Moreover, in South America as in Europe, a variation in the number of deaths was noted according to whether the districts studied were urban or rural. As a result of the studies made it was possible to indicate with precision the economic, legislative, sanitary and psychological measures to be adopted with a view to reducing infant mortality and the steps which might usefully be taken by the central authorities.

The report on the enquiries into infant mortality in South America was approved by the Health Committee in October 1930 and copies have been communicated to the health administrations of the Latin-American countries.

3. *Serological Conference at Montevideo.* — A delegate of the Health Committee was, at the request of the Government of Uruguay, appointed to preside over the South American Serological Congress held at Montevideo in September 1930 by the Institute for the Prevention of Syphilis in that city. The Conference was attended by experts from the Argentine, Brazil, Chile, Paraguay, Uruguay, and by the authors of the methods which had yielded the best results at the Laboratory Conferences convened by the Health Organisation of the League. A comparative study was made of the value of the different methods of serological diagnosis. The principles adopted for this comparison were those approved by the two previous Laboratory Conferences convened at Copenhagen by the Health Organisation and the results of the comparative studies were concordant.

The Conference adopted a resolution noting the value of the results obtained and recommending that the Health Organisation should invite the Montevideo Institute for the Prevention of Syphilis to continue the work of the Conference on the Sero-Diagnosis of Syphilis and to co-ordinate, with the help of the Danish State Serum Institute and of the League of Nations Secretariat, comparative studies on this subject by the various South American serological laboratories.

3. SERVICE OF EPIDEMIOLOGICAL INFORMATION.

(a) GENEVA.

The Health Section continues to publish its daily, weekly, monthly and annual epidemiological reports. The practical utility of the service was again shown during the recent epidemic of influenza, the health experts in all countries being kept informed as to the movement of the epidemic.

(b) THE EASTERN BUREAU AT SINGAPORE.

During the year 1930 the wireless transmission of epidemiological information received from 150 ports of the East and the Far East by the Bureau at Singapore was further developed. The complete epidemiological bulletin of the Bureau, intended for health administrations, is now issued in a special code adopted for the purpose by four stations, while a summary *en clair* adequate to the needs of shipping, is transmitted by seven stations. Since April 15th the station at Malabar transmits the bulletin, completed if necessary by the latest information received, in long and short wave-lengths, which enable ships, whether near or far from the

station, to be kept continually in touch with the health situation in the various ports which they may have to visit.

It is satisfactory to know that the frequency of cases of the more serious epidemic diseases, plague, cholera and smallpox, in Eastern ports was in 1930 clearly inferior to that of previous years.

The Director of the Bureau has personally assisted in the work undertaken for the prevention of cholera in Shanghai. The various health administrations of that city have undertaken a serious campaign against that disease and more than 500,000 of its inhabitants have been vaccinated. The development of the new National Chinese Quarantine Service, at Shanghai and at Amoy in particular, has contributed to strengthening the connection between the Eastern Bureau and China.

The Eastern Bureau continues to serve as an intermediary for various Eastern laboratories, helping them to co-ordinate their researches upon definite questions, such as the efficacy of anti-cholera bacteriophage, the epidemiology and prevention of pneumonia in tropical countries, the epidemiology of plague, vaccine by the mouth against intestinal infections and particularly against dysentery, the efficacy of dry vaccine against smallpox, particularly useful in tropical countries, since heat does not affect its properties.

The Eastern Bureau has completed its health information work relating to Eastern ports by organising for port health officers a study tour in the more important of them.

The Advisory Committee of the Bureau, during its session in December 1930, approved the work completed or undertaken by the Bureau. It again drew the attention of experts and health administrations to the dangers which might arise for Eastern countries from the introduction of the virus of yellow fever. The Advisory Committee was glad to note that three Eastern countries had, by legislative measures, prohibited the import of the virus even for experimental purposes.

4. WORK OF THE COMMISSIONS.

(a) LEPROSY.

The Leprosy Commission met at Bangkok during the Eighth Congress of the Far-Eastern Association of Tropical Medicine in December 1930, thus taking advantage of the presence of a considerable number of doctors and experts of the Far East.

The Commission adopted a preliminary report which, for the first time apparently, sets out a system of leprosy prophylaxis in keeping with scientific developments and the practical experience acquired during the last thirty years. A group of experts representing various opinions and schools have agreed upon a body of principles universally recognised as valid, although they in no way ignore the special measures necessary in various countries owing to special conditions (documents C.H.887 and 970).

The members of the Leprosy Commission, upon the invitation of the Leonard Wood Memorial for the Eradication of Leprosy, took part in a personal capacity in a Conference on Leprosy convened at Manila in January 1931 and were at that Conference able to continue, in collaboration with a group of leprosy experts, the work of the Conference at Bangkok, paying special attention to the technical aspects of the problem. They participated in the foundation of an International Leprosy Association and an International Leprosy Review.

The Conferences at Bangkok and Manila have provided the Leprosy Commission with a solid foundation for its future work, particularly in the direction of introducing uniformity and standardisation of treatment and remedies and of facilitating the compilation of the epidemiological and statistical data needed in the campaign against leprosy.

The Commission will henceforth have at its disposal new and effective instruments of research in the international centres for the study of leprosy. The Government of Brazil has offered to organise a centre at Rio under the auspices of the League, and the Government of Japan is considering the possibility of establishing a similar institution at Tokio.

The Health Committee in May 1931 approved the programme of work of the Leprosy Commission, emphasising the special interest of researches into the chemotherapy, early diagnosis and decrease of leprosy in certain countries, including existing foci in Europe.

(b) MALARIA.

The studies made in India by five members of the Malaria Commission on the invitation of the Government of India in 1929 were summarised in the general report on the work of the League submitted to the Assembly in 1930. The results of these studies were discussed at a full meeting of the Malaria Commission at Algiers in May 1930. The Commission expresses the view that rural medical assistance and persistent propaganda demonstrating the efficacy of quinine would be useful in supplementing the anti-malarial measures of the authorities. It recommends that in India the rural public health service should undertake treatment and thus constitute at the same time a medical service.

The Secretary of the Malaria Commission, upon the invitation of the Under-Secretary of State for Health, visited Greece from October 28th to November 12th, 1930, and with the assistance of the authorities studied the problem of malaria in various malarial regions of the country.

The studies of malaria in the deltas of the Ebro, Danube, Po and Ganges are being continued and it will shortly be possible to compare the results obtained.

The Commission has decided to participate in the entomological enquiries now proceeding in the Pacific Islands (see below).

The Commission has taken up the problem of the preparation and standardisation of quinetums derived from cinchona bark. It is also studying the question of quinine in relation to the prevalence of malaria, the quantities actually consumed and the amounts needed, the extraction of secondary alkaloids and the import of quinine.

The Health Committee, in May 1931, reviewed the work of the Malaria Commission and approved the report of its Chairman. It expressed the hope that the technical assistance of the Malaria Commission would be afforded the Government of Bolivia in the organisation of the campaign against malaria in that country.

The Committee was gratified to learn that a first malaria course had been organised at the new School of Hygiene in Athens, and, noting that the malaria division of the Athens centre had adopted a programme of work and practical research similar to that elaborated by the Malaria Commission, intimated that it would welcome the help of the Athens division in the solution of problems relating to local epidemiological conditions.

(c) OPIUM.

Article 8 of the International Opium Convention, Geneva 1925.

The Health Committee in October 1930, adopted the conclusions of a report of the Office international d'Hygiène publique on the application of Article 8 of the Geneva Opium Convention to the preparations which the Governments of Germany, Great Britain and Siam proposed for exemption.

The British Government raised certain legal objections to the conditional exemption of certain preparations proposed by Germany and Siam respectively. The Health Committee accordingly, during its session held in May 1931, referred the question for further advice and report to the Permanent Committee of the Office international d'Hygiène publique.

Article 10 of the International Opium Convention, Geneva 1925.

The Health Committee, during its two sessions held in October 1930 and May 1931, on the advice of the Office international d'Hygiène publique, decided to inform the Council that acedicone (acetylo-demethylo-dihydrothebaine), together with its salts and preparations containing it, was a substance which might lead to addiction and to recommend that the provisions of the Geneva Opium Convention should be applied to it.

Standardisation of the Methods of Dosage of Morphine contained in Various Kinds of Opium.

The Health Committee, in view of the importance of being able to determine precisely the morphine content of the various kinds of raw opium, has appointed a Committee of Experts to establish a method of standardising the dosage of morphine. The programme of research proposed by the Committee of Experts was approved by the Health Committee during its session held in May 1931, and the experts hope to be able to present a final report on the subject to the Health Committee at its next session.

Committee for the Study of the Treatment of Addicts.

The Health Committee decided, during its session held in May 1931, to appoint a Committee to study the results of modern methods used in the treatment of addicts, with a view to popularising these methods in all countries where it may be necessary.

The programme of this Committee will be submitted to the Health Committee at its next session.

Questions arising out of the Draft Convention for the Limitation of the Manufacture of Narcotics.

(a) Representation of the Health Committee on the body which will examine the estimates furnished by the various Governments of their requirements in narcotics. — The Health Committee has examined a proposal to the effect that it should be represented on the competent body which, under the Draft Convention for the Limitation of the Manufacture of Narcotics, would examine the estimates of their requirements in narcotics furnished by the various Governments or establish estimates for countries not supplying them. The Committee expressed the view that it should be represented on this body and that its representation should be such as to enable it to exercise a real influence upon the discussions.

(b) Substances to be covered by the limitation scheme. — In regard to the products whose manufacture should be limited, the Committee expressed the view that the Convention should include a provision whereby any substance might be subjected to limitation which, by application of Article 10 of the Geneva Convention, might subsequently be recognised as likely to result in addiction.

(c) Substances to be subject to control. — The Health Committee was of opinion that all derivatives of morphine not coming under the Geneva Convention should be subject to the measures of control provided in Article 6 of the Convention in respect of their manufacture, import, export and wholesale distribution and in Articles 12, 13 and 18 regulating the application of the system of certificates.

(d) STANDARDISATION.

The Permanent Commission for the Standardisation of Serological, Bacteriological and Biological Products established its programme of work for 1931 at a meeting held at Geneva on October 8th, 1930.

The programme includes a study of the standardisation of vitamins — a very important question from the point of view of the control of certain preparations used in commerce and from the point of view of diet and food supply. It further includes a study of the standardisation of anti-gangrene serum, anti-anthrax serum, tuberculin, formalinised toxins (anatoxins) and toxins used for the Schick reactions.

During the month of June there will be meetings in London of various groups of experts entrusted with these studies, assisted by members of the Permanent Standardisation Commission.

A meeting of experts to enquire into the various methods used for immunisation against scarlet fever and diphtheria will be convened at the same time.

5. COLLABORATION OF EXPERTS IN THE WORK OF THE HEALTH ORGANISATION.

(a) RURAL HYGIENE.

The Council in September 1930, on the proposal of the Spanish Government, decided that a conference of European States should be convened at Geneva for a general technical study of the problem of rural hygiene. The Health Committee considered this suggestion in October 1930. It suggested that a Preparatory Committee should be appointed to undertake the preliminary enquiries.

The Preparatory Committee, after holding two sessions, recommended to the Council that the Conference should begin on June 29th, 1931, and that the provisional agenda should be: (a) Guiding principles and appropriate methods for ensuring effective medical assistance in rural districts; (b) The most effective and economical methods of organising the health services in rural districts; (c) The sanitation of rural districts; the most effective and economical methods. The Preparatory Committee entrusted the study of these subjects to three separate groups of experts.

It recommended that the members of the various delegations to the Conference should be persons experienced in social questions and should be representative of all the interests involved in rural hygiene (hygienic, agricultural, economic and social) including persons who would be able to speak for the agricultural employer and the labourer.

The group of experts dealing with medical assistance met at Geneva from March 9th to 12th, 1931, and the group of experts dealing with the questions of rural sanitation and the organisation of rural health services met on April 28th to 30th and May 12th to 15th, 1931, respectively. The Preparatory Committee, in May 1931, discussed the procedure to be adopted for the Conference and proposed that its members should be at the disposal of the delegates. The Health Committee reviewed the work of the Preparatory Committee in May 1931 and approved its suggestions.

(b) RETROSPECTIVE ENQUIRY INTO THE TREATMENT OF SYPHILIS.

Examination of data furnished on a uniform basis by the most important clinics of Germany, France, Great Britain, Denmark and the United States of America is being actively pursued. These data relate to some 25,000 cases belonging to the different stages of syphilis treated according to the methods used in the different clinics and countries.

To judge from the first results, communicated to the Health Committee in May 1931 by the President of the group of experts conducting the enquiry, it should be possible to draw important conclusions when the examination of the data is completed, particularly in regard to the minimum treatment to be applied.

6. STUDIES AND ENQUIRIES.

(a) MEETING OF DIRECTORS OF PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES OF THE COLONIAL MINISTRIES.

The Health Committee in October 1930, in view of the excellent results achieved by co-operation between the health services of the different colonies and territories in the study of problems connected with tuberculosis and sleeping-sickness in Equatorial Africa, suggested that a conference of the directors of the health and medical services of the Colonial Ministries of the various countries should be convened, with the object of strengthening the existing collaboration and possibly extending it to other fields. This suggestion has been favourably received by the colonial countries concerned.

(b) ENTOMOLOGICAL STUDIES IN MELANESIA.

The Mission which in 1929, under instructions from the Health Committee, undertook an enquiry into the health situation of the Pacific Islands included among its proposals a suggestion that certain experts should be asked to undertake an enquiry into the mosquitoes prevalent in Melanesia. The purpose of the enquiry would be to ascertain why the population of certain islands are severely subject to malaria, whereas the inhabitants of other islands remain immune. The enquiry would also aim at discovering the insects which are the vectors of filariasis.

The Health Committee has agreed to the enquiry in principle, and the Health Administration of Australia has intimated that it is disposed to associate with the enquiry qualified experts of the School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine in Sydney.

(c) INSTRUCTION IN PUBLIC HEALTH AND SOCIAL MEDICINE.

The Health Organisation has in recent years convened a series of meetings of directors of the various public health schools.

As a result of this work general principles covering the activities of health schools have been established. These principles are embodied in the report of the recent Conferences of Directors of Health Schools held in Paris and Dresden in 1930 (document C.H.888), which has been communicated to the authorities interested in the subject.

The success obtained by the Health Organisation from its organisation of missions, study tours and international courses points to the desirability of developing the system methodically with a view to converting occasional meetings into permanent connections and establishing an organised programme of instruction adapted to the needs of health administrations, which are called upon to grapple with the complicated problems of modern life.

The establishment at Paris, owing to the initiative of the French Government, of an International School of Advanced Health Studies, placed under the auspices of the League of Nations, will enable such permanent connections to be established and an organised programme to be carried into effect.

The School will be in a position to place at the disposal of the national health administrations, in a new form, valuable technical assistance by comparing the ideas, institutions, methods and experiences of the different countries and organising their application to regions appropriately selected.

(d) CANCER.

The Health Committee in October 1930 invited the assistance of experts, in an enquiry into cases of cancer of the uterus treated by radiological methods. The enquiry is now proceeding in the special clinics and laboratories of the following countries: Australia, Belgium, Canada, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, France, Great Britain, Irish Free State, Italy, Japan, Norway, Spain, United States of America, Uruguay. The records of cases treated by radiological methods are being recorded on forms prepared by the radiological experts of the Cancer Commission.

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AGENDA OF THE TWELFTH SESSION OF THE ASSEMBLY: HEALTH QUESTIONS.

1. Collaboration of the League of Nations with the Government of the Republic of China in health matters.
2. Studies and technical work in the countries of Latin America.
3. European Conference on Rural Hygiene.
4. Current work of the Health Organisation on the international prophylaxis against epidemics and the system of liaison with the national health administrations.

13.

THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS AND CHINA.

The National Government of China in January 1931 sent to the Council a request that the Directors of the Economic and Financial Section and of the Transit and Communications Section of the Secretariat should visit China in order to discuss the effect of the present world depression on the economic activities of China and the more specific problems of her inland waterways and the reclamation of land. The Chinese Government expressed the hope that, as a result of this preliminary consultation, practical co-operation with the several technical organs and experts of the League might be found to be feasible.

The Council approved the acceptance of this invitation and unanimously decided to render all possible assistance to the Chinese Government. The two Directors accordingly proceeded to China, where the Director of the Health Section was already in conference with the Chinese Government and assisting it in the reorganisation of the health services of China, as described in the chapter of the present report dealing with health questions.

The Chinese Government on April 25th notified the Council that a National Economic Council had been set up in China and requested that the technical organisations of the League might be continuously available for advice to the Government and to the Economic Council in connection with its plan of reconstruction. The Chinese Government submitted a draft scheme of co-operation which was considered by the Council on May 19th, 1931.

The Council decided to place at the disposal of the Chinese Government for a limited period an officer competent to give information on the working of the technical organisations of the League and the manner in which they might be used by the Chinese Government. It authorised the Secretary-General to send one of the Directors of the technical organisations to pay a further visit to China for this purpose. It was further decided that, should the Chinese Government desire the assistance of League experts or Committees in carrying out particular schemes, or request assistance in the training of its officials, the Secretary-General would forward its proposals to the competent technical organisations for action, subject to the approval of the Council and in accordance with the ordinary procedure.

The Chinese Government has further suggested that the League might assist it to find advisers with a view to developing the Chinese educational system and facilitating interchanges between centres of intellectual activity in China and elsewhere. The Secretary-General was authorised to refer this question to the International Committee on Intellectual Co-operation for the necessary action to be taken by its executive organisations.

The members of the Council in approving this scheme of co-operation expressed their satisfaction that the assistance rendered to China in the reorganisation of her health services was now to be extended to other fields.

14.

REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF LIBERIA.

The Council of the League, on January 22nd, 1931, considered the report of the International Commission of Enquiry appointed to ascertain whether slavery or forced labour exist in Liberia as a social system. The conclusions of the Commission of Enquiry and the action taken by the Council are summarised in a special chapter of the present report.

The representative of Liberia, upon the discussion of the report of the Commission of Enquiry, informed the Council that his Government was prepared to accept and to adopt the recommendations and suggestions of the Commission of Enquiry to the full extent of its resources, and that it intended to take further steps as soon as the state of its finances might permit. He asked the Council to assist the Government of Liberia in carrying out these recommendations and suggestions.

The Council, on January 24th, adopted a report affirming its desire not to leave unanswered the appeal of the Liberian Government to its sense of international solidarity and to do its utmost to assist that Government to carry out the recommendations and suggestions of the Commission of Enquiry. It expressed the view, however, that the execution of the recommendations of the Commission must not be subordinated to the granting of material assistance, and that the Liberian Government should not await the result of the investigations to which its request for assistance might give rise before undertaking the reforms which had been indicated.

The Council approved a suggestion that a small Committee should be appointed, selected from among its own members, to examine the problems raised by the request of the Liberian Government, and appointed to sit on this Committee the representatives of Germany, the British Empire, Spain, France, Italy, Poland and Venezuela, and of Liberia. The task of the Committee was to consider in what manner it might be possible to assist the Liberian Government to carry out its decision to give effect to the recommendations and suggestions of the Commission of Enquiry. The Committee should, among other matters, examine the question of the administrative assistance necessary to give effect to the social reforms suggested by the Commission of Enquiry and of the financial and public health assistance required to carry out these reforms. It was understood that the Committee would seek the assistance of the technical organs of the League, of the Secretariat, and, if necessary, of the Chairman of the Commission of Enquiry, and would secure, in agreement with the Liberian Government, any expert opinion which might be needed. Owing to the special interest shown by the United States of America in the execution by Liberia of the proposed reforms, the Committee was authorised to invite the United States Government to take such part in its meetings as that Government might deem appropriate.

The Committee met for the first time on January 24th, 1931, at Geneva. The meeting was devoted to a general exchange of views on the question of the assistance which might be given to Liberia and on the procedure to be followed.

The Committee decided to invite the Government of the United States of America to take part in its work and the Government of the United States accepted the invitation.

The Committee held a second session in London from February 17th to March 3rd, at which the Government of the United States of America was represented. It examined in detail the documents placed at its disposal and the information given to it in the course of its proceedings, particularly by Dr. Grimes, Attorney-General of the Republic of Liberia, who assisted Dr. Sottile, the Liberian delegate.

The Committee considered that further information would be necessary before a scheme under which Liberia would receive the proposed assistance could be framed, and that only experts conducting an enquiry on the spot could furnish that information. It accordingly decided to send to Liberia a mission composed of three competent experts in general administration, finance and public health. M. Brunot, Colonial Governor in the French Administration, was chosen as expert in general administration, M. Lighthart, formerly a Director of the Java Bank, as expert in financial questions, and Dr. Mackenzie, a member of the Health Section of the Secretariat of the League, as health expert.

The representative of Liberia, during the discussion on the instructions to be given to the experts, emphasised that the assistance to be accorded to Liberia would be exercised within the framework of the Covenant of the League of Nations and would be of a technical and not of a political character. He added that the experts would work in collaboration with the Government of Liberia and that there was no suggestion of infringing the sovereign rights of Liberia or the exercise of those rights.

The Chairman of the Committee observed that the question had been raised in its entirety by the Government of Liberia itself. Everyone agreed in recognising that there would be no infringement in any way of the sovereign rights of the Liberian Government.

The representative of Venezuela made certain reservations in regard to the resolution adopted by the Committee. He emphasised among other things that the task of the experts should be purely technical and made a special reservation in regard to the paragraphs defining their instructions.

The Committee, according to the information which it had received, concluded that immediate measures of local sanitation should be undertaken in the capital of Liberia, and decided as an urgent measure to dispatch immediately to Monrovia an officer competent in matters of public health. The British Government offered the services of a medical officer belonging to the administration of its West African colonies and, as a result of this offer, Dr. Howells, from the Gold Coast, was sent to Monrovia and began the work entrusted to him towards the end of March.

The Council noted during its session in May 1931 a preliminary report indicating the position reached in dealing with the question. The representative of Venezuela, on that occasion, renewed his reservations and made a statement on the general question of the constitutional limits which should, in his view, be observed in cases of intervention by organisations of the League in the administration of a State Member.

He emphasised that, under the terms of the Covenant, the League could in no case, unless for the preservation of the peace, exercise the right of political intervention in the territory of the State Member. Nor could it in any measure supersede the sovereignty of such a State or become a party to any agreement limiting that sovereignty. It could not intervene in the application of constitutional reforms which a State Member might wish to introduce, or in the determination of the ways and means by which those reforms were carried out, or in any enquiry regarding a question of internal government, or in the appointment of foreign national officials to carry out such reforms, without accepting a mandate which was incompatible with the status of a fully self-governing country and consequently incompatible with the conditions to be fulfilled by a State Member of the League. The consent of the State delegating such powers did not suffice to enable the League to usurp the functions of empire or of a super-State.

The representative of Liberia expressed his appreciation of the kindly intention of the representative of Venezuela. He emphasised that the Liberian Government had only accepted

the assistance of the League of Nations subject to the formal assurance that its sovereignty would be fully respected. He declared that there could be no question of intervention and that the assistance of the League had been freely and spontaneously requested by the Liberian Government.

The Polish representative, acting as Rapporteur to the Council on the subject, stated that there had never been any intention of infringing the independence of a State Member of the League and that the technical aid which would be furnished to Liberia at the request of the Liberian Government would be maintained strictly within the limits of the Covenant.

M. Brunot, M. Ligthart and Dr. Mackenzie left for Liberia at the end of May and arrived at Monrovia towards the middle of June.

15.

HUMANITARIAN QUESTIONS.

I. PROTECTION AND WELFARE OF WOMEN AND YOUNG PEOPLE.

A. TRAFFIC IN WOMEN AND CHILDREN.

The Advisory Committee on the Traffic in Women and Children held its tenth session at Geneva from April 21st to April 27th, 1931.

1. RATIFICATIONS AND ACCESSIONS TO THE CONVENTION OF 1921.

During 1930, the French mandated territory of Syria and the Lebanon has acceded to the Convention, and Denmark has effected its ratification. The Persian Government has intimated that it proposes to submit the Convention shortly to Parliament for approval. The Advisory Committee in 1930 asked that the Egyptian Government should be informed that its accession to the Convention would materially contribute towards the success of the campaign against the traffic in women and children. The matter is now receiving the attention of the Egyptian Government, and the Advisory Committee hopes that a favourable reply will shortly be received. Apart from colonies, possessions and mandated territories thirty-five States are now parties to the Convention of 1921.

The Council, on May 20th, 1931, upon the suggestion of the Advisory Committee, decided to ask the Governments not members of the League which had not yet acceded to the Convention of 1921 whether they were to prepared to do so, and to renew the appeal which had been addressed to the Egyptian Government. It further decided to ask the parties to the Convention of 1921 which had not yet acceded to the Conventions of 1904 and 1910 — namely, Albania, Chile, Finland, Greece and Latvia — to adhere to these agreements.

2. APPLICATION OF THE CONVENTION OF 1921.

(a) *Work of the Central Authorities.*

Under the international Agreement of 1904, the contracting parties undertook to establish or name some authority charged with the co-ordination of all information relative to the procuring of women or girls for immoral purposes abroad and empowered to correspond directly with similar departments established in each of the other contracting States. The successful application of the Convention of 1921 necessarily depends on the efficient organisation and working of these central authorities, and the Secretariat of the League, instructed to prepare a preliminary report on the subject, submitted to the Advisory Committee during its tenth session a memorandum indicating the possible lines of an enquiry into the existing defects of the present system and possible remedies. The view was expressed that the duties of the central authorities are not sufficiently co-ordinated and not sufficiently uniform.

The Council, on May 20th, 1931, decided to communicate the report of the Secretariat, which had been submitted to the Advisory Committee, to all Governments represented on the Committee for their observations and suggestions.

The Advisory Committee noted that the Assembly in 1930 had proposed that, in future, the Secretariat should undertake enquiries with the assistance of the respective central authorities for each case of traffic reported by the Press. The Committee requested the Secretariat to investigate only the most notable cases reported by the Press during the year, and to submit the results at the next session of the Committee. The advantages and disadvantages of the new method would then become apparent.

(b) *Annual Reports of the Governments for 1929.*

The annual reports received from the Governments on the suppression of the traffic in women and children for 1929 were fuller and more detailed than in previous years. An average of twenty-one annual reports has been received each year since 1924. Twenty-six annual reports were received for 1929.

The Advisory Committee notes, however, that many Governments are not yet furnishing particulars of cases of national traffic and procuring. In order to secure adequate information on this subject and to facilitate the compilation of accurate statistics of offences connected with the traffic, the Committee has adopted a revised form of the questionnaire on which the annual reports are based. This questionnaire will be forwarded to the twelve Governments represented on the Committee for their observations.

(c) *Examination of the Annual Reports of the Voluntary Organisations.*

The Committee examined the annual reports and heard statements from the representatives of the *International Bureau for the Suppression of Traffic in Women and Children*, the *Union internationale des Ligues féminines catholiques*, the *Fédération internationale des amies de la jeune fille*, the *Women's International Associations*, the *Jewish Association for the Protection of Girls and Women* and the *Association catholique internationale des œuvres de protection de la jeune fille*. The representative of the International Bureau for the Suppression of Traffic in Women and Children described the results obtained and the decisions taken at an international congress held at Warsaw in October 1930.

The annual reports of the voluntary organisations threw considerable light on the position in regard to the traffic. Among the subjects to which special attention was given by the Committee was a consideration of the rules to be followed in preparing propaganda films against the traffic, the importance of limiting the validity of passports issued to minors, the employment of women police, the assistance given to deported prostitutes, the protection of music-hall artistes, the abolition of the age-limit, the suppression of obscene publications and the steps taken by the voluntary organisations for protection and relief.

The Advisory Committee received from the representatives of the Jewish Association for the Protection of Girls and Women and the International Women's Associations interesting particulars of the proceedings recently taken in the Argentine against a powerful organisation of traffickers known as the *Zwi Migdal*. A complaint made by a victim of the traffic against her *souteneur* revealed the existence at Buenos Ayres of an association of traffickers, *souteneurs* and procurers acting under the cover of ambiguous statutes, similar to those of a mutual aid society. The statutes were legally approved and the legal standing of the association was acknowledged by the Government of the province. Warrants were issued against 424 men and women members of the society for their arrest on the charge of illicit association. Such of these persons as could be secured were sentenced by Judge Rodriguez Ocampo to preventive imprisonment pending their trial by a judge of the Federal Court. The appeal of the defendants against Judge Ocampo has, however, been allowed, and the prisoners set at liberty.

Unfortunately, owing to difficulties of judicial procedure, the traffickers were eventually acquitted. The Advisory Committee paid a cordial tribute to Judge Ocampo for his courage and initiative in the conduct of the case.

3. AMENDMENTS AND EXTENSION OF THE CONVENTION.

(a) *Abolition of the Age-limit.*

The Assembly, in 1930, requested the Council to consider, after consultation with the appropriate organs of the League, whether it was desirable and expedient to amend existing conventions negotiated under the auspices of the League with a view to facilitating their general adoption.

The Advisory Committee, in April 1931, noted that twenty-six Governments had declared in favour of abolishing the age-limit in the Convention of 1910 as amended by that of 1921. Several Governments, however, have made reservations in regard to the proposed amendment. The French delegate expressed a wish that the question should be studied with a view to enabling countries which still had the system of licensed houses to adhere to the solution proposed. Denmark also submitted reservations, having just framed a new Penal Code in conformity with the Convention of 1910. The Advisory Committee noted with satisfaction that, since the previous year, there had been a marked increase in the number of replies in favour of abolishing the age-limit. It decided to reconsider the question at its next session in connection with other possible amendments to the Convention of 1921.

(b) *Protocol relating to Souteneurs.*

The Advisory Committee has for several years been considering how best to effect the suppression of the *souteneur*. It appointed a Legal Sub-Committee in 1930 to study the existing legislative and administrative measures enforced. The Sub-Committee met in December 1930 and suggested that a Protocol should be drafted supplementary to the Convention of 1921. The conclusions of the Sub-Committee were embodied in a preliminary draft for consideration by the Advisory Committee.

The preliminary draft submitted by the Sub-Committee gave rise to a detailed discussion in the Advisory Committee on the definition of "*souteneur*". The Committee concluded that the definition should cover all persons aiding or abetting prostitution habitually or for personal profit, or persons living wholly or partly on the prostitution of another. It agreed that the penalties enforced against *souteneurs* should not, in principle, be less strict than those provided for in other cases of procuring or trafficking, and that the *souteneur* should not be allowed provisional release with or without bail.

The Advisory Committee amended and adopted the preliminary draft Protocol, and the Council, on May 20th, 1931, decided to submit it to Governments Members of the League and signatories of the Convention of 1921 for their observations.

4. OBSCENE PUBLICATIONS.

It is recommended in paragraph 9 of the Final Act of the International Conference on Obscene Publications that the Secretariat of the League should periodically issue a questionnaire on the trade in obscene publications. The Advisory Committee framed a questionnaire in 1930 to be sent to the Governments parties to the Convention. Twenty-nine Governments have replied to it, and a very complete collection of the laws on the subject of obscene publications has been obtained.

The Advisory Committee asked the Secretariat to publish in the near future a pamphlet containing a collection of the laws on obscene publications with the comments on the application of these laws given by certain Governments. It recommends that the central authorities appointed for the suppression of traffic in women and children should be invited to standardise their methods of dealing with the suppression of obscene publications.

The Advisory Committee is anxious to obtain particulars of any cases of the traffic in obscene publications which may be discovered, and the correspondence between the central authorities relating to these cases. It has accordingly decided to append questions dealing with this matter to the annual questionnaire sent to Governments on the traffic in women and children.

The Committee expressed its appreciation of the active steps taken by Governments to suppress the traffic in obscene publications, and hoped they would do all in their power, in co-operation with one another, to bring it to an end.

5. ENQUIRY INTO THE TRAFFIC IN WOMEN AND CHILDREN IN THE EAST.

The Committee of Enquiry into the Traffic in Women and Children in the East, meeting at Geneva from August 21st to August 25th, 1930, discussed and defined the scope of the enquiry to be conducted by the Travelling Commission which is investigating conditions in Eastern countries. The constitution and proceedings of these bodies were summarised in the general and supplementary reports on the work of the League presented to the Assembly in 1930.

The Assembly, in 1930, noted the conclusions of the Committee of Enquiry. All the representatives of Eastern countries — China, Japan, India, Persia and Siam — expressed their satisfaction that the enquiry was to be extended to their respective countries. They declared their readiness to assist the Travelling Commission and to afford it every facility.

The Travelling Commission has now completed half its itinerary.

6. USE OF WOMEN POLICE.

The Advisory Committee dealt first with the employment of women police in March 1923, and since that date it has continually recommended their employment in dealing with prostitution, and pressed for information on the subject.

The Committee, in March 1926, asked the Secretariat to apply to all States for particulars. The suggestion was approved by the Council and the information obtained from the different Governments was collected and reviewed by the Committee in 1927. In 1930, the Advisory Committee recommended that further information should be collected as to the various systems in existence. The Council approved this suggestion on May 13th, 1930, expressing the view, however, that the Secretariat should at present confine itself to making enquiries from members of the Committee and its assessors.

The Secretariat submitted to the Advisory Committee, in April 1931, a preliminary report based on information obtained in regard to the systems established in Denmark, Germany, Great Britain, the Netherlands, Poland, Switzerland and the United States of America. Particular attention was given to the specialisation of women for police work, their general competence for such work, the duties of women police, their organisation, training and recruiting.

The Advisory Committee, reviewing the results of the enquiry, was of opinion that any definite conclusions would still be premature, and that the different countries must be left

full latitude in adapting the work of their women police to their own peculiar conditions and circumstances.

The Committee adopted the following resolution :

“ The Committee has studied with great interest the reports submitted by the Secretariat, and notes that countries in which women police have been organised state that they render excellent services. It recommends that women police should be more widely employed.

“ Women police may be particularly useful in connection with the protection of women and children in moral danger and women and children who are the authors, victims or witnesses of offences. Women police play a particularly effective part in the campaign against the traffic in women and children. Women police should also have general powers, as a result of which they may be employed in other directions.

“ The Committee is of opinion that the question of the organisation of the police cannot be determined in any uniform way applicable to all countries, and that it should be adapted to national conditions.

“ The majority of the Committee thinks that women police have been most effective when they have been placed under the direction of a woman chief.

“ Women police should be recruited with great care and should be given social training, in addition to general professional training similar to that of male police.”

7. PROTECTION OF YOUNG FEMALE ARTISTES.

The Advisory Committee has examined this question at several sessions in the light of information received from Governments or collected from the principal professional associations. It emphasises the importance of the problem from the point of view of the traffic in women and lays stress on the fact that responsibility in the matter devolves not only upon the country of origin, where the young person is recruited, but also upon the country to which she proceeds for the lawful exercise of her profession. It points out that the most careful precautions in the country of origin must be inadequate unless the authorities of the countries in which the women are received effectively supervise the general conditions of employment in music-halls and similar places of amusement, where conditions are often such as to incite persons employed there to engage directly or indirectly in prostitution.

The Advisory Committee will take up the matter again at its next session.

8. REPATRIATION OF FOREIGN PROSTITUTES.

The International Bureau for the Suppression of Traffic in Women and Children has submitted to the Advisory Committee as a basis of discussion a draft Convention for the repatriation of prostitutes. The draft Convention would prohibit the entry of prostitutes to a foreign land ; provide for the compulsory repatriation of minors practising prostitution abroad and of foreign prostitutes guilty of a breach of any laws or regulations ; substitute repatriation for expulsion ; provide for the collaboration of charitable organisations in every case of repatriation by order of the Government ; help women to obtain papers of nationality should they be lacking and punish women who force a Government to incur the expense of repatriation a second time.

Resolutions protesting against these proposals have been received from thirty-four organisations on the ground that they tend to re-introduce a regulationist system in the countries which have abolished it and that they would facilitate the activities of traffickers instead of suppressing them.

The Advisory Committee adopted a proposal of the German and French delegates for the adjournment of the question and appointed a Rapporteur to study the whole question of repatriation in the light of the discussions and suggestions which had been put forward.

9. EXAMINATION OF LAWS AND REGULATIONS TO SAFEGUARD PUBLIC ORDER AND HEALTH AGAINST THE DANGERS OF PROSTITUTION.

The Assembly, in 1930, noted that, in recent years, several countries had, in accordance with the recommendations of the Advisory Committee, entirely abolished or taken new steps towards the abolition of the system of licensed houses. It recognised the importance of the studies, made under the direction of the Committee, of the laws and regulations for the protection of public order and health in countries abolishing the system, and suggested that the Secretariat should investigate the comparative results of the system of free treatment and the general system of compulsory treatment of venereal diseases.

The Advisory Committee, in April 1931, decided to await the results of investigations in progress under the direction of the Health Committee of the League and the International Union for combating Venereal Diseases. On receiving the conclusions of these two bodies, it will decide whether any further investigations are desirable or expedient.

The Advisory Committee has asked to be kept regularly informed by the Secretariat of any progress made in the various countries in the abolition of the system of licensed houses and regulation. It noted with satisfaction the following statement made by the French delegate :

“ The closing of licensed houses has recently been effected at Grenoble, Hazebrouck, Liévin, Oyonnax and Vitré. There is no doubt that, as now applied, the present system makes it possible to supervise only a comparatively small number of prostitutes, at all events in the large centres. Moreover, this system does not afford sufficient guarantees against the venereal peril. Nevertheless, as the Committee has recognised, the abolition of the system of regulation implies the adoption of laws and decrees for the protection of public order and health against the dangers of prostitution. These measures should also be based on principles of social justice. The French services, bearing these factors in mind, are examining the possibilities of introducing provisions similar to those recently adopted in this matter in certain countries.”

10. ASSISTANCE TO BE GIVEN TO DISCHARGED FEMALE PRISONERS AND THE IMPROVEMENT OF PENAL ADMINISTRATION.

This subject is dealt with in the last section of the chapter (see page 143).

B. CHILD WELFARE.

The Child Welfare Committee held its seventh session at Geneva from April 14th to April 20th, 1931, and a report on the work of the session was submitted to the Council on May 20th, 1931.

1. PRELIMINARY DRAFT CONVENTION ON THE RETURN OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE TO THEIR HOMES.

The Child Welfare Committee, in 1930, noting the observations made on the preliminary draft Convention by various Governments, felt it desirable to obtain the views of a larger number of countries before taking final decisions. The Council, on May 13th, 1930, approved this suggestion and the necessary action was taken by the Secretariat.

The Committee, in April 1931, further amended the text of the preliminary draft Convention in the light of the additional observations received as a result of this further enquiry, and the Council, on May 20th, 1931, decided to forward it to all Governments to serve as a model for bilateral or multilateral agreements.

2. PRELIMINARY DRAFT CONVENTION ON ASSISTANCE TO FOREIGN MINORS.

The question was raised at a meeting of the Council on May 15th, 1930, whether the Child Welfare Committee would be well advised to devote its time to a further consideration of the preliminary draft Convention on Assistance to Foreign Minors. It was urged that the question of assistance to foreigners should be considered as a whole, and that it was not always easy to make a clear distinction between questions concerning children and questions concerning adults.

The Assembly, in 1930, noting the discussions which had taken place in the Child Welfare Committee and the Council, expressed the view that, while the problem of assistance to foreigners was deserving of study as a whole, it did not necessarily follow that the Child Welfare Committee should abandon the enquiry to which it had already devoted considerable attention; the problem had a special aspect which the Child Welfare Committee was particularly well qualified to examine. It accordingly proposed that the Child Welfare Committee should complete the preliminary draft Convention and inform the Council of any difficulties which might be encountered, so that they might receive consideration if at any time the whole question of assistance to foreigners should be dealt with by an international conference.

The Child Welfare Committee accordingly again examined the preliminary draft Convention in April 1931 in the light of the observations made by the Council and of the replies received from the Governments.

To some countries, the draft Convention prepared by the Committee is acceptable in its present form; other countries have put forward objections of principle which might perhaps disappear if some modification were made in the proposed text. Many Governments, however, declare that the question of assistance to foreign minors cannot be dealt with in a satisfactory manner without reference to the families to which the minors belong. The Committee recognises that the question is connected with the problem of assistance to destitute adult foreigners, and, as it could not undertake the study of so extensive a problem without overstepping the limits of its competence, it recommends that the Council should set up a special committee, composed of experts nominated by a few of the countries concerned, to study the question of assistance as a whole with a view to preparing a preliminary draft international Convention on the subject.

The Council, on May 20th, 1931, approved this proposal. It decided to designate, at its next session, the countries which should be invited to nominate experts to the special committee and to fix a date for the first meeting of the committee.

3. RECOGNITION AND ENFORCEMENT OF MAINTENANCE ORDERS ABROAD.

The Council, on May 13th, 1930, decided to communicate to the Members of the League for their observations the proposal of the Child Welfare Committee that an effort should be made to frame international agreements to ensure the mutual recognition and enforcement of maintenance orders. It expressed the view that the question proposed for study went beyond the competence of the Committee, but saw no objection to the mandate of the Committee being extended to cover it, provided no objections were raised by the Governments.

By November 1st, 1930, seventeen countries had communicated their views, and a summary of their observations was submitted to the Council on January 19th, 1931. The Council decided to ask the Child Welfare Committee to examine the replies of the Governments and to submit a further report on the possibilities of future action.

The Child Welfare Committee, considering the matter in April 1931, recognised that, while the subject had an important bearing on child welfare, the Committee might be deemed not competent, since maintenance orders might benefit adults at the same time as children. It accordingly recommended that the study of the question should be entrusted to the special committee appointed to study the problem of assistance to foreigners.

The Council approved this suggestion on May 20th, 1931.

4. AUXILIARY SERVICES OF JUVENILE COURTS.

The Council, on May 13th, 1930, approved a proposal of the Child Welfare Committee to the effect that a questionnaire on juvenile courts framed by the International Prison Commission should be sent to Governments not represented on the Commission, and that the Governments which had not yet replied to a previous questionnaire relating to the auxiliary services of juvenile courts should be urged to do so.

The Child Welfare Committee, in 1930, appointed two of its members to prepare a report on the information received, and, in April 1931, it reviewed the information received on the basis of this report. It decided to postpone further consideration of the questions relating to the auxiliary services and the juvenile courts until the enquiry had been completed. Meanwhile, it appointed a Sub-Committee to draft, with the help of the International Prison Commission, a questionnaire to be sent to all Governments with the object of obtaining information on institutions for erring or delinquent minors in all countries whether they did or did not possess juvenile courts.

The Secretariat will publish in a single report, with the help of the International Prison Commission, all the information collected concerning the existence and organisation of juvenile courts.

The Council, on May 20th, 1931, decided to forward the information so far collected by the Child Welfare Committee to all States Members and non-members of the League.

5. ENQUIRY CONCERNING CHILDREN IN MORAL OR SOCIAL DANGER.

This enquiry, which in 1930 was made in the United States of America and Canada, has been extended to Germany, Denmark and Italy. Provisional reports on the subject were submitted to the Child Welfare Committee in April 1931.

6. ILLEGITIMATE CHILDREN.

The Child Welfare Committee, in 1930, requested the Secretariat to prepare a report, with the help of the voluntary organisations and the International Labour Office, on the social measures more directly concerned with the welfare of illegitimate children in various countries selected for the purpose. It also expressed the view that it was desirable to examine, with the help of the Health Organisation, the comparative mortality of illegitimate and legitimate children.

The International Labour Office has collected information on the position of the illegitimate child under social insurance laws; the Health Organisation has stated that it is not yet in possession of sufficient material regarding the comparative mortality as between illegitimate and legitimate children to enable it to submit any conclusions on the matter.

The Child Welfare Committee has decided to give special attention to this subject during its next session.

7. BLIND AND CRIPPLED CHILDREN.

The Child Welfare Committee appointed, in 1930, a Sub-Committee to examine questions arising from a report of the Health Section of the Secretariat on the protection of the blind in different countries. The Sub-Committee was unable to present a general report to the Committee in April 1931. It was requested to continue its enquiry and to extend it to institutions entrusted with the education, not only of totally blind children, but of children whose sight was too bad for them to follow ordinary classes.

The Committee decided to consider at a later date the study of problems in connection with the protection and education of crippled children.

8. CO-OPERATION OF THE CHILD WELFARE COMMITTEE WITH OTHER ORGANISATIONS OF THE LEAGUE.

The Child Welfare Committee, during its seventh session, considered reports submitted by liaison officers of the International Labour Office and the Health Organisation of the League.

The Committee thanked the International Labour Office for its report on the position of illegitimate children under social assurance legislation, and asked for a further report on the introduction and results of family allowances in different countries. The International Labour Office was also asked to collect information on the protection of children of seasonal workers.

A recommendation made by the International Labour Conference in June 1930, to the effect that all possible steps should be taken to ensure that any system of forced or compulsory labour shall not involve the illegal employment of women and children, was noted by the Committee; and, in view of the fact that the question of the age of admission for children to non-industrial employments was to be discussed by the International Labour Conference in 1931, several members of the Committee urged that it was desirable to ensure that the age of admission for children to all forms of employment should coincide with the end of the compulsory school age.

The Child Welfare Committee reviewed the information placed at its disposal by the Health Organisation regarding the enquiry into causes of infant mortality in Europe and Latin America. It noted that one serious cause of infant mortality was the inadequate protection and training of mothers. The liaison officer of the Health Committee agreed to suggest health subjects which might usefully be examined from the point of view of child welfare.

The Child Welfare Committee decided that, in future, cinematograph problems in relation to child welfare should be dealt with in reports by the liaison officers of the International Cinematograph Institute at Rome, following on reports by the liaison officers of the Health Organisation and the International Labour Office.

9. PENAL ADMINISTRATION.

This subject is dealt with in the last section of the chapter (see page 143).

* * *

The Council, on May 20th, 1931, expressed its satisfaction at the progress achieved by the Child Welfare Committee during the year and approved its report on the work of its seventh session.

II. TRAFFIC IN OPIUM AND OTHER DANGEROUS DRUGS.

1. RATIFICATION AND APPLICATION OF THE GENEVA CONVENTION.

(a) RATIFICATION OF THE CONVENTION.

The Advisory Committee on the Traffic in Opium and other Dangerous Drugs, meeting for its fourteenth session on January 9th, 1931, reviewed the progress made in the ratification of the Geneva Opium Convention.¹

Since the last session of the Committee in 1930, Denmark and Hungary had ratified the Convention; Estonia, Colombia and Sweden had acceded; ratifications, moreover, were deposited by Norway and Lithuania shortly after the session, bringing the total number of

¹ See report to the Council on the work of the fourteenth session of the Advisory Committee (document C.168(a). M.62(a).1931.XI), Minutes of the fourteenth session of the Advisory Committee, Annex 4, 11, and progress report by the Secretary (document O.C.1319, Minutes of the fourteenth session of the Advisory Committee, Annex 2).

ratifications up to forty-four. The Opium Convention of 1925 has thus been ratified by a greater number of States than any other agreement concluded under the auspices of the League. The Governments of Chile, the Irish Free State, Nicaragua and Panama have informed the Secretary-General that they intend to ratify the Convention or to submit it to their Parliaments for approval or ratification very shortly.

The largest single group of States which has not yet ratified the Convention is to be found amongst the countries of Latin America; only five out of twenty of these States have ratified. The Advisory Committee in 1930 asked the Secretary-General to send a letter to the countries of Central and South America not yet parties to the Convention, emphasising the importance of ratification and the value attached by the League to the fullest possible co-operation of their Governments. The Secretary-General duly forwarded this appeal to the countries concerned in July 1930 (Circular Letter 130.1930.XI). Replies have been received from Brazil, Costa Rica, Haiti and Mexico intimating that their Governments are taking the necessary steps. The Assembly of 1930 again drew attention to the matter, and the Secretary-General has addressed a further appeal to the Governments of the Argentine, Bolivia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Paraguay and Peru (Circular Letter 325.1930.XI, dated November 21st). The only reply received by the Secretariat is from Mexico.

(b) APPLICATION OF THE CONVENTION AND OF MEASURES TO GIVE EFFECT TO RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE, THE COUNCIL AND THE ASSEMBLY IN RECENT YEARS.

The Assembly, the Council and the Advisory Committee on the Traffic in Opium, have in recent years adopted a series of resolutions recommending the Governments to take various measures for the suppression of the illicit traffic, in application of the Geneva Convention. Thus, in April 1929, all States Members of the League and parties to the Hague and Geneva Conventions were asked to consider various measures with a view to a more effective control over the distribution of drugs, the granting of licences to firms desiring to import them and the supervision of the records of manufacturers and importers, emphasis being laid on the necessity of informing the League of all seizures, however small, which might throw light on the methods employed by illicit traffickers. In July 1930, the Governments were further asked to submit observations and supply information regarding any improvements which they might have effected in dealing with the illicit traffic in narcotic drugs. Among the points specifically mentioned were the introduction of a centralised and unified police control, a stricter application of the system of licences, the compilation of a black list of persons engaged in the traffic, the marking with serial numbers of packages containing drugs distributed by the manufacturers, and the part played by forwarding agents and shipping companies in illicit transactions.

The Assembly in 1930, reviewing these recommendations and the response made by the Governments concerned, was impressed by the fact that the measures advocated were not in all cases applied. It accordingly instructed the Secretary-General to invite the Governments to review the arrangements in force in their countries and to take whatever action might be necessary to ensure the full application of the recommendations to which their attention had already been directed. It was suggested that, if the necessary action had not already been taken, a thorough investigation covering the previous three years should be made and full information communicated to the Secretary-General, if possible within the next three months, with regard to the kind and quantity of the drugs involved in illicit transactions, their origin, the moments and places at which they entered the illicit traffic, the names of shipping or forwarding agents or consignors in cases in which they were shipped or forwarded, the destinations or addresses of the consignees, the methods used and routes followed by smugglers or by the ships used by them and any seizures which might be of interest owing to the quantities involved or the light thrown by them on the system of control (Circular Letter 330.1930.XI, dated November 26th).

Replies to this appeal have been received from the following Governments :

Albania	Finland	Luxemburg
Belgium	Germany	Mexico
Canada	Great Britain	Monaco
Costa Rica	Haiti	Netherlands
Cuba	Irish Free State	Poland
Dominican Republic	Italy	Siam
Ecuador	Latvia	Sudan
Egypt	Lithuania	Venezuela

Among the recommendations adopted by the Assembly in previous years, one of the most important was a proposal adopted in 1929 that the Council should draw the attention of all Governments to the vital necessity of their putting into operation an effective national system of administrative control under the Hague and Geneva Conventions. Specific reference was made in this recommendation to a model code for the administrative control of the drug traffic elaborated by the Advisory Committee in 1928. The Governments were asked to indicate

before May 31st, 1930, whether there were in operation in their countries the same or equivalent administrative provisions, to furnish copies of any regulations issued or particulars of arrangements made for the purpose, or to indicate when it might be possible for them to put such provisions into operation.

The Secretariat of the League has received a total of thirty-five communications from the following countries :¹

Austria	Germany	Peru
Belgium	Great Britain	Poland
Bulgaria	Hungary	Portugal
Canada	Iceland	Siam
China	Italy	Sudan
Colombia	Luxemburg	Spain
Costa Rica	Mexico	Sweden
Denmark	Monaco	Switzerland
Danzig	Netherlands	Turkey
Egypt	New Zealand	United States of America
Estonia	Norway	Uruguay
Finland	Panama	

The replies received from these Governments indicate that the various methods advocated in the model code are already enforced by a fairly large number of States and that other countries propose to base their new regulations upon it.

Of the specific points to which the attention of Governments has recently been drawn, one is the importance of preventing the post from being used by persons engaged in the illicit traffic. The Assembly in 1929 recommended that every State Member of the League should adopt certain arrangements with a view to a supervision by the Customs, both in the country of consignment and the country of destination, of postal matter in cases where there was reason to suspect the presence of dangerous drugs. Replies to Circular Letter 302, 1929 XI received from thirty-six countries show that, in general, the measures recommended are enforced as strictly as is considered feasible, though attention is drawn to the various difficulties in the way of their application.

2. THE ILLICIT TRAFFIC.

(a) GENERAL REVIEW : CHANGE IN THE POSITION DURING THE YEAR 1930.

The Advisory Committee on the Traffic in Opium during its fourteenth session was in a better position than in previous years to appreciate the full effect of the coming into force of the Geneva Convention in all the principal manufacturing countries. The Secretariat submitted an analysis of the international trade in drugs, from 1925 to the second half of 1930 (document Conf.L.F.S.3, Parts I, II and III), which constituted an exhaustive study in all its aspects of the trade in drugs, and especially of the relations between the licit and the illicit traffic. This analysis, though it revealed for the first time the full gravity of the situation which had existed until about the beginning of 1930 and pointed to an illicit traffic, particularly during the years 1926-1929, on an even more considerable scale than had been suspected, showed also that a remarkable change had been effected at the beginning of 1930. This change was due to the coming into effect of the Geneva Convention in some of the European countries (other than Turkey) which had hitherto not enforced the necessary administrative measures and to the bringing under full control of the esters of morphine at the beginning of that year.

In the period 1925-1929, some thirty-six tons of morphine had apparently been made available for contraband in the form of morphine esters in countries where such esters were not yet under control. Some twenty-one tons of morphine and diacetylmorphine in excess of medical needs appear to have been exported to non-manufacturing countries during the period from 1925 to the first half of 1930. Attention was also drawn to large quantities of morphine, heroin and cocaine which had not been statistically accounted for by the countries concerned, the inference being that some fifteen tons of these drugs, in addition to the amounts referred to above, had passed into the illicit traffic.

The evidence taken from the reports of the seizures confirmed these statistics. The stricter control and the wider activities displayed by the police and Customs authorities in various countries had led to striking discoveries relating to transactions prior to 1930. In some cases, the entire correspondence of gangs of traffickers had been seized and the researches of the authorities had led to the discovery of very varied sources, channels and organisations for the traffic. Fuller information was also at the disposal of the Committee from the Chinese authorities concerning drug seizures effected by the Chinese Customs. The Committee was particularly struck by the fact that six tons of benzoylmorphine of European origin, representing 600,000,000 doses, had passed into the illicit traffic through the single port of Dairen in 1928. A statistical analysis of illicit transactions and seizures of morphine esters indicated that approximately nine tons of these esters had been seized or had passed into the illicit traffic in 1928-1929, while during the year 1928 three-quarters of a ton of benzoylmorphine of European origin had been seized in Japan and over half a ton of heroin imported into Egypt.

¹ For texts of replies see Minutes of the fourteenth session of the Advisory Committee, Annex 3 ; documents O.C. 1318 and O.C.1318(a).

The change effected in the situation at the beginning of 1930 was all the more striking. There was, in 1930, a marked decrease in the manufacture and export of drugs in respect of the chief manufacturing countries of Europe, and a notable decrease in the seizures of drugs originating from these countries. The Egyptian delegate, in describing the serious situation which had arisen in his country owing to large illicit imports of drugs suspected to be of Turkish origin, stated that at present not an ounce of illicit heroin was coming into Egypt from the factories of Central Europe. The important results achieved by the effective application of the Geneva Convention were most clearly seen in France, where a new system of control, involving a strict application of the import certificate system was introduced by the French Government as from January 1st, 1929. As a consequence of this control, imports and exports of narcotic drugs fell to very low figures. For instance, morphine imports, which amounted to 1,684 kilogrammes in 1928, fell to 293 kilogrammes in 1929 and to 43 kilogrammes during the first three quarters of 1930. Although exports rose from 777 kilogrammes in 1928 to 1,053 kilogrammes in 1929, they fell to 156 kilogrammes during the first three quarters of 1930. Imports of heroin amounted to 1,078 kilogrammes in 1928; they were only 13 kilogrammes in 1929 and 8 kilogrammes during the first three quarters of 1930. The exports of this product fell from 2,957 kilogrammes in 1928 to 166 kilogrammes in 1929 and 40 kilogrammes during the first three quarters of 1930. The imports of cocaine amounted to 270 kilogrammes in 1928, 194 kilogrammes in 1929, and 49 kilogrammes during the first three quarters of 1930. Exports fell from 506 kilogrammes in 1928 to 200 kilogrammes in 1929, and only reached 148 kilogrammes during the first three quarters of 1930.

(b) THE POSITION IN TURKEY.

The Advisory Committee was deeply impressed by the fact that, at the moment when the grave situation in regard to the illicit traffic from the European countries had been largely, if not completely, remedied, a new danger of the first magnitude suddenly appeared owing to the manufacture on a very large scale of morphine and heroin in a country which was not a member of the League or a party to the Opium Conventions. In 1930, when the manufactures, exports and seizures in respect of the chief manufacturing countries of Europe notably decreased, there were effected a series of immense seizures of morphine and heroin which, in a number of cases, were known to have originated from Istanbul. The delegate of Egypt went so far as to say that Turkey was the one and only source of the illicit traffic in that country, where there still existed some 250,000 addicts.

The Turkish representative, in November 1930, at the Conference of Manufacturing Countries called in London to discuss the limitation of the manufacture of narcotics, admitted that over two tons of morphine had been exported from Turkey to Greece, Italy and France during the first six months of 1930, and that over four tons of heroin had been exported to Greece, Denmark, Italy, France, Germany and China in the same period. No imports of drugs from Turkey had, however, at any time been notified to the League, and representatives of the countries to which some of these drugs had been exported declared that they had not been informed of any such consignments, no import certificates having in any of these cases been issued. Official statistics, moreover, show exports from Turkey to countries such as the United States of America, under whose legislation their import is prohibited. Large consignments of these drugs have been seized and in many cases found to have been exported not as drugs, but concealed in other goods.

The Committee expressed the view that only the application in Turkey of the import certificate system would make it possible to remedy a state of affairs which constituted a real menace to the whole world. It requested the Council to address an urgent appeal to Turkey to consider the possibility of acceding to the Geneva Convention. It hoped that the Turkish Government would take measures to reinforce the existing control, which at that moment was clearly inadequate, noting with satisfaction a declaration of the Turkish representative that the maritime authorities at Istanbul had received orders to verify in future the despatch and destination of drugs exported from that country.

The Council, on May 19th, 1931, asked the Secretary-General to address an appeal to the Turkish Government in the terms suggested by the Advisory Committee and the representative of Turkey on that occasion made a statement to the Council on the measures adopted by his Government for the suppression of the illicit traffic in drugs, describing in detail the system which had been introduced in that country on February 15th, 1931, for the control of the manufacture, export and sale of drugs. The measures adopted for the control of exports included the production of an official import certificate.

(c) THE SMUGGLING OF COCAINE INTO INDIA FROM THE FAR EAST,
AND THE SITUATION IN JAPAN.

The delegate of India emphasised the extreme gravity of the situation in his country arising from illicit traffic in cocaine from the Far East. The amount of seizures had risen from 154 pounds in 1928 to 922 pounds in 1929. A considerable quantity of this cocaine bore

Japanese marks of origin. The individual seizures were large, which suggested that the drugs passed easily from the factory into the hands of the traffickers. One seizure, for example, had amounted to 1,330 ounces, and during recent years there had been six seizures of 1,000 ounces each. The delegate of India represented that the Japanese regulations for the control of the internal distribution of narcotic drugs were at present inadequate.

The Japanese delegate admitted that, prior to 1930, when new regulations came into force in Japan, the control of narcotic drugs in that country had not been sufficiently strict, though he made reservations as to the suggestion that the cocaine passing into the illicit traffic in India was solely of Japanese origin. He explained that, under the new system of control, there would henceforth be a strict supervision in Japan of the trade in narcotic drugs at all stages. A special licence would be required for the manufacture of the drugs, whereas previously only the import of the raw material had been limited; the issue of manufactured products from the factory would be subject to control; the trade in narcotic drugs would only be carried on by authorised persons on the production of certificates from the prefecture of police indicating their trade; and a system of registration and numbering would be adopted for the receptacles of drugs. The Japanese Cabinet had adopted a plan for the creation of an interdepartmental council, which would co-ordinate the necessary measures of administrative control of the various departments and services of the Central Government and the governments of the territories. This council would be presided over by the Minister of the Interior, and would be composed of Under-Secretaries of State and the heads of services of the departments concerned. The plan would be put into operation as from March of the present year.

(d) THE SITUATION IN THE NEAR EAST: IMPORTS OF OPIUM FROM PERSIA INTO CHINA.

The situation in Persia has for many years caused the Advisory Committee much anxiety. Considerable quantities of Persian opium have recently been illicitly imported into the Far East. The table of shipments from Bushire during the period December 1st, 1929, to November 30th, 1930, indicates that, as recently as April 1930, 2,308 chests of opium were sent to the Far East with Vladivostok as the declared destination. This cargo, like previous shipments to Vladivostok, disappeared on arrival in the China seas.

The Committee accordingly noted with interest the declaration made by the Persian representative on the Council at its meeting on January 22nd, 1931. The Persian representative had informed the Council that, under an exclusive concession recently granted by the Persian Monopoly Service for the total export of Persian opium, the holder undertook to submit a certificate from the importing country for each case of opium despatched. He represented that this arrangement amounted in fact to an application of the Geneva Convention.

The Council, on May 19th, 1931, on the suggestion of the Advisory Committee, instructed the Secretary-General to ask the Persian Government to communicate, for the records of the Committee, the copy of the contract made with the concession holder. The Secretary-General was asked at the same time to emphasise the interest taken by the League in the application by Persia of the system of control embodied in the Geneva Convention.

(e) THE SITUATION WITH REGARD TO DRUGS IN CHINA: CONCERTED ACTION BY CHINA AND THE TREATY POWERS.

The Advisory Committee again gave careful consideration to the drug situation in China. The Chinese delegate stated that, notwithstanding military revolts during the previous year, his Government was steadfastly endeavouring to cope with the situation. New legislation had been enacted in China during 1929, amending the existing laws and introducing a stricter form of control. A national agency for narcotic drugs was in process of establishment.

The Chinese Government had begun an enquiry into the narcotics question, and the final results would in due course be communicated. His Government could not, however, accept an international enquiry. He emphasised the necessity of co-operation between China and the other Powers owing to the large quantities of drugs of European and Japanese origin illicitly introduced into China.

The seizures effected in China showed how serious was the situation; 350 lb. of heroin, 350 lb. of benzoylmorphine, 100 lb. of morphine, 100 lb. of peronine and 990 lb. of raw cocaine had been seized in a single year, in addition to the six tons of benzoylmorphine illicitly imported into Dairen in 1928. There had been 30 seizures by the Chinese police at Tsingtao in six months, and in October and November three cargoes from Trieste and Istanbul, containing approximately 1,300,000 dollars' worth of narcotics, had been seized at Shanghai. The Chinese delegate urged that the penalties inflicted on the traffickers in the consular courts were inadequate. He pointed out that these punishments were considerably less severe than those imposed under the Chinese penal code.

The Chinese delegate submitted principles which, in his view, should govern co-operation between the Chinese authorities and the Powers which had signed the Hague Opium Convention in 1912 in suppressing the drug traffic in the settlements, concessions and leased territories in China. He defined these principles as follows :

(1) The importation into China of all narcotics not accompanied by import certificates issued by the Chinese Government should be prohibited ;

(2) The authorities in the concessions and settlements should co-operate with the local governments in preventing unscrupulous traffickers from smuggling opium and other narcotics into Chinese territory ;

(3) Any question relating to prohibition should be settled in accordance with the opium prohibition law and the regulations giving effect to that law promulgated by the Chinese Government ;

(4) All stores selling narcotics and all opium dens in the concessions should be abolished, as had been done by the local governments.

The Committee unanimously approved the principle of co-operation between the Chinese Government and the Treaty Powers, but several members considered that points 3 and 4, as submitted by the Chinese Government, raised important problems which could only be settled after thorough study by the Governments concerned.

The Japanese and French delegates pointed out that, as their Governments had enacted their own regulations in their own concessions, it was difficult to say how far they could accept the principle laid down in point 3 ; nor could they form an opinion, for the moment, on the proposal that all stores for the sale of narcotics and all opium dens in the settlements, concessions and leased territories should be closed, in view of the fact that the Commission of Enquiry into Opium-smoking in the Far East had come to other conclusions. The British delegate wondered whether the regulations enacted by the Chinese Government and the import certificate system were really enforced to a sufficient extent to allow of efficient co-operation on the lines proposed under points 1 and 3.

(I) GENERAL CONCLUSIONS OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE REGARDING THE ILLICIT TRAFFIC.

The Advisory Committee, after reviewing the reports on seizures and the statistics at its disposal, reached the conclusion that the suppression of the illicit traffic depended on three fundamental considerations : adequate legislation, adequate administration to apply that legislation, and international co-operation. It regretted that progress in the legislative sphere was slow, and asked the Secretariat as soon as possible to study the provisions at present in force, and see to what extent they were in harmony with the Geneva Convention. It again affirmed its conviction that it was necessary in many cases for the authorities to increase the penalties at present in force.

It noted that, on the administrative side, progress had been made. There were, however, considerable defects. The necessary investigations into cases of illicit traffic were not always thoroughly pursued as a result of information received and the regulations at times remained inoperative. The Committee again urged that licences for the manufacture of or trade in drugs should be granted only to firms of good repute and inexorably withdrawn if their holders were implicated in the illicit traffic. It drew attention in this connection to the conclusion reached by the Secretariat that from 1926 to the beginning of 1930, when esters of morphine were placed under control, about 36 tons of morphine had been transformed by firms holding licences from their Governments, into morphine esters or other drugs which had no medical use and could only be intended for illicit purposes. The licences, however, had not been withdrawn from the firms in question.

The conclusions of the Committee in regard to the administrative aspect of the problem were embodied in the following recommendations :

“ 1. The Committee repeats urgently its previous recommendation that no firm which has knowingly manufactured for or supplied to the illicit traffic drugs falling under the Geneva Convention should be allowed to hold a licence to manufacture or trade in the drugs.

“ 2. The Committee also recommends :

“ (a) That no firm which knowingly manufactures or supplies any derivatives of morphine or cocaine for purposes of the illicit traffic, even though they do not for the time being fall under the Geneva Convention, should be allowed to hold a licence to manufacture or trade in the drugs to which the Convention applies ;

“ (b) That no firm which is proved by clear evidence to have manufactured or supplied benzoylmorphine or any other ester of morphine for the illicit traffic, since the communication to Governments of the recommendation of the Health

Committee on this subject by the Secretary-General in his Circular Letter of January 11th, 1929, should continue to hold a licence to manufacture or trade in drugs to which the Geneva Convention applies.

“ 3. The Committee requests the Council to forward these recommendations to the Governments of the countries concerned with a request that they should inform the Secretary-General, if possible before the date of the Conference on the limitation of the manufacture of narcotic drugs, in the case of each firm to which paragraph 2 (b) applies, what action the Government has taken.

“ 4. The Committee, considering that persons engaging in illicit traffic should not be authorised to engage in the legitimate trade, requests the Council to recommend the Governments to take all necessary steps to prevent the grant of import or export certificates in which the names of notorious drug-traffickers appear.”

The Committee urged the necessity of closer co-operation between the authorities of the various countries in suppressing the illicit traffic. It noted, in particular, that reports on seizures, which formed an indispensable basis of enquiry, were not always communicated to the countries concerned or to the League of Nations, and that the necessary details and evidence were not always included. It further observed that notorious traffickers and persons whose manufacturing licences had been withdrawn were still apparently able to travel freely in various countries. It expressed the view that these persons should be under police supervision, and requested the Council to recommend for the consideration of the Governments that passports and visas should be refused to such persons and steps taken as far as possible to cancel passports already issued to them.

The Council, on May 19th, decided to forward the recommendations of the Advisory Committee to the Governments of the countries concerned. It approved the resolutions and recommendations of the Committee and asked the Secretary-General to urge the Governments to give effect to them.

The Advisory Committee recommended that the chartering of ships to foreigners, a practice which sometimes increased the difficulty of suppressing the illicit traffic, should be submitted for consideration to experts in maritime law and practice. The Council asked the Secretary-General to refer this question to the appropriate committees of the Communications and Transit Organisation.

(g) CO-OPERATION BETWEEN THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE AND THE POLICE AUTHORITIES FOR THE SUPPRESSION OF THE ILLICIT TRAFFIC.

The Advisory Committee in 1930 recommended the adoption of centralised and unified police control with a view to closer co-operation between the police authorities of the different countries. This year it invited delegates of the International Criminal Police Commission to attend some of its meetings with the object of studying the best methods of obtaining effective international co-operation. The International Police Commission was represented by Dr. Schultz, Chief of the Vienna Police, by M. Weiss, Deputy Chief of the Berlin Police and M. Montanel, Divisional Commissioner of the French Police.

The Advisory Committee discussed with these delegates possible measures for a closer co-operation between the police authorities of the various countries and the official institutions at present dealing with dangerous drugs. The proposals of the delegates of the International Police Commission were submitted to the Committee in the form of a draft international Convention.¹ The basic idea of the draft Convention was that, in each country, a central police office should be established for the control of the drug traffic, in close contact with similar offices in other countries and with the League of Nations. The offices would centralise in the several countries all information facilitating the investigation, prosecution and punishment of illicit traffic.

The Committee was of opinion that the questions raised in the draft Convention, including such problems as extradition, the imposition of severer penalties and a certain amount of administrative re-organisation in the various countries required careful study in all their aspects. It accordingly appointed a Sub-Committee to go more thoroughly into these questions.

Meanwhile, the Secretariat, carrying out a proposal put forward by the Advisory Committee last year, is proceeding with the study of the question of compiling a black list of traffickers to be communicated to the Governments. M. A. H. Sirks, Chief of the Rotterdam Police, assessor to the Advisory Committee, has submitted a draft scheme showing in detail how an international index of traffickers might be established. The Committee asked the Secretariat to continue its enquiries into the drawing up of the black list, in consultation with the central authorities and police authorities in the various countries and to submit a memorandum as a basis for future discussion.

¹ See Minutes of the fourteenth session of the Advisory Committee ; Appendix 6 to the report to the Council on the work of the fourteenth session.

(h) ENQUIRY INTO ADDICTION.

The Assembly, in 1930, in a general resolution recommending measures for the suppression of the illicit traffic, requested the Advisory Committee to study and report to the Council upon the question whether Governments should be asked to enquire into the approximate number of persons in their several countries addicted to each type of drug, the approximate amounts of such drugs consumed and the methods of treatment employed.

The Secretary-General communicated this resolution to the Governments in November 1930¹ (Circular Letter 330.1930.XI) and the Advisory Committee considered the matter during its fourteenth session. Certain members of the Committee emphasised the difficulties of such an enquiry and expressed considerable doubt as to its utility. They pointed out that any information obtainable concerning addicts was bound to be very approximate; that there was no such thing as an average dose for addicts; that there existed no standard method of treatment. Those in favour of the enquiry, on the other hand, urged that it would be comparatively easy to obtain the statistics from certain countries and expressed the view that it was desirable to determine as exactly as possible the extent of the drug evil.

The Committee finally decided to consult the Health Committee and to request the Governments, without undertaking a special enquiry, to supply any information which they might already have at their disposal. The Council has approved this method of procedure.

3. MISCELLANEOUS QUESTIONS.

(a) QUESTION OF THE DIFFERENT RESULTS OBTAINED BY THE PROCESSES LAID DOWN IN THE DIFFERENT PHARMACOPCEIAS FOR ASCERTAINING THE PERCENTAGE OF MORPHINE IN OPIUM.

The Advisory Committee in 1930 requested the Health Committee to undertake a study of the standardisation of methods for ascertaining the percentage yield of morphine from the various types of opium. The Chairman of the Health Committee for this purpose convened a Sub-Committee of experts at Geneva on April 9th and 10th, 1931. The Sub-Committee has laid down a programme of laboratory work which it intends to carry out before its next meeting in October 1931.

(b) ORGANISATION OF THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE.

The Advisory Committee, during its fourteenth session, took certain decisions with regard to the organisation of its work, which is rapidly increasing. It was decided in future to hold two sessions, one in the spring and one in the autumn and to appoint a small sub-committee to meet before each session in order to make a preliminary examination of the seizure reports. Any member will be entitled to take part in the sub-committee's work if he so desires. The Committee appointed the delegates of China, France, Germany, Great Britain, Japan, the Netherlands and Spain to be members of the Sub-Committee, which will hold its first meeting next September during the Assembly.

(c) ANNUAL REPORTS.

The Advisory Committee, during its fourteenth session, adopted the proposal of a sub-committee to discontinue the separate distribution of the annual reports from certain colonies and territories.² It was suggested that these reports should continue to be received by the Secretariat; that they should be available in its archives for consultation by members of the Committee, and that they should be summarised by the Secretariat where the reports contain information of sufficient importance.

The above proposal implies a change in the procedure governing the general circulation of annual reports to all Governments as recommended by the Assembly in 1929, and would require the assent of the Assembly to its adoption.

¹ Replies have been received up to April 29th, 1931, from the following Governments :

Albania	Finland	Luxemburg
Belgium	Germany	Mexico
Costa Rica	Haiti	Monaco
Cuba	Irish Free State	Netherlands
Dominican Republic	Italy	Poland
Ecuador	Lithuania	Siam

² For the list of such colonies and territories see Appendix 8 to the report to the Council on the work of the fourteenth session of the Advisory Committee.

4. CONFERENCE ON THE LIMITATION OF THE MANUFACTURE OF NARCOTIC DRUGS.

The Assembly in 1929 requested the Advisory Committee to prepare a scheme for the limitation of the manufacture of narcotic drugs ; the scheme was to be submitted to the Council, which would thereupon decide upon the convening of an international Conference of the manufacturing countries and principal consuming countries with a view to establishing an international Convention. The Advisory Committee acting under these instructions considered and adopted a limitation scheme in February 1930. The scheme was forwarded to the Governments Members of the League or parties to the Hague and Geneva Conventions for examination and comment (Circular Letter 116.1930.XI, June 11th, 1930).

The three fundamental points of the scheme approved by the Advisory Committee in 1930 were as follows :

- (1) The world manufacture of narcotic drugs should be limited each year to a specific quantity on the basis of estimates to be supplied by all countries of the quantities of narcotic drugs required each year for medical and scientific purposes ;
- (2) The fraction of this total quantity to be manufactured by each of the manufacturing countries should be fixed in advance by means of agreements concluded between them according to a system of quotas ;
- (3) The necessary arrangements should be made to provide each country with supplies of narcotic drugs up to the amounts indicated in its estimates.¹

The Advisory Committee, in submitting this plan to the Council, suggested that it would greatly facilitate the work of the Conference on Limitation if the Governments of the manufacturing countries or the manufacturers themselves conferred in advance upon the allocation of the quotas of the drugs to be manufactured and upon the arrangements for their distribution among the consuming countries.² It accordingly recommended that the Council should invite the manufacturing countries to hold a preliminary Conference for this purpose. The Council adopted this suggestion and, in October-November 1930, a preliminary meeting of official representatives of the manufacturing countries was held in London.

This preliminary meeting was attended by representatives from France, Germany, Great Britain, India, Italy, Japan, the Netherlands, Switzerland, Turkey, the United States of America and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics. The representatives of the principal manufacturing firms were also present.

The manufacturers submitted proposals as to the quotas to be assigned for morphine and its derivatives to the manufacturing firms in Germany, Switzerland, France and Great Britain, and for cocaine to the manufacturing firms in Germany, France, Great Britain, Switzerland and the Netherlands.

The Conference was unable to accept the figures suggested and felt that the whole question required further investigation. The estimates of the manufacturers were based on the sales of individual manufacturing firms ; they did not cover the whole field of drug production ; due allowance had not apparently been made for production which had gone into the illicit traffic ; and no clear relation existed between them and the figures compiled by the Secretariat of the League showing the actual national exports for medical and scientific purposes during recent years.

Certain delegates, moreover, were unable to subscribe to the system of quotas on general grounds. The Soviet delegation feared that the organisation of an international cartel would not secure a limitation of manufacture and would be contrary to the interests of the consuming countries. The Japanese delegation desired to reserve the right of Japan, which was not for the moment a country manufacturing for export, to export drugs in response to legitimate orders received, and reserved its position in reference to all the decisions reached by the Conference. The Turkish delegation asked that a quota should be assigned to Turkey representing one-third of the total world production. The Conference could not entertain this request and the whole question of the Turkish participation in the world production of drugs was reserved for further consideration.³

The Advisory Committee met in January 1931 and devoted the first half of a long session to a detailed examination of the limitation problem.⁴ The scheme submitted by the London

¹ Other features of the scheme may be summarised briefly as follows :

The requirements of a country which failed to furnish estimates were to be assessed by a central authority. This central authority might not revise the estimates submitted by Governments, but it might ask for explanations in cases where the estimates appeared to be excessive. It was understood that each manufacturing country would be entitled, if it so desired, to manufacture the drugs required for its own medical and scientific needs. The distribution of the drugs thus manufactured to the consuming countries was to be subject to the control of a central office, keeping a record of all orders received and supplies manufactured. The central office would be able to inform the Government of any country to which orders for drugs were sent whether the execution of that order would or would not cause an excess over the estimates furnished by the country from which the order came.

² See report to the Council on the work of the thirteenth session and Appendix 5 to the report in the Minutes of the thirteenth session of the Advisory Committee.

³ For the situation of Turkey as a manufacturing country, see the section in this chapter of the report dealing with the illicit traffic.

⁴ See report and draft Convention on the Limitation of the Manufacture of Narcotic Drugs (document C.168.M.62.1931.XI, Minutes of the fourteenth session. Vol. I and II).

Conference, in particular the system of quotas, was subjected to detailed criticism by representatives of the non-manufacturing countries or of countries which had not accepted the quota system as necessarily the most practical and effective method of limitation. The discussions which took place in the Advisory Committee were based on a draft Convention submitted by the British delegate which aimed at an objective presentation of decisions reached in London and of the essential provisions of the scheme prepared by the Advisory Committee at its previous session. It was understood, however, that the acceptance of this draft as a basis did not preclude a simultaneous examination of other schemes and that it was subject to any substantial amendments which might be moved.

The Japanese delegate again urged that countries at present manufacturing only for their domestic needs should be permitted to share in the export of narcotics in the event of their receiving legitimate orders from abroad. He eventually accepted a modification of the quota system, as determined in London, which met his principal objections.

The Turkish delegate declared that he would consider as arbitrary any attempt to exclude his country from receiving a quota on the ground that certain factories established in Turkish territory might have engaged in illicit transactions.

The Yugoslav delegation desired to protect the economic and social interests of the poppy growers in Yugoslavia and the interests of the consumers of drugs in general; it produced evidence with the object of showing that the cartel of manufacturing firms at present in existence had lowered world prices of the raw materials and raised the prices of the manufactured products. It considered, moreover, that, if Turkey were authorised to manufacture drugs, an equitable quota should also be allocated to Yugoslavia.

The Spanish and Polish representatives expressed their preference for a system which would not involve the constitution of anything resembling a monopoly or be likely to bring about a rise in the prices of narcotics intended for medical and scientific purposes.

The Italian delegate enumerated a list of conditions which in his view were essential for the success of any scheme of limitation. The right of a country to obtain supplies from whatever source it might select must be respected; countries should be required to specify in advance the quantities of narcotics they would require for a definite period; the privileges of the manufacturing countries should be restricted to a minimum and any measures which might give them a *de facto* monopoly should be avoided; the Convention should provide for the limitation of the manufacture of all derivatives of opium and the coca leaf; the system of Government monopoly over the trade and manufacture of narcotics should be encouraged; sanctions should be applied by every Government party to the Convention against any country refusing to accede to it or refusing to put into operation the measures provided by the Opium Conventions of 1912 and 1925; the limitation of manufactures and their supervision should be ensured through the Permanent Central Opium Board with the addition, in an advisory capacity, of representatives of the Advisory Committee, the Health Committee, the Economic Committee or any other organ of the League.

The general attitude of certain of the non-manufacturing countries was finally embodied in a statement made at the close of the proceedings by the Belgian representative on behalf of himself and the representatives of China, Mexico, Poland, Spain and Uruguay:

- (1) The system of limitation should safeguard the rights of each nation to procure for its legitimate needs drugs from the source and the country it chooses;
- (2) Each country should make known in advance the quantity of narcotic drugs falling under the provisions of the Convention of which it will be in need for a fixed period, as well as the name of the country or countries where it intends to procure its supplies;
- (3) The system of Government monopoly for the trade and, where necessary, for the manufacture of narcotic drugs falling under the provisions of the Convention is recommended;
- (4) Sanctions applicable by each Government party to the Convention of May 1931 should be provided for and should apply to every country which does not exercise a control of narcotic drugs equivalent to that laid down in the Geneva Convention;
- (5) Both the limitation of manufacture and the control of the quantities manufactured should be guaranteed by the action of the Permanent Central Opium Board, assisted where necessary by technical authorities.

It was urged, in reply to these observations, that the system of quotas proposed by the Advisory Committee did not involve the creation of a monopoly, and that the scheme which had emerged from the London Conference preserved the right of any country not at present manufacturing drugs for export to receive a quota if it wished to do so. The British delegate, on behalf of the majority of the Committee, pointed out that the scheme embodied in the draft Limitation Convention recognised the right of the consuming countries to obtain their supplies from whatever sources they might select, and that the system of annual estimates, on which the minority insisted, was a cardinal principle of the plan. Under the draft Convention, any country might, if it so desired, state before the end of the year from what countries it intended to purchase its drugs. To require the Governments to submit such a statement did not, however, seem to the majority to be practicable. The question of making the manufacture and distribution of narcotic drugs a Government monopoly was not discussed by the Committee in the absence of any definite proposal in that sense.

The Advisory Committee discussed other important questions connected with the limitation plan, such as measures to prevent an increase in the prices of narcotics as a result of limitation,

the drugs to be covered by the scheme, the possible extension of the system of control provided in the Geneva Convention wholly or partly to drugs not covered by that Convention, the composition of the body which would examine the estimates of their requirements submitted by Governments or assess the needs of Governments which failed to furnish such estimates. The final decisions in respect of these questions were left to the Conference.

The discussions which took place in the Advisory Committee indicate the complexity of the problem and the difficulties which have to be solved by the Conference. The system of quotas is still subject to discussion and the Conference has yet to determine the countries which will receive them. The Advisory Committee in its report to the Council was careful to indicate that the submission of a draft Convention to the Conference, approved as a basis of discussion, did not exclude the consideration of other proposals and solutions.

The Council on January 24th, 1931, decided to communicate the report and draft Convention submitted by the Advisory Committee to the Governments which had been invited to the Limitation Conference. It noted that the proposals of the Advisory Committee might involve extending measures of limitation and control to substances not covered by the Geneva Convention of 1925, and it accordingly instructed the Secretary-General to ask the Governments to ensure that their delegates to the Conference should have full powers to discuss the limitation of all derivatives of opium and the coca leaf as well as the control of the quantities to be limited by the future Convention. The Council felt it necessary to warn the Governments that the ground to be covered by the Limitation Conference would, in view of the discussions in the Advisory Committee, be somewhat more extensive than that indicated in the resolution adopted by the Assembly in 1929, which referred to the limitation of the manufacture of only such narcotic drugs as were covered by Article 4 (b), (c) and (g) of the Geneva Convention.

The results of the Limitation Conference which met on May 27th, 1931, will be summarised in the supplementary report on the work of the League. .

5. COMMISSION OF ENQUIRY INTO THE CONTROL OF OPIUM-SMOKING IN THE FAR EAST.

The report of the Commission of Enquiry into the Control of Opium-smoking in the Far East was submitted to the Council on January 22nd, 1931.

The Commission was appointed by the Council in March 1929, upon a resolution adopted by the Assembly in 1928, to report upon the situation in the Far-Eastern territories of the Governments agreeing to the enquiry in regard to the use of opium prepared for smoking, the measures taken by the Governments concerned to give effect to their obligations under the Hague Opium Convention of 1912 and the Geneva Opium Agreement of 1925, the nature and extent of the illicit traffic in opium in the Far East and the difficulties created by it for the Governments concerned in the fulfillment of their obligations. The Commission was further asked to suggest what action should, in the circumstances, be taken by the Governments concerned and by the League.

The Commission left Geneva in September 1929. With the agreement of the Governments concerned, it visited Burma, the Straits Settlements, the Federated Malay States, the Dutch Indies, Siam, the Union of Indo-China and Kwang-chow-wan, Hong-Kong, Macao, Formosa, Kwantung Leased Territory, the South Manchuria Railway Zone and the Philippine Islands, and it received official information regarding the position in the Unfederated Malay States, Sarawak, Brunei and British North Borneo. The Commission thus covered by its enquiry all the territories of the Far East where opium-smoking occurs to an appreciable extent, except China. The Government of China, while unreservedly supporting the British proposal for the enquiry, stipulated that the field of investigation should be extended to all countries without exception which produced or manufactured opium and its derivatives or other drugs, and that China should be represented on the Commission. The Assembly in 1928 had been unable to accept these conditions.

The Commission, in its report, reviews the general situation in the Far East with regard to opium-smoking. It discusses the extent of the opium-smoking habit, the circumstances leading to its formation, the effects of opium on smokers, the circumstances which tend to prevent the spread of the habit, medical opinion on the opium-smoking question, the cure of opium addiction, opium-smoking establishments, the question of opium dross or the residue remaining in the pipes when prepared opium is smoked, the relations between the smoking and eating of opium, the influence on opium control of uncontrolled poppy cultivation and the illicit traffic.

The Commission also deals with the main features of the opium policies pursued by the various Governments. Total prohibition of smoking is enforced only in the Philippine Islands, where experience has shown that it does not lead to the total prohibition of the habit, in view of the persistence of the vice and the great difficulty of preventing illicit import and distribution. The Commission expresses the view that it is better for the habit to be gradually suppressed by legalising smoking in respect of confirmed addicts and supplying them with Government

opium. This method only offers the possibilities of limiting individual consumption and preventing the spread of the habit to an increasing number of individuals.

The Commission deals with the difficulties which, owing to the illicit traffic, arise for Governments desiring to fulfil their international obligations under the Hague Opium Convention of 1912 and the Geneva Opium Agreement of 1925. It affirms that the illicit traffic in opium has not prevented the Governments from fulfilling their specific obligations, but that it has, on the other hand, made it impossible for them to fulfil their principal and general obligation — namely, to take all available measures for achieving the suppression of opium-smoking with the least possible delay. It expresses the view that Governments have gone as far in the control of the habit as the extent of the illicit traffic permits.

The following are the most important of the Commission's conclusions and suggestions :

“ (1) The Commission finds that it is essential that all measures aiming at gradual suppression should in each territory be taken concurrently and be applied as progressively as circumstances permit.

“ (2) Scientific research as regards the opium-smoking problem should be undertaken in all territories with the support of Governments on an international basis.

“ (3) Steps should be taken to secure international co-operation for the gradual limitation and control of poppy cultivation, and the League of Nations should invite the Governments concerned to meet in conference to investigate the possibility of limitation and control of poppy cultivation.

“ (4) The demand for opium for smoking purposes should be combated by organised public opinion and systematic propaganda, by education, sports and physical training.

“ (5) Effective steps must be taken to combat the illicit traffic until the efforts to limit and control poppy cultivation have been successful.

“ (6) The Governments concerned should, in co-operation with each other, arrange for the reduction of prices of Government opium to a level sufficiently low to make smuggling unprofitable.

“ (7) In order to ensure a faithful carrying out of the Government's opium control, the Government monopolies should everywhere extend also to the retail distribution — *i.e.*, Government opium should be distributed to consumers through Government-owned and Government-managed shops.

“ (8) Individual consumption of opium must be under efficient control to bring about gradual suppression, and this should be accomplished by registration with licensing and rationing of all opium consumers.

“ (9) Smoking should by law be prohibited to anyone under 21 years of age and it should be seriously considered to raise further — for instance to 25 years — the minimum age for legal smoking.

“ (10) The system of allowing smoking only in smoking establishments, owned and managed by the Governments, should be introduced everywhere.

“ (11) The Commission, having reached the conclusion that the consumption of dross is more harmful than consumption of opium itself, finds that strict control of dross must be established, and that dross must not be left in the hands of the smokers.

“ (12) The cure of opium addicts is an important step towards the suppression of opium-smoking, and increased and systematic attention should be given to this question. It is of importance not to neglect after-cure of cured addicts to prevent relapse.

“ (13) The Governments concerned should immediately begin to adjust their finances to the gradual loss of revenue derived from opium. They should agree to fix a definite period within which they would undertake to make their ordinary budgets independent of the opium revenue.

“ (14) The League of Nations should establish in the Far East, as a part of the Opium Section of the Secretariat, a central bureau for the opium-smoking problem, which should serve as a distribution centre for information and facilitate co-operation between the Governments concerned.”

Under Article 12 of the Geneva Opium Agreement of 1925, it is provided that a further Conference of the Powers concerned should take place not later than 1929. In November of that year, however, the Governments signatories of the Geneva Opium Agreement, agreed to postpone the proposed Conference until the Commission on Opium-smoking in the Far East had concluded its enquiry. The Council, on receiving the report of the Commission of Enquiry, asked the Secretary-General to invite the Governments concerned to communicate their observations not later than July 1st, 1931. The Secretary-General will, on the basis of these observations, make the necessary preparations for the Conference, which the Council

has decided to convene during the first ten days of November 1931. The Siamese Government has invited the Conference to meet in Bangkok and has undertaken to contribute a sum to cover the additional expenses involved by this arrangement. The Council has accepted the offer of the Siamese Government.

The Chinese representative, who was invited to the Council table during the discussion of the report of the Commission of Enquiry, took exception to certain observations embodied in the report of the Commission on the opium situation in China. He objected that these observations were based on information received from foreign sources. He affirmed that, during 1929, considerable improvements had been achieved in the suppression of poppy cultivation and opium-smoking in many provinces of China, except in a few restricted areas or in foreign concessions and leased territories.

6. WORK OF THE PERMANENT CENTRAL OPIUM BOARD.

I. RECOMMENDATIONS AND CONCLUSIONS OF THE BOARD: REPORT TO THE COUNCIL IN JANUARY 1931.

The Permanent Central Opium Board submitted to the Council in January 1931 a report in which, for the first time since its constitution late in 1928, it was able to embody definite conclusions and to make definite recommendations as the result of its examination of the statistics submitted to it for 1929.

The attention of the Council was drawn to the fact that the statistical information supplied to the Board was unfortunately incomplete, even in respect of countries that were parties to the Geneva Convention of 1925, and therefore under an obligation to supply the necessary statistics. Many Governments had neglected to report their imports or purchases for Government purposes, while others had not forwarded their annual statistics within the time-limits prescribed by the Convention. The Board had been unable to complete its quarterly comparisons or to draw final conclusions from them, owing to the fact that the statistics from Governments of countries of importance to the traffic in narcotics had only been received after the time-limit laid down in the Geneva Convention had expired. Moreover, particulars of seizures from certain Governments, which should have reached the Board by the end of March 1929, had not yet been furnished. Special attention was drawn to the almost entire lack of information from Southern and Central American States due to the fact that the majority of them were not parties to the Convention.

The Board submitted to the Council a detailed examination of the statistics of the consumption of narcotics supplied by the various Governments. It draws attention to the fact that there are very noticeable differences in respect of consumption in countries where conditions might have been expected to be similar. The Board, while realising that it is no part of its duty to criticise the internal consumption of countries, feels justified in asking whether the abnormal figures in certain cases may not be partly due to drugs ostensibly for medical purposes escaping into the illicit traffic. It expresses the conviction that the Governments of countries in which an incredible amount of drugs is alleged to have been legitimately consumed realise the danger and are taking the necessary steps to cope with it. It notes with satisfaction that the Japanese Government, for example, has itself informed the League that it recognises the quantities of cocaine manufactured in Japan to be excessive, and that they are being reduced.

The report of the Central Board gives certain data and conclusions regarding the illicit traffic in the year 1929. It draws attention, in particular, to the vast quantities of esters of morphine that almost certainly passed into the illicit traffic during 1929. It notes that esters of morphine are now subject to the Geneva Convention, and that the danger from this source has greatly diminished. It is afraid, however, that similar dangers from other drugs not yet covered by the Convention are almost bound to arise. It is the unanimous opinion of the Board that, in order to guard against this danger, each manufacturing country should state in its annual statistical returns to the Board how much of each kind of drug not covered by the Convention has been manufactured by it during the previous year.

It further points out that, apart from the tables of annual seizures the statistics supplied to the Board deal exclusively with the licit traffic. Moreover, the tables of seizures give no information as to the origin of the goods seized on import, and the Board emphasises the importance of giving this information whenever possible and of reporting also — in accordance with the Geneva Convention — the method adopted in disposing of the confiscated substance.

The Board represents that the absence of any prompt and reliable information with regard to seizures places it in a difficult position when it is called upon to decide whether the country is or is not in danger of becoming a centre of the illicit traffic. This position would be somewhat improved if the Advisory Committee on the Traffic in Opium could furnish the Board with quarterly summaries of its information concerning seizures. This information would be treated as strictly confidential and would act as an alarm signal to the Board and help it to discover possible centres of illicit traffic.

In the case of a country that produces its own raw material, manufactures its own drugs and sends no statistics, the Board will never be in a position to prove that such a country is becoming a centre of the illicit traffic. The Board therefore draws attention to the inadequacy of the Geneva Convention to deal effectively with such a country. If the Convention is to be amended, the Board suggests that it be given the power to recommend, against an offending country, not only an embargo on exports to such a country of the substances covered by the Convention, but also on imports of such substances from that country.

In order to enable the Board to determine the aggregate needs of each State in opium in every form and to prevent the escape of habit-forming drugs from the licit into the illicit traffic, the Board considers that it ought to be informed how much codeine is consumed in the various countries, and that manufacturing countries should report to the Board the quantity of codeine and its salts exported to each country.

The Board also places on record its unanimous opinion that the word "manufacturing", when used in Article 22, paragraph (b), of the Geneva Convention, must be understood to include the process of refining a crude product into one of the manufactured drugs covered by the Convention.

The Council, on January 19th, 1931, approved the following recommendations :

" (1) That the Central Board ask all the Governments parties to the Geneva Convention :

" (a) To state whenever possible in the annual statistics of seizures that they supply to the Board, although under no obligation under the Convention to do so, the origin of the goods seized on import, and to report how the confiscated substances were disposed of ;

" (b) To report to the Board their annual imports and purchases for Government purposes, in accordance with Article 22, paragraph 3, of the Geneva Convention ;

" (c) To forward their annual statistics to the Board within the time-limits laid down in Article 22 of the Geneva Convention ;

" (2) That the annual statistics of seizures for 1929 be forwarded to the Board ;

" (3) That, in future, the quarterly statistics of imports and exports of narcotics be supplied to the Board within the time-limit laid down in paragraph 2 of Article 22 of the Geneva Convention."

The Council further proposed that the Secretary-General should ask the Advisory Committee to consider the following recommendations with a view to the questions involved being, if necessary, brought before the Conference on the Limitation of Narcotic Drugs, held on May 27th :

(a) That each manufacturing country should state in its annual statistics to the Board how much of each kind of drug not covered by the Geneva Convention has been manufactured by it during the previous year ;

(b) That the Advisory Committee should furnish the Board with quarterly summaries of its information concerning seizures ;

(c) That, if the Geneva Convention is to be supplemented by means of a Limitation Convention, the Board be given the power to recommend (in the circumstances specified by the Board in the paragraph in italics on the last page of its report) against the offending country, not only an embargo on exports to such country of the substances covered by the Convention, but also on imports of such substances from that country ;

(d) That the various countries should inform the Board of their annual consumption of codeine, and that manufacturing countries should report to the Board the quantity of codeine and its salts exported to each country ;

(e) That the word "manufacturing", when used in Article 22, paragraph (b), of the Geneva Convention, should be understood to include the process of refining a crude product into one of the manufactured drugs covered by the Convention.

In the course of its fourteenth session (January and February 1931), the Opium Advisory Committee agreed that the Secretariat should send confidentially to the Board for its information the quarterly summary of seizures which is being prepared for the use of the Committee. Recommendations under (a), (d) and (e) above were embodied in the draft Limitation Convention, which came before the Council in January 1931, and has been circulated to the Governments invited to the Limitation Conference. Recommendation (c) was the subject of an amendment to the draft Limitation Convention, proposed by the Yugoslav delegate, which appears in the Committee's report to the Council and which will therefore come up for discussion at the Limitation Conference.

II. THE SESSIONS OF THE BOARD.

At its sessions held in January and April 1931, the Permanent Central Opium Board devoted, as usual, considerable attention to the international legitimate traffic in opium and other dangerous drugs, up to and including the preceding quarters for which statistics of imports

and exports of narcotics had been received — i.e., the third and fourth quarters of 1930 respectively.

The Board further examined the replies to certain enquiries which it had conducted concerning countries in which consumption for legitimate purposes, or the stocks in hand of certain substances, had caused it some concern. More particularly, the Board, during its April session, considered a report by its Secretary on visits made under its instructions to Belgium and the Netherlands in order to ascertain whether special conditions justified what, as the result of the statistics supplied for 1929 and part of 1930, had seemed to be a somewhat excessive accumulation of opium preparations in Belgium and coca leaves in the Netherlands.

In all cases the Board met with the greatest desire to co-operate. Whenever local conditions did not justify the facts to which the Board had called attention, the authorities willingly offered to meet the wishes of the Board.

At its April session, the Board examined the draft Convention for the Limitation of the Manufacture of Drugs, established by the Opium Advisory Committee at its fourteenth session and approved by the Council in January 1931. Special attention was devoted to the duties that might devolve upon the Board should the draft Convention be adopted at the Limitation Conference to be held in May 1931. The Board unanimously declared itself in favour of accepting, with some minor reservations, any duties likely to fall upon it as specified in the draft Convention.

III. IMPROVEMENT IN PENAL ADMINISTRATION.

The Howard League for Penal Reform, supported by various international organisations, requested the Council of the League, in May 1929, to institute a commission of enquiry to make a complete survey of prison conditions and to frame an international Convention to be observed by all States Members of the League in their treatment of prisoners.

The Council, in January 1930, invited the Assembly to place the question on its agenda with a view to deciding the best way in which the League might co-operate with the International Prison Commission and other interested organisations in their efforts to effect improvements in penal administration. The Secretariat of the League was meanwhile instructed to request the International Prison Commission at Berne and the Howard League for Penal Reform in London to submit memoranda on the subject.

The Assembly, in 1930, reviewing the action taken by the Council and the Secretariat, asked the Council to communicate to the Governments of States Members and non-members of the League for their observations a set of standard minimum rules for the treatment of prisoners, which had recently been drawn up by the International Prison Commission, as indicating the general principles which, in the opinion of highly qualified experts, should be followed in the application of every penitentiary system, and as embodying the minimum conditions which should, in the view of the International Prison Commission, be observed in the treatment of prisoners from the humanitarian and social points of view. The Secretary-General was further requested to submit the standard rules to the International Labour Office, the Health Committee, the Economic Committee, the Committee for the Protection and Welfare of Children and Young People, the Association internationale de droit pénal and the Union internationale de droit pénal, and to confer with representatives of the International Prison Commission with a view to considering the best way in which the League of Nations might co-operate with that Commission for the improvement of prison administration.

The Secretary-General, on November 19th, 1930, communicated to all Governments the resolution of the Assembly, and forwarded to them a copy of the standard minimum rules. Replies have been received from the following Governments: Colombia, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Egypt, Estonia, Greece, the Irish Free State, Latvia, Lithuania, Mexico, the Netherlands, Norway, Panama, Persia, Portugal, Siam, the United States of America, Venezuela, and Yugoslavia. Among private associations, only the Association internationale de droit pénal has up to now submitted observations.

The International Prison Commission, in response to the invitation addressed to it in January 1930, has forwarded to the Secretary-General a memorandum drawing attention to aspects of penal administration which could advantageously be dealt with internationally under the auspices of the League.

The Commission is prepared to consider any proposals which the League may desire to submit for inclusion in the agenda of its periodical congresses. The congresses of the Commission are international in character. They include official delegates of Governments and representatives of societies dealing with penal and prison law from all parts of the world. The agenda of the congresses, which have been held at intervals during the last fifty years, have hitherto been drawn up on the basis of questions suggested by the Governments concerned and by independent experts.

The International Prison Commission has set up sub-committees of enquiry to deal with special problems. Some years ago, for example, an enquiry was carried out by the Commission into the organisation and working of children's courts. The results of the enquiry were sent to the Child Welfare Committee of the League of Nations, which, in 1928, decided to continue it by collecting information concerning children's courts in countries not covered by the investigations of the Commission, and by asking all Governments for special information

regarding the auxiliary services of the courts. The Child Welfare Committee consulted the International Prison Commission as to the form of this supplementary enquiry and as to the possibility of extending it to institutions responsible for the execution of the measures recommended by the children's courts. An effective co-operation has therefore already been established between the International Prison Commission and the Child Welfare Committee of the League.

The standard minimum rules for the treatment of prisoners were drafted by the International Prison Commission, after a lengthy preparatory study, at a meeting of the Commission held in 1930, and the tenth International Congress on Prisons, held at Prague in August of that year, recommended that they should be universally adopted and applied. The International Prison Commission at once proposed that the League should communicate these rules to the Governments, and the Assembly resolution of September 29th, 1930, was adopted in conformity with that suggestion.

The International Prison Commission considers that this resolution should form an appropriate basis of co-operation with a view to the improvement of penal administration. It urges that, though the organisation of prison systems is governed by national legislation, which necessarily varies in different countries, there are nevertheless certain international aspects in regard to which the co-operation of the League might be of the greatest assistance. It suggests that it should keep in touch with the Secretariat of the League, to which it is prepared to forward any necessary information concerning its work, and that the League should draw its attention to any questions which appear to require examination. It further suggests that the Council of the League might usefully urge those countries which do not at present participate in its work to appoint representatives to the Commission.

The Economic Committee of the League, in February 1931, expressed the view that the documents referred to it did not raise any question directly within its competence. It had therefore no observations to make in regard to the matter.

The Traffic in Women and Children Committee, during its session in April 1931, noted with satisfaction that the minimum standard rules recommended a complete separation of female from male prisoners, and provided that the supervision of female prisoners should be entrusted to female officers. It observed that the treatment of female prisoners during detention and the assistance given to them after discharge had a direct bearing on prostitution and the traffic in women and children. It regretted that time did not permit of a full discussion of this important question and decided to consider it in detail at a future session.

The Child Welfare Committee, in April 1931, expressed the view that the detention of children in prison should be absolutely excluded, and that the treatment applied to them should aim at education and training and not merely at repression. The Committee will discuss at its next session the problem of the prison system to be applied to minors.

The Health Committee, during its session in May 1931, noted the report of a Sub-Committee which it had appointed to study the reform of penal administration. It instructed the Sub-Committee to continue its work and to present a final report before the next Assembly.

16.

REFUGEE QUESTIONS.

The Assembly in 1930 decided that the work on behalf of refugees should be reorganised. The political and legal protection of the refugees remains entrusted to the regular bodies of the League of Nations. The humanitarian side of the work, on the other hand, for which, hitherto, the High Commissariat has been responsible, has, during the period of winding up the work on behalf of the refugees, been entrusted to an international office placed under the authority of the League in accordance with the principles of Article 24 of the Covenant.

M. Max Huber, President of the International Committee of the Red Cross and former President of the Permanent Court of International Justice, was appointed President of the Office and entrusted with the task of preparing the statutes of the Office and submitting them to the Council of the League for approval.

The Council, during its session in January 1931, examined and approved the statutes submitted by M. Huber. The statutes were published in the *Official Journal* of the League for February 1931.

The governing body of the Nansen International Office for refugees met for a first session at Geneva on March 10th and 11th, 1931. It took all the necessary steps to enable the

Office to begin work as soon as possible, adopted rules of procedure, financial regulations and regulations for the organisation of the staff. The texts of these regulations were published in the *Official Journal* of the League for April 1931.

The Governing Body of the International Office met for a second session on April 27th and 28th, 1931. It drew up the budget of the Office for the year 1932 and considered various questions referred to it by the Assembly in 1930, more particularly the preparation of a plan for the liquidation of the refugee work at a date not later than December 31st, 1939, the situation of the Armenian refugees in Greece, and an appeal for funds. It noted with gratitude that steps had been taken to issue an appeal with a view to the creation of a Nansen Memorial Fund to finance the work on behalf of the refugees, and recommended that the appeal should be launched on May 13th, the first anniversary of the death of Nansen.

The appeal was issued by an international committee consisting of M. Briand (France), Viscount Cecil of Chelwood (Great Britain), Dr. Curtius (Germany), M. Grandi (Italy), Mr. Arthur Henderson (Great Britain), M. Masaryk (Czechoslovakia), M. Mowinckel (Norway) and M. Venizelos (Greece).

It was pointed out that there still remained in various European countries, in China and in Asia Minor, some 170,000 unemployed refugees able to work, and over 60,000 aged, infirm infant refugees for whose welfare little or no provision existed. To complete the work, further funds were required, and but for his death an appeal for those funds would have been issued by Dr. Nansen during the summer of 1930. The money was needed in order to finance the work of constructive settlement according to a programme laid down by Nansen himself. The programme included advances for agricultural colonisation, the provision of employment, the establishment of a training colony and other relief measures.

The International Office entered upon its duties officially as from April 1st, 1931. The Refugees Section of the Secretariat of the League of Nations was dissolved on that date and its staff taken over by the International Office.

17.

INTERNATIONAL RELIEF UNION.

The instruments of ratification of the Convention of July 12th, 1927, were deposited on behalf of Greece on January 16th, 1931, and on behalf of Bulgaria on May 22nd, thus bringing up to 451 units the number of shares in the initial fund of 600 units which must be subscribed before the Convention can come into force.

The Secretariat has been informed that the Parliament of Turkey has approved a bill for the deposit of the instrument of ratification. This, however, has not as yet been forwarded. The instrument of ratification will shortly be deposited on behalf of Czechoslovakia.

The attention of the competent authorities in other countries has been drawn to the question of ratification. There are good reasons to hope that, in the near future, as a consequence of further ratifications, the number of shares to be subscribed by the States towards the constitution of the initial fund will be made up and that the Convention will come into force.

18.

INTELLECTUAL CO-OPERATION.

The Committee of Enquiry appointed to study the programme of work and organisation of the Committee on Intellectual Co-operation and of the organisations under its authority submitted its report in April 1930. The report, approved and amended by the Committee on Intellectual Co-operation in July of that year, was endorsed by the Council on September 9th, and by the Assembly on October 3rd, 1930. The Assembly expressed its conviction that, as a result of the re-organisation, interest and sympathy in the work of intellectual co-operation would be extended, and that there would be increased contact and closer relations between qualified bodies and individuals in respect of scientific studies and research work.

The Assembly declared its special interest in the arrangements made with a view to encouraging the instruction of youth in the aims of the League, particularly by the establishment of an educational information centre.

1. GENERAL WORKING AND PROGRAMME OF THE ORGANISATION FOR INTELLECTUAL CO-OPERATION.

The principal body dealing with intellectual co-operation is the International Committee. It is an advisory body of the Council and Assembly ; it directs the work as a whole and supervises the general activities of the organisation. It meets once a year as a Committee and as a Governing Body of the Institute.

Between the annual sessions of the International Committee, an Executive Committee follows and directs the development of intellectual co-operation and carries into effect any decisions which may be taken ; while, between the annual sessions of the Governing Body, a Committee of Directors manages the affairs of the Institute. The Executive Committee and the Committee of Directors, which are composed of the same persons, sit simultaneously four times a year in Paris or Geneva.

The Sub-Committees of the plenary International Committee on Intellectual Co-operation have been suppressed, one of them — the Sub-Committee for Arts and Letters — being replaced by a permanent committee. When, under the revised procedure, a new question is placed on the programme, the Executive Committee, if it thinks fit, instructs the Institute to collect international data in regard to it. The Executive Committee then reviews the information collected and decides whether the subject should be examined by experts. The experts submit a report to the plenary Committee, which determines the steps to be taken, including, if it so decides, the constitution of a committee of experts appointed for a long period. There are accordingly two kinds of committees of experts — namely, those which are constituted temporarily for the study of a special question — to be settled or abandoned after enquiry — and those appointed for a long period. A third type of committee may also be appointed for a preliminary study of a question prior to its being placed on the programme of intellectual co-operation.

A feature which distinguishes the revised procedure of the Organisation for Intellectual Co-operation — apart from the simplification and greater elasticity of its administrative machinery — is the establishment of a definite programme. The programme was divided by the Committee of Enquiry into six essential and fundamental questions :

- (1) To develop the exchange of ideas and to effect personal contacts between the intellectual workers of all countries ;
- (2) To encourage and promote co-operation between institutions doing work of an intellectual character ;
- (3) To facilitate the spread of the knowledge of the literary, artistic and scientific efforts of different nations ;
- (4) To study jointly certain major problems of international bearing ;
- (5) To support the international protection of intellectual rights ;
- (6) To make known by educational means the principles of the League of Nations.

2. PLENARY COMMITTEE.

(a) *Partial Renewal of the Committee.*

The Council, in 1926, fixed the term of office of the members of the Committee at five years. Of the seventeen members of the Committee, thirteen have already been in office since 1926 and were due to retire on June 16th, 1931.

The Council, during its session in September 1930, was struck by the disadvantages which would result from an almost complete renewal of the membership of the Committee coinciding with the execution of a programme of re-organisation. It accordingly decided, on September 9th, 1930, to replace the members of the Committee by successive stages over a period of three years. The members of the Committee will therefore retire in the alphabetical order of their names in groups of five during 1931, 1932 and 1933. In accordance with this arrangement, five members of the Committee — Mlle. K. Bonnevie (Norway), Sir Jagadis C. Bose (India), M. Julio Casares (Spain), M. A. de Castro (Brazil) and M. Mariano H. Cornejo (Peru) — retired in June 1931 and were replaced by five new members appointed by the Council in January 1931 — M. Gösta S. FORSELL (Sweden), Mr. Sarva Palli RADHAKRISHNAN (India), M. Sanin CANO (Colombia), M. José CASTILLEJO (Spain) and M. Henri VON SRBIK (Austria).

(b) *Meeting of the Committee.*

The International Committee on Intellectual Co-operation will meet for its thirteenth session on July 20th, 1931. The results of the session will be summarised in the Supplementary Report.

3. PERMANENT COMMITTEE FOR ARTS AND LETTERS.

The Committee will hold its first session on July 6th, 1931, and its proceedings will be summarised in the supplementary report to the Assembly. The Committee is composed as follows : Professor Bela BARTOK (Hungary), M. Karel CAPEK (Czechoslovakia), M. COSTA DU RELS (Bolivia), M. Henri FOCILLON (France), M. Julien LUCHAIRE (France), M. Salvador DE MADARIAGA (Spain), Dr. Thomas MANN (Germany), Mr. John MASEFIELD (England), M. Ugo OJETTI (Italy), M. Georges OPRESCU (Roumania), Professor Ragnar OSTBERG (Sweden),

M. R. PARIBENI (Italy), Mme. Nini ROLL-ANKER (Norway), M. Josef STRZYGOWSKI (Austria), Mlle. H. VACARESCO (Roumania), M. Paul VALÉRY (France), and Dr. A. W. WAETZOLDT (Germany).

Professor Gilbert MURRAY (Great Britain), M. DESTRÉE (Belgium) and M. DE REYNOLD (Switzerland) will represent the plenary Committee.

4. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

The Executive Committee has, since the last Assembly, held three sessions at the Institute of Intellectual Co-operation in Paris. Its activities may be divided into four principal categories. First, it has dealt with certain questions of an altogether exceptional character, the period 1930-31 being regarded as a year of transition. Among these questions are included the organisation of the Institute and the establishment of its budget. Normally, these matters fall within the province of the Governing Body and the Committee of Directors of the Institute, the Executive Committee dealing more particularly with questions relating to the programme of work. It was felt, however, that, during the first year of the organisation, the Executive Committee, in view of the fact that one of the objects of the reforms introduced was to adapt the machine to the work which it was required to undertake, would do well to examine both the questions relating to the programme of work and administrative problems.

Secondly, the Executive Committee has followed the development of the questions which the Plenary Committee placed on the programme of Intellectual Co-operation in July 1930 and which the Institute in Paris or, in certain cases, the Secretariat at Geneva was instructed to undertake.

Thirdly, the Executive Committee has had to decide as to the placing on the programme of numerous problems referred to it by the Plenary Committee.

Finally, it has examined a certain number of suggestions made to it in the course of the year.

The Committee has, among other things, taken decisions regarding the constitution and appointment of committees of experts and the convening of groups of experts. In each case it made a preliminary examination of the questions to be submitted to committees of experts, noted the work done by those committees, and determined the action to be taken as the result of their conclusions. Decisions were reached as to the publication of the *Ibero-American Collection* and the second edition of the *Index Bibliographicus*.

In dealing with the instruction of youth in the aims and objects of the League, it considered the organisation of school information centres in Geneva and Paris, and made a first allocation of duties as between these two centres, indicating the methods to be followed in working together. It also examined questions relating to the publication of the *Educational Survey* of the League of Nations. With a view to giving effect to resolutions upon the use of libraries and school museums for the encouragement of the instruction of youth in the aims of the League, the Committee recommended the most appropriate practical measures. The attention of the Committee was also directed to the question of the protection of national parks and the constitution of an international library of translations. It requested the Institute to undertake preliminary studies with a view to facilitating a later decision on this subject by the plenary Committee.

Among the questions which the Executive Committee examined with particular care were proposals for collaboration received from the International Labour Office and the Chinese Government. The International Labour Office has invited the assistance of the Organisation for Intellectual Co-operation in studying the problem of the use to be made by workers of their leisure, while the Chinese Government desired to ensure collaboration with the competent bodies and institutions of the League of Nations in the scientific and intellectual field.

5. REQUEST OF THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT.

The Chinese Government, desiring to render more numerous and frequent the intellectual relations of China with the League of Nations, has proposed to the International Committee on Intellectual Co-operation that an interchange of professors should be organised.

Further, the Chinese Government has asked the Organisation for Intellectual Co-operation for precise information as to its method of work, more particularly as to the powers of the International Institute in Paris and the International Educational Cinematographic Institute at Rome.

Finally, the Chinese Government has asked the Council of the League of Nations to consider a proposal under which the Organisation for Intellectual Co-operation would be asked to frame a scheme of re-organisation of the system of public education in China. The Council of the League has accepted the suggestion of the Chinese Government and has instructed the Organisation for Intellectual Co-operation to take the necessary steps.

6. COMMITTEES OF EXPERTS.

Among the recommendations of the Committee of Enquiry regarding the methods of work of the Organisation for Intellectual Co-operation, one of the most important related to the use to be made of committees of experts. During the period under review, several committees have met or been convened. Others have been constituted with a view to action at a later stage.

Among these should be noted the Committee of Representatives of Official Bodies for the Co-ordination of Intellectual Rights (Paris, March 10th) and the Committee of Documentary Experts (April 2nd). Further, the Committee of Library Experts met at Paris on June 4th, and the Committee for the Study of Scientific Questions has been convened to meet at Geneva in July. The Executive Committee has also constituted a committee with instructions to draft a programme for an enquiry into intellectual life. This committee will meet during the first six months of 1932.

7. NATIONAL COMMITTEES.

The International Committee on Intellectual Co-operation, endorsing the conclusions of the Committee of Enquiry, has emphasised the important part played by National Committees. The Secretariat of the Committee and the Institute of Intellectual Co-operation have endeavoured to promote closer contact with the National Committees already in existence and to encourage, as far as possible, the activities of these Committees in their respective countries. The existing Committees have made considerable progress in the course of the year and their number has increased.

Since the last Assembly, new National Committees have been constituted, or are in process of constitution, in Bolivia, Colombia, Free City of Danzig, India, Mexico and Venezuela.

The total number of Committees is now thirty-nine.

A general desire has been expressed that the plenary Committee shall convene a conference of the representatives of the National Committees. Only budgetary reasons have obliged it to postpone a project which the Committee has already adopted in principle and which is in entire accord with its views.

8. SCIENTIFIC PROPERTY (RIGHT OF THE SCIENTIST).

The Secretary-General, under a resolution adopted by the Council in September 1928, was asked to forward to all the Governments Members of the League and to the States non-members a circular letter covering a preliminary draft Convention on the protection of scientific property, together with a note explaining certain methods of application designed to prevent any hindrances to the activities of economic circles exploiting protected scientific discoveries.

The object of this consultation was to collect the observations of the Governments on the provisions of the draft, and to ascertain whether they were disposed to accept it as a basis for discussion at a conference at which they would be represented.

The Secretary-General, supplementing this first communication, forwarded to the Governments a second letter on March 24th, 1931, communicating a memorandum embodying important observations on the draft Convention by the Italian National Committee on Intellectual Co-operation.

Twenty-seven replies have up to now been received by the Secretary-General; fifteen of these replies merely acknowledged receipt of the communications. Three Governments have declared their readiness, in principle, to take part in the conference.

The International Institute of Intellectual Co-operation has forwarded to the National Committees on Intellectual Co-operation the documents communicated to the Governments with a view to receiving their comments.

The International Committee on Intellectual Co-operation, at its next session, will examine the first results of the consultation with a view to continuing the preparation of the proposed conference.

9. ACTIVITIES IN CONNECTION WITH EDUCATION.

The Council, on January 22nd, 1931, decided to increase from 14 to 16 the number of members of the Sub-Committee of experts for the instruction of youth. During its sessions in September 1930, January 1931 and May 1931, it accepted the resignations of certain members of the Sub-Committee and filled the vacancies thereby created.

At meetings during 1930 of the Sub-Committee of Experts and of the third Conference for the Scientific Study of International Relations, suggestions were put forward for a co-operation between these two organisations. It was felt that instruction in international affairs in elementary and secondary schools might gain considerably from a closer contact with persons and institutions occupied in research work in the same field. The Joint Committee was set up, consisting of three delegates from each organisation. The Joint Committee met for the first time in June 1931 and discussed methods of future co-operation with a view to making the results of research available for the practical teacher. It further discussed a scheme for a collective study tour for teachers and persons engaged in educational administration.

The Sub-Committee of Experts, during its session in 1930, authorised its chairman to convene in the intervals between its plenary meetings such of its members as might seem most qualified to note results achieved and give instructions regarding the work in progress. The first of these meetings was convened to be held on July 3rd, 1931.

It will discuss the following questions at present under consideration by the educational information centres at Geneva or Paris: revision of school text-books, scholastic museums as

mediums for education in international affairs, libraries and publications, cinematography and broadcasting, exchanges of secondary-school pupils, teaching concerning the League of Nations in distant countries, results of the Joint Committee Meeting at Copenhagen the programme and work of the Educational Information Centre.

10. ABOLITION OF CUSTOMS DUTIES ON EDUCATIONAL FILMS.

As a result of a decision taken by the Council of the League on May 13th, 1930, the Secretary-General, on July 14th, 1930, addressed to the States Members of the League and to certain States non-members a circular letter covering a draft Convention for the abolition of Customs duties on educational films. The draft Convention, established by a Committee of Experts, was accompanied by a recommendation of the Economic Committee of the League. The Governments were asked whether this draft might, in the view of their Governments, be accepted as a basis for discussion at an international conference, and whether they were prepared to be represented.

On May 13th, 1931, thirty-seven States had replied to the circular letter. Eighteen States declared that the draft Convention might, in their view, constitute a basis of discussion at an international diplomatic conference, in which they were prepared to participate.

11. THE WORK OF THE INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE OF INTELLECTUAL CO-OPERATION.

The Institute of Intellectual Co-operation has, as in previous years, continued to keep in touch with the National Committees of Intellectual Co-operation.

The number of State delegates accredited to the Institute remains at forty-four.

The Institute has endeavoured to provide the National Committees or the State delegates with such documents as may enable them to follow the work of the International Organisation for Intellectual Co-operation.

Publications.

The review entitled *La Coopération intellectuelle* has been replaced by the *Bulletin de la Coopération intellectuelle*. This is a monthly periodical devoted to the work of the Committee on Intellectual Co-operation, its dependent bodies and the Institute, reserving as large a space as possible for the activities of the National Committees. The *Bulletin* also contains accounts of the activity of intellectual institutions, national or international.

The Institute has also published during the year a new edition of its "List of Holiday Courses in Europe"; a "List of National Institutes abroad" and a "List of International Students' Associations", with certain "Works of Reference for Students working abroad."

It has issued a list of institutes for the scientific study of international relations and, with a view to a conference on this question, held at Copenhagen in June 1931, an "International List of Centres of Political Information". A "List of Notable Books appearing in the Various Countries during 1929" was this year published for the last time. It was established, as in previous years, on the basis of information given by the National Committees. The substitution for this work of an exchange of information between the large libraries for the purchase of foreign works is under consideration.

Literary Questions.

The Institute has taken up the problem of establishing an international bibliography of translations. It remains in touch with a certain number of professional associations of men of letters and publishers.

The two first volumes of the first series of the Ibero-American works appearing in a French translation have now been issued. Further volumes are in preparation.

Rights of Authors.

A conference of Institutes specialising in the study of intellectual rights met at the Institute in March and established a programme of collaboration between the International Bureau at Berne, the International Labour Office, the International Institute at Rome for the Unification of Private Law, the Legal Section of the Secretariat of the League, and the Institute. The Institute, moreover, is in communication with the International Bureau at Berne with a view to developing the publication in the monthly periodical of the Bureau of the laws relating to authors' rights.

The Institute continues, at the request of other institutions specialising in intellectual rights, to keep in touch with private associations dealing with these questions.

University Relations.

The Institute assumes responsibility for the secretarial arrangements of the annual meeting of the directors of National University Offices and International Students' Associations. This year the offices and associations, for the first time, held a joint meeting, at which subjects

of common interest were examined. The Institute has further organised a conference of Institutions for the Scientific Study of International Relations. This meeting was convened at Copenhagen on June 8th, 1931.

Finally, at the end of 1931, a small conference of directors of higher education will meet for the first time.

The Institute continues to be responsible for the secretarial arrangements of the permanent committee dealing with international correspondence between students and the publication of the *Bulletin* devoted to that correspondence.

International Organisation of Archives.

The German and Italian National Committees have suggested to the plenary Committee that there should be an international organisation of archives. A committee of experts, including the directors of nine of the central administrations dealing with archives, met at the Institute at the beginning of April. The Committee has forwarded a report to the plenary Committee, recommending that there should be periodical contact between the administrations dealing with archives, and has established a complete scheme of collaboration to be entrusted to the Institute for application.

Scientific Questions.

The Executive Committee of the plenary Committee has decided to consult a small committee of experts on the desirability of the Organisation for Intellectual Co-operation assisting in the co-ordination of scientific work and the general organisation of such work. This Committee will establish a programme of intellectual co-operation in the exact sciences.

The Institute has published in its monthly *Bulletin* bibliographical information and data regarding scientific congresses.

Education Questions.

The Institute has undertaken an enquiry into school handbooks in accordance with resolutions adopted by the Sub-Committee of Educational Experts for the Instruction of Youth and approved in July 1930 by the plenary Committee.

The question of the possible organisation on international lines of co-operation between educational museums is also under consideration.

Further, the Institute has remained in touch with the private associations dealing with instruction concerning the League of Nations.

Finally, it has prepared a report on international interchanges between young people. Other problems of an educational character, such as the question of the use of wireless, are under investigation.

Enquiry into Intellectual Life.

The Committee which was instructed to establish the programme for enquiry into intellectual life has been constituted, but will probably not meet until 1932.

Bibliography and Co-ordination of Libraries.

The Institute, owing to the support of the German National Committee on Intellectual Co-operation, has issued a second edition of the *Index Bibliographicus*, an analytical list of the sources of current bibliography. A second French edition, and perhaps a first English edition, is also contemplated of the guide to national information services, loan services and international exchanges. A national guide to abbreviations used in the titles of periodicals appeared in October 1930.

The Committee of Library Experts was convened for its annual meeting at the Institute on June 4th, 1931. It dealt in particular with popular libraries in relation to the question of the employment by workers of their leisure and in conformity with the recommendations of the Sub-Committee of Educational Experts on the use of libraries in spreading knowledge of the League of Nations.

Artistic Questions.

An agreement has been concluded between the International Commission for Popular Arts and the Organisation for Intellectual Co-operation, to which the former will be attached for a first period of 5 years.

The second Congress on Popular Arts was held last year in August-September 1930 in Antwerp, Liège and Brussels. The International Institute of Intellectual Co-operation was represented.

The third plenary meeting of the International Commission for Popular Arts will be held next year at Stockholm. The Institute is issuing the records and memoranda of the first International Congress of Popular Arts held at Prague in 1928, and has also been authorised to collect information on the question of the protection of national beauties and more particularly the protection of national parks.

The Institute, at the request of the International Labour Office, has undertaken an enquiry into the question of popular arts and of popular libraries in relation to the question of the use by workers of their leisure.

The Permanent Committee for Arts and Letters contemplates the constitution of an international centre for institutes of archaeology and institutes dealing with the history of art. The Institute for Intellectual Co-operation has been asked to prepare, with the assistance of European experts and the National Committees of Intellectual Co-operation, a scheme which will later be submitted to the Permanent Committee.

International Office of Museums.

The International Office of Museums has convened at Rome a conference for the study of scientific methods applied to the examination and preservation of works of art. This conference has established a programme for the Office in dealing with this matter. The Office is organising a new meeting for the autumn of 1931, which will be devoted to architectural monuments.

The review *Museion*, the publication of the Office, is now appearing every three months. Supplements in German, English, Spanish and Italian, published in the review since last year, have secured for it a wider distribution. The Office continues to edit the *International List of Monuments*, and is preparing lists for Austria, Roumania and Greece. It is also editing a volume on the modern architecture of museums.

The Office is preparing an international agreement for the protection of the marks of origin of studios preparing casts and another agreement on casts from casts. Further international exhibitions of chalcography have been organised at Angers, Tours, and the Grand-Duchy of Luxemburg. The Office has created a wireless service under an agreement with the "Union Internationale de Radio-Diffusion" for propaganda on behalf of museums. It has further studied, with the assistance of the International Educational Cinematographic Institute at Rome, the use of films for the benefit of museums.

Among the work in progress, reference may be made to enquiries made by the Office with a view to an international agreement for the protection of the artistic patrimony of each country, the adoption of small museums by larger institutions, the unification of conditions under which works of art in museums may be copied, a more rational organisation of deposits and reserves, the development of exchanges between museums, the study of conditions governing the acceptance of legacies and gifts, the establishment of a list of dismembered works of art and studies in technical museography.

Finally, the Office has now an information centre, including an international library of publications, dealing with museums and a collection of catalogues of public sales of works of art.

12. INTERNATIONAL EDUCATIONAL CINEMATOGRAPHIC INSTITUTE.

The Council of the League of Nations, during its session held in January 1931, noted the report presented by the Governing Body of the International Educational Cinematographic Institute on its work during the period October 1929 to October 1930. The Council further nominated new members to the Governing Body of the Institute in view of the fact that the suppression of the sub-committees of the Committee on Intellectual Co-operation had brought to an end the term of office of the members who sat on the Governing Body as representatives of the sub-committees.

(a) The Council, on January 19th, 1931, adopted a resolution noting the results achieved by the Institute during the year. Considerable efforts have been made by the Institute to awaken the interest of all those dealing with the educational film. An extensive programme of work had been framed. The Institute has got into close touch with the international organisations whose objects are similar to its own. For example, it has undertaken in agreement with the Secretariat of the League of Nations, the preparatory work for the establishment of an International Convention for the Abolition of Customs Duties on Educational films. Similarly, it has concluded with the Secretariat an agreement providing for the collaboration of the two organisations with a view to encouraging the production of educational films on the League of Nations. This agreement provides, among other things, that a positive of each of the films on the League of Nations should be kept at the Institute, which will thus build up what may be described as a cinematographic history of the League. All the efforts of the Institute in this field of education of young people has been carried out in close co-operation with the International Child Welfare Committee of the League, while its work in the field of health has been undertaken in co-operation with the Health Section of the League. The Institute has also collaborated with the International Labour Office, the International Institute of Agriculture, the International League of Red Cross Societies and the International Council of Women.

The Institute has continued its efforts to establish more intimate relations with the national organisations. National Committees have been accredited to the Institute to represent the official and private interests of the countries concerned. The success of the efforts of the Institute is particularly demonstrated by the fact that requests for information are becoming yearly more numerous, both from public and private associations.

Among the most interesting developments of the Institute during 1930 should be mentioned: its studies on the use of the film in the sphere of health in general and social health in particular; its study of cinematography as applied to education; its studies of the effects of cinematography from the social, psychological and pedagogical point of view; its medical and technical researches into the effects of the cinema upon the eyesight; its comparative studies on the censorship of films in various countries; its studies on the cinematograph as applied to agriculture and on the social aspect of the cinematograph; its enquiry into the definition of the expression "educational film"; and the establishment of a technical lexicon. Special mention

should be made of the enquiry undertaken into the use of the cinema for the prevention of industrial accidents. The Committee of Experts convened by the Institute in agreement with the International Labour Office concluded its work by the adoption of resolutions which were received with great interest in all circles concerned with the development of cinema technique.

(b) The Governing Body of the Institute, noting the result of the work undertaken adopted the programme of the Institute for the coming year. Apart from the continuation of tasks already begun, the essential features of the programme are the following : studies of the problem of the non-inflammable film and of the censorship of films for minors ; development of the enquiry into the educational film ; contribution of women to the study of questions of a social and moral character in relation to the film. Moreover, the Institute has been asked to prepare reports on the following questions : the use of the cinema in agriculture ; possibilities of applying the cinema in the field of social insurance ; the history of ocular instruction ; the preservation of films of historical value ; the upkeep of films for schools ; the use of films in scientific research and in scientific and university education.

All the discussions on educational films have emphasised the necessity for a precise definition. The Governing Body has appointed a Committee of three members to make a preparatory study with a view to establishing such a definition.

(c) The Income and expenditure in the budget for the financial year 1930 amount to 1,131,000 lire. The receipts include a levy of 201,000 lire on the reserve fund. Owing to the increase of the subsidy of the Italian Government by 200,000 lire and the new subsidy of 30,000 lire from the Polish Government, it has been possible to avoid drawing from the reserve fund as contemplated.

The draft budget for 1931 shows estimates of 1,206,000 lire for income and expenditure. The improvement of the financial position as compared with previous years is indicated more particularly by the facts that no resort to the reserve fund is contemplated and that the publication of the Review shows a profit.

(d) The Council, in consequence of the re-organisation of the International Committee of Intellectual Co-operation, was asked, during its session from October 8th to October 10th, 1930, to nominate new members to the Governing Body of the Institute. The following were appointed : Dr. Thomas E. FINNEGAN (United States), M. Henri FOCILLON (French) Dr. Hugo Kruss (German), Dr. Leon Chrzanowski (Polish) and M. Georges OPRESCU (Roumanian)

The Council, at a later session, appointed M. YOSHIDA, Ambassador of Japan at Rome, as successor to M. Nitobé (resigned).

19.

INTERNATIONAL BUREAUX.

I. RELATIONS WITH INTERNATIONAL BUREAUX.

Two international bureaux have, since the last Assembly, been added to those placed under the authority of the League of Nations in conformity with Article 24 of the Covenant.

The first is the Nansen International Office for Refugees at Geneva, created by a resolution of the Assembly of September 30th, 1930. The second is the International Exhibitions Bureau in Paris, set up under Article 10 of the International Exhibitions Convention. The Convention was registered at the Secretariat of the League of Nations in January 1930, when it came into force.

1. INTERNATIONAL HYDROGRAPHIC BUREAU.

The Bureau continues to send to the Secretariat its publications, reports and circular letters addressed to its members.

2. INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR AIR NAVIGATION.

The Commission has sent to the Secretariat all its publications. In July 1931, it was represented at the meetings of the Committee for Co-operation in Civil Aviation, while in September 1930 and in May 1931 it attended meetings of the Advisory and Technical Committee for Communications and Transit of the League. The meeting of the Legal Sub-Committee of the International Commission for Air Navigation, which took place in Paris in February 1931, was of special interest to the League. It considered the adoption of a draft Convention for the identification of aircraft effecting transport on behalf of the League. The question of the guarantees to be afforded to aircraft undertaking transport on behalf of the League in

times of crisis was also studied and placed on the agenda of the nineteenth session of the International Air Navigation Commission, which was due to meet in London from June 3rd to June 6th, 1931.

3. CENTRAL INTERNATIONAL OFFICE FOR THE CONTROL OF LIQUOR TRAFFIC IN AFRICA.

The Bureau continues to send to the Secretariat the information forwarded to it by the parties to the Convention of St. Germain on the traffic in spirituous liquors in Africa.

4. INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF CONGRESSES FOR PUBLIC RELIEF.

The relations of this bureau with the League have continued along the usual lines.

5. NANSEN INTERNATIONAL OFFICE FOR REFUGEES.

The establishment of the Nansen International Office for Refugees and the duties of the Office are described in a separate chapter of the report.

6. INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITIONS BUREAU.

The President of the International Exhibitions Bureau, M. Alphonse Dunant, in a letter dated April 30th, 1931, addressed a request to the Council of the League to the effect that the International Exhibitions Bureau should be placed under the authority of the League of Nations in conformity with Article 24 of the Covenant.

The Council, on May 20th, 1931, decided to accede to this request.

The International Exhibitions Bureau was established in January 1931 under Article 10 of the International Exhibitions Convention signed at Paris on November 22nd, 1928. This Convention regulates as between the contracting countries various questions relating to international exhibitions, their character, duration, frequency, participation of the countries invited and competition between countries in the organisation of exhibitions of the same kind. The Convention has so far been ratified by eleven Governments and came into force in January 1931. It was registered at the Secretariat of the League of Nations on the 17th of that month upon the request of the British and French Governments.

The International Exhibitions Bureau is entrusted with the task of supervising the application of the Convention. The Governing Body is composed of members nominated by the contracting countries. The competence of the Bureau is defined by the Convention and the budget is provisionally fixed at £4,000 sterling. The Bureau entered upon its duties as soon as the Convention came into force.

The Secretariat of the League of Nations and the International Exhibitions Bureau are negotiating with a view to settling ways and means of giving effect to the resolution of the Council.

* * *

The Secretariat has continued its study of the requests formulated by the International Association for Life-saving and First-aid to the Injured and by the Permanent International Secretariat for the Unification of Pharmacopœias, which have asked to be placed under the authority of the League in accordance with Article 24 of the Covenant.

II. RELATIONS WITH INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS.

1. GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

The Section for International Bureaux continues to collect information as to the constitution and activities of public and private international organisations upon the lines hitherto adopted. It has in this way been able to respond to the requests for information, which are becoming continuously more frequent. The methodical work undertaken in this field has not yet produced its full results, but has already proved its utility and met with the approval of all the associations interested in its development.

2. PUBLICATIONS.

(a) *Quarterly Bulletin of Information on the Work of International Organisations.*

The *Bulletin* has been found extremely useful to international associations, and has fully met the object for which it was established.

An increasing amount of information is forwarded to the Secretariat for insertion in the *Bulletin*, which now constitutes one of the most complete sources of information on the periodical activities of international associations.

(b) *Handbook of International Organisations.*

The *Handbook of International Organisations* appeared last year in English, and it has only been possible to publish this year a supplement devoted to the associations which were not mentioned in previous editions. Numerous questionnaires have been sent with a view to the preparation of this publication, which will be issued in the last months of 1931.

20.

ENQUIRY INTO THE ORGANISATION OF THE SECRETARIAT, OF
THE INTERNATIONAL LABOUR OFFICE AND OF THE REGISTRY OF THE
PERMANENT COURT OF INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE.

The conclusions of the Committee of Enquiry appointed by the Assembly in 1929 to prepare a report on the organisation of the Secretariat, the International Labour Office and the Registry of the Permanent Court of International Justice, were summarised in the supplementary report presented to the Assembly in 1930.¹

The Assembly on October 3rd, 1930, approved the general obligations of the staff and the rules upon the duration of engagements proposed by the Committee of Enquiry and endorsed by the Fourth Committee of the Assembly. It requested the Secretary-General to amend the staff regulations in accordance with these proposals and to submit a revised text to the next Assembly. It further approved the staff pensions scheme and instructed the Secretary-General to take all necessary measures to ensure its applications as from January 1st, 1931.

There were, however, certain questions in regard to which the Committee of Enquiry had failed to reach unanimous conclusions and on which the Assembly did not desire at that moment to take a final decision. It accordingly requested its General Committee to appoint a new Committee of Enquiry with instructions to submit a report not later than May 1st, 1931, for examination in due time by the States Members of the League of Nations and submission to the Assembly in September 1931. The new Committee was asked to consider the retention or elimination, the increase or reduction of the posts of Under-Secretary-General, as well as the consequences resulting therefrom, together with all cognate questions which the previous Committee had thought it necessary to adjourn in the course of its work. According to this decision the terms of references of the Committee of Thirteen were limited to the following questions :

- (1) The question of the Under-Secretaries-General ;
- (2) The question of the salaries, conditions of engagement, etc. of the Secretary-General, Deputy-Secretary-General, Under-Secretaries-General, Directors and Treasurer ;
- (3) The questions of the salaries of Chiefs of Sections² and of the Secretary-General's Chef de Cabinet, submitted to it by a separate decision of the Fourth Committee.

The Committee held that it was not competent to consider the questions of the salaries of Counsellors or of septennial leave for officials of the First Division, as these questions had been postponed for consideration by the Assembly in 1931.

The Committee agreed upon the necessity of keeping a Secretary-General and Deputy Secretary-General at the head of the Secretariat.

In regard to Under-Secretaries-General the Committee considered three possibilities : complete abolition of the post, an increase in the number from three to five or six, and the *status quo*. The proposal to abolish the post was rejected by seven votes to three, with one abstention. The proposal to increase the number of Under-Secretaries-General was rejected by six votes to five. To obviate any possibility of misunderstanding a vote was then taken upon a pure and simple maintenance of the *status quo*. By nine votes to two, with one abstention, the Committee declared itself to be not in favour of that solution.

It remained to ascertain whether the Committee could arrive at an agreement on certain modifications to be made in the *status quo*. It finally concluded that a fundamental change in the organisation of the higher ranks of the Secretariat in the comparatively near future might

¹ See *Official Journal*, 1930, Special Supplement, No. 84, page 389.

² In the case of the Secretariat, this question applies only to a Chief of Section in charge of one of the Sections approved by the Assembly — i.e., to an officer performing the duties of a Director.

create difficulties and that it would be preferable to maintain that organisation provisionally as it stood. It suggested, however, that within three years' time the Council and the Assembly should once again consider the problem either of maintaining or of abolishing, increasing or reducing, the posts of Under-Secretary-General, it being understood that the question would at once be taken up should the present Secretary-General retire before the termination of that period. The Committee meanwhile recommended that any new or renewed contracts concluded with the Deputy Secretary-General or the Under-Secretaries-General should have a maximum duration of three years and contain a clause providing for their possible denunciation within one year from the date on which the Secretary-General officially notified the Council of his intention to resign, the denunciation to take effect as from the date on which the new Secretary-General assumed his duties or in the year following.

Some members of the Committee, while accepting the recommendation, desired that their opinion should be recorded that the solution was not satisfactory and that they would have preferred either a provisional enlargement of the number of Under-Secretaries-General or their complete suppression.

The Committee was asked to consider a draft resolution which had been submitted by the Irish delegation to the Fourth Committee of the Assembly in 1930 to the effect that in future there should, as a general rule, be no appointment of more than one national of any State among the higher officers of the Secretariat over and including the rank of Director of Section upwards. The Committee considered that it would be difficult to adopt rules laying down a strict allocation of nationalities and that the first and foremost consideration in the appointment or promotion of officials to one of the higher posts in the Secretariat must be the knowledge and capacity of the candidate. In making the choice, however, account should be taken of the representation of the different forms of national civilisation.

The Committee concluded that no change should be made in the present system of salaries of the principal officers of the Secretariat pending a final decision as to their number and organisation. It recommended that the normal term of office of the Secretary-General should be for ten years, subject to the right of the Council to prolong the appointment with the approval of the majority of the Assembly. The term of office of the Deputy Secretary-General should, in future, be for seven years, renewable in exceptional cases.

The Committee did not think it desirable to put forward any new proposals in regard to the entertainment allowances granted to these officials.

The Committee proposed no change in the scale of salary at present in force for Directors, but recommended that the salary of the Treasurer should be equivalent to that of a Director. Having regard to the provisional character of its recommendations in connection with the Under-Secretaries-General, it did not adhere to the proposal of the previous Committee of Thirteen to the effect that the Registrar of the Permanent Court should be assimilated as regards salary to the Under-Secretaries-General, but proposed that he should receive a maximum salary of 32,000 florins as determined by a resolution adopted on September 10th, 1929, by the Permanent Court of International Justice.

The Committee proposed that the maximum salary for a Chief of Section and for the Chef de Cabinet of the Secretary-General should be raised from 33,000 to 40,000 francs and that the Deputy Registrar of the Permanent Court of International Justice should be assimilated to this class of official.

21.

VISIT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL TO CERTAIN LATIN-AMERICAN COUNTRIES.

On September 25th, 1930, the Council received a communication from the Government of Uruguay requesting the Secretary-General to take part, as representative of the League of Nations, in the celebration of the first centenary of the independence of Uruguay, which was to be held in Montevideo the following December. The Council authorised the Secretary-General to accept this invitation and also to visit, if he were invited, other Latin-American countries whose capitals were on or near the coast.

The Secretary-General left Geneva on December 3rd, 1930, and arrived at Montevideo on December 24th. He returned to Geneva on February 16th, 1931, having visited — in addition to Montevideo — Rio de Janeiro, Buenos Aires, Santiago de Chile, Lima, Panama and Havana. In all these capitals, the Secretary-General was received by the President and the Minister for Foreign Affairs and, so far as time permitted, met leaders of official and parliamentary, Press and university circles and members of the *corps diplomatique*.

The Legal Adviser of the Secretariat, the Director of the Information Section and a member of the Legal Section accompanied the Secretary-General for the greater part of his journey and the Secretary-General was also assisted in the various capitals by several members of the Secretariat, nationals of the countries visited.

On May 18th, 1931, the Council took note of a letter from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Uruguay expressing the gratification of the Uruguayan Government and people at having

had the opportunity of receiving the Secretary-General at Montevideo. On behalf of the Council, the President expressed its appreciation of this friendly message and also of the warm welcome and generous hospitality accorded to the representative of the League, in the person of the Secretary-General, in Montevideo and in the other Latin-American capitals which he had visited.

22.

PRESENT SITUATION WITH REGARD TO INTERNATIONAL
ENGAGEMENTS REGISTERED WITH THE SECRETARIAT
OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS.

REGISTRATION AND PUBLICATION OF TREATIES AND INTERNATIONAL
ENGAGEMENTS
(ARTICLE 18 OF THE COVENANT).

As in previous years, the registration of treaties by the Secretariat has been carried out according to the method laid down by the Council's memorandum of May 19th, 1920. Between May 19th, 1920, and May 19th, 1931, 2,705 treaties and international engagement have been submitted for registration.

During the period between May 19th, 1930, and May 19th, 1931, 375 treaties have been submitted for registration by Members of the League and eight communicated for publication only by the United States of America.

The treaties registered have, as in previous years, dealt with various subjects, as may be seen by consulting the following list, which gives a general picture of the character of the agreements registered during the period in question. Some of the treaties mentioned in the list may be classified under several heads.

ARBITRATION, CONCILIATION AND PACIFIC SETTLEMENT.

Registration No.		Registration No.	
2334	Norway and Poland.	2502	Salvador and Uruguay.
2336	Norway and Czechoslovakia.	2503	United States of America and Iceland.
2341	Estonia and Czechoslovakia.	2508	Greece and Roumania.
2348	Spain and Poland.	2509	Greece and Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes.
2356	France and the Netherlands.	2510	Greece and Italy.
2357	Switzerland and Czechoslovakia.	2512	Greece and Czechoslovakia.
2366	United States of America and Estonia.	2533	Spain and Luxemburg.
2367	United States of America and Estonia.	2542	United States of America and Belgium.
2388	Spain and Iceland.	2543	United States of America and Belgium.
2400	Germany, Belgium, Great Britain and Northern Ireland, France and Italy.	2549	Germany and Turkey.
2402	United States of America and Roumania.	2556	Belgium and Czechoslovakia.
2403	United States of America and Roumania.	2557	Egypt and Yugoslavia.
2405	Austria and Italy.	2559	Luxemburg and Roumania.
2410	Italy and Norway.	2581	Luxemburg and Roumania.
2422	Latvia and United States of America.	2589	Colombia and Switzerland.
2423	Latvia and United States of America.	2611	The Netherlands and Roumania.
2454	Estonia and Hungary.	2626	Latvia and Lithuania.
2455	Belgium and Yugoslavia.	2632	Denmark and Latvia.
2462	France and Luxemburg.	2636	The Netherlands and Poland.
2463	United States of America and Luxemburg.	2637	Chile and Poland.
2464	United States of America and Luxemburg.	2638	Bulgaria and Poland.
2465	Luxemburg and Switzerland.	2640	Belgium and Greece.
2466	Luxemburg and the Netherlands.	2645	United States of America and Italy.
2467	Luxemburg and Czechoslovakia.	2658	Colombia and Spain.
2468	United States of America and the Netherlands.	2659	Chile and Colombia.
2477	The Netherlands and Czechoslo- vakia.	2668	Bulgaria and Turkey.
		2677	Lithuania and Czechoslovakia.
		2678	Luxemburg and Portugal.
		2684	Finland and Czechoslovakia.
		2705	Hungary and Latvia.

LIQUOR TRAFFIC AND NARCOTIC DRUGS.

Registration No.	
2515	United States of America and Poland.

COMMERCE, NAVIGATION AND CUSTOMS.

Registration No.		Registration No.	
2340	Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.	2522	Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Portugal.
2349	Persia and Sweden.	2523	Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Turkey.
2351	Japan and Peru.	2525	India and Turkey.
2358	Denmark and Egypt.	2527	Austria and the Netherlands.
2363	Egypt and Sweden.	2528	Persia and Poland.
2384	Albania and Switzerland.	2534	Hungary and Turkey.
2389	Estonia and France.	2537	United States of America and Sweden.
2401	Economic Union of Belgium and Luxemburg and Switzerland.	2553	Germany and Turkey.
2404	Egypt and the Netherlands.	2554	Germany and Roumania.
2406	Hungary and Turkey.	2561	China and Czechoslovakia.
2421	Hungary and Portugal.	2567	Persia and Czechoslovakia.
2431	Finland and Portugal.	2569	Economic Union of Belgium and Luxemburg and Persia.
2432	Egypt and Norway.	2573	Germany and Czechoslovakia.
2441	Estonia and Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes.	2575	Cuba and Japan.
2445	Italy and Roumania.	2580	Bulgaria and Turkey.
2446	Italy and Roumania.	2585	China and the Netherlands.
2447	Italy and Roumania.	2588	Egypt and Japan.
2448	Roumania and Sweden.	2591	Germany and Persia.
2452	China and Japan.	2592	Japan and Turkey.
2458	Denmark and Sweden.	2595	Egypt and Finland.
2460	Egypt and Hungary.	2596	Estonia and Finland.
2470	China and Sweden.	2597	Germany and Finland.
2471	China and Portugal.	2602	Japan and Roumania.
2472	United States of America and China.	2613	Roumania and Turkey.
2473	Germany and Norway.	2614	Germany and Czechoslovakia.
2475	Egypt and Czechoslovakia.	2627	Latvia and Lithuania.
2476	Hungary and Roumania.	2629	Spain and Japan.
2479	Economic Union of Belgium and Luxemburg and Roumania.	2654	Estonia and Roumania.
2482	Roumania and Yugoslavia.	2661	Estonia and Lithuania.
2483	Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Egypt.	2662	Denmark and Lithuania.
2490	Egypt and Persia.	2664	France and Switzerland.
2491	Hungary and Persia.	2665	Cuba and France.
2498	Persia and Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.	2666	Portugal and Roumania.
2506	Denmark and Roumania.	2667	Estonia and Latvia.
2507	The Netherlands and Roumania.	2680	United States of America and Roumania.
2519	Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Paraguay.	2681	Latvia and Poland.
2520	Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Costa Rica.	2683	Latvia and Poland.
2521	Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Turkey.	2686	Estonia and Poland.
		2689	Germany and Panama.
		2691	Germany and Egypt.
		2694	Germany and Austria.
		2703	Poland and Portugal.
		2704	Estonia and Turkey.

CONSULAR CONVENTIONS AND CONVENTIONS RESPECTING CONDITIONS OF RESIDENCE.

Registration No.		Registration No.	
2346	Spain and the Netherlands.	2570	Belgium and Persia.
2436	Germany and Bulgaria.	2590	Germany and Persia.
2487	Albania and France.		

PRIVATE LAW.

Registration No.	
2587	Hungary and Yugoslavia.

ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL CONVENTIONS AND CONVENTIONS REGARDING TAXES.

Registration No.		Registration No.	
2331	France and the Netherlands.	2628	United States of America and the Netherlands.
2347	Great Britain and Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes.	2631	United States of America and Italy.
2350	Norway and France.	2639	United States of America and Great Britain and Northern Ireland.
2352	Germany and Great Britain and Northern Ireland.	2642	Hungary and Yugoslavia.
2360	Austria, Italy, Poland, Roumania, Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes and Czechoslovakia.	2643	Hungary and Yugoslavia.
2361	Austria, Italy, Roumania, Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes and Czechoslovakia.	2646	Germany and Poland.
2362	Austria and Czechoslovakia.	2647	Germany and Poland.
2386	France and Yugoslavia.	2648	Germany and Poland.
2387	France and Yugoslavia.	2649	United States of America and Denmark and Iceland.
2390	Germany and Belgium.	2669	United States of America and France.
2391	Germany and Belgium.	2670	Austria and Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes.
2438	Germany and France.	2671	Austria and Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes.
2440	Germany and United States of America.	2672	Austria and Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes.
2469	Belgium and Norway.	2673	Austria and Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes.
2486	Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Latvia.	2674	Austria and Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes.
2492	Belgium and Denmark.	2675	Austria and Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes.
2493	Belgium and Iceland.	2676	Austria and Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes.
2531	Denmark and the Netherlands.	2687	Poland and Czechoslovakia.
2532	Iraq, Palestine, Syria, Transjordan and Turkey.	2696	United States of America and Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Iraq.
2536	Irish Free State and Norway.	2697	Great Britain and Northern Ireland and China.
2538	Lithuania and Norway.	2702	Greece and the Netherlands.
2555	Germany and Belgium.		
2560	General Convention.		
2577	Belgium and Finland.		
2578	Belgium and Sweden.		
2579	Belgium and France.		
2604	Denmark and Finland.		
2618	General Agreement.		

DELIMITATION OF FRONTIERS AND FRONTIER TRAFFIC.

Registration No.		Registration No.	
2338	Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Liberia.	2541	Germany and Czechoslovakia.
2339	Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Brazil.	2546	Germany and France.
2342	Albania and Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes.	2548	Germany and France.
2413	Dominican Republic and Haiti.	2566	Persia and Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.
2430	Germany and Denmark.	2574	Hungary and Czechoslovakia.
2453	Afghanistan and Persia.	2612	Chile and Peru.
2516	Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Netherlands.	2616	Estonia and Latvia.
		2692	Germany and Austria.

TONNAGE MEASUREMENT.

Registration No.		Registration No.	
2539	Latvia and Sweden.	2600	Estonia and the Netherlands.
2547	Germany and Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.	2615	Denmark and Estonia.
		2682	Poland and Portugal.

JUDICIAL AND EXTRADITION CONVENTIONS.

Registration No.		Registration No.	
2337	Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Spain.	2558	Latvia and Sweden.
2344	Hungary and Latvia.	2571	Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Australia, New Zea- land, Union of South Africa and Colombia.
2354	United States of America, Brazil, Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Norway, the Nether- lands and China.	2593	Finland and Italy.
2365	Estonia and Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.	2605	Austria and Belgium.
2385	Hungary and Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes.	2608	Austria and Belgium.
2419	Germany and Great Britain and Northern Ireland.	2623	General Convention.
2424	Austria and Sweden.	2621	Protocol to the above Convention.
2437	Germany, Belgium and France.	2641	Spain and Latvia.
2442	Estonia and Norway.	2644	Denmark and Latvia.
2443	Denmark and Estonia.	2652	Great Britain and Sweden.
2451	Estonia and Sweden.	2653	Bulgaria and Spain.
2457	United States of America and Austria.	2660	France and Czechoslovakia.
2461	Bulgaria and Greece.	2663	France and Czechoslovakia.
2544	Germany and Switzerland.	2688	Denmark and Spain.
		2693	Germany and Austria.
		2695	Germany and Austria.
		2700	Germany and Czechoslovakia.
		2701	Latvia and the Netherlands.

AIR NAVIGATION.

Registration No.		Registration No.	
2417	Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Netherlands.	2586	Austria and the Netherlands.
2514	Austria and Poland.	2617	Poland and Roumania.
		2657	France and Poland.

CONVENTION CONCERNING FISHERIES.

Registration No.		Registration No.	
2355	Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.	2621	Persia and Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.
		2679	Germany, Denmark, Free City of Danzig, Poland and Sweden.

TREATIES OF PEACE AND FRIENDSHIP, SOVEREIGNTY, ALLIANCE, ETC.

Registration No.		Registration No.	
2414	Dominican Republic and Haiti.	2576	Germany and Persia.
2420	Persia and Sweden.	2599	The Netherlands and Persia.
2426	Colombia and Nicaragua.	2601	Afghanistan and Finland.
2449	Persia and Turkey.	2609	Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Norway.
2450	Hejaz, Nejd and Dependencies and Persia.	2620	Persia and Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.
2478	Roumania, Czechoslovakia and Yugoslavia.	2685	Poland and Roumania.
2500	Afghanistan and Persia.	2690	Germany and Hejaz, Nejd and Dependencies.
2529	Persia and Poland.		
2568	Belgium and Persia.		

POSTAL, TELEPHONIC, TELEGRAPHIC AND RADIO-TELEGRAPHIC CONVENTIONS.

Registration No.		Registration No.	
2335	Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Latvia and Sweden.	2369	General Agreement.
2345	Germany, Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Finland, the Netherlands and Sweden.	2370	General Agreement.
2353	Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Netherlands.	2371	General Agreement.
2359	United States of America and Canada.	2372	General Agreement.
2364	Belgium and Irish Free State.	2373	General Agreement.
2368	General Convention.	2374	General Agreement.
		2377	Germany, Denmark and Luxem- burg.
		2378	Denmark and Sweden.
		2379	Denmark and Sweden.
		2381	Denmark, Norway and Sweden.

POSTAL, TELEPHONIC, TELEGRAPHIC AND RADIO-TELEGRAPHIC CONVENTIONS (*continued*).

Registration No.		Registration No.	
2382	Denmark and Norway.	2524	United States of America and Great Britain and Northern Ireland.
2415	Great Britain and Northern Ireland and France.	2530	Persia and Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.
2416	Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Roumania.	2564	Persia and Russian Socialist Federal Soviet Republic.
2428	Denmark, Norway and Sweden.	2565	Persia and Russian Socialist Federal Soviet Republic.
2429	Finland and Norway.	2582	Great Britain and Northern Ireland and India and the Netherlands.
2433	Denmark and Finland.	2583	Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Italy.
2434	Finland and Sweden.	2656	Denmark and India.
2444	Estonia and Latvia.	2698	Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Netherlands.
2456	Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Siam.		
2481	Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Japan.		
2484	Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Portugal.		
2485	Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Portugal.		

SOCIAL QUESTIONS, LABOUR, REFUGEES.

Registration No.		Registration No.	
2407	Belgium and France.	2535	Iceland and Sweden.
2517	Iceland and Norway.	2540	Denmark and Sweden.
2518	Greece and Refugee Settlement Commission.	2572	Hungary and Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes.

QUESTIONS RELATING TO THE APPLICATION OF THE TREATY OF VERSAILLES AND OF THE OTHER
TREATIES OF PEACE.

Registration No.		Registration No.	
2380	Germany and Conference of Am- bassadors.	2439	Germany and Italy.
2392	Germany and Belgium.	2488	Germany and Australia.
2393	Austria and Belgium.	2501	Austria and Czechoslovakia.
2394	General Agreement.	2511	Greece and Turkey.
2395	General Agreement.	2550	Germany and Canada.
2396	General Agreement.	2551	Germany and New Zealand.
2397	General Agreement.	2622	General Agreement.
2398	General Agreement.	2650	General Agreement.
2399	Belgium, Great Britain and Northern Ireland, France and Germany.	2651	Austria and Great Britain and New Zealand and India.

SANITARY CONVENTIONS.

Registration No.		Registration No.	
2435	Egypt and France.	2635	Hungary and Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes.
2459	Italy and Roumania.		

TRANSIT.

Registration No.		Registration No.	
2332	Austria and Hungary	2505	General Convention.
2333	Denmark and Sweden.	2545	Denmark and Norway.
2343	Hungary and Italy.	2562	Spain and Hungary.
2383	Norway and Portugal.	2563	Finland and Norway.
2411	Denmark and Finland.	2594	Finland and Poland.
2425	Austria and Italy.	2603	General Agreement.
2427	Finland and Sweden.	2633	Estonia and Norway.
2480	Germany and Denmark.	2655	Albania and Austria.
2504	Denmark and France.		

WATERWAYS AND INLAND NAVIGATION.

Registration No.		Registration No.	
2375	Germany and Switzerland.	2474	Austria and Czechoslovakia.
2376	Germany, France, and Switzer- land.		

GENERAL RELATIONS.

Registration No.		Registration No.	
2408	Afghanistan and France.	2497	Norway and Persia.
2412	United States of America and Belgium.	2499	Japan and Persia.
2418	Afghanistan and Great Britain and Northern Ireland.	2513	Germany and Poland.
2489	Austria and Czechoslovakia.	2526	Great Britain and Northern Ireland and France.
2494	United States of America and Persia.	2610	Austria and Persia.
2495	Germany and Persia.	2625	United States of America and Norway.
2496	Persia and Switzerland.	2634	Denmark and Italy.
		2699	Free City of Danzig and Poland.

INTELLECTUAL AND ARTISTIC RELATIONS.

Registration No.		Registration No.	
2409	Afghanistan and France.	2619	France and Persia.
2552	Germany and Austria.	2630	Germany and Persia.
2598	General Convention.		

POLITICAL TREATIES.

Registration No.		Registration No.	
2584	Great Britain and Northern Ireland and China.	2607	Great Britain and Northern Ireland and China.

ARMAMENT (LIMITATION AND REDUCTION).

Registration No.	
2608	General Treaty.

The following table gives the number of treaties registered by the Secretariat at the request of the various States during the period from May 19th, 1930, to May 19th, 1931 :

Albania	1	Japan	9
Australia	1	Latvia	11
Austria	9	Luxemburg	10
Belgium	32	The Netherlands	30
Great Britain	61	Norway	18
Bulgaria	6	Persia	33
Canada	1	Peru	1
China	4	Poland	25
Colombia	4	Portugal	3
Czechoslovakia	25	Roumania	18
Denmark	35	Sweden	12
Dominican Republic	2	Switzerland	19
Estonia	19	Uruguay	1
Finland	20	Yugoslavia	29
France	15	Conference of Ambassadors	1
Germany	28	International engagements registered in consequence of their deposit with the Secretariat of the League of Nations.	4
Greece	5		
Hungary	15		
Italy	15		

Thirty-seven treaties were communicated by the United States of America in accordance with the arrangement described on page 125 of the report to the Assembly of 1926, among which twenty-nine were also presented for registration, in accordance with Article 18 of the Covenant, by the other contracting parties members of the League of Nations.

The Secretariat has also registered many accessions, ratifications, denunciations, etc., to Conventions previously registered at the request of Members of the League of Nations.

It has also registered further information relating to general Conventions which it had already published.

International engagements are published in the *Treaty Series* in their original languages, with translations into French and English.

Up to the present, 104 volumes of about 450 pages each, containing some 2,400 treaties, have been published by the Secretariat. Other volumes will appear in the near future.

10 OCT 1931

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LEAGUE OF NATIONS

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CONTENTS

	Page
INTRODUCTION	5
1. REDUCTION OF ARMAMENTS :	
I. Preparatory Work for the Disarmament Conference	13
II. Supervision of the International Trade in Arms and Ammunition and in Implements of War	14
2. POLITICAL QUESTIONS :	
Claim brought by the Finnish Government against the Government of the United Kingdom in connection with Finnish Ships used during the War by the Government of the United Kingdom	14
3. THE COMMISSION OF ENQUIRY FOR EUROPEAN UNION	14
4. ADMINISTRATIVE QUESTIONS :	
I. Saar Territory	15
II. Free City of Danzig	15
5. MANDATES :	
I. General Questions	16
II. Administration of the Territories under Mandate	17
6. SLAVERY	20
7. WORK OF THE TECHNICAL ORGANISATIONS :	
I. Economic and Financial Organisation :	
A. Work of the Economic Committee :	
1. The Most-Favoured-Nation clause	21
2. The Commercial Convention of March 24th, 1930.	23
3. Customs Nomenclature	23
4. The Application of Tariffs and Customs Formalities	23
5. Marks of Origin	24
6. Dumping : Bounties and Subsidies	24
7. Establishment of a Permanent Organ of Conciliation and Arbitration for the Settlement of Disputes which may arise between States on Commercial Matters	24
8. Coal	25
9. Veterinary Questions	25
10. Draft Convention for the Regulation of Whale Fishing (Exploitation of the Riches of the Sea)	25
11. Enquiry into the Present Economic Depression	25
12. Agriculture	26
B. Economic Intelligence Service :	
1. Enquiry into the Present Economic Depression	26
2. Study of the Recurrence of Economic Cycles	27
3. Publications	28
4. Revision of the Existing Scale of League Contributions	28
5. The Committee of Statistical Experts	29
C. Work of the Financial Committee :	
1. Programme of Meetings	29
2. Fiscal Committee	29
II. Organisation for Communications and Transit	30
III. Health Organisation	32
8. THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS AND CHINA	33
9. REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF LIBERIA.	34
10. HUMANITARIAN QUESTIONS : TRAFFIC IN OPIUM AND OTHER DANGEROUS DRUGS :	
1. The Conference on the Limitation of the Manufacture of Narcotic Drugs.	34
2. The Work of the Permanent Central Opium Board	37
11. REFUGEE QUESTIONS	38
12. INTELLECTUAL CO-OPERATION	39
13. CONSTRUCTION OF AN ASSEMBLY HALL, NEW BUILDING FOR THE SECRETARIAT, AND OF A LIBRARY	47

INTRODUCTION.

The present Supplementary Report includes an account of the work of the following Committees of the League at meetings held during the period June to August 1931: the Advisory Committee on Communications and Transit, the Fiscal Committee, the Economic Committee, the Permanent Mandates Commission and the Committee on Intellectual Co-operation.

It further covers the proceedings of the Conference for the Limitation of the Manufacture of Narcotic Drugs, which met from May 27th to July 13th, 1931.

REDUCTION OF ARMAMENTS.

PREPARATIONS FOR THE DISARMAMENT CONFERENCE.

The Secretary-General of the League, acting upon a resolution adopted by the Council in May 1931, sent a circular letter on June 17th, 1931, to all the States invited to the Disarmament Conference, communicating to them the discussions and decisions of the Council in regard to the information to be furnished by the various Governments on the position of their armaments. Memoranda, received from the United States of America, Belgium, France, Great Britain and the Netherlands, have, in accordance with the express desire of these Governments, been communicated to the other States invited to the Conference and published.

In consequence of a resolution adopted by the Council on May 22nd, the Organisation for Communications and Transit is studying the present situation with regard to publicity in respect of civil aviation, and has for this purpose addressed an enquiry to all the Governments invited to the Conference.

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

The Persian Government has forwarded to the Secretary-General a memorandum explaining why Persia is unable to adhere to the Convention signed at Geneva on June 17th, 1925, and expressing the hope that an international conference may be entrusted, as soon as possible, with the framing of a Convention which may simultaneously settle the two questions of the manufacture of arms and the traffic in arms and ammunition and implements of war, having due regard to the principle of equality of States before international law.

COMMISSION OF ENQUIRY FOR EUROPEAN UNION.

The special Committees appointed by the Commission for European Union to consider the better organisation of production and trade, the disposal of future harvest surpluses, credit problems and the question of unemployment have met during June, July and August 1931. These Committees are submitting reports to the Sub-Committee, appointed in May 1931, to co-ordinate the work of the Special Committees. The Co-ordination Sub-Committee will meet on August 31st and will report to the Commission of Enquiry in September.

ADMINISTRATIVE QUESTIONS.

SAAR TERRITORY.

The Governing Commission of the Saar Basin, in view of the fact that the increase of unemployment in 1930 as compared with 1929 may involve a budget deficit, has provisionally reduced the salaries of all officials by 6 per cent as from July 1st, 1931, until April 1st, 1932.

FREE CITY OF DANZIG.

The High Commissioner communicated to the Council his annual report, dated May 31st. The report deals generally with the situation of Danzig, with the relations between Poland and Danzig and with political, economic and financial questions affecting the Free City.

MANDATES.

The Permanent Mandates Commission held its twentieth session at Geneva from June 9th to June 27th, 1931.

The Commission continued its study of the general conditions which must be fulfilled for the termination of a mandate in respect of a mandated territory. It defined and enumerated the conditions which might justify the presumption that a country had reached the stage of development at which it had become able, in the words of Article 22 of the Covenant, to "stand by itself under the strenuous conditions of the modern world", and set forth the guarantees which should be furnished by a territory desirous of emancipation.

The question of the general conditions under which a mandate may be brought to an end was raised following a proposal of the British Government to terminate the British mandate in Iraq. The Commission, during its June session, examined, in this connection, a special report of the British Government to the Council of the League on the progress of Iraq under the mandatory administration. The Commission is now ready to express its views on the proposal of the mandatory Power to terminate the mandate in Iraq as soon as the Council has reached a decision as to the general conditions to be fulfilled.

The Commission examined several petitions relating to the position of the minorities in Iraq. It drew attention in its conclusions to the uneasiness prevalent among the Kurdish minorities owing to uncertainty as to the fate which awaits them if the moral protection of the mandatory Power is to be withdrawn. It recommends the Council to request the mandatory Power not to relax its supervision in regard to the position of the Iraqi minorities, and emphasises the necessity for impressing upon the Government of Iraq the need for a spirit of broad toleration towards them.

The Commission examined the annual report for 1930 on the administration of Palestine, together with a special report of Sir John Hope Simpson upon immigration, colonisation and agricultural development. It noted that order had been maintained in Palestine during 1930 and that an endeavour was being made to facilitate Jewish immigration by increasing the economic capacity of the country to absorb immigrants. It further noted that a systematic plan of agricultural development was to be entrusted to a special Commissioner, and that the mandatory Power intended to set up a Legislative Council.

The Commission examined the annual report for 1930 on Syria and the Lebanon. The accredited representative informed the Commission that the present process of evolution pointed to a termination of the mandate for Syria and the Lebanon at a not very distant date, and that it was the intention of the mandatory Power to conclude, in the near future, treaties with the Governments of Syria and the Lebanon which would relate, not only to the carrying out of the mandate, but to its replacement.

The Commission, examining the annual report for 1930 on the administration of New Guinea, welcomed the efforts being made by the mandatory Power to improve the conditions of indentured labour. It expressed a desire to be informed whether the system of labour contracts had a prejudicial effect on the social life of the natives.

The Commission also reviewed the administration of the mandated territory of Nauru and of South West Africa for 1930.

ECONOMIC QUESTIONS.

The Economic Committee met at Geneva for its thirty-fifth session from June 18th to June 22nd, 1931.

CONCERTED ECONOMIC ACTION : THE COMMERCIAL CONVENTION OF MARCH 24TH, 1930.

The Commission of Enquiry for European Union and the Council of the League, during its session held in May 1931, authorised the Secretary-General to convene, at an appropriate moment — after consulting the Economic Committee and the President of the Conference with a View to Concerted Economic Action — a meeting to ensure the application of the principles embodied in the Commercial Convention of March 24th, 1930.

The Economic Committee decided, during its session held in June 1931, that it would be premature to summon a further meeting either to put the Convention of March 24th, 1930, into force or to conclude a new convention on a similar basis.

THE MOST-FAVOURLED-NATION CLAUSE.

The Assembly of 1930 recommended that the Economic Committee should begin a study of certain disputed questions concerning the application of the most-favoured-nation clause. The points to be examined included the question whether Customs quotas and anti-dumping or countervailing duties were compatible with the spirit of the clause.

The Economic Committee, having consulted experts appointed by the countries which had raised the question in the Assembly (Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Latvia, the Netherlands,

Norway, Sweden and Switzerland), established its conclusions during its session held in June 1931. It has requested the Council to forward its report embodying these conclusions to the Governments, recommending them to bring their commercial policies, as far as possible, into line with the principles laid down therein and to communicate to the Secretary-General of the League any observations which they might wish to make with regard to them.

The Committee concludes that, as a general rule, Customs quotas are to be condemned and avoided. If, however, their tendency is to regulate imports by helping to tide over periods of temporary difficulty, they should be fixed so as to cause a minimum of injury to the interests of third parties. It is suggested that the best guarantee to third parties in the fixing of such quotas is that they should be established by agreement with the country occupying the first rank among those importing the goods in question.

CUSTOMS NOMENCLATURE : APPLICATION OF TARIFFS.

The Economic Committee, during its session held in June 1931, noted that the work of the Sub-Committee of Experts for the Unification of Customs Nomenclature would be completed for the next session of the Assembly. It has requested the Council to authorise the Secretary-General to send the draft scheme prepared by the experts as soon as possible to all the States Members of the League, asking the Governments to inform him within six months of receiving the draft whether they are, in principle, prepared to adopt it and requesting them to communicate to him any observations and suggestions they may wish to make. The Committee proposes, if necessary, to revise the draft on the basis of the observations of the Governments and to draw up a draft international convention for its adoption.

The Committee is continuing its studies with a view to introducing greater uniformity or simplicity in Customs formalities and the application of tariffs. A group of experts has, in particular, been consulted as to the various laws in force in regard to marks of origin on foreign goods and the complaints to which these laws give rise on the part of the exporters of such goods. It is laid down as a general principle that, while it is impossible to deny the right of a State to adopt measures which may enable consumers to distinguish home from foreign products, it is desirable that, in exercising this right, States should reduce to a minimum the difficulties and inconveniences which such measures may cause to the commerce and industry of exporting countries.

DUMPING.

The Committee is continuing its investigations into dumping in all its forms, undertaken at the request of the Assembly in 1930, and will submit its conclusions at a later date.

VETERINARY RESTRICTIONS.

The Committee, during its June session, considered three preliminary draft conventions relating to (a) the campaign against contagious diseases of animals, (b) the transit of animals, meat and other products of animal origin and (c) the export and import of products of animal origin other than meat, meat preparations, fresh animal products, milk and milk products. It has asked the Secretary-General to communicate these drafts to the Governments and to request them for their observations. More particularly, the Governments will be asked to state whether they regard the draft conventions as likely to serve as a basis for discussion at an international diplomatic conference.

DRAFT CONVENTION FOR THE REGULATION OF WHALE-FISHING (EXPLOITATION OF THE RICHES OF THE SEA).

The Secretary-General, in accordance with a recommendation of the Economic Committee, has forwarded to all Governments a preliminary draft convention for the regulation of whale-fishing, asking them to forward their observations.

The Committee, during its June session, considered certain observations and suggestions made by the Governments. It proposes that the Secretary-General should make arrangements for the draft convention to be revised in the light of these suggestions by a committee composed of experts from the countries concerned. The convention thus revised will be open for signature during the forthcoming session of the Assembly.

ENQUIRY INTO THE PRESENT ECONOMIC DEPRESSION.

The Assembly, in September 1930, adopted a resolution to the effect that the Economic and Financial Organisation of the League should undertake a study of the course and phases of the present economic depression and of the circumstances which led up to it. The enquiry was entrusted to the Economic Intelligence Service of the League, and Governments were invited to submit any memoranda or information which they thought might be useful in this connection.

Meetings of representatives of national economic councils and national research institutes were held at Geneva in March and in June 1931, and, as a result of these consultations, a report has been prepared under the supervision of Professor Ohlin, of Stockholm University. Memoranda have been received from the Governments of Bulgaria, the Dutch East Indies, Estonia, Latvia, Portugal, Roumania, Sweden and Yugoslavia, and a report on the economic depression in Japan has been prepared by the Tokio Office of the League. The International Labour Office and the International Institute of Agriculture have furnished material for the report relating to the subjects with which they are concerned.

STUDY OF THE RECURRENCE OF ECONOMIC CYCLES.

The Assembly, in 1930, in requesting that an enquiry should be undertaken into the present economic depression, also asked that a study should be made of the general problem of the recurrence of periods of economic depression, with a view to co-ordinating the work being done in this field by national organisations. The question was considered at a meeting of representatives of economic councils and research institutes in June 1931.

It is the opinion of the experts that it has become urgently necessary for the competent organisations and specialists in each country to make a common study of methods whereby, in the future, the intensity of such depressions may be diminished and their effects limited, and it is suggested that the League might help to achieve useful results in this field by co-ordinating the work at present being done by national or international organisations and by individual economists. The institutes at present devoting attention to the problem are confined to North America and Europe, and the experts consider it essential that the question should now be studied on a world basis.

FINANCIAL QUESTIONS.

WORK OF THE FISCAL COMMITTEE. — DOUBLE TAXATION.

The Fiscal Committee held its third session at Geneva from May 29th to June 6th, 1931, and devoted most of its time to studying a draft plurilateral convention for the avoidance of double taxation, prepared in accordance with its previous instructions.

The discussions showed that it would be impossible for certain members of the Committee to accept a scheme as liberal as that embodied in the draft convention. The Committee considered it would be preferable provisionally to limit the effects of a plurilateral convention to non-residents, each country reserving the full right to tax persons residing within its territory. A new text was drafted by the members of the Committee who held this view. Neither of the drafts secured the unanimous approval of the Committee, which felt that the question of the conclusion of a plurilateral convention, to which the League of Nations had devoted its attention for several years, was not yet ripe for a final solution.

TRANSIT QUESTIONS.

The Advisory and Technical Committee for Communications and Transit held its sixteenth session from May 28th to June 2nd, 1931. It reviewed the work done by the various Communications and Transit Committees during the year and gave the necessary instructions for its continuation.

THE TRANSPORT OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCE. — ADJUSTMENT OF RAILWAY TARIFFS AND INDIRECT PROTECTIONISM.

The questions of the transport of agricultural produce and of the adjustment of railway tariffs and indirect protectionism were referred to the Advisory and Technical Committee as the result of a recommendation of the Conference for Concerted Economic Action.

The Committee considers that it is impossible to study accurately the problems concerning the transport of agricultural produce as long as the policy of economic co-operation between States in agricultural matters has not been sufficiently fixed.

The Committee also thinks that, until principles of closer co-operation in economic matters have been accepted on a more general basis, it would be difficult to propose to States, with any real likelihood of their being adopted, measures which would result in limiting their freedom of action in the matter of railway tariffs and go beyond the provisions of the existing Conventions on Freedom of Transit and the International Regime of Railways.

The Committee has made arrangements to keep in touch with any developments that may arise in the economic field relating to the question of indirect protectionism.

TRANSPORT OF NEWSPAPERS AND PERIODICALS.

The Committee has invited the interested Governments to contemplate the adoption as rapidly as possible of any steps calculated to facilitate the application to their territory of regulations, recently adopted by the International Railway Union, which may enable newspapers internationally distributed to be despatched by express trains, with the suppression of Customs formalities at the frontiers.

TRANSPORT AND TRANSIT OF ELECTRIC POWER AND CUSTOMS EXEMPTION FOR LIQUID FUEL.

At the request of the Commission of Enquiry for European Union, approved by the Council during its session in May 1931, the Committee has entered upon a study of the transport and transit of electric power and Customs exemption for liquid fuel.

FOURTH GENERAL CONFERENCE ON COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSIT. — REFORM OF THE CALENDAR.

The Preparatory Committee for the Fourth General Conference on Communications and Transit appointed by the Advisory and Technical Committee has approved a report embodying the results of enquiries undertaken in the various countries on the problems to be submitted to the Transit Conference, which will meet on October 12th, 1931, relating to the reform of the calendar. The Conference will examine the expediency from an economic and social standpoint (a) of stabilising movable feasts, and (b) of simplifying the Gregorian calendar.

UNIFICATION OF TONNAGE MEASUREMENT IN MARITIME NAVIGATION.

The preparatory work undertaken with a view to the unification of maritime tonnage measurement was concluded at a session of the Technical Committee on Maritime Tonnage Measurement, which met from July 29th to August 7th, 1931, when the text of draft international regulations on the tonnage measurement of vessels was finally approved. The regulations will be submitted to the Governments of maritime countries with a view to ensuring, as soon as possible, the introduction of a uniform practice in the tonnage measurement of vessels.

AIR AND MOTOR TRANSPORT NECESSARY TO THE WORKING OF THE LEAGUE AT A TIME OF EMERGENCY.

Replies from most of the Governments consulted indicate that no difficulty is likely to arise in the application of the resolution adopted by the Assembly on September 30th, 1930, on the facilities to be accorded by Members of the League in the matter of air and motor transport necessary to its working at a time of emergency. The Committee expresses the view that the system contemplated by the Assembly can here and now be regarded as applicable.

The Committee has further forwarded to the Council for submission to the Assembly a final report on the question of an aerodrome to be established near the seat of the League.

HEALTH QUESTIONS.

EUROPEAN CONFERENCE ON RURAL HYGIENE.

The European Conference on Rural Hygiene met at Geneva from May 29th to June 7th, 1931, under the chairmanship of Professor G. Pittaluga, Director of the National School of Hygiene at Madrid and member of the Health Committee of the League. Eighty-six delegates from twenty-five countries attended, with eight observers from extra-European States. The Conference adopted a series of recommendations for the organisation of medical assistance, health services and sanitation in rural districts, and requested that they should be communicated to the Governments for their adoption.

CONFERENCE OF EXPERTS ON IMMUNISATION AGAINST DIPHTHERIA AND SCARLET FEVER AND MEETING OF THE PERMANENT STANDARDISATION COMMISSION.

Fifty experts belonging to fifteen countries participated in these meetings, which were held in London from June 17th to 25th, 1931. The experts on immunisation adopted a number of recommendations upon vaccination against diphtheria, which will again be discussed by the Health Committee at its next session. They decided to continue their enquiries into vaccination against scarlet fever.

The Permanent Standardisation Committee adopted a series of international standards for certain sera and vitamins.

THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS AND CHINA.

At the request of the Chinese Government and as a further step in carrying out the plan of co-operation between China and the League, the Council, on May 15th, 1931, decided to place at the disposal of the Chinese Government for a limited period an officer competent to give information on the work of the technical organisations of the League and the manner in which they might assist the National Economic Council of China in its general plan of reconstruction. It authorised the Secretary-General to send one of the Directors of the technical organisations to pay a further visit to China for this purpose. In accordance with this decision, Dr. Rajchman, the Director of the Health Section of the League Secretariat, left for China in the middle of August.

He will be relieved later this year by M. Haas, the Director of the Transit Section. The Chinese Government has invited the co-operation of League experts in establishing plans for flood control on the river Hwai and on the river system of Northern China and for the development of the Port of Shanghai. It has also requested the assistance and advice of a League technical officer in the organisation and development of a technical training centre for civil engineers. The Advisory and Technical Committee of Communications and Transit, during its session held in June 1931, appointed two small committees to follow the development of the scheme of co-operation and took steps to select the necessary experts required to work on the spot.

The Economic Committee, during its session held in June, requested its bureau (Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Secretary) to nominate experts to co-operate with the National Economic Council of China as and when it might be necessary.

The International Committee on Intellectual Co-operation, during its session held in July, noted with satisfaction the requests received from the Chinese Government for assistance and advice on the work of reorganising public education in China and developing intellectual relations between China and the other Members of the League. It reviewed and approved the measures, taken in response to this request, for the despatch of an educational mission to China, affirmed its intention of according to the Chinese Government its full collaboration based on any recommendations which the Chinese Government might itself submit, and authorised its Executive Committee to take any steps which might be necessary to achieve the desired results.

TRAFFIC IN OPIUM AND OTHER DANGEROUS DRUGS.

I. THE CONFERENCE ON THE LIMITATION OF THE MANUFACTURE OF NARCOTIC DRUGS.

The Conference on the Limitation of the Manufacture of Narcotic Drugs met at Geneva from May 27th to July 13th, 1931, under the chairmanship of M. Louis de Brouckère (Belgium). Fifty-seven States were represented.

The Conference adopted a Convention for the Limitation of the Manufacture of Narcotic Drugs, embodying a scheme under which countries will be authorised to manufacture only such narcotic drugs as are necessary for their medical and scientific needs and for the execution of legitimate orders received from abroad.

The list of drugs brought under limitation and control was established by scientific experts, who endeavoured to make the Convention as complete as possible and to render the evasion of its provisions by the invention of new drugs extremely difficult and even impossible. The Convention covers all known or possible derivatives of opium and the coca leaf.

Estimates furnished by the various countries of their legitimate requirements will be received by the Permanent Central Opium Board and reviewed by an international body called the Supervisory Body. It is provided that there shall not be manufactured in any country in any one year a quantity of any drug in excess (a) of the estimates supplied by the Governments for the purpose of conversion or internal consumption or the constitution of Government and reserve stocks and (b) of the amounts required to fill legitimate orders for export. The export of diacetylmorphine (heroin) and its salts is prohibited, except to Governments and subject to certain specified conditions. Governments undertake to apply to all drugs a strict system of control, and special measures are provided to ensure that exports to countries not parties to the Convention or to the Geneva Convention of 1925 shall not exceed their legitimate needs. Governments are required to establish an *ad hoc* administration for applying the provisions of the Convention and to exercise effective supervision over raw materials, manufactured drugs and preparations.

The President, reviewing the Convention, expressed the opinion that it embodied an effective and coherent form of limitation and control. It is based on a system which allows the free purchase and sale of narcotic drugs, subject to a strict supervision designed to ensure that the total production of all the competitors in the world market shall remain within limits carefully defined and authorised. This supervision extends to imports, exports, manufacture, conversion and the formation of stocks. Every stage in the manufacture and distribution of the drugs is subject to regulation and record under the general direction of the central bodies at Geneva.

The Convention, moreover, extends the scope of the previous opium conventions and applies their provisions to additional drugs.

The maximum total medical and scientific requirements of the world during the last three years has been approximately established at the following figures : morphine for use as such, 9 tons ; diacetylmorphine, 2 tons ; cocaine, 5½ tons. The Conference, in its Final Act, recommends that, pending the entry into force of the Limitation Convention, countries manufacturing the drugs shall not manufacture more than their legitimate needs as determined by domestic consumption and legitimate export.

The following States had signed the Convention on July 20th : Abyssinia, Argentine, Austria, Belgium, Bolivia, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, the Dominican Republic, Egypt, France, Germany, Great Britain, Guatemala, Hejaz, India, Italy, Japan, Liberia, Luxemburg, Mexico, Monaco, Netherlands, Panama, Paraguay, Portugal, San Marino, Siam, Spain, Switzerland, United States of America, Uruguay and Venezuela.

II. THE WORK OF THE PERMANENT CENTRAL OPIUM BOARD.

The Permanent Central Opium Board held its tenth session from August 10th to 20th, 1931, when it examined the statistical material collected in 1930 from forty-three parties and six non-parties to the Geneva Opium Convention of 1925. It noted a great improvement in the statistics supplied by the Governments for 1930 as compared with those received for 1929, in respect both of their number and of their accuracy.

The Board decided to consider at its next session the possibility of establishing, by exact calculation, a comparative table of the consumption of the different opiates in the various countries.

REFUGEES.

The Governing Body of the Nansen International Office for Refugees, meeting at Geneva from July 1st to 3rd, 1931, approved its annual report to the Assembly. The report describes the various administrative measures taken by the Governing Body to carry out the decisions adopted by the Assembly last year, together with a detailed scheme for a systematic liquidation of the work on behalf of the refugees. The Governing Body indicates, not only the steps necessary to wind up its administrative services, but a programme covering the work to be done in providing relief for refugees unable to work and for the settlement and placing of refugees for whom work can be found.

The Governing Body is of opinion that the activities of the International Office should be continued for a certain time without any appreciable reductions. The contributions requested from the League would diminish only by small degrees for the years 1933-1938. The period of liquidation, on the other hand, would be decreased by one year.

The Inter-Governmental Advisory Commission for Refugees, meeting at Geneva from August 20th to 21st, recommended the adoption of the conclusions of the report of the Governing Body. The Commission proposes to consider at later meetings whether it is not desirable to prepare an international convention ensuring the refugees full legal security and stability in respect of settlement and occupation.

INTELLECTUAL CO-OPERATION.

The International Committee on Intellectual Co-operation met at Geneva for its thirteenth session from July 20th to 25th, 1931.

The Plenary Committee, in its report to the Council and the Assembly, reviews the results of the work of the Organisation for Intellectual Co-operation undertaken in 1920. From 1922 to 1924 its methods were largely directed to the rescue of intellectual life, which was then severely threatened in the countries of Eastern and Central Europe. From 1924, it has been working directly on behalf of science, letters and the arts, and for those engaged in the professions, endeavouring to place at their disposal the instruments and facilities necessary for their work and the defence of their rights. The Committee now feels it to be its principal duty to place the resources of intellectual co-operation more immediately at the service of the League, and it urges that it should be enabled to keep more directly in touch with the Council and with the Assembly.

The resolutions adopted by the Committee cover the whole field of work of the organisation of intellectual co-operation, including resolutions upon the relation between intellectual co-operation and disarmament, the scientific study of international relations, the educational information centre, the Exhibition of Popular Arts to be held at Berne in 1934, the protection of intellectual and scientific rights, the use of the spare time of workers, the continuation of the publication of the Ibero-American collection, the International Museums Office, the programme of a conference to be held at Athens in October 1931 for the protection and preservation of

artistic and historical monuments, and the establishment of permanent university offices of information and exchange.

The Committee endorsed the recommendations of the Permanent Committee for Arts and Letters for the purpose of encouraging co-operation in the fields of music, poetry, the theatre, art and archæology, and of its Committee of Scientific Advisers for the co-ordination of scientific bibliographies.

The Committee approved proposals of its Sub-Committee of Experts on the Instruction of Youth in the Aims of the League relating to the scientific study of international relations, the revision of school text-books and the part to be played in the instruction of youth by libraries, publications, the cinematograph and broadcasting.

It emphasised the importance of the National Committees on Intellectual Co-operation and suggested that a conference of representatives of these Committees should be convened in 1934.

The Committee reviewed and approved the steps taken under the resolution adopted by the Council during its session in May 1931 to organise a mission to China with a view to rendering more numerous and frequent the intellectual relations of China with the League (see above : " The League of Nations and China ").

I.

REDUCTION OF ARMAMENTS.

I. PREPARATORY WORK FOR THE DISARMAMENT CONFERENCE.

The decision taken by the Council in May 1931 that Geneva should be the seat of the Conference¹ was immediately communicated by the Secretary-General to the Swiss Federal Government and the Government of the Republic and Canton of Geneva. The Geneva Government expressed its satisfaction at this decision and again assured the Council of its desire to do its utmost to ensure that the arrangements for the Disarmament Conference should be satisfactory. It drew attention to the fact that a special Committee, which it had appointed for the organisation of the Conference, was already established as an official bureau and that the Governments invited to the Conference might address to that office any complaint or request for information as to accommodation, not only during the Conference itself, but during the period of preparation.

The construction of a special building for the use of the Conference, to the north of the present offices of the Secretariat, was begun on June 23rd, 1931.

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In accordance with the resolution of the Council, all the States Members of the League of Nations have been invited to the Conference, together with the following non-Member States : Afghanistan, Brazil, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Egypt, United States of America, Mexico, Turkey and the Union of Socialist Soviet Republics.

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The Secretary-General, acting upon a resolution of the Council, sent a circular letter on June 13th, 1931, to all the States invited to the Disarmament Conference, communicating to them the Minutes of the meetings of May 20th and May 23rd, at which the Council examined the question of the information to be furnished by Governments on the position of armaments in the various countries. ² Up to the present, the following communications have been received by the Secretary-General :

1. Communications which, in conformity with the request of the Government concerned, have been immediately communicated to the other States invited to the Conference and published. They are as follows :

Memorandum from the United States of America (document C.413.M.169.1931.IX);
Memorandum from Belgium (document C.436.M.183.1931.IX);
Memorandum from France (document C.440.M.187.1931.IX);
Memorandum from Great Britain (document C.476.M.203.1931.IX);
Memorandum from the Netherlands (document C.483.M.206.1931.IX).

2. Communications which, for the moment, have been filed with the Secretariat and which will later be brought to the notice of the other Governments, in conformity with the procedure laid down by the Council.

The Secretary-General was requested by a resolution of the Council, with a view to preparing for the Disarmament Conference, to arrange for the Communications and Transit Organisation to proceed to an enquiry among all the Governments invited to the Conference and to a methodical study of the present situation concerning the publication of information on civil aviation. The Communications and Transit Section accordingly sent a circular letter on August 10th (C.197.1931.IX) to the various Governments, requesting them to be good enough, before December 1st, 1931 : (a) To communicate to him the text of any national provisions or regulations, multilateral conventions or private undertakings relating to the publication of information regarding civil aviation which are in force as far as they are concerned ; and (b) To inform him whether, in view of the provisions in force, they would be able to furnish regularly certain specified data described in an annex to the circular letter. The information specified was such as would enable statistics of effectives of non-military aviation to be prepared and also statistics of the public funds allotted to such aviation.

¹ See report on the work of the League since the last session of the Assembly (document A.6.1931, page 48).

² See report on the work of the League since the last session of the Assembly (document A.6.1931, pages 49 to 52).

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

No further ratification of the Convention signed at Geneva on June 17th, 1925, on the supervision of the international trade in arms and ammunition and in implements of war has been received by the Secretary since June 1931.

The Persian Government has forwarded to the Secretary-General a memorandum (document C.414.M.170.1931.IX) containing certain observations by the Persian Government and, in particular, explaining why Persia finds itself unable to adhere to the Convention. The Persian Government expresses the hope that an international conference may be entrusted as soon as possible with the framing of a convention which may simultaneously settle the two questions of the manufacture and of the traffic in arms and munitions of war, having due regard to the principle of the equality of States at international law.

2.

POLITICAL QUESTIONS.

CLAIM BROUGHT BY THE FINNISH GOVERNMENT AGAINST THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED KINGDOM IN CONNECTION WITH FINNISH SHIPS USED DURING THE WAR BY THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.

The Government of Finland in a letter dated July 30th, 1931, has asked that the following question shall be placed on the agenda of the Council for the forthcoming session in September :

“ Claim brought by the Finnish Government against the Government of the United Kingdom in connection with Finnish Ships used during the War by the Government of the United Kingdom. ”

The request of Finland is accompanied by a memorandum explaining the subject of the claim, which has for some time been under negotiation between the two Governments concerned.

3.

THE COMMISSION OF ENQUIRY FOR EUROPEAN UNION.

The Committee of Economic Experts appointed by the Commission of Enquiry for European Union to consider the better organisation of production and trade met from June 24th to June 30th, 1931 (see general report on the work of the League, document A.6.1931, page 60). The Committee to study the problem of the disposal of future harvest surpluses of cereals met on June 25th and 26th, 1931 (document A.6.1931, page 60). The Sub-Committee to consider the problem of unemployment met on July 1st and 2nd, 1931 (document A.6.1931, page 60). A further meeting of the Committee of Economic Experts was held from August 21st to August 29th, 1931, and the Committee to consider credit problems met from August 24th to August 28th (A.6.1931, page 60).

These Committees will present reports to the Sub-Committee appointed by the Commission of Enquiry to co-ordinate the work of its special committees (document A.6.1931, page 59). The Co-ordination Sub-Committee will meet on August 31st, 1931, and will submit its report to the Commission of Enquiry in September.

4.

ADMINISTRATIVE QUESTIONS.

I. SAAR TERRITORY.

PERIODICAL REPORT OF THE GOVERNING COMMISSION.

The Governing Commission has forwarded to the League of Nations its forty-sixth periodical report covering the second quarter of 1931.

1. *Political Situation.* — During the period April 1st to June 30th, 1931, the Advisory Council and Technical Committee gave its opinion upon a number of draft decrees submitted to it by the Governing Commission.

2. *Economic and Financial Situation.* — The number of unemployed decreased from 20,139 in February to 15,085 in April and 14,886 in May. These figures are twice as high as those of the corresponding months in 1930. The sum set aside for unemployment relief was calculated on the basis of the figures for 1930. The Governing Commission, in view of the budget deficit arising from this fact, which would be still further increased by a falling off in the receipts from the railways, has decided to effect economies by reducing the salaries of officials. The basic salaries and duty allowances have been provisionally reduced by 6 per cent as from July 1st, 1931, until April 1st, 1932. The members of the Governing Commission, although their own salaries were fixed by the Council of the League, have decided voluntarily to pay into the Treasury of the Territory 6 per cent of their salaries.

II. FREE CITY OF DANZIG.

1. POLITICAL, ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL SITUATION.

The annual report of the High Commissioner, dated May 31st, has been communicated to the Council of the League and to the Government of Danzig. The report is of a general character and deals with the situation in Danzig as a whole, with the relations between Poland and Danzig and with political, economic and financial questions affecting the Free City.

The High Commissioner, referring to the domestic political situation of the Free City, points out that, as a result of amendments to the Constitution approved by the Council of the League of Nations in September 1930, new elections were held on November 16th, 1930. The most striking feature of these elections was the success of the National Socialist Party, which, with 12 seats, became the second largest party in the new Volkstag after the Social Democrats. The Communist vote also appreciably increased during the period 1927 to 1930. The moderate and middle-class parties have almost disappeared. If the votes are taken as a whole, the Polish Party has not lost ground.

Elections for the Senate were held on January 9th, 1931. The new Senate, the President of which is Dr. Ziehm of the German National Party, is composed of the German National Party, the Centre Party and the small middle-class parties. The Senate commands a majority in the Volkstag only owing to the support of the National Socialist Party.

The High Commissioner, referring to the economic and financial situation, dwells especially on the unemployment question. A statement by the Senate of the Free City on the economic and financial situation is attached to the High Commissioner's report. A report by the President of the Harbour Board on the activity and development of the harbour is also annexed to the High Commissioner's report.

2. DANZIG-POLISH AGREEMENT.

An agreement was concluded between Poland and Danzig on June 18th, 1931, on the question submitted to the High Commissioner for his decision regarding the application to employees and officials in Polish offices at Danzig of a Danzig decree concerning the tax known as the *Festbesoldetensteuer*.

3. PARTICIPATION OF DANZIG IN INTERNATIONAL TREATIES AND AGREEMENTS.

The Senate has decided to participate in the following international agreements :

Declaration dated April 20th, 1921, recognising the right to a flag of States having no sea-coast ;

Agreements signed at Lisbon on October 23rd, 1930, concerning maritime signals and manned lightships not on their stations.

The High Commissioner, applying the procedure adopted by the Council on September 6th, 1929, has notified the Senate that there is no reason why he should exercise his right of veto in respect of these agreements.

5.

MANDATES.

The Permanent Mandates Commission met at Geneva from June 9th to 27th, 1931, for its twentieth session.

I. GENERAL QUESTIONS.

1. GENERAL CONDITIONS WHICH MUST BE FULFILLED BEFORE THE MANDATE REGIME CAN BE BROUGHT TO AN END IN RESPECT OF A COUNTRY PLACED UNDER THAT REGIME.

The task assigned to the Permanent Mandates Commission was defined by the Council resolution of January 13th, 1930, in the following terms :

“Being anxious to determine what general conditions must be fulfilled before the mandate regime can be brought to an end in respect of a country placed under that regime, and with a view to such decisions as it may be called upon to take on this matter, the Council, subject to any other enquiries it may think necessary, requests the Mandate Commission to submit any suggestions that may assist the Council in coming to a conclusion”.

The Council, on January 22nd, 1931, replying to a request for an interpretation of this resolution from the Permanent Mandates Commission, confirmed its resolution of January 1930, emphasising that it referred “to the examination of the general problem and not the particular case in regard to which the question was raised”.¹ It invited the Commission to continue its study of the general aspect of the question. The rapporteur to the Council, moreover, replying to a question put by the Vice-Chairman of the Mandates Commission, further explained that the question of the conditions governing the termination of a mandate was quite a different matter from the question of the conditions which should govern the admission of a mandated territory to the League of Nations.

The Mandates Commission, during its June session, examined the question within these limits.

It is of opinion that the emancipation of a territory under the mandate regime should depend on two classes of preliminary factors : (a) The existence in the territory concerned of *de facto* conditions justifying the presumption that the country has reached the stage of development at which a people has become able, in the words of Article 22 of the Covenant, “to stand by itself under the strenuous conditions of the moderne world” ; and (b) certain guarantees to be furnished by the territory desirous of emancipation to the satisfaction of the League of Nations, in whose name the mandate was conferred and has been exercised by the mandatory.

Subject to certain general considerations, the Commission considers that the following conditions must be fulfilled before a mandated territory can be released from the mandatory regime :

- (a) It must have a settled Government and an administration capable of maintaining the regular operations of essential Government services ;
- (b) It must be capable of maintaining its territorial integrity and political independence ;
- (c) It must be able to maintain the public peace throughout the whole territory ;
- (d) It must have at its disposal adequate financial resources to provide regularly for normal Government requirements ;
- (e) It must possess laws and a judicial organisation which will afford equal and regular justice to all.

The Commission considers that the guarantees to be furnished by the new State before the mandate can be brought to an end should take the form of a declaration binding the new State to the League of Nations, or of a treaty or a convention or of some instrument formally accepted by the Council of the League as equivalent to such an undertaking.

¹ The question had been raised following a proposal of the British Government to terminate the British mandate for Iraq (see general report on the work of the League, document A.6.1931, page 80).

The Commission suggests that, without prejudice to any supplementary guarantees which might be justified by the special circumstances¹ of certain territories or their recent history, the undertakings of the new State should ensure and guarantee :

- (a) The effective protection of racial, linguistic and religious minorities ;
- (b) The privileges and immunities of foreigners (in the Near Eastern territories), including consular jurisdiction and protection as formerly practised in the Ottoman Empire in virtue of the capitulations and usages, unless any other arrangement on this subject has been previously approved by the Council of the League of Nations in concert with the Powers concerned ;
- (c) The interests of foreigners in judicial, civil and criminal cases, in so far as these interests are not guaranteed by the capitulations ;
- (d) Freedom of conscience and public worship and the free exercise of the religious, educational and medical activities of religious missions of all denominations, subject to such measures as may be indispensable for the maintenance of public order, morality and effective administration ;
- (e) The financial obligations regularly assumed by the former mandatory Power ;
- (f) Rights of every kind legally acquired under the mandate regime ;
- (g) The maintenance in force for their respective duration and subject to the right of the denunciation by the parties concerned of the international conventions, both general and special, to which, during the mandate, the mandatory Power acceded on behalf of the mandated territory.

In addition to the foregoing essential clauses, the Permanent Mandates Commission considers that it would be desirable that the new State, if hitherto subject to the Economic Equality Clause, should consent to secure to all States Members of the League of Nations the most-favoured-nation treatment as a transitory measure on condition of reciprocity.

2. GENERAL AND SPECIAL INTERNATIONAL CONVENTIONS APPLIED TO MANDATED TERRITORIES.

The Permanent Mandates Commission studied during its twentieth session the replies forwarded by the mandatory Powers as a result of the resolution of the Council of March 5th, 1928. The mandatory Powers under this resolution were requested to furnish information with regard to general and special international Conventions applied to mandated territories. The Commission noted that, generally speaking, the Powers had notified their accession to the international conventions to which the terms of the mandates obliged them to accede or had extended to the territories under their mandate the conventions which they applied in their neighbouring possessions or colonies. The Commission considers that the opportunity afforded by the examination of the annual reports of the mandatory Powers should be taken of drawing the attention of the representatives of the mandatory Powers concerned to any omissions which might have been noted and of enabling them to make good such omissions. The Commission decided to propose to the Council to distribute without further delay to the Council and the Members of the League the table of general international conventions applied in the territories under mandate. It recommends that this document should be published and constantly kept up to date in accordance with the particulars which it is incumbent on the mandatory Powers to supply. It suggests that the table relating to special conventions should, until further notice, retain the character of a private document for the exclusive use of the Commission.

II. ADMINISTRATION OF THE TERRITORIES UNDER MANDATE.

TERRITORIES UNDER A MANDATE.

1. *Special Questions relating to the Pipe-line of the Iraq Petroleum Company through the Territories of Palestine, Syria and the Lebanon.*

The Permanent Mandates Commission examined during its twentieth session the question whether two agreements worded in almost identical terms, concluded by the Iraq Petroleum Company with the British High Commissioner in Palestine on January 5th, 1931, and the Lebanese and Syrian Governments on March 25th, 1931, for the construction of a pipe-line, were compatible with Article 18 of the Palestine mandate and Article 11 of the mandate with Syria and the Lebanon respectively. It noted that the provisions of the mandate did not constitute an obstacle to the granting of the advantages conferred by these agreements on the Iraq Petroleum Company in Palestine and in Syria and the Lebanon. Certain members of the Commission, however, expressed doubts as to whether some of the clauses of the agreements in question kept the necessary balance between the advantages and privileges granted to the company and the advantages which would accrue to the mandated territories concerned.

¹ As, for example, those which enforce recognition of the rights referred to in Articles 13 and 14 of the Palestine mandate.

2. Iraq.

(a) *New Judicial Agreement between the British Government and the Government of Iraq.* — The British Government on March 21st, 1931, announced that the fourteen Powers whose nations enjoyed privileges under the previous judicial agreement between the British Government and the Government of Iraq of March 25th, 1924, had all notified their approval of the new agreement signed at Bagdad on March 4th, 1931 (see general report on the work of the League, document A.6.1931, pages 81 and 82). Thus, the condition laid down by the Council before the entry into force of the Agreement had been fulfilled. The British Government on July 7th, 1931, informed the Secretary-General that the instruments of ratification of the Judicial Agreement concluded on March 4th, 1931, had been exchanged at Bagdad on May 29th, 1931, and that the Agreement had accordingly entered into force in conformity with the provisions of Article 5 as from that date.

(b) *Special Report of the British Government to the Council of the League of Nations on the Progress of Iraq during the Period 1920-1931.* — The British representative, at a meeting of the Council on January 22nd, 1931, stated that a very full report would be submitted by the mandatory Power on the progress of Iraq under the mandate. He pointed out that any deficiencies to which the Commission might draw attention during its June session might be remedied during the session to be held in November 1931 or by means of a supplementary report or information given verbally by the accredited representative when the annual report for 1930 came to be examined.

The Commission, during its June session, did not note any essential deficiencies in the special report, covering a period of ten years, which the mandatory Power had submitted.

The Commission states that, so far as its normal sources of information permit, it is now in a position, to an extent compatible with the nature of its functions and its procedure and subject to the information promised, to express its views on the proposal of the mandatory Power to terminate the mandate in Iraq. As soon as the Council has declared its opinion as to the general conditions which must be fulfilled before a mandate can be brought to an end, the Commission will be ready to submit to the Council its opinion on the British proposal regarding Iraq, after examining that proposal in the light of any decisions which the Council may take.

(c) *Petitions relating to Iraq.* — The Commission, during its June session, noted the reply of the mandatory Power to the question raised by the Council whether there existed a competent jurisdiction to deal with the question raised by a petition of the British Oil Development Company, Limited, concerning the exploitation of the oil-fields in Iraq and examined by the Commission during its previous sessions (see general report on the work of the League, document A.6.1931, page 83). It appeared from a communication of the British Government, dated June 4th, 1931, that the case which formed the subject of the petition of the British Oil Development Company was such that it might be brought before the Iraq courts. The Commission accordingly does not consider it is competent to examine the petition on behalf of the Council.

The Commission during its previous session had also dealt with petitions relating to the positions of the minorities in Iraq (see general report on the work of the League, document A.6.1931, page 83). Several petitions dealing with the same question were examined during its session in June. The petitions were presented by representatives of the Kurdish and non-Moslem minorities in Iraq. The Commission in its conclusions draws attention to the uneasiness undoubtedly prevalent among the Kurdish minorities owing to the uncertainty as to the fate which awaits them if the moral protection of the mandatory Power from which they have benefited for more than ten years is to be withdrawn. The Commission recommends the Council to request the mandatory Power not to relax the supervision which it is exercising in regard to the position of the Iraq minorities. It emphasises the necessity of impressing upon the Government of Iraq that it should be guided by a spirit of broad toleration towards minorities, whose loyalty will grow in proportion as they are freed from all fear of danger to their natural rights as explicitly recognised by the mandatory Power and the League of Nations.

3. Palestine.

(a) *Examination of the Annual Report for 1930.* — The Mandates Commission, shortly before the opening of its nineteenth session in November 1930, received the report of Sir John Hope Simpson from the British Government, together with a declaration made by the British Government in October 1930 on its policy in Palestine. Sir John Hope Simpson had been sent to Palestine by the British Government to report upon the present position in Palestine in regard to immigration, land settlement and development. The Commission had thought it well to postpone the examination of these documents to its June session, when it would be able to study them together with the annual report on Palestine and have the benefit of the collaboration of the accredited representative of the mandatory Power. Meanwhile, the Commission had received a letter addressed by the British Prime Minister to Dr. Weizmann on February 13th, 1931, embodying an authoritative interpretation of the British Government's declaration of October 1930.

The Commission during its June session was glad to note that order had been maintained in Palestine during 1930, thanks to a series of measures taken by the mandatory Power and to the re-organisation of the police force. It noted that the mandatory Power, without prejudicing the situation of the Arab majority, was endeavouring to facilitate Jewish immigration by increasing the economic capacity of the country to absorb immigrants. It also noted that the

preparation of a systematic plan of agricultural development was to be entrusted to a special commissioner. Lastly, the commission welcomed the recognition by the accredited representative of the fact that the improvement of relations between the Arabs and Jews depended on a just settlement founded on a detailed study of questions of an economic nature, in which the mandatory Power was asking the assistance of the population. It welcomed the statement by the accredited representative that the mandatory Power, in accordance with its declaration of October 1930, intended to set up a Legislative Council.

The Commission made a certain number of observations concerning local autonomy, public finance, immigration and emigration. It expressed the hope that the report of the International Commission, which, in accordance with the Council resolution of January 14th, 1930, had finally determined the rights and claims of the Jews and Moslems with regard to the Wailing Wall at Jerusalem, would put an end to past controversies.

(b) *Petitions relating to Palestine.* — The Commission examined two petitions relating to the administration of Palestine, one from the Arab Executive Committee regarding the declaration of the British Government of October 1930 and the other from the Jewish Agency relating to the development of the Jewish National Home in Palestine in 1930. The Commission did not think that these two petitions called for any recommendation on the part of the Council.

4. *Syria and the Lebanon.*

(a) *Examination of the Annual Report for 1930.* — The Commission, during its twentieth session, noted a declaration by the accredited representative of the mandatory Power to the effect that the organic statute promulgated in May 1930 had begun to be applied (see general report on the work of the League, document A.6.1931, page 83). It recorded the intention of the mandatory Power to conclude in the near future treaties with the Governments of Syria and the Lebanon, taking into account the evolution which had taken place and the progress which had been achieved. The accredited representative informed the Commission that the present process of evolution pointed to a termination of the mandate for Syria and the Lebanon at a not very distant date, and that, consequently, the treaties to be concluded with the Governments of these countries would relate, not only to the carrying out of the mandate, but to its replacement by a new regime.

The Commission declared that it would follow with interest this evolution and the stages leading up to the point at which Syria and the Lebanon would no longer need the advice and assistance of the mandatory, from which they had so far benefited for only a short time. It expressed the hope that in the agreements preparing the way for the new regime in Syria and the Lebanon the mandatory Power would endeavour to ensure the maintenance of the rights and interests whose protection had been specially entrusted to the mandatory until the termination of the mandate. Finally it expressed the desire to be kept regularly informed of the progress achieved towards this end.

The Commission noted that the Conference of Common Interests provided for in the Organic Law had already held a meeting, and it expressed a desire to find in the next annual report as complete information as possible on the work of the Conference. The Commission also expressed the hope that more precise details would be included in the next report on the system according to which expenditure and receipts in the joint budget were allocated as between the various political units of the territory and on the land credit system. The Commission noted with satisfaction that the first measures of labour legislation had been adopted in the State of Syria in the shape of an order regulating the age of admission of children to industrial employment and the night work of young persons.

(b) *Petitions relating to Syria and the Lebanon.* — The Commission examined a petition from three inhabitants of the Lebanon and 184 inhabitants of Damascus dated June 16th, 1930, protesting against the putting into effect of the Organic Law, together with a petition from Mr. Ahmed Muktar el Kabbani concerning the settlement of certain pensions. The Commission did not think that these petitions called for any action on the part of the Council.

(c) *Petition relating to Palestine, Syria and the Lebanon.* — The Commission during its session in June examined a petition from Mrs. Evelyn Evans relating to a concession which had been granted by the Imperial Ottoman Government for the construction of a railway in a region now forming part of the mandated territories of Palestine and Syria. The Commission, having examined this petition and the observations of the mandatory Powers concerned, expressed the view that the case could be dealt with by the ordinary courts of law, and was not therefore within its competence.

TERRITORIES UNDER B MANDATE.

Examination of the annual reports on Tanganyika and on Togoland and the Cameroons under French mandate, which the Commission would normally have taken during its twentieth session, was adjourned to the session to be held in November 1931, by agreement between the Chairman and the Commission and the mandatory Powers concerned.

TERRITORIES UNDER C MANDATE.

1. *New Guinea.*

The Permanent Mandates Commission, during its twentieth session, examined the annual report on the administration of New Guinea for the year 1929-30. The Commission was glad

to note that the mandatory Power had continued its efforts to improve the conditions of indentured labour; in particular, by providing for a further consideration of reforms of the recruiting system, for increased inspection and for the better safeguarding of the interests of time-expired labourers travelling home. It further welcomed the fact that proposals were under consideration for facilitating the extension of the use of non-indentured labour. It again expressed a desire to be informed whether the system of labour contracts had a prejudicial effect on the social life of the natives and hoped that it would receive complementary information concerning the authority exercised by native chiefs over their people. Finally, the Commission noted with interest the report of the official anthropologist, Mr. Chinnery, which contained a good deal of information of a demographic character and information as to the manners and customs of the natives.

2. *Nauru.*

The Permanent Mandates Commission examined during its twentieth session the report on the administration of Nauru for 1930. It was glad to note the progress which had been achieved in the campaign against leprosy in the mandated territory.

3. *South West Africa.*

The Commission examined during its June session the annual report on the administration of South West Africa for 1930. It was glad to learn from the accredited representative that the period of drought from which the mandated territory had so greatly suffered during the year 1930 had come to an end, and noted with satisfaction the efforts made by the mandatory Power to relieve the victims of the drought. It noted that the budget deficit and the debt of the territory were assuming considerable proportions, and expressed the hope that detailed information would be given in the next report with regard to the measures which it was proposed to take to meet the situation.

The Commission dealt during its examination of the report with a constitutional question which appeared to arise concerning the advances made by the mandatory Power to the mandated territory. It desired to know, in particular, whether the mandatory Power regarded itself as responsible for the budget of the mandated territory as voted by the local legislative power, and if so, how it was meeting this responsibility. Finally, the Commission welcomed the increasing interest which the administration was taking in the education of the natives and the co-operation which it had established with the missions for this purpose.

6.

SLAVERY.

Geneva, August 30th, 1931.

The Assembly, in a resolution dated September 30th, 1930, noted that the number of ratifications of the Convention of September 25th, 1926, relating to slavery had increased in one year from 29 to 34, including the ratification of Poland, which was deposited during the Assembly session (September 17th, 1930). Since that date, five further ratifications have been deposited: by Czechoslovakia, Switzerland, France, Roumania and Cuba. Moreover, the French Government, as mandatory power for Syria and the Lebanon, in conformity with Article 12 of its mandate, adhered to the Convention on June 25th, 1930. The Persian Government, by a letter dated September 23rd, 1930, the Government of Panama by a letter dated December 1st, 1930, the Government of Uruguay by a letter dated December 6th, 1930, and the Government of Colombia, by a letter dated April 8th, 1931, informed the Secretary-General that they hoped shortly to ratify or adhere to the Convention. The present position in regard to signatures, accessions and ratifications in respect of the Convention is set forth in document A.6(a).1931, Annex.

* * *

The Assembly, in a resolution dated September 25th, 1926, asked the Council to communicate to it each year a list of the laws and regulations forwarded to it under Article 7 of the Convention relating to slavery, with any supplementary information furnished by the States Members of the League on the steps taken by them to ensure the progressive abolition of slavery and analogous conditions. In addition to the communications referred to in the

general report on the work of the League (document A.6.1931, page 87), the following communications have been received :

A letter dated May 15th, 1931, from the India Office forwarding, by order of the Secretary of State, a memorandum on the steps taken to ensure the abolition of slavery in Burma (1930-31) ;

A letter dated June 19th, 1931, from the British Government concerning the legislation relating to slavery in Sierra Leone ;

Letters dated July 3rd and July 29th, 1931, from the Portuguese delegation accredited to the League of Nations concerning the legislation relating to native labour promulgated in the Portuguese colonies from December 1929 to April 1931 ;

A letter dated July 24th, 1931, from the Government of Liberia, communicating the text of a proclamation dated September 29th, 1930, and a law dated December 19th, 1930, abolishing the limited form of slavery still existing in the republic of Liberia.

These various communications have been published in the *Official Journal* and in document A.13 (a).1931.VI.

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The Assembly, in a resolution dated September 30th, 1930, invited the States Members and non-Members of the League to complete the information on slavery which they had already forwarded to the League by furnishing any information which might enlighten the Assembly, not only as to conditions prevailing in their own territories, as the Assembly had requested in its resolution of September 21st, 1929, but also on the present general situation in regard to slavery. Up to the present, the following States, replying to the letter of the Secretary-General of November 7th, 1930, have stated that they have nothing to add to the information already given : The Union of South Africa and the mandated territory of South West Africa, Germany, Australia (and the mandated territories of New Guinea and Nauru), Canada, Costa Rica, Denmark, Spain (the Spanish colonies of the Gulf of Guinea), Irish Free State, United States of America, Finland, Greece, Iceland, Lithuania, Mexico, Monaco, New Zealand, Poland, Sweden, Czechoslovakia.

The following States have sent communications containing information relating to slavery :

The Government of Panama, in a letter dated December 1st, 1930 ;

The Government of Uruguay, in a letter dated December 6th, 1930 ;

The Government of Bulgaria, in a letter dated March 2nd, 1931 ;

The Government of the Argentine Republic, in a letter dated April 7th, 1931 ;

The Portuguese Government, in a letter dated April 25th, 1931 ;

The Government of Great Britain, in a letter dated August 5th, 1931, forwarding a memorandum from the Anti-Slavery and Aborigines Protection Society dated June 11th, 1931 ;

The Government of the Netherlands, in a letter dated August 8th, 1931.

These communications have been embodied in document A.29.1931.6.

7.

WORK OF THE TECHNICAL ORGANISATIONS.

I. ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL ORGANISATION.

A. WORK OF THE ECONOMIC COMMITTEE.

1. THE MOST-FAVOURED-NATION CLAUSE.

The Assembly in 1930 urgently recommended that the Economic Committee should begin a study of certain disputed questions concerning the application of the most-favoured-nation clause. The points to be examined included the question whether Customs quotas and anti-dumping or countervailing duties were compatible with the spirit of the clause, the question of the interpretation to be given to the expression "like products" used in commercial treaties and the criterion to be applied in determining the nationality of goods. The steps taken to carry out this recommendation are summarised in the general report on the work of the League (document A.6.1931, page 92).

The Economic Committee, having consulted experts appointed by the countries which raised the question in the Assembly (Austria, Denmark, Finland, Latvia, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden and Switzerland) established its conclusions during its session held from June 18th to June 22nd, 1931.

The Committee has requested the Council to forward its report embodying these conclusions to the Governments, recommending them to bring their commercial policies as far as possible into line with the principles laid down therein, and to communicate to the Secretary-General of the League any observations which they may wish to make with regard to them.

The Committee, in a special report on Customs quotas, after referring to certain quotas of little importance in international trade and not likely to give rise to any dispute, passes to the consideration of quotas established rather to regulate than to limit the importation of a given commodity.

In cases where such quotas are established in agreement with the various countries concerned proportionate to their trade in these commodities, there is unlikely to be incompatibility with the spirit of the most-favoured-nation clause. It frequently happens, however, that such a quota may be established with the country least interested in the export of the commodity in question and, if aggregate imports are restricted at the expense of all the exporting countries except the country with which the quota is arranged, such a restriction may be prejudicial to the countries concerned in direct proportion to their exporting capacity. The question of compatibility with the most-favoured-nation clause is, in such cases, likely to arise. Quotas of this description should be arranged with due regard to the special commercial position of the State concerned in its relation to other States, and it would be contrary to the spirit of the most-favoured-nation clause if the respective positions of the countries affected by the questions were not preserved.

The Economic Committee expresses the view that, in practice, it is virtually impossible for a country to fix proportional quotas so as not to interfere with the free play of international commerce. It further points out that equal quotas may seriously prejudice the interests of third States. They are not, therefore, to be recommended and should, in the higher interests of commerce, be carefully avoided. It is recognised that Customs quotas have helped to settle notable difficulties without prejudice to third States when their purpose is not to upset the positions exporting States have obtained in a certain market, but to systematise and regulate them. But the greatest care should be exercised in such cases to conciliate the divergent interests of the parties concerned. The Committee considers that the best guarantee to third parties in the fixing of such quotas is that they should be established by agreement with the country which occupies the first rank among those importing the goods in question.

The Committee concludes as follows :

“ As a general rule Customs quotas are to be condemned and avoided.

“ If, however, their tendency is to regulate the import trade by helping to tide over periods of temporary difficulty, in such cases they must be so fixed as to cause a minimum of injury to the interests of third countries.

“ Any country desiring to adopt Customs quotas must bear in mind that the most-favoured-nation treatment which it has conceded to other countries imposes on it the obligation not to impair the equality of conditions in international commercial competition ; therefore, quotas must be fixed so as to safeguard, as far as possible, the position of the countries interested. Whether this is done by fixing the first Customs quota with the principal exporting country, or by negotiations conducted with each of the various interested countries in turn, is not a matter of essential importance.

“ What is of importance is that the interests of the various countries enjoying most-favoured-nation treatment should be considered and respected.

“ It is only in this way that Customs quotas, the expedient of a period of excessive protectionism, can be regarded as admissible and, at the same time, attain the desired end without aggravating a situation already far from satisfactory. ”

The Committee, in dealing with the problem of determining the nationality of goods, lays down certain general principles supplementing the recommendations which it put forward in 1929. It establishes a basis for determining the nationality both of natural and of manufactured products, and defines the conditions under which goods should be consigned and transported in order to retain their original nationality.

The Committee, in dealing with the question of “like products”, refers to certain principles which it laid down in 1929. It lays down that a contractual tariff discrimination introduced into a Customs tariff by means of a treaty can be justified only if and to the extent that the product entitled to the Customs facility possesses intrinsic qualities clearly distinguishing it from any other similar product. Its consultations with Governments raising the question have added no new elements to those previously considered. The Committee considers that any dispute which may arise in regard to the matter may be settled by applying the above rule and that any difference of opinion as to the existence or absence of intrinsic characteristics can only be settled in specific individual cases, since such characteristics must naturally vary from one product to another and only expert examination can, in each particular instance, be decisive.

The Committee is not yet able to pronounce upon the compatibility of anti-dumping and countervailing duties with the most-favoured-nation clause, since its studies with regard to dumping have not yet been completed.

2. THE COMMERCIAL CONVENTION OF MARCH 24TH, 1930.

The Commission of Enquiry for European Union and the Council of the League during their sessions held in May 1931, authorised the Secretary-General to convene at an appropriate moment — after consulting the Economic Committee and the President of the Conference with a View to Concerted Economic Action — a meeting to ensure the application of the principles formulated in the Economic Convention of March 24th, 1930.

The Economic Committee, considering this question during its June session, noted that the situation had not changed since the Conference with a View to Concerted Economic Action, held in March 1931, and that the reasons which at the time had prevented the coming into force of the Convention still held good. More particularly the negotiations proceeding between Great Britain and certain industrial countries on the continent had not yet taken a sufficiently definite trend to enable Great Britain to reach a decision with regard to the putting into force of the Convention and, without the participation of Great Britain, it was difficult for a sufficiently important group of countries to be formed in favour of the Convention to ensure that it would have a real practical value.

The Economic Committee accordingly decided that it would be premature to summon a fresh meeting either to put the Convention of March 24th, 1930, into force or to conclude a new Convention on a similar basis. It expressed the hope that the negotiations in progress would very shortly be brought to a successful conclusion.

3. CUSTOMS NOMENCLATURE.

The Economic Committee, at the session of June 1931, noted that the work of the Sub-Committee of Experts for the Unification of Customs Nomenclature would be completed for the next Session of the Assembly (see the general report on the work of the League, document A.6.1931, page 92).

The Committee has requested the Council to authorise the Secretary-General to send the draft scheme prepared by the experts as soon as possible to all the States Members and non-members of the League.

It is suggested that the Secretary-General should, at the same time, ask the Governments to inform him within six months of the receipt of the draft whether they are in principle prepared to adopt it, and to communicate to him any observations or suggestions they may wish to make, after consulting the agricultural, industrial and commercial circles in their countries.

The Economic Committee proposes, if necessary, to revise the draft unified Customs Nomenclature on the basis of the observations of the Governments and to draw up a draft international convention for its adoption.

4. THE APPLICATION OF TARIFFS AND CUSTOMS FORMALITIES.

(a) *Customs Treatment of Samples of no Value and of Printed Advertising Matter.*

The Economic Committee, having referred to a Committee of Experts the question whether it may be possible to establish uniform rules to be applied to the Customs treatment of samples of no value and printed advertising matter, considered the report of this Sub-Committee during its June session. It decided to obtain the views of the administrations concerned on the proposals of the experts before submitting any final recommendations.

(b) *Methods of the Application of Specific Tariffs: Net Weight, Gross Weight, Tare and Packing.*

The Economic Committee, in February 1931, examined the proposals of a group of experts who had been asked to indicate how it might be possible to render uniform as between various countries the definitions relating to weight and packing, to provide guarantees against certain practices of indirect protection arising from an arbitrary application of the rules governing these matters, and to establish more equitable methods of passing goods through the Customs (see general report on the work of the League, document A.6.1931, page 93).

The Committee, during its session in June, decided to refer the technical proposals of the experts to the national departments concerned and to continue its investigation of the broader problem of the direct and indirect economic effects of the various systems of applying specific duties.

(c) *Stamping of Samples of Articles made of Precious Metals Imported Temporarily.*

The Committee decided in October 1930 to make enquiries of the administrations concerned in order to determine to what extent the formalities connected with the stamping of temporarily imported samples of articles made of precious metals might be simplified. Preliminary enquiries

made by the Secretariat indicated various difficulties in the way of exemption from stamping in certain countries. The Committee has accordingly decided to appoint a Sub-committee consisting of representatives of the competent administrations and of the circles concerned in the principal countries in which the question arises. The Sub-committee will consider how the desired simplification may be achieved consistently with ensuring to the national administrations all necessary guarantees.

5. MARKS OF ORIGIN.

The Economic Committee, in October 1930, decided that information collected by the Secretariat concerning the various laws in force as regards marks of origin should be submitted to a small group of experts including officials of countries with laws relating to marks of origin for foreign goods and exporters who were nationals of countries where serious complaints as to the obstacles encountered as a result of the application of these laws were frequently made (see general report on the work of the League, document A.6.1931, page 94).

Two members of the Economic Committee consulted a group of experts in April 1931 and submitted a report to the Economic Committee during its June session.

The experts were unanimous in recognising that both the terms and the application of the laws and regulations relating to marks of origin must be such as to preclude all possibility of discrimination — that is to say, they must apply to all foreign merchandise whatsoever, irrespective of its country or source.

It was further agreed that it was necessary to avoid hampering the application of any measures adopted by States to prevent or stamp out unfair competition arising from the use of false marks or appellations of origin or the employment of descriptions likely to give an inaccurate impression of the origin of the goods.

It was noted that the legislation on marks of origin was tending to become more severe and that complaints arising from the application of such legislation were becoming more frequent.

Several experts were in favour of dispensing with the requirement that goods should bear marks of origin on importation, provided that the origin of foreign goods was indicated when they were placed on the home market. This principle, however, was not generally approved. It was suggested that many of the difficulties arising from the fact that goods must in certain cases be marked at the time of importation would be met by introducing greater simplicity and uniformity in the forms required for marks of origin and in the methods of affixing the marks. Certain exceptions, moreover, were proposed to cover goods in respect of which a mark of origin was not necessary to enable the consumer to distinguish between foreign and similar home products or where there might be special reasons for exemption. The experts were unanimously of the opinion that a procedure of redress should be provided for persons claiming to be unfairly prejudiced by the regulations in force, due regard being had to the constitutional customs and requirements of the various countries.

It is laid down as a general principle that, while it is impossible to deny the right of a State to adopt measures which may enable consumers to distinguish home from foreign products, it is desirable that, in exercising this right, States should reduce to a minimum the difficulties and inconvenience which such measures may cause to the commerce and industry of the exporting countries. Governments, moreover, should so frame their laws and regulations as to make it possible for interested parties to comply with them without changing or reducing the value of their goods. Marks of origin should not be required unless they are necessary to enable the consumer to distinguish home from foreign products of a similar kind, and Governments, before introducing any new regulations, should allow the interested parties an opportunity of expressing their views as to their desirability and probable effects.

6. DUMPING : BOUNTIES AND SUBSIDIES.

The Committee, during its June session, resumed its consideration of the question of dumping, directing its attention more particularly to the various forms of dumping encouraged by a policy of State intervention and to the economic consequences of such a policy. The Committee will submit its conclusions later.

7. ORGANISATION FOR ECONOMIC CONCILIATION AND ARBITRATION FOR THE SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES BETWEEN STATES IN COMMERCIAL MATTERS.

The Committee, reviewing the material collected by the Secretariat in accordance with its previous instructions (see general report on the work of the League, document A.6.1931, page 94), has asked the Council that the results of the enquiry, which present for the first time a complete picture of the complicated network of international provisions for the settlement of commercial disputes, should be brought by the Council to the notice of the Governments. Meanwhile the Secretariat has been asked to continue its studies.

8. COAL.

The Committee in April 1929 submitted a preliminary report on the coal industry, following a consultation of experts representing the mineowners and the workmen. The position of the coal industry has changed considerably since that date. Regional agreements have been concluded by the owners, and others are being negotiated. The International Labour Organisation, moreover, on June 18th, 1931, adopted an international Convention regulating the hours of work in the mines.

The Committee considers that the time has come to contemplate a further meeting of experts and, as in 1929, feels that it would be well to secure representatives of all the factors of production and of the Governments most intimately concerned. It notes, however, that the Commission of Enquiry for European Union decided in May 1931 that a committee of economic experts should be appointed to secure closer collaboration between the countries of Europe for the better organisation of production and trade, and that it also set up an Economic Co-ordination Sub-Committee to review the results of studies undertaken in various fields of enquiry. The Committee has accordingly decided to postpone any definite proposal as to the date or character of a meeting to consider the position of the coal industry until the committees appointed by the Commission of Enquiry for European Union have expressed their views.

9. VETERINARY QUESTIONS.

The Committee during its June session had before it three preliminary draft conventions relating to : (a) The campaign against contagious diseases of animals, (b) the transit of animals, meat and other products of animal origin and (c) the export and import of products of animal origin, other than meat, meat preparations, fresh animal products, milk and milk products. The circumstances in which these conventions were prepared are described in the general report on the work of the League (document A.6.1931, pages 90 and 91).

The Economic Committee endorses the view of the veterinary experts that draft conventions present very valuable elements of progress in the organisation of the veterinary services and the campaign against the spread of epizootic diseases, and that they are also calculated to facilitate transit and regulate scientifically the trade in products of animal origin. It has asked the Secretary-General to communicate the drafts to the Governments and to request them for their observations. The Governments will be asked to state whether they regard the draft conventions as likely to serve as a basis of discussion at an international diplomatic conference.

10. DRAFT CONVENTION FOR THE REGULATION OF WHALE FISHING (EXPLOITATION OF THE RICHES OF THE SEA).

The Secretary-General, in accordance with a previous recommendation of the Economic Committee, has forwarded to all Governments a preliminary draft convention for the regulation of whale-fishing, asking them to forward their observations (see general report on the work of the League, document A.6.1931, page 6).

The Committee during its June session, reviewing certain observations and suggestions made by the various Governments, considered that they should be carefully examined, but felt that the work involved was primarily a matter for experts and jurists and that it would not be necessary for it to reconsider any amendments which might be made in the convention.

The Committee accordingly proposed that the Secretary-General should make arrangements for the draft convention to be revised by a committee composed of experts from the following countries from which suggestions have been received : Australia, Canada, France, Mexico, the Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Spain, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United Kingdom, the United States of America. The convention thus revised would be opened for signature during the forthcoming session of the Assembly.

The Committee urges that unanimous consent must be obtained to any action undertaken under the convention in order to prevent its provisions from being violated under the flags of States which are not parties to it. It accordingly hopes that countries which have not at present any direct interest in the matter will accept the draft convention, pointing out, however, that only those countries which have a whaling industry will assume any obligation to take any definite action in the matter.

11. ENQUIRY INTO THE PRESENT ECONOMIC DEPRESSION.

The Committee during its June session examined the report on the enquiry into the course and phases of the present economic depression drafted in pursuance of the resolution adopted by the Assembly in 1930, and noted that a more complete report would be submitted to the Assembly in 1931 (see under Section on Economic Intelligence Service).

12. AGRICULTURE.

The Committee draws particular attention to the reports of the agricultural experts (see general report on the work of the League document, A.6.1931, page 92).
The Committee draws the following conclusions :

" 1. The agricultural crisis is aggravated by the general disorganisation which it has caused. This disorganisation is evinced in certain excesses of Customs protection, in the bounties and subsidies intended to promote the export of agricultural products and in the numerous forms of indirect protectionism. It is also evinced in the creation of artificial organisations which disturb the normal course of business, accumulate stocks in some countries and make it possible to sell at prices even lower than the already low prices brought about by the depression.

" 2. The present chaotic state of the grain market is fraught with danger for the future. Negotiations are necessary for organising the wheat trade. This organisation should aim, not only at improving home-market conditions in each country, but also at promoting agreements with foreign countries.

" Opinions may differ as to the possibility of taking international action. It is, however, an imperative duty to make a close study of this problem. The present position is such that most importing countries are willing, in the interests of their own agriculture, to pay higher prices for their imports of cereals. In these circumstances, the exporting countries concerned should be induced to consider an agreement.

" The Economic Committee proposes to follow closely the efforts to be made by the various countries in regard to the trade in cereals.

" 3. In general, the Economic Committee recommends that the formation of groups of agricultural producers, numerous and disciplined enough to organise the sale of their crops, be encouraged. Such a course would be useful to farmers by enabling them to improve their economic position.

" 4. It would obviously be desirable, too, that Customs protection applied to agricultural products, should be reduced as soon as an improvement in the position of the world market takes place. At times of crisis, there is always a tendency to forget the fundamental importance of international exchanges. In order to realise the normal sale of products, a position of relative stability should be reached by which trade would become regular and would be no longer threatened by constant changes in international relations.

" 5. The Economic Committee's attention has been directed to the proportions assumed in certain countries by the system of export bounties and subsidies for agricultural products. They entirely deprive Customs duties of their value and cause serious harm both to importing and to exporting countries. The importance which the Economic Committee attaches to questions of commercial policy lends special interest, in its view, to the suggestions which it has received in the matter. It considers it essential that such measures and their repercussions should form the subject of a detailed and earnest investigation in all countries.

" By means of bilateral treaties, they may be abolished. Moreover, international discussions and negotiations might take place to consider the possibility of taking action to avoid protective measures, which, though natural enough from a national, are dangerous from an international point of view, and finally become ineffective, while causing serious disturbance to international trade.

" 6. The question of the discrepancy between the prices paid to the producer and the prices paid by the consumer have been examined by the Economic Committee. It would be desirable to have internationally comparable data and to be able to follow the results already obtained in the different countries. The question should be cleared up in all its various aspects.

" 7. The difficult situation of agriculture is aggravated by the difficulties encountered by a number of agricultural countries in Europe in respect of credit. In this connection, the Economic Committee is glad to note the creation, under the auspices of the League of Nations, of the International Agricultural Mortgage Credit Company. International action seems to be not far from realisation in respect of long- and medium-term credits. International agricultural credit would play an important part in the improvement of the conditions of agricultural production and trade and in the increase of markets. It would have the most beneficial effects from a moral and psychological point of view, by restoring confidence and introducing effective international co-operation in financial matters between the countries possessing capital in abundance and those deprived of it."

The Economic Committee considers that a further meeting of agricultural experts should be held at the beginning of 1932.

B. ECONOMIC INTELLIGENCE SERVICE.

1. ENQUIRY INTO THE PRESENT ECONOMIC DEPRESSION.

The Assembly, in October 1930, adopted a resolution to the effect that the Economic and Financial Organisation of the League should undertake a study of the course and phases of the present economic depression and of the circumstances which led up to it.

The Second Committee of the Assembly, in a report dated September 29th, 1930, emphasised the importance of the question in the following terms :

“When we consider the magnitude of the losses from which the world suffers during a period of economic stagnation similar to that through which the world is now passing, it is impossible not to be impressed by the almost absolute failure of society up to the present to devise any means by which such disasters may be averted. The Committee feels that this problem was one which imperatively demands co-ordinated and concerted study, and recommends, therefore, in a separate resolution, that the facts and special characteristics of the present depression should be ascertained and carefully sifted with the aid of work already done by national research institutions.”

The resolution adopted by the Assembly on October 2nd, 1930, was as follows :

“The Assembly,

“Impressed by the seriousness of the present situation, by the general recession of unemployment and trade, by the constant recurrence of such periods of economic depression and the failure up to the present to discover any concerted means for averting the losses incurred :

“Resolves that the Economic and Financial Organisation of the League, which has already been studying the causes of fluctuations in the purchasing power of gold and their effect upon the economic life of the nations, should undertake the study of the course and phases of the present depression and the circumstances which led up to it, and that for this purpose it should collect the information compiled by institutions already in existence in different countries, centralise such information and, where necessary, fill up any gaps that exist.

“For this purpose, the Economic Organisation, advised by, in particular, the Economic Consultative Committee, should put itself in touch with national organisations, whether consultative or planning councils or research institutions, concerned with this matter.”

The Economic Committee and the Financial Committee of the League were consulted as to the method which should be adopted in giving effect to the resolution. It was decided to entrust the work to the Economic Intelligence Service of the League, supplementing the existing staff and placing the enquiry under the immediate supervision of Professor Ohlin, of Stockholm University.

The Director of the Financial Section, previous to the appointment of Professor Ohlin, visited certain European countries in the autumn of 1930 in order to get into personal touch with some of the economic councils and research institutions referred to in the Assembly resolution. As a result of these preliminary enquiries, meetings of experts representing these councils and institutions, including a representative of the United States Committee on recent economic changes,¹ were held at Geneva in March and in June 1931. A draft scheme for a report on the course and phases of the world economic depression was submitted for consideration and criticism. The experts, moreover, prepared memoranda on a common plan dealing with the phenomena of the depression in their respective countries which proved of the greatest value for the preparation of the final report.

Meanwhile, the Governments had been invited to submit any memoranda or information which they thought might be useful for the purposes of the enquiry. Observations in response to these communications have been received from the Governments of Bulgaria, the Netherlands East Indies, Estonia, Latvia, Portugal, Roumania, Sweden and Yugoslavia. A report on the economic depression in Japan has been prepared by the Tokio Office of the League.

Professor Ohlin, who is generally responsible for the preparation of the material on which the final report is based, has worked in collaboration with the International Labour Office and the International Institute of Agriculture, which have furnished him with data relating to the subjects with which they are concerned.

The report briefly reviews some aspects of post-war economic developments and of structural changes in the years immediately preceding the depression, and discusses shortly the tendencies observed in business cycles during the last ten years. It then passes to a full description of the present economic depression. In the concluding chapters, the various forces at play are analysed, and a brief comparison is made between the present depression and earlier depressions.

2. STUDY OF THE RECURRENCE OF ECONOMIC CYCLES.

The Assembly in 1930, when deciding that an enquiry should be undertaken into the present economic depression, also resolved that the means by which the work now being conducted on the problem of the causes of the recurrence of periods of economic depression might be co-ordinated should be considered and that, in considering this question, the aid of consultative organisations or planning councils and research institutes should be obtained.

The question was considered at a meeting of representatives of economic councils and research institutes in accordance with a procedure recommended by the Financial and Economic

¹ Reference is made to these meetings in the general report on the work of the League, document A.6.1931, page 98.

Committees. There will be a reference to the results of this meeting in the report which the Financial Committee will submit to the Council in September, and that report will be distributed to the Assembly.

The meeting of experts points out that, during the whole of last century, very serious economic depressions, involving losses, unrest and suffering, recurred at frequent intervals. The depressions, however, were confined to a relatively limited area, whereas the present depression is worldwide. It has therefore become urgently necessary that the competent organisations and experts in each country should make a common study of methods whereby the intensity of such depressions may be diminished and their effects limited in the future. The view is expressed that the League might help to achieve useful results in this field by co-ordinating the work at present being conducted by national or international organisations and by individual economists. The institutes at present devoting attention to this problem are confined to North America and Europe, and the experts consider it essential that it should now be studied on a world basis. An endeavour should be made to co-ordinate research and possibly to inspire fresh lines of enquiry.

The experts emphasise that, for the full success of these concerted studies, it is essential that a qualified economist with an adequate staff of assistants should be permanently attached to the Secretariat. This expert would undertake the scientific preparatory work for meetings at which the researches of the various institutions and persons might be co-ordinated and would ensure continuity of effort in the enquiries undertaken.

3. PUBLICATIONS.

The *Statistical Year-Book of the League of Nations* has this year been considerably expanded and now contains 121 tables. It includes statistics of area, population, production, trade, transport, public finances, exchange, prices, wages, unemployment and labour disputes. Among the new tables added, the following are of special interest at the present moment: Unemployment by groups of industries, strikes and lock-outs, the yield of bonds, the index-numbers of shares, the discount rates of central banks and the market rates of discount. The majority of the tables cover the year 1930, and most of the agricultural tables show the harvest of 1930-31.

The Economic Intelligence Service has also assisted in compiling the *Armaments Year-Book* for 1930.

A new volume of the *Memorandum on Public Finance* is in preparation and will shortly be issued.

A *Memorandum on Production and Trade* for the years 1925 to 1929-30 has been prepared. This memorandum contains a world-production index for a large selection of foodstuffs and raw materials, a comparative survey of the development of world production, world population and international trade, a general review of industrial activity and an analysis of recent changes in the relative prices of raw and finished products. In the analysis of prices are incorporated the preliminary results of a special enquiry which has been undertaken by the Secretariat with the assistance of the official statistical services of France, Germany, Italy and the United Kingdom.

A *Memorandum on Commercial Banks* for the period 1913 to 1929 is now in the press. It contains chapters dealing with the position of the commercial banks of some twenty-five countries and a general introduction in which the main features of commercial banking in different parts of the world and the developments noticeable in post-war years are analysed. For each country, the balance-sheet position and, in most cases, the earnings, expenditure and profits of the banks in 1913 and in post-war years are summarised in statistical tables drawn up on a common standard form. In a series of notes, the character and composition of the assets and liabilities are analysed in detail and the history and recent developments of the commercial banking system, the main provisions of the banking legislation in force and the nature of the sources on which the statistics are based are summarised.

The three volumes of the *Memorandum on International Trade and Balances of Payments, 1927 to 1929*, have been issued since the last meeting of the Assembly. Volume I contains a review of world trade during the year 1929 and summary tables of the trade of all the more important countries of the world in recent years. Volume II contains estimates of the balances of international payments of 29 countries. In an introductory chapter, the international movements of capital, interest and dividends, freights, emigrants' remittances and transit expenditure are summarised. Volume III contains detailed trade statistics of 64 countries for the years 1927 to 1929 and preliminary summary figures for 1930.

The *Monthly Bulletin of Statistics* has been published regularly. This bulletin has in recent years been considerably enlarged.

4. REVISION OF THE EXISTING SCALE OF LEAGUE CONTRIBUTIONS.

The Allocation Committee entrusted with the revision of the existing scale of League contributions met in December 1930 and requested its Chairman to make a verbal report to the Fourth Committee of the Assembly.

5. THE COMMITTEE OF STATISTICAL EXPERTS.

The work of the Committee of Technical Experts set up under the Convention relating to Economic Statistics is summarised in the general report on the work of the League, document A.6.1931, page 97. The report of the Committee on the work of its first session was adopted by the Council in May 1931, and the necessary steps have been taken for the constitution of the Sub-Committees to whom various technical problem will be entrusted.

Since June 1931, the Convention relating to economic statistics has been ratified by Italy, Roumania and Poland. Sixteen States have now ratified the Convention and one State has acceded.

C. WORK OF THE FINANCIAL COMMITTEE.

1. PROGRAMME OF MEETINGS.

Various meetings connected with the work of the Financial Committee will be held towards the end of August. It will not be possible to include an account of their proceedings in the present report.

The Council was asked by the Commission for European Union in May 1931 to appoint a small Committee of five members, consisting of Government representatives, to consider, in co-operation with a delegation of the Financial Committee, what practical steps might be taken to facilitate the issue of State loans of an international character by means of a more active intervention on the part of the League. This Committee will meet on August 24th.

The Organisation Committee for the International Agricultural Mortgage Credits Company (see general report on the work of the League, page 59 and pages 101 to 103) held a preliminary meeting on June 4th and started a number of enquiries of a technical and legal character. It will meet again on September 9th.

The Gold Delegation of the Financial Committee will meet on August 27th and the Financial Committee itself has been convened for September 3rd.

2. FISCAL COMMITTEE.

The Fiscal Committee held its third session from May 29th to June 6th, 1931. It devoted most of the session to the study of a draft Plurilateral Convention for the Avoidance of Double Taxation, which had been prepared by a special Sub-Committee on the lines laid down by the Fiscal Committee during its second session.

The discussions showed that it would be impossible for certain members of the Committee to accept a scheme as liberal as that framed by the Sub-Committee. They considered that it would be preferable provisionally to limit the effects of a plurilateral convention for the avoidance of double taxation to non-residents, each country reserving full right to tax persons residing within its territory. An alternative text has been drafted by the members of the Committee who hold this view.

Neither of the drafts secured the unanimous approval of the Committee. The Committee felt that the question of the conclusion of a plurilateral convention, to which the League of Nations has devoted its attention for several years, was not ripe for a final solution. It nevertheless considered that the work undertaken was calculated to advance the solution of the problem and decided to request the observations of all its members on the two schemes discussed during the session.

The Committee noted the progress which had been achieved during the last year in the campaign against double taxation, notably by the conclusion of general agreements, such as those which had been made between France and Italy (June 16th, 1930), Finland and Sweden (March 16th, 1931) and Belgium and France (May 16th, 1931). New agreements on maritime navigation had been concluded between numerous countries. It was observed that, in this field, double taxation was clearly in retreat and that the principles laid down by Article 5, paragraph 4, of the Draft Convention of 1928 were more and more generally employed by the maritime countries.

The Committee noted that the International Convention upon the Taxation of Foreign Motor Vehicles, concluded at Geneva on March 30th, 1931, reproduces almost integrally the text prepared with the assistance of several of its members. Various bilateral agreements have also been made dealing with the matter, which provide either for a complete or temporary exemption of foreign motor vehicles.

The Committee considered the first results of the enquiry undertaken by means of the funds placed at the disposal of the League of Nations by the Rockefeller Foundation on the taxation of the profits of enterprises working in several countries. The enquiry was made in the following five countries: Germany, Spain, the United States of America, France and Great Britain. In each of these countries a special report was drafted on the characteristics of the fiscal legislation dealing with the taxation of the profits of industrial and commercial undertakings. The number of countries in which the enquiry was made was too limited for it to be possible to draw immediate and final conclusions, but it is hoped that such conclusions may be reached when the enquiry has been extended to other countries in Europe and overseas, particularly to those with extensively developed economic activities and those whose legislation on the subject presents special characteristics.

At the request of the International Conference for the Unification of the Laws relating to Bills of Exchange, Promissory Notes and Cheques, the Committee decided to consider whether the levying of fiscal duties upon international commercial documents in addition to national duties might not be prejudicial to the freedom of commerce. It also decided to enquire whether measures for the avoidance of double taxation should not be extended to turnover taxes. These two questions will be dealt with in the report of a special Sub-Committee at the next session of the Fiscal Committee.

The Committee noted the results of the first meeting of the mixed committee, which had been asked to study the question of the fiscal and Customs duties upon newspapers and periodicals. The Mixed Committee, which had included several members of the Fiscal Committee, met on June 3rd, 1931, under the Chairmanship of M. Blau. It had reached the conclusion that the information available was inadequate and had decided to send to Governments, to members of the Fiscal Committee and to the Press Associations, a detailed questionnaire upon the fees, taxes and duties of all kinds at present levied upon newspapers and periodicals.

II. ORGANISATION FOR COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSIT.

The Advisory and Technical Committee for Communications and Transit held its sixteenth session from May 28th to June 2nd, 1931. It reviewed the work done by the various organisation and transit committees during the year and gave the necessary instructions for its continuation.

1. PREPARATION OF INTERNATIONAL CONVENTIONS.

The Advisory and Technical Committee, dealing with the request contained in the Assembly resolution of October 3rd, 1930, concerning the ratification of international conventions concluded under the auspices of the League, took the view that the procedure followed by the Transit Organisation in preparing general conventions was among cases where previous conventions or arrangements had established a special procedure, and that the new procedure proposed by the Assembly did not therefore involve a modification of the rules at present followed by the Organisation for Communications and Transit.¹

The Committee noted that these rules, inspired by the conviction of the Assembly that prudence should be exercised in the drafting of general conventions, were calculated to prevent the premature convening of international conferences for the conclusion of such conventions.

2. THE TRANSPORT OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS.

The Committee dealt with the question of the transport of agricultural products as the result of a recommendation of the Conference for Concerted Economic Action. It considered that it was impossible to study accurately, problems concerning the transport of agricultural products until the policy of economic co-operation between States in agricultural matters had been more clearly determined. It decided to keep the question upon its agenda.

3. ADJUSTMENT OF RAILWAY TARIFFS AND INDIRECT PROTECTIONISM.

The question of the adjustment of railway tariffs and indirect protectionism was referred to the Committee as the result of a recommendation of the Conference for Concerted Economic Action. The Advisory and Technical Committee thought that it would be difficult to propose to States, with any serious likelihood of adoption, measures aimed at limiting their freedom of action in regard to railway tariffs, and going beyond the provisions of the existing conventions on freedom of transit and the international regime of railways until principles of closer co-operation in economic matters had been fixed and accepted by States on more general lines. The Secretariat of the Transit Organisation has been asked to keep in touch with the Secretariat of the Economic Organisation and to communicate to the Committee any information as to the development of work in the economic field on the question of indirect protectionism. The Committee has further drawn the attention of the body which is studying the question of the codification of international law on questions of communication to the desirability of making a study of the bilateral commercial and other treaties containing provisions in respect of railway tariffs with a bearing on the problem of indirect protectionism.

4. TRANSPORT OF NEWSPAPERS AND PERIODICALS.

The Committee noted the text of the regulations adopted by the International Railway Union on the transport of newspapers and periodicals in conformity with a recommendation made by the Conference of Press Experts in August 1927 and with the provisions of the final

¹ The Assembly in 1930 recommended certain rules for the procedure to be followed in the preparation of general conventions negotiated under the auspices of the League. The rules in question have been communicated to the technical organisations of the League and to the Governments, and the Assembly will in September 1931 be invited to consider whether they should be modified as a result of any suggestions which may be made.

protocol of the Conference of November 1929 convened by the Council of the League. The Committee has asked the Governments which were invited to the Conference of November 1929 to contemplate the adoption as rapidly as possible of any steps calculated to facilitate the application to their territory of the regulations adopted by the International Railway Union. It is recalled that the object of these regulations is to enable newspapers, internationally distributed, to be despatched by express trains, with a suppression of Customs formalities at the frontiers. The Committee has constituted, in co-operation with the Fiscal Committee, a mixed Committee to examine the question of Customs and fiscal duties applied to newspapers and periodicals. The Mixed Committee held its first meeting immediately after the session of the Advisory and Technical Committee. (See under the section of this report dealing with Financial Questions.)

5. TRANSPORT AND TRANSIT OF ELECTRIC POWER.

The Committee considered the request of the Commission of Enquiry for European Union, approved by the Council on May 22nd, 1931, that a study should be made of the transport and transit of electric power. The Committee decided to collect the necessary information upon national laws dealing with the subject and the international agreements in force in the various European countries upon the international exchange of electric power. A special committee will be instructed to study the question as soon as sufficient material has been collected.

6. CUSTOMS EXEMPTION FOR LIQUID FUEL.

The Committee adopted a similar procedure as regards Customs exemption for liquid fuel, which was also submitted at the request of the Commission of Enquiry for European Union.

7. COLLABORATION BETWEEN THE NATIONAL GOVERNMENT OF CHINA AND THE ORGANISATION FOR COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSIT.

The National Government of China, following the visit to China of the Director of the Communications and Transit Section of the Secretariat, requested the help of the Transit Organisation in obtaining the services of experts finally to establish a programme for the public works contemplated by the Chinese Government. The programme includes work in the river basin of the Hwai and the river system of Northern China and a scheme for the development of the port of Shanghai. The assistance of the Transit Organisation has also been requested in the organisation and development of a centre for the technical study of public works. The centre is intended to facilitate the technical training of civil engineers, and to assist in the organisation and direction of studies, more especially for the construction of roads and water-works. It will form the nucleus of an international service of civil engineers. Further, in response to the request addressed by the Government of China to the Council of the League of Nations that the technical organisations of the League may be continuously available for advice to the National Economic Council which the Chinese Government has set up with a view to a general scheme of reconstruction, the Communications and Transit Organisation may be called upon to assist in establishing a scheme of public works and national technical equipment in China.

The Advisory and Technical Committee, on behalf of the Organisation for Communications and Transit, has agreed to undertake these various duties and has assured the National Government of China that it will spare no effort to justify the confidence placed in it by the Chinese Government and to assist the National Government of China to carry out its work of economic reconstruction in the sphere of communications and public works. A committee has been appointed to study methods of training civil engineers and has been asked to examine questions relating to the organisation of the technical centre to be created for this purpose. Further, a committee of enquiry, appointed to deal with general questions relating to public works, has been invited to examine any questions raised in the course of the collaboration between the Communications and Transit Organisation and the National Economic Council of China concerning the establishment of a scheme of public works and national technical equipment. All the necessary steps have, moreover, been taken by the Advisory and Technical Committee to facilitate the appointment and despatch of experts required to work on the spot and to ensure by means of technically qualified officers, seconded for short service in China, the necessary contact between the Transit Organisation and the technical bodies of the Chinese Government, particularly the technical centre entrusted with the study of public works.

8. FOURTH GENERAL CONFERENCE ON COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSIT : REFORM OF THE CALENDAR.

The Preparatory Committee of the Fourth General Conference on Communications and Transit, following the session of the Advisory and Technical Committee, met from June 8th to 13th, 1931. The Preparatory Committee was appointed by the Advisory and Technical Committee to draft a general report on the results of the enquiries undertaken in the various

countries on the problems to be submitted to the Transit Conference which will meet on October 12th, 1931, relating to the reform of the calendar. The Conference will examine the expediency from an economic and social standpoint (a) of fixing movable feasts, and (b) of simplifying the Gregorian calendar.

The Preparatory Committee noted reports by the committees of enquiry constituted in the various countries. After a general discussion on the results of these enquiries, and after hearing the representatives of various religious communities and international associations, the Committee drafted a report with a view to facilitating the work of the Conference (document 4.C.G.C.T.I.).

9. UNIFICATION OF TONNAGE MEASUREMENT IN MARITIME NAVIGATION.

The preparatory work undertaken by the Advisory and Technical Committee on the question of the unification of tonnage measurement in maritime navigation was concluded at a session of the Technical Committee on Tonnage Measurement in Maritime Navigation which met from July 29th to August 7th, 1931. The Technical Committee on Tonnage Measurement finally approved the text of the draft international regulations on the tonnage measurement of vessels. These regulations, based on the present British system, are intended to preclude differences of treatment as between vessels flying different flags and avoiding discrepancies in the application of the rules of tonnage measurement at present in force in the different countries. The rules will be submitted to the Governments of the maritime countries with a view to ensuring as soon as possible the introduction of a uniform practice in the matter.

The Technical Committee on Tonnage Measurement also established a uniform type of tonnage measurement certificates.

10. COMMUNICATIONS OF IMPORTANCE TO THE WORKING OF THE LEAGUE AT TIMES OF EMERGENCY. REGIME APPLICABLE TO AIRCRAFT AND MOTOR TRANSPORT.

The Assembly, in a resolution adopted in September 30th, 1930, proposed that certain facilities should be accorded by Members of the League to ensure the means of transport by air and by automobile necessary to its working at times of emergency. The conditions under which these facilities should be granted were to be fixed in advance by each of the Governments concerned as the result of an understanding with the Secretary-General of the League. The Secretary-General of the League was asked to undertake the necessary negotiations with the Governments and report to the next Assembly on the steps taken to carry out the resolution of the Assembly.

A circular letter on the subject has been addressed to the Governments and the commentaries received from them have been published in the *Official Journal*. Most of the Governments have sent replies, from which it is clear that no difficulty is likely to arise in the application of the resolution of the Assembly of September 30th, 1930. It has been necessary to request supplementary information in certain cases, but it is now certain, so far as the numerous European States are concerned which have communicated their views, that the system contemplated by the Assembly can here and now be regarded as applicable at times of emergency.

It was provided in the Assembly resolution of September 30th, 1930, that a certain number of detailed provisions relating more particularly to the identification marks attached to aircraft should be fixed by the Council of the League after consultation with the competent bodies. The Advisory and Technical Committee for Communications and Transit forwarded to the Council on July 23rd, 1931, a proposal of the International Commission for Air Navigation concerning such marks of identification and the Council will thus be in a position to settle this question, which is the only point of detail presenting any real urgency, during its forthcoming session in September.

Finally, it should be mentioned that the Advisory and Technical Committee has forwarded to the Council for submission to the Assembly a final report drawn up by the Committee of Experts which was asked to study the question of an aerodrome to be established near the seat of the League (document A.21.1931.VIII).

III. HEALTH ORGANISATION.

1. EUROPEAN CONFERENCE ON RURAL HYGIENE.

The studies and enquiries undertaken in preparation for the European Conference on Rural Hygiene were described in the general Report on the Work of the League (document A.6.1931, page 119). The Conference, convened by the Council on the proposal of the Spanish Government, met at Geneva from May 29th to June 7th, under the presidency of Professor G. Pittaluga, Director of the National School of Hygiene at Madrid and a member of the Health Committee of the League. Eighty-six delegates and experts from twenty-five European countries attended, with eight observers from extra-European States. Representatives of the International Labour Office, the International Institute of Agriculture at Rome and the League of Red Cross Societies also participated.

The Conference examined the report of its Preparatory Committee (document C.H.1045) and unanimously adopted a series of recommendations for the organisation of medical assistance,

health services and sanitation in rural districts. The recommendations, within the limits of strict economy aimed at effectively protecting rural health and staying the exodus of the rural population to the towns. The Conference requested that they should be communicated to the Governments for their adoption.

A programme of future international studies in this field was also drawn up with the help of the Directors of European Schools of Hygiene, who held a meeting during the Conference. The programme included the instruction of health visitors, the training of sanitary officers, the supply of milk in rural districts, typhoid infection, the use of manure, the anti-fly campaign, the cost of sanitary equipment and methods of testing drinking-water. It was recommended that the several schools or institutes should carry on one or more of the investigations indicated and the Health Organisation was requested to act as the co-ordinating agent.

Finally, the hope was expressed that this first meeting of hygienists, engineers, agriculturists and administrators, convened to consider the welfare and the organisation of rural populations should be followed by others of an even wider scope.

2. CONFERENCE OF EXPERTS ON IMMUNISATION AGAINST DIPHTHERIA AND SCARLET FEVER, AND MEETING OF THE PERMANENT STANDARDISATION COMMISSION AND ITS SUB-COMMISSIONS.

Meetings were held in London from June 17th to June 25th, 1931. Fifty experts belonging to fifteen countries participated.

The experts on immunisation against diphtheria and scarlet fever, on the basis of comparative studies made in the different countries, accepted a number of recommendations upon vaccination against diphtheria. They noted that vaccination was followed by an appreciable decrease in the mortality and incidence of the disease among those vaccinated and they gave indications as to the detailed method of application of the vaccine. These recommendations, which are of special interest to Health Administrations, will again be discussed by the Health Committee at its next session.

The experts also decided to continue their enquiries into vaccination against scarlet fever.

The result of the work of the Permanent Standardisation Committee marks a new stage in the activities of that body. The Commission, on the basis of recommendations made by its various Sub-Committees, adopted a new series of international standards, particularly for gas-gangrene serum, tuberculin, and vitamins (at-soluble vitamin A, anti-ricketts vitamin D, anti-neuritic vitamin B and anti-scorbutic vitamin C).

The international standardisation of vitamins is of special importance from both the scientific and the practical standpoints, particularly with a view to a necessary control of numerous preparations containing vitamins now on the market.

The Commission also laid down a programme for the continuation of its studies on the standardisation of toxins used for the Schick test, on formol toxoid (anatoxin), anti-diphtheria serum, immunisation against scarlet fever and sex hormones. It further decided to extend its enquiries into the standardisation of veterinary products, which are of special importance both to human and veterinary medicine.

8.

THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS AND CHINA.

The Council on May 15th, 1931 decided to place at the disposal of the Chinese Government for a limited period an officer competent to give information on the working of the technical organisations of the League and the manner in which they might be used by the Chinese Government (see general report on the work of the League, document A.6.1931, page 121). It authorised the Secretary-General to send one of the directors of the technical organisations to pay a further visit to China for the purpose and, in accordance with this decision, Dr. Rajchman, Director of the Health Organisation of the League, left for China in the middle of August.

The Secretary-General was also authorised to refer to the International Committee on Intellectual Co-operation the request of the Chinese Government that the League might assist it to find advisers with a view to developing the Chinese educational system and facilitating interchanges between centres of intellectual activity in China and elsewhere. The organisation

of the mission which has proceeded to China in accordance with this decision is summarised in the section of the present report dealing with intellectual co-operation.

The Economic Committee of the League has authorised its Bureau (the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Secretary) to nominate experts to assist the National Economic Council of China as and when the occasion may arise.

Further references to the co-operation of the technical organisations of the League with the Chinese Government will be found in the chapter of the present report dealing with Communications and Transit.

9.

REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF LIBERIA.

The mission which left for Liberia in May 1931 to study on the spot the measures of assistance to be accorded to Liberia (see general report on the work of the League, document A.6.1931, page 121) has returned to Europe. The experts composing the mission met at Geneva on August 17th and their report will be submitted to the Council and Assembly in September.

10.

**HUMANITARIAN QUESTIONS:
TRAFFIC IN OPIUM AND OTHER DANGEROUS DRUGS.**

**1. THE CONFERENCE ON THE LIMITATION OF THE MANUFACTURE
OF NARCOTIC DRUGS.**

The Conference on the limitation of the manufacture of narcotic drugs met at Geneva from May 27th to July 13th, 1931, under the chairmanship of M. Louis de Brouckère (Belgium). Fifty-seven States were represented.

The draft Convention for the Limitation of the Manufacture of Narcotic Drugs, as approved by the Opium Advisory Committee in January 1931, was submitted to the Conference, and accepted as the basis of a preliminary general discussion. The preparation of the draft Convention, and the views expressed by representatives of the manufacturing and consuming countries in regard to its provisions, were summarised in the general report on the work of the League (document A.6.1931, pages 137 to 139). It embodied a scheme of limitation which had come to be known as the system of quotas. Under this system, the world manufacture of narcotic drugs would be limited each year to a specific quantity on the basis of estimates to be supplied by all countries of their requirements for medical and scientific purposes and the total quantity manufactured would be allocated in advance among the manufacturing countries, in definite proportions, according to agreements concluded between them. The system of quotas, in course of its elaboration in the Advisory Committee, had given rise to various objections on the part of certain delegations, and it was understood that the Conference was free to consider any effective alternative scheme of limitation which might be put forward.

It became clear in the course of the general discussions of the Conference that it would not be possible to secure agreement on the quota scheme embodied in the draft Convention. Objections previously urged to the system of quotas were further pressed and it was finally abandoned in favour of a scheme submitted by the Japanese and supported by the French delegation — a scheme on somewhat the same lines also being put forward by the delegation of the United States of America. Under the Japanese plan, any country was authorised to manufacture the narcotic drugs necessary for its medical and scientific needs within the limits of its estimates and of the amounts required for the execution of legitimate orders received from abroad. The Conference on June 20th accepted this proposal as a basis of discussion by twenty-seven votes to three, with six abstentions.

Provisions of the Convention.

The following is a brief summary of the principal provisions of the Convention :

Chapter I (Definitions).

The list of drugs to be covered by the Convention was established by scientific experts with the object of making it as complete as possible and of rendering the evasion of the provisions of the Convention by the invention of new drugs extremely difficult or even impossible. The Convention thus covers all known and possible derivatives of opium and the coca leaf. Moreover, any new products which may be derived from these substances can only be put on the market subject to certain conditions. Codeine is subjected to the general system of limitation provided for in the Convention, but a more liberal margin is sanctioned in the estimates for this drug and the estimates need only be accompanied by a summary explanation. Codeine preparations, moreover, are not subjected to the import certificate system.

Chapter II (Estimates).

The contracting parties undertake to furnish annual estimates, for each of the drugs specified in the Convention, of the medical and scientific requirements of each of their territories. They may, if necessary, furnish supplementary estimates in the course of the year with an explanation of the circumstances which render them necessary, and may also constitute reserve and Government stocks. The estimates, received and tabulated by the Permanent Central Board, will be reviewed by a Supervisory Body composed of four persons to which the following organs have the right to nominate a member : the Opium Advisory Committee, the Permanent Central Opium Board, the Health Committee and the Office international d'Hygiène publique. The Supervisory Body may demand any information or details which may appear to be desirable, except as regards requirements for Government purposes. It must also deal without delay with supplementary estimates. The total amount of drugs to be manufactured for the whole world will be established on the basis of these estimates. In the case of countries which do not furnish estimates, such estimates will as far as possible be made by the Supervisory Body.

Chapter III (Limitation of Manufacture).

It is provided that there shall not be manufactured in any country in any one year a quantity of any drug in excess (a) of the estimates supplied by the Governments for purposes of conversion, internal consumption, or the constitution of Government and reserve stocks and (b) of the amounts required to fill legitimate orders for export.

Chapter IV (Prohibitions and Restrictions).

The contracting parties undertake to prohibit the export of diacetylmorphine (heroin) and its salts except to Governments and subject to specified conditions. The manufacture for trade or the trade in any product obtained from any of the phenantrene alkaloids of opium or from the ecgonine alkaloids of the coca leaf, not at present in use for medical or scientific purposes, will not be allowed unless a Government is satisfied that the product is of medical and scientific value. The Secretary-General of the League will be notified immediately in such cases, and the Health Committee will decide whether the products in question are capable of producing addiction or convertible into drugs producing addiction. Should the reply be in the affirmative, the drug will be brought under the system of limitation and control embodied in the Convention.

Chapter V (Control).

The contracting parties undertake to apply to all drugs the provisions of the Geneva Convention of 1925, or provisions in conformity therewith. The drugs subject to control, as defined in Chapter I, are divided into two groups, and the system of control applied to these groups is not quite identical. The full system of control provided for in the Geneva Convention applies only to the drugs in group 1. The drugs in group 2, which includes codeine and ethylmorphine (dionine) are subject to the system of limitation as indicated above (under Chapter I) ; they are subjected to the system of control embodied in the Geneva Convention (Articles 6 and 7) only in so far as their manufacture, import, export and wholesale distribution are concerned. The provisions of Chapter V of the Geneva Convention are applied to these drugs except as regards compounds containing drugs adapted to normal therapeutic uses. The statistical provisions of the Geneva Convention (Article 22) also apply with certain exceptions to the drugs in group 2.

Governments authorising exports to countries which are not parties either to the Limitation Convention or to the Geneva Convention of 1925 must notify the Permanent Central Board of all such authorisations, and they may not authorise during the year any further exports to the countries in question if the Permanent Central Board ascertains from its records at any

point during the course of the year that the quantity for which authorisations have been given for any drug exceeds the total estimates of the importing country for that drug. If an order for more than 5 kilogrammes of any drug be received from a country which is not a party to either of the Conventions, authorisations to fill the order must not be given by the exporting country until the Central Board has indicated that the filling of the order would not cause an excess over the estimate of the importing country for the drug in question. The Permanent Central Board will prepare each year in respect of each territory a statement showing estimates for each drug and the amounts consumed, manufactured, converted, imported or exported, etc., and it will have the right to ask for explanations through the Secretary-General, in accordance with the procedure provided for under Article 24 of the Geneva Convention if it appears from the statement that one of the contracting parties has failed to carry out its obligations under the Convention. The Board will publish a summary of the explanations given or required, together with any observations they may desire to make.

Chapter VI (Administrative Provisions).

Governments will establish a special administration for applying the provisions of the Convention, for regulating and controlling the drug trade and organising the campaign against addiction. Manufacturers must submit to the national authorities quarterly reports on the amount of drugs manufactured or in stock, indicating the amounts of raw materials received during the year and the drug yield of such raw materials as ascertained by analysis.

Governments will exercise a strict supervision over: (a) the amounts of raw material and manufactured drugs in the possession of each manufacturer for the purpose of the manufacture or conversion of any of the drugs or otherwise; (b) the quantities of the drugs or preparations containing the drugs produced; and (c) the disposal of the drugs and preparations so produced with special reference to deliveries from the factories.

No Governments will allow the accumulation in the possession of any manufacturer of quantities of raw materials in excess of those required for the economic conduct of business, having regard to the prevailing market conditions. The amounts of raw material in the possession of any manufacturer at any one time shall not exceed the amounts required by that manufacturer for manufacture during the ensuing six months unless the Government, after due investigation, considers that exceptional conditions warrant the accumulation of additional amounts, but in no case shall the total quantities which may be accumulated exceed one year's supply.

Any drugs seized in the illicit traffic will be destroyed, converted into non-narcotic substances or appropriated for medical and scientific use. In all cases heroin must be destroyed or converted. An article provides that all drugs must be correctly labelled.

Chapter VII (General Provisions).

The contracting parties undertake to communicate to one another, through the Secretary-General, their laws and regulations and to forward to the Secretary-General an annual report on the working of the Convention and a separate report on each important case of illicit traffic discovered, these provisions being in practically the same terms as the resolution adopted by the eleventh Assembly on this matter. The Convention is understood to complete the Hague Convention of 1912, and the Geneva Convention of 1925, in the relations between the parties bound by at least one of these Conventions. Disputes concerning the interpretation of the Convention will be settled by arbitral or judicial procedure. The Convention will be open for the signature of all States until December 31st, 1931, and from January 1st, 1932, any State may accede. The Convention will come into force ninety days after the Secretary-General has received the ratifications or accessions of twenty-five States, Members or non-members of the League, including four of the following countries: France, Great Britain, Germany, Japan, the Netherlands, Switzerland, Turkey and the United States of America.

The Convention may be denounced by a State five years from the date of its coming into force and if, as the result of such denunciations, the number of States bound by the Convention is reduced to less than twenty-five it shall cease to be effective. The Convention may be revised on a request supported by not less than one-third of the signatories.

Final Act and Recommendations.

The Final Act of the Conference contains recommendations embodying certain proposals submitted during the Conference, involving, in most cases, action through the permanent machinery of the League for their carrying into effect. It is recommended that a single national authority should be set up in each country for the control of the drug traffic, and that a model administrative code for the application of the Convention should be framed by the Opium Advisory Committee. Other recommendations are put forward as to the extension of the Geneva and Hague Conventions to certain new drugs, the desirability of establishing State monopolies, the introduction of severer penalties and more effective police measures in dealing with the illicit traffic, the replacement of diacetylmorphine by other drugs of a less dangerous

character, and the abolition or restriction of its use ; the institution of rewards by the League for the discovery of harmless substitutes for dangerous drugs.

Finally, the Conference recommended that, pending the entry into force of the Limitation Convention, the countries manufacturing morphine, diacetylmorphine and cocaine should limit their manufacture as nearly as possible to the amounts of morphine for use as such, and of diacetylmorphine and cocaine, indicated in the statistical studies of the League as required for domestic consumption and export for medical and scientific purposes. The maximum total medical and scientific requirements of the world during the last three years have been approximately established at the following figures : morphine, for use as such, 9 tons ; diacetylmorphine, 2 tons ; cocaine, 5½ tons.

Results of the Conference.

The President, reviewing the work of the Conference and the provisions of the Convention, expressed the view that it embodied an effective and coherent form of limitation and control. The Convention is based upon a system which allows the free purchase and sale of narcotic drugs subject to strict guarantees designed to ensure that the total production of all the competitors in the world market shall remain within limits carefully defined and authorised. The system involves a delicate and complicated scheme of supervision, covering imports, exports, manufacture, conversion and the formation of stocks. Every stage in the manufacture and distribution of the drugs is subject to regulation and record under the general direction of the central bodies at Geneva. The Convention, moreover, extends the scope of the previous Opium Conventions and applies their provisions to additional drugs. The effective application of the Convention must necessarily depend upon the adequacy and competence of the various national administrations, but the scheme, if strictly applied, should result in preventing the despatch of any drugs from any factory except within the limits in which they might be reasonably regarded as legitimate.

The following States had signed the Convention on July 20th : Abyssinia, Argentina, Austria, Belgium, Bolivia, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, the Dominican Republic, Egypt, France, Germany, Great Britain, Guatemala, Hejaz, India, Italy, Japan, Liberia, Luxemburg, Mexico, Monaco, Netherlands, Panama, Paraguay, Portugal, San Marino, Siam, Spain, Switzerland, United States of America, Uruguay and Venezuela.

The Convention has thus been signed by all the countries, except Turkey, four of whose ratifications are regarded as essential to the coming into force of the Convention. The Turkish delegation stated at the last meeting of the Conference that it was unable to sign the Convention at that moment for three reasons :

- (1) That it limited the manufacture of codeine, a substance harmless in itself and of great value to medicine, for reasons which were not in its view sufficiently justified ;
- (2) That it did not provide for the destruction of drugs seized in course of suppression of the illicit traffic ; and
- (3) That it took no account of the effect of limitation upon the marketing of raw materials.

The Yugoslav delegation criticised the Convention on similar grounds : it provided no system of control for the traffic in raw opium and the coca leaf ; it contained no guarantees for the marketing of raw materials at a fair price ; it did not render compulsory the destruction of seizures.

2. THE WORK OF THE PERMANENT CENTRAL OPIUM BOARD.

The Central Board held its tenth session from August 10th to August 20th, 1931, when it examined the statistical material collected for the year 1930 from forty-three parties and six non-parties to the Geneva Opium Convention of February 19th, 1925. The Board noted a great improvement in the statistics supplied by Governments for the year 1930 as compared with those received for the year 1929, both in respect of number and accuracy. The examination of all the statistical material at its disposal led the Board to draw the attention of certain Governments to an apparent discrepancy between the stocks reported as existing at the end of 1930 and the estimated stocks of the same drugs as calculated by the Board from the figures representing stocks at the end of the previous year, imports, manufacture, exports, consumption, etc., supplied by the Governments concerned.

The Board further studied the question whether it would be possible at the present stage of its work to establish, by exact calculation, a comparative table of the consumption of the different opiates in the various countries. It was decided that this matter required further consideration and it was therefore placed on the agenda for the next session of the Board.

The Board at two public meetings discussed the draft report which, in accordance with Article 27 of the Geneva Convention, it is called upon to present annually to the Council.

11.

REFUGEE QUESTIONS.

1. NANSSEN INTERNATIONAL OFFICE FOR REFUGEES.

The Governing Body of the Nansen International Office for Refugees held its third session in Geneva from July 1st to 3rd, 1931. The session was chiefly devoted to drafting the annual report which the Office will submit to the Assembly under Article 17 of its Regulations (see document A.27.1931).

The first part of the report describes the various administrative and organising measures taken by the Governing Body during its first three sessions.

The second part of the report embodies a scheme for the liquidation of the Refugees Organisation at a date not later than December 31st, 1939, as requested by a special resolution adopted by the Assembly on October 3rd, 1930. The Governing Body of the Office expresses the opinion that the liquidation scheme should not only indicate the steps necessary to wind up and terminate the administrative services but a programme of the work to be done by the Organisation on behalf of the Refugees up to the moment of its liquidation and an examination of the conditions under which their interests may be ensured after the International Office has ceased to exist. The plan accordingly mentions the principal steps which the Office proposes to take for the relief of refugees who are unable to work and for the placing and settlement of the refugees who are employable.

The scheme contains a scale and a schedule of the budgetary contributions from the League which the Governing Body considers necessary during the period of liquidation. The Governing Body is of opinion that the activities of the Office should for a certain period be continued without appreciable reductions. For that reason, it is asking the Assembly to provide for the year 1932 almost the same contribution as that allocated for the year 1931 (1932 : 330,847 Swiss francs ; 1931 : 333,800 Swiss francs). For the years 1933 to 1936, the contributions would only be slightly decreased. The period of liquidation would, on the other hand, be diminished by one year and would come to an end in 1938 and not in 1939 as originally contemplated.

There are attached to the annual report of the Governing Body the regulations of the Office, its rules of procedure, its financial regulations, its staff regulations, a list of the persons employed and a summary of the replies of the Governments to the recommendations made by the Inter-Governmental Advisory Commission for Refugees in 1930.

2. GENERAL SECRETARIAT OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS.

The political and legal protection of refugees remains entrusted to the regular bodies of the League and the Secretary-General of the League of Nations has asked the Governments concerned to inform him whether they think it necessary for these bodies to remain associated with the carrying into effect of the Arrangement and Agreement of 1928. The Governments of Greece, Czechoslovakia, Germany, Estonia and Switzerland have replied that they can carry out the provisions in question through their own national authorities. The Governments of Bulgaria, Belgium, Austria, France and Yugoslavia have, on the contrary, intimated that they think it necessary that the representatives of the Office in their respective countries should act under the auspices of the League of Nations, discharging the duties contemplated in the Arrangement and Agreement of 1928. The Secretary-General has regulated the position of these representatives accordingly.

3. INTER-GOVERNMENTAL ADVISORY COMMISSION FOR REFUGEES.

The Inter-Governmental Advisory Commission for Refugees met at Geneva on August 20th and 21st, 1931. It examined the report (document A.27.1931) which the Governing Body of the Nansen International Office is presenting to the Assembly. It recommends the adoption of the conclusions of the report.

It intimates, moreover, that it proposes to consider at later sessions whether it is not desirable to prepare a formal international convention ensuring the refugees full legal security and stability in respect of settlement and occupation.

12.

INTELLECTUAL CO-OPERATION.

The International Committee on Intellectual Co-operation met at Geneva for its thirteenth session from July 20th to July 25th, 1931. The meeting of the Plenary Committee was preceded by meetings of a delegation of the Sub-Committee of Experts for the Instruction of Youth in the Aims of the League of Nations (July 3rd and 4th, 1931); the Permanent Committee for Arts and Letters (July 6th to 9th, 1931); the Committee of Scientific Advisors (July 17th and 18th, 1931); the Executive Committee (July 13th to 15th, 1931); the Committee of Directors (July 16th and 17th, 1931) and the Governing Body of the International Institute of Intellectual Co-operation (July 21st, 1931).

The Plenary Committee reviewed the work of these bodies and of the various Committees of Experts convened during the current year, the work of the International Educational Cinematographic Institute and the work done since its reorganisation by the International Institute of Intellectual Co-operation.

I. INSTRUCTION OF YOUTH IN THE AIMS OF THE LEAGUE.

The delegation of the Sub-Committee of Experts for the Instruction of Youth in the Aims of the League met at Geneva under the chairmanship of Professor Gilbert Murray on July 3rd and July 4th, 1931.

1. SCIENTIFIC STUDY OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS.

Representatives of the Conference of Institutions for the Scientific Study of International Relations have discussed with representatives of the Sub-Committee of Experts to what extent the institutions concerned might contribute to the instruction of youth in the aims of the League of Nations. The delegation noted that the institutions in question had not all the same objects in view. Some of them gave instruction while others constituted groups of scholars or experts and were of the nature of academies. The delegation decided to make an enquiry with a view to defining the part which might be played by the institutions.

2. REVISION OF SCHOOL TEXT-BOOKS.

The delegation noted that an important memorandum had been prepared by the Institute of Intellectual Co-operation in Paris to serve as a basis for a further enquiry into the conditions under which the revision of school text books might be effected with a view to the elimination of passages which might prejudice the mutual understanding of nations and the spirit of international friendship. The Institute had emphasised the difficulties inherent in the revision of the text-books generally in use. It drew attention to the excellent results achieved in cases where governments and administrations had acted of their own volition but noted that the number of such cases was relatively small.

The delegation decided to forward the memorandum of the Institute to a special committee composed of historians, teachers, representatives of the institutions for the scientific study of international relations and members of the Sub-Committee of Experts. This committee would consider the best methods whereby school text-books might be revised in the desired sense.

3. LIBRARIES AND PUBLICATIONS.

The delegation considered the part which might be played by libraries and publications in the instruction of youth in the aims of the League. It noted the conclusions of the directors of several large libraries who had met at the Institute from June 4th to June 6th, 1931, who had expressed the hope that a larger place would be found in libraries for the publications of the League.

The delegation considered the possibility of a wider distribution of League publications or publications concerning the League and of rendering them more immediately accessible in libraries. They also suggested that attractive publications should be issued accompanied with illustrations.

4. USE OF WIRELESS.

The delegation noted a report of the International Institute of Intellectual Co-operation on the use of wireless in the instruction of youth and invited the views of the Director of the

International Broadcasting Union to explain the efforts made by the Union to stimulate public interest in the work of the League. The delegation asked the International Institute to make an enquiry with the assistance of the International Broadcasting Union into the use of wireless to promote a better understanding between peoples and into the educational value of wireless.

5. EDUCATIONAL CINEMATOGRAPH.

The delegation considered the part which might be played by the educational cinematograph in the instruction of youth in the aims of the League. It requested the Secretariat, with the help of the International Educational Cinematographic Institute and other interested bodies, to collect information from the manufacturers and users of educational films in regard to the preparation of scenarios of an international character appropriate to the various nations, the cost of production of such films and the extent of the market. The object of the enquiry is to enable a programme to be framed for the production, financing and distribution of educational films relating to the history, aims and work of the League.

6. PUBLIC COLLECTIONS OF TEACHING MATERIAL ("MUSÉES PÉDAGOGIQUES").

The delegation noted a report of the International Institute on Intellectual Co-operation on public collections of teaching material and their use for the instruction of youth in the aims of the League. It recommended that a closer connection should be established between these collections in the various countries and proposed that a small Committee of Experts should examine in what way they might best be used for the object in view.

7. EDUCATIONAL INFORMATION CENTRE.

The Educational Information Centre of the League is divided into two services, a branch at Geneva in the Secretariat of the League and a branch at Paris attached to the Institute of Intellectual Co-operation. The duty of the Geneva service is to assist the Secretary of the International Committee on International Co-operation in all that relates to the preparation of the work of the Sub-Committee of Experts. The work of the Paris service is to study educational questions bearing on methods of education with a view to any decision which may be taken by the International Committee on Intellectual Co-operation or giving effect to such decisions.

The delegation approved the programme of work of the two services for 1932. The Geneva service will study the methods used in training Schools and Colleges to prepare teachers for instructing their pupils in the aims and activities of the League and to make the young generation realise that international co-operation should be the normal method of conducting world affairs. It will also study the possibility of organising interchanges of teachers engaged in secondary education. The Paris service will study the possibility of securing co-ordination as between the Public collections of teaching material in the various countries with a view to instruction in regard to the League, the revision of school text-books with a view to amending passages prejudicial to the mutual understanding between nations and the spirit of international friendship, the use of wireless in education, study tours and interchanges between young students, the use of libraries to spread knowledge of the League, the activities of the more important international associations and questions relating to bibliography.

The Plenary Committee on Intellectual Co-operation, reviewing the work of the delegation of experts, approved its proposals and conclusions and instructed the Educational Information Centre to take the necessary executive action (see below: Resolutions of the Plenary Committee).

II. PERMANENT COMMITTEE FOR ARTS AND LETTERS.

The Permanent Committee for Arts and Letters constituted by the Assembly of the League in 1930 met for the first time in Geneva from July 6th to July 9th, 1931. The composition of the Committee was noted in the General Report on the Work of the League (document A.6.1931, page 146).

The Committee laid down certain principles which might with advantage be adopted with a view to introducing more order and coherence into the exchange of ideas between nations. More particularly, it recommended a system of correspondence and discussion between recognised intellectual leaders in the various countries upon questions of a general intellectual or a specific and technical character with a view to publication. It further considered that measures should be studied to ensure the representation and influence of intellectual circles in the general social, economic and political life of nations and to encourage meetings intended to spread a knowledge of the aims, methods and results of intellectual co-operation.

1. MUSIC.

The Committee recommended that the International Institute of Intellectual Co-operation should collect information in regard to existing collections of music recorded for the gramophone. It was proposed that this information should be submitted to a small committee of experts who would present proposals as to the best means of using existing collections and of encouraging the registration of new records. The Committee also suggested that the International Institute might be asked, in agreement with the International Broadcasting Union and other interested bodies, to study methods of establishing international wireless programmes with a view to familiarising the public of the various countries with the music of other nations.

2. POETRY.

The Committee suggested that the Institute of Intellectual Co-operation should enquire into the methods of cultivating poetic taste and intelligence in the various educational systems and should inform the ministerial departments concerned of the results of this enquiry. It further recommended that wireless organisations should reserve a place in their programmes for the recitation of poems taken from the national and foreign literatures and to have particular regard to the manner in which these works were delivered.

3. THE THEATRE.

The Committee asked the Institute of Intellectual Co-operation to prepare a report on the part which it might usefully play in organising co-operation in the international field of the theatre.

4. MUSEUMS OFFICE AND A PROPOSED INTERNATIONAL CENTRE FOR INSTITUTES OF ARCHÆOLOGY, HISTORY AND ART.

The Committee noted a report on the work done by the International Museums Office since October last. It considered in this connection a scheme for the creation of a similar international centre for institutes of archæology and institutes dealing with the history of art. The Committee recommended that the Committee on Intellectual Co-operation should entrust to a small Committee of Experts, to be convened by the International Institute, a scheme for the creation of an international centre of this kind.

5. EDUCATIONAL CINEMATOGRAPHY.

The Committee called the attention of the International Educational Cinematographic Institute at Rome to the importance of securing by appropriate means the inclusion of films of an educational character in cinema programmes.

6. BIBLIOGRAPHY OF TRANSLATIONS.

The Committee, considering a suggestion that an international bibliography of translations should be compiled, expressed the view that such a publication would be of great value and asked the Committee on Intellectual Co-operation to take steps with a view to carrying this proposal into effect.

The Committee also suggested that the International Institute should be asked to study the possibility of obtaining more adequate protection for authors whose works were translated.

7. CENTENARY OF GOETHE.

The Committee decided to accept the invitation addressed to it by the City of Frankfurt to hold its next session in May 1932, in that city, on the occasion of the hundredth anniversary of the death of Goethe.

* * *

The recommendations and proposals of the Permanent Committee for Arts and Letters were duly reviewed and approved by the Plenary Committee during its thirteenth session.

The Plenary Committee instructed the Institute to carry these recommendations and proposals into effect ; in certain special cases, with the help of such members of the Permanent Committee as might be willing to give their assistance. It further approved a provisional statute governing the appointment and constitution of the Permanent Committee (see below: Resolutions of the Plenary Committee).

III. COMMITTEE OF SCIENTIFIC ADVISERS.

The Committee of Scientific Advisers to the International Committee on Intellectual Co-operation met at Geneva on July 17th and 18th, 1931, under the chairmanship of Madame Curie-Sklodowska. The Committee was of opinion that the scientific problems with which the Committee on Intellectual Co-operation had been dealing since 1922 — for example, the co-ordination of scientific bibliography — were still fundamentally the same. It recognised, however, that the methods adopted in dealing with these problems should be modified.

There were two aspects of the problem of scientific co-ordination — a technical aspect connected with conditions of scientific work and methods of improving them and a moral aspect related to any steps which might be taken to bring about a mutual intellectual approach and understanding between the nations. It was recognised that good national organisations were in this, as in other fields, calculated to facilitate efforts towards international co-ordination and it was emphasised by the experts that it was desirable for the Committee on Intellectual Co-operation to work in close touch with existing international associations which were grappling with the task of organising scientific work.

* * *

The Plenary Committee reviewed and approved the report and resolutions of the Committee of Scientific Advisers and instructed the Executive Committee of the Institute to take the necessary steps to carry them into effect. It authorised the Executive Committee to summon the Committee of Scientific Advisers at an appropriate moment and noted that certain questions would be referred to various Expert Committees already established (see below : Resolutions of the Plenary Committee).

The Plenary Committee approved the suggestion that the preparation of a repertory of scientific laboratories might immediately be considered by the Institute.

IV. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

The Executive Committee of the International Committee on Intellectual Co-operation met at Geneva from July 13th to July 15th, 1931, under the chairmanship of Professor Gilbert Murray.

The Executive Committee was appointed by the Assembly in 1930 to follow and direct the development of intellectual co-operation in the interval between the sessions of the Plenary Committee on Intellectual Co-operation (see general report on the work of the League, document A.6.1931, page 147). During its July session, it reviewed the work of the International Institute of Intellectual Co-operation and of the various Committees of Experts which had met since its last session in April. The reports and resolutions of these various bodies were examined with a view to their ultimate submission to the Plenary Committee.

V. DIRECTORS' COMMITTEE OF THE INSTITUTE.

The Directors' Committee of the International Institute of Intellectual Co-operation met at Geneva on July 15th and 16th, 1931, under the chairmanship of M. Paul Painlevé. It noted the financial situation of the Institute, examined the accounts for the past financial period and established the budget for the period forthcoming. It also dealt with various administrative questions.

VI. GOVERNING BODY OF THE INSTITUTE.

The Governing Body of the International Institute of Intellectual Co-operation met on July 20th and 21st, 1931, under the chairmanship of M. Paul Painlevé. It adopted regulations to be applied to the International Institute of Intellectual Co-operation on the basis of texts framed by the Directors' Committee.

The principles governing the reorganisation of the Institute were laid down by the International Committee on Intellectual Co-operation in July 1930 and were brought into force by the Executive Committee in November last. Since that date, these principles have for administrative purposes been followed by the Directors' Committee.

The Governing Body adopted the accounts of the Institute and approved the budget for the forthcoming financial period.

VII. WORK OF THE INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE OF INTELLECTUAL CO-OPERATION.

The Plenary Committee on Intellectual Co-operation, during its thirteenth session, reviewed the work of the International Institute and thanked the Director for the results achieved since

its reorganisation. The principles laid down by the Plenary Committee for the progress and development of the work of intellectual co-operation were described in the general report on the work of the League (document A.6.1931, page 146).

VIII. INTERNATIONAL EDUCATIONAL CINEMATOGRAPHIC INSTITUTE.

The Plenary Committee noted a report on the work of the International Educational Cinematographic Institute, Rome, and expressed its appreciation of the results achieved during the past year. It noted in particular the draft Convention prepared by the Institute for the abolition or limitation of Customs duties on educational films (see general report, document A.6.1931, page 151). The draft Convention has been communicated to the Governments and thirty-eight replies, most of them in favour of the proposal, have already been received.

The Plenary Committee emphasised the importance of the Review which the Institute is publishing monthly in five languages. There are 2,500 subscribers to this publication. The Committee was informed that the Italian Government has granted the Institute a further subsidy of 200,000 lire in order that it may be able to establish its budget without drawing from the reserve fund (see general report, document A.6.1931, page 152).

IX. WORK OF THE COMMITTEE ON INTELLECTUAL CO-OPERATION.

The Committee on Intellectual Co-operation met from July 20th to July 25th, 1931, under the chairmanship of Professor Gilbert Murray.

The Committee in its report to the Council and the Assembly reviews the results of the reorganisation of the work of intellectual co-operation undertaken in 1930. It is emphasised that, from 1922 to 1924, the methods adopted by the Committee were necessarily empirical and largely directed to the rescue of intellectual life which was severely threatened in several countries of Eastern and Central Europe. From 1924, it had been working more directly on behalf of science, letters and the arts and for those engaged in these professions; it had endeavoured to place at their disposal the instruments and facilities necessary for their work and to defend their rights. The Committee understood that henceforth its principal duty was to place the resources of intellectual co-operation more immediately at the service of the League, and the Committee was at present guided by that principle in determining its methods of work.

The Committee describes the methods adopted during the current year and reviews the work of the Institute in the various fields of intellectual co-operation.

SUMMARY OF RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE PLENARY COMMITTEE.

Relation of the Organisation of Intellectual Co-operation to the Council and Assembly of the League.

The Committee, in view of the increasing number and importance of the questions submitted to the Council and the Assembly of the League relating to intellectual co-operation recommended: (a) That the Assembly should expressly recognise the existence of the Organisation of Intellectual Co-operation as at present constituted and of the National Committees of Intellectual Co-operation; (b) That representatives of the Committee on Intellectual Co-operation should, whenever possible, be invited to attend meetings of the Council of the League and of Committees of the Assembly at which questions relating to intellectual co-operation are examined; (c) That the Members of the League in constituting their delegations to the Assembly should take into consideration the importance of ensuring the presence of qualified persons to attend the meetings of the Second Committee of the Assembly during discussions of the work affecting intellectual co-operation.

National Committees.

The International Committee on Intellectual Co-operation noted the increase in the number of National Committees for Intellectual Co-operation and expressed its desire to give to them all the assistance and support which they may require. It approved the publication by the Secretariat of a handbook containing information with regard to the composition of the National Committees and their work. It requested the Council of the League and the Assembly to authorise the convening in 1934 of a Conference of Representatives of National Committees and asked the Secretariat and the Institute to undertake the preparatory work for this Conference. The Committee requested the Council and the Assembly to allocate a special credit for the preparation of the proposed Conference.

Disarmament.

The following resolution was adopted by the Committee on July 25th, 1931 :

“ The International Committee on Intellectual Co-operation,

“ Considering that the military burdens borne by the different nations render increasingly difficult the studies, the training and even the continued existence of an intellectual class, and thus hamper the intellectual progress of mankind ;

“ Considering further that the Committee has undertaken and is carrying out the duty of instructing youth in the principles of the League of Nations, of peace and of international co-operation, and that the whole development of the League of Nations is closely bound up with the progress of disarmament and of the international conventions ensuring peace ;

“ Expresses the ardent hope that the General Conference which is to meet next February will achieve a substantial reduction in the land, sea and air armaments of the world under such conditions as will provide international guarantees for the security of each nation. ”

Universal adoption of Roman Characters.

The Committee noted the first results of an enquiry by the International Institute of Intellectual Co-operation into the possibility of introducing, especially in China and Japan, Roman characters side by side with the national systems of writing. It expressed the view that such a step would be of great value in promoting international understanding and instructed the Institute to continue its work, obtaining all possible information from the National Committees on Intellectual Co-operation.

The Ibero-American Collection.

The Committee approved proposals for the continuation of the publication of the Ibero-American Collection. It appointed M. de Reynold (Switzerland) as its representative on the Publication Committee and took certain decisions with regard to the composition and powers of the Committee. It hoped that the translation of Ibero-American works into languages other than French would be undertaken as soon as circumstances permitted.

International Museums Office.

The Committee heard a report from the Chairman of the Committee of Directors of the International Museums Office and the International Institute of Intellectual Co-operation. It approved the report and a programme for the future work of the Office as submitted. It endorsed a proposal that the Museums Office should summon a Committee of Experts to draw up a handbook for the preservation of works of art for the use of the staffs of museums and collectors and recognised the utility of periodical meetings of experts for the study of specific questions arising in connection with the work of preservation.

The Committee further approved the programme of a Conference to be held in October 1931 for the study of problems relating to the protection and preservation of artistic and historical monuments. This meeting will be held in Athens at the invitation of the Greek Government.

The Committee hoped that the Office would, as soon as possible, hold a meeting of the representatives of the casting workshops attached to the principal museums with a view to an agreement which might facilitate the wider distribution of casts and protection for their marks of origin.

International Educational Cinematographic Institute.

The Committee heard the report of the Institute and congratulated the responsible officials on the results achieved.

Committee of Expert Archivists.

The Committee on Intellectual Co-operation approved a proposal that the Committee of Expert Archivists should meet periodically. It suggested that the Committee should be convened during the coming year by the Executive Committee and that the Executive Committee should decide on its composition.

Committee of Library Experts.

The Committee on Intellectual Co-operation approved the report of the Committee of Library Experts. It accepted in particular a proposal to the effect that a list of publications of the League of Nations should be inserted in the second edition of the “ Guide to National Information and International Loan and Exchange Services ” and urged the desirability of the Assembly realising in its budget discussions, the need for encouraging the sale and circulation of such publications.

The Committee associated itself with the efforts of libraries to secure the adoption of standard sizes for all volumes or periodicals and urged that the adoption of such sizes should be compulsory in the case of new periodicals or periodicals proposing to change their size.

University Questions.

The Committee noted a report on meetings of the Directors of University Offices and representatives of the International Student Organisations. It also examined and approved a programme of work submitted by the Institute.

The Committee called the attention of Governments to the desirability of promoting the establishment of permanent offices of information and exchange emphasising the advantage resulting from the assistance given by such offices to foreign students desiring to study abroad.

Scientific Study of International Relations.

The Committee expressed its satisfaction at the development of collaboration between the institutions for the scientific study of international relations as shown by the Conference which had been held during the year at Copenhagen and approved the programme of work outlined as a result of the Conference. It welcomed in particular the decision of the Conference to undertake co-operative studies of current political and economic problems with a view to holding scientific conferences on such questions.

It further urged that steps should be taken in the various countries by the institutions concerned to render possible the publication of a proposed lexicon of political terms.

Educational Information Centre.

The Committee approved the decision taken by the Executive Committee in April 1931 for the organisation of the Educational Information Centre as two services working in Geneva and Paris, and adopted the general programme and scheme for the distribution of work between the two branches of the centre.

Popular Arts.

The Committee calls the attention of the Assembly of the League to the Exhibition of Popular Arts to be held at Berne in 1934, and asks the Assembly to urge the Governments of States Members of the League to associate themselves with the Exhibition either by appointing delegates to its Committee or by sending exhibits.

The Committee noted that the records of the International Congress on Popular Arts recently held at Prague will be published in the course of the present year.

Intellectual Rights.

The Committee noted the replies of Governments to the Secretariat of the League on the preliminary Draft International Convention on the rights of scientists, and considered the recommendation made by its scientific advisers that those rights should be recognised. It decided to set up a Committee of Experts to consider, with the help of the Institute, the replies received from the Governments, together with any other documentary information collected by the Institute. The Committee of Experts will work in conjunction with scientific bodies and in due course lay before the Executive Committee such proposals as may be deemed useful.

The Committee noted that, in certain countries, inadequate and precarious protection is accorded to literary and artistic work published abroad, and expressed the view that this circumstance demonstrated the importance to authors of a general understanding based on the Berne and Havana Conventions. It invited the Institute to continue and extend the studies already undertaken on this question in conjunction with the Berne International Bureau and the Rome International Institute for the Unification of Private Law.

Use of the Spare Time of Workers.

The Committee noted with interest the enquiry at present being undertaken by the International Labour Office into the possibility of improving the spiritual and material conditions of life of workers by enabling them to devote their spare time to general education, the popular arts, the educational cinematograph and similar activities.

It emphasised the services which might be rendered by popular libraries and the popular arts in this field.

The Committee decided to accede to the request of the International Labour Office that the Institute of Intellectual Co-operation should assist in the investigation now in progress.

Committee of Scientific Advisers.

The Committee generally approved the resolutions of its Committee of Scientific Advisers. It instructed the Executive Committee and the Institute of Intellectual Co-operation to take the necessary steps for their application. It authorised the Executive Committee to summon the Committee of Scientific Advisers at an appropriate moment and to decide whether it might not be enlarged. It noted certain questions which were to be referred to various expert committees already established, such as the librarians and the experts entrusted with an enquiry into intellectual life.

The Committee expressed the opinion that the preparation of a repertory of scientific laboratories might be immediately considered by the Institute as a valuable supplement to its publications.

Permanent Committee on Arts and Letters.

The Committee approved the report and resolutions of the first session of the Permanent Committee on Arts and Letters and instructed the Institute of Intellectual Co-operation to carry them into effect. It requested the Executive Committee to supervise the execution of the proposed programme by the Institute with the assistance of such members of the Permanent Committee as might be willing to participate.

The Committee noted in particular a resolution of the Permanent Committee on Arts and Letters regarding a proposed international bibliography of translations. It expressed the view that such a publication would be of great value and requested the Institute to summon a small committee of experts which, subject to the approval of the Executive Committee, would lay down rules for the publication of a periodical bulletin.

The Committee approved a provisional statute for the appointment and constitution of the Permanent Committee. Its members will be nominated by the chairman of the Plenary Committee for a term of three years. The term may be indefinitely prolonged but at the end of each period of three years three of its members may not benefit from this provision.

Collaboration with the Government of China.

The proposals put forward by the Chinese Government on March 6th and April 25th, 1931, with a view to rendering more numerous and frequent the intellectual relations of China with the League of Nations, were summarised in the general report on the work of the League (document A.6.1931, page 147).

The Institute of Intellectual Co-operation and the International Educational Cinematographic Institute have sent to the Ministry of Education in China reports on their activities and upon the organisation of intellectual co-operation. Steps have been taken by the Secretary-General of the League, the Chairman of the Committee on Intellectual Co-operation and the Director of the Institute to organise a mission to China on lines approved by the Council of the League of Nations during its session in May 1931. The necessary appointments and administrative arrangements were made prior to the meeting of the Plenary Committee in July 1931. The members of the mission are M. Carl Becker of the University of Berlin, M. Falski of the Polish Ministry of Education, M. Langevin of the Collège de France and M. Tawney of the University of London.

Careful consideration has been given to the request of the Chinese Government that intellectual relations between China and other countries of the League might be promoted by means of an exchange of professors between Chinese and other universities. Three European Professors have already been appointed for the purpose.

The Plenary Committee, reviewing these arrangements, adopted on July 5th, 1931, the following resolution :

“ The International Committee on Intellectual Co-operation,

“ Having noted with the greatest satisfaction the two requests from the Chinese Government for the assistance of the Intellectual Co-operation Organisation in the work of reorganising public education in China and also in the development of intellectual relations between China and the other States Members of the League of Nations ;

“ Having heard the report and the explanations of its Chairman on the steps already taken or in contemplation with a view to carrying out the Chinese Government's requests :

“ Approves the measures taken regarding the despatch of an educational mission to China and the composition of that Mission ;

“ Also approves its Chairman's proposal that an expert on educational cinematography should be attached to the mission and recommends the Assembly to take the appropriate financial measures for that purpose. This expert will be appointed by agreement between the Chairman of the International Committee on Intellectual Co-operation and the Chairman of the Governing Body of the International Educational Cinematographic Institute ;

“ Approves its Chairman's proposals to allow the Director of the Institute of Intellectual Co-operation to proceed to China in order to accompany the mission during part of its stay there ;

“ Approves the proposals taken or in contemplation to obtain for the Central University of Nankin the three professors requested by the Chinese Ministry of Education.

“ The Committee, having heard the statements of M. Lin Yutang, is glad to note the importance attached by the Chinese Government to continuous collaboration with the Intellectual Co-operation Organisation and its satisfaction with the measures taken at this first stage.

“ The Committee affirms its intention of according to the Chinese Government the fullest and most extensive collaboration based primarily on the recommendations of the Chinese Government itself ;

“ Entrusts the Executive Committee with the task of following with particular attention in the interval between the two sessions of the Committee the questions relating to the collaboration requested by the Chinese Government ;

“ Urges the Executive Committee to take all desirable steps to enable the maximum results to be obtained from the action undertaken.”

13.

CONSTRUCTION OF AN ASSEMBLY HALL, OF A NEW BUILDING
FOR THE SECRETARIAT, AND OF A LIBRARY.

The Assembly approved in 1930 the report of a special committee of five members appointed to consider the construction of the new League buildings, and fixed at 23,633,150 francs the credit for the building of the Assembly Hall and the offices of the Secretariat.

As indicated in the Supplementary Report on the Work of the League, presented to the Assembly last year, tenders were invited for the excavation, foundations, masonry, concrete and stonework before the Assembly met in 1930. Offers were received towards the end of October and the contract was allotted in February 1931 to a group of five firms (three Swiss, one French and one Italian) which formed an association for the purpose. Work was begun on March 1st, 1931. Some difficulties and delay occurred in preparing the foundations owing to the nature of the sub-soil, which proved to be less suitable than the preliminary borings had led the architects to expect. Special precautions have had to be taken, particularly in certain parts of the foundations.

Tenders have also been invited for the heating and ventilation systems. These tenders should be received on August 20th and it should be possible for the contract to be allotted during the autumn. It is expected that tenders for the sanitary installation will also be invited during September or October.

In accordance with the suggestion made in the Fourth Committee of the Assembly last year, the plans for the new Assembly Hall, including the Committee rooms, were submitted to the Special Committee appointed by the 1929 Assembly to enquire into the material arrangements for the Assembly. This Committee considered that, though the new hall must inevitably be large, every effort should be made to restrict its size as far as possible, with a view to ensuring comfortable debating conditions. The Committee recognised that it would be unwise further to reduce the number of seats allowed for delegates, secretaries and the Press, but thought that some reduction might be made in the public galleries. The Committee's suggestions were communicated to the architects and are being carried into effect.

Geneva, September 3rd, 1931.

LEAGUE OF NATIONS

**Annex to the Supplementary Report¹
on the Work of the Council and the Secretariat**
to the Twelfth Ordinary Session of the Assembly of the League of Nations.

RATIFICATION OF AGREEMENTS AND CONVENTIONS
CONCLUDED UNDER THE
AUSPICES OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS

TWELFTH LIST

Note by the Secretary-General.

In accordance with the instructions contained in the report adopted by the Council of the League of Nations during its forty-third session on December 6th, 1926, the Secretary-General has the honour to submit herewith to the Members of the Council a list, in chronological order, of the international agreements which have been concluded under the auspices of the League. The list shows the States which have become parties to these agreements by ratification or accession, the States which have signed but have not yet ratified them, and, finally, the States which have neither signed nor acceded, although they took part in the conferences at which the agreements were drawn up or have been invited to become parties thereto.

According to the decision taken by the Council at its forty-ninth session in March 1928, the present list contains in addition the reservations affixed or declarations formulated either in signing or in ratifying or in acceding to the agreements which have been concluded under the auspices of the League of Nations.

¹ The Annex to the Supplementary Report to the Fourth Assembly of the League on the Work of the Council and the Secretariat for 1923 (A.10(a).1923. Annex) contains, moreover, complete details concerning:

(a) **PROTECTION OF RACIAL, RELIGIOUS AND LINGUISTIC MINORITIES:**

1. Treaty of Peace between the Allied Powers and Austria, of September 10th, 1919.
2. Treaty of Peace between the Allied Powers and Bulgaria, of November 27th, 1919.
3. Treaty of Peace between the Allied Powers and Hungary, of June 4th, 1920 (*League of Nations Treaty Series*, Vol. VI, p. 187).
4. Treaty of Peace between the Allied Powers and Turkey, of July 24th, 1923 (*League of Nations Treaty Series*, Vol. XXVIII, p. 11).
5. Treaty between the Principal Allied and Associated Powers and Poland, of June 28th, 1919.
6. Treaty between the Principal Allied and Associated Powers and Czechoslovakia, of September 10th, 1919.
7. Treaty between the Principal Allied and Associated Powers and the Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes, of September 10th, 1919.
8. Treaty between the Principal Allied and Associated Powers and Roumania, of December 9th, 1919 (*League of Nations Treaty Series*, Vol. V, p. 335).
9. Germano-Polish Convention relating to Upper Silesia, of May 15th, 1922.
10. Declaration by Albania, of October 2nd, 1921 (*League of Nations Treaty Series*, Vol. IX, p. 173).
11. Declaration by Finland as to the Aaland Islands, of June 27th, 1921.
12. Declaration by Latvia, of July 7th, 1923.
13. Convention between Bulgaria and Greece respecting Reciprocal Emigration, Neuilly-sur-Seine, November 27th, 1919 (*League of Nations Treaty Series*, Vol. I, p. 67).
14. Convention concerning the Exchange of Greek and Turkish Populations, of January 30th, 1923 (*League of Nations Treaty Series*, Vol. XXXII, p. 75).

(b) **TRAFFIC IN LIQUOR:** Convention relating to the Liquor Traffic in Africa, St. Germain-en-Laye, September 10th, 1919 (*League of Nations Treaty Series*, Vol. VIII, p. 11).

(c) **AERIAL NAVIGATION:** Convention relating to the Regulation of Aerial Navigation, Paris, October 13th, 1919 (*League of Nations Treaty Series*, Vol. XI, p. 173).

The International Labour Conventions and other instruments which concern International Labour Organisation have been grouped at the end of this document.

N.B.— States which have signed, ratified or acceded to particular agreements or conventions since the date of the last list submitted to the Council and Assembly (document C.9(1).1931.V. of May 12th, 1931) are indicated in italics.

The letter "a" placed immediately after a date signifies an accession.

(d) HEALTH:

1. Sanitary Convention between Poland and Roumania, Warsaw, December 20th, 1922 (*League of Nations Treaty Series*, Vol. XVIII, p. 103).
 2. Sanitary Convention between Poland and the Federal Soviet Republic of Russia and Soviet Republics of Ukraine and of White Russia, Warsaw, February 17th, 1923.
 3. Sanitary Convention between Germany and Poland, Dresden, December 18th, 1922 (*League of Nations Treaty Series*, Vol. XXXIV, p. 301).
 4. Sanitary Convention between Poland and Czechoslovakia, Warsaw, 1922.
 5. Sanitary Convention between Poland and Latvia, Warsaw, July 7th, 1922 (*League of Nations Treaty Series*, Vol. XXXVII, p. 317).
 6. Sanitary Convention between Estonia and the Federal Soviet Republic of Russia and Soviet Republics of Ukraine and of White Russia, Tartu, June 25th, 1922.
 7. Sanitary Convention between Latvia and the Federal Soviet Republic of Russia and Soviet Republics of Ukraine and of White Russia, Tartu, June 24th, 1922 (*League of Nations Treaty Series*, Vol. XXXVIII, p. 9).
 8. Sanitary Convention between Bulgaria and the Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes, April 1923.
- (e) AALAND ISLANDS: Convention relating to the Non-Fortification and Neutralisation of the Aaland Islands Geneva, October 20th, 1921 (*League of Nations Treaty Series*, Vol. IX, p. 211).
- (f) UPPER SILESIA: Germano-Polish Convention relating to Upper Silesia, Geneva, May 15th, 1922.
- (g) FINANCIAL RESTORATION OF AUSTRIA:
1. Protocol No. I (Declaration), Geneva, October 4th, 1922.
 2. Protocol No. II and Annexes and Explanatory Note, Geneva, October 4th, 1922.
 3. Protocol No. III (Declaration), Geneva, October 4th, 1922.
- (*League of Nations Treaty Series*, Vol. XII, pp. 385, 391 and 405).
- (h) SAAR: Protocol between the German Government and the Governing Commission of the Territory of the Saar Basin, Berlin, June 3rd, 1921 (*League of Nations Treaty Series*, Vol. V, p. 189).
- (i) DANZIG:
1. Convention between Poland and the Free City of Danzig, Paris, November, 9th, 1920. (*League of Nations Treaty Series*, Vol. VI, p. 189).
 2. Treaty between Germany and Poland concerning the Regulation of Option Questions, Danzig, November 8th, 1920. (*League of Nations Treaty Series*, Vol. VII, p. 323).
 3. Treaty between Poland and the Free City of Danzig, Warsaw, October 24th, 1921.

The Annex to the Supplementary Report on the Work of the Council and of the Secretariat to the Fifth Assembly of the League of Nations for the year 1924 (A.8(a).1924, Annex) contains, moreover, complete details concerning:

(a) MINORITIES:

1. Declaration concerning the Protection of Minorities in Lithuania, Geneva, May 12th, 1923.
 2. Convention between Poland and the Free City of Danzig, signed at Paris, November 9th, 1920 (*League of Nations Treaty Series*, Vol. VI, p. 189).
- (b) TRAFFIC IN ARMS: Engagement undertaken by Ethiopia on signing the Protocol done at Geneva, September 27th, 1923 (*League of Nations Treaty Series*, Vol. XXV, p. 179).
- (c) REVISION OF BERLIN AND BRUSSELS ACTS RELATING TO AFRICAN TERRITORIES: Engagement undertaken by Ethiopia on signing the Protocol done at Geneva on September 27th, 1923 (*League of Nations Treaty Series*, Vol. XXV, p. 179).

(d) REFUGEES:

1. Arrangement with regard to the Issue of Certificates of Identity to Russian Refugees, Geneva, July 5th, 1922 (*League of Nations Treaty Series*, Vol. XIII, p. 237).
 2. Protocol relating to the Settlement of Refugees in Greece and the Creation for this Purpose of a Refugees Settlement Commission, signed at Geneva, September 29th, 1923 (*League of Nations Treaty Series*, Vol. XX, p. 29).
 3. Declaration relating to the Settlement of Refugees in Greece and the Creation for this Purpose of a Refugees Settlement Commission, signed at Geneva, September 29th, 1923 (*League of Nations Treaty Series*, Vol. XX, p. 41).
- (e) FINANCIAL RECONSTRUCTION OF HUNGARY: Protocols on the Financial Reconstruction of Hungary, March 14th, 1924 (*League of Nations Treaty Series*, Vol. XXV, pp. 423 and 427).

The Annex to the Supplementary Report for the year 1925 (A.7(a).1925, Annex) contains, moreover, complete details concerning:

(a) PROTECTION OF RACIAL, RELIGIOUS AND LINGUISTIC MINORITIES:

1. Proposal relating to the Protection of Greek Minorities in Bulgaria:
2. Proposal relating to the Protection of Bulgarian Minorities in Greece (Geneva, September 29th, 1924) (*League of Nations Treaty Series*, Vol. XXIX, pp. 117 and 123).

The Annex to the Supplementary Report on the work of the Council and the Secretariat for 1929 (A.6(a).1929, Annex) contains, moreover, complete details concerning:

1. Protocol regarding Currency and Banking Reform in Estonia, signed at Geneva, December 10th, 1926 (*League of Nations Treaty Series*, Vol. LXII, p. 277);
2. Protocol regarding the Bulgarian Stabilisation Loan, signed at Geneva, March 10th, 1928 (*League of Nations Treaty Series*, Vol. LXXIV, p. 165);
3. Additional Act to the Protocol of March 10th, 1928. (*League of Nations Treaty Series*, Vol. LXXIV, p. 210).

CONTENTS.

	Page
I. PERMANENT COURT OF INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE:	
Protocol of Signature. Geneva, December 16th, 1920	5
Optional Clause. Geneva, December 16th, 1920	6
II. COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSIT:	
Convention. Barcelona, April 20th, 1921	13
Convention. Barcelona, April 20th, 1921	14
Protocol. Barcelona, April 20th, 1921	15
Declaration. Barcelona, April 20th, 1921	16
III. TRAFFIC IN WOMEN AND CHILDREN:	
Convention. Geneva, September 30th, 1921	17
IV. AMENDMENTS TO THE COVENANT OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS:	
Protocols of Amendments to Articles 16 and 26 of the Covenant. Geneva, October 5th, 1921 . .	20
V. OBSCENE PUBLICATIONS:	
Convention. Geneva, September 12th, 1923	24
VI. ARBITRATION CLAUSES IN COMMERCIAL MATTERS:	
Protocol. Geneva, September 24th, 1923	27
VII. CUSTOMS FORMALITIES:	
Convention and Protocol. Geneva, November 3rd, 1923	29
VIII. COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSIT:	
Conventions and Protocols. Geneva, December 9th, 1923	30
IX. AMENDMENTS TO THE COVENANT OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS:	
Protocol of an Amendment to Article 16 (latter part of first paragraph). Geneva, September 27th, 1924	37
X. TRAFFIC IN OPIUM AND OTHER DANGEROUS DRUGS:	
International Opium Convention, January 23rd, 1912	38
Agreement, Protocol and Final Act (First Conference). Geneva, February 11th, 1925 . .	39
Convention and Protocol (Second Conference). Geneva, February 19th, 1925	40
XI. SUPERVISION OF THE INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN ARMS AND AMMUNITION AND IN IMPLEMENTS OF WAR:	
Convention for the Supervision of the International Trade in Arms and Ammunitions and in Implements of War. Geneva, June 17, 1925	43
Declaration regarding the Territory of Ifni. Geneva, June 17, 1925	44
Protocol for the Prohibition of the Use in War of Asphyxiating, Poisonous and Other Gases and of Bacteriological Methods of Warfare. Geneva, June 17, 1925	45
XII. AMENDMENTS TO THE COVENANT OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS:	
Protocol of an Amendment to Article 16 (second paragraph of the original text). Geneva, September 21st, 1925	48
XIII. COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSIT:	
Convention regarding the Measurement of Vessels employed in Inland Navigation. Paris, November 27th, 1925	49
XIV. SLAVERY:	
Convention. Geneva, September 25th, 1926	50
XV. INTERNATIONAL RELIEF UNION:	
Convention and Statute establishing an International Relief Union. Geneva, July 12th, 1927 . .	52
XVI. ARBITRATION CLAUSES IN COMMERCIAL MATTERS:	
Convention on the Execution of Foreign Arbitral Awards. Geneva, September 26th, 1927 . . .	53
XVII. ABOLITION OF IMPORT AND EXPORT PROHIBITIONS AND RESTRICTIONS:	
International Convention. Geneva, November 8th, 1927	55
Protocol to the International Convention. Geneva, November 8th, 1927	58
Supplementary Agreement to the Convention of November 8th, 1927. Geneva, July 11th, 1928 .	59
Protocol to the Supplementary Agreement. Geneva, July 11th, 1928	60
International Agreement relating to the Exportation of Hides and Skins. Geneva, July 11th, 1928	61
Protocol to the International Agreement. Geneva, July 11th, 1928	62
International Agreement relating to the Exportation of Bones. Geneva, July 11th, 1928 . . .	63
Protocol to the International Agreement. Geneva, July 11th, 1928	64
XVIII. PACIFIC SETTLEMENT OF INTERNATIONAL DISPUTES:	
General Act. Geneva, September 26th, 1928	65
XIX. ECONOMIC STATISTICS:	
International Convention. Geneva, December 14th, 1928	74
Protocol to the Convention. Geneva, December 14th, 1928	76
XX. SUPPRESSION OF COUNTERFEITING CURRENCY:	
International Convention, Geneva, April 20th, 1929	77
Protocol to the Convention, Geneva, April 20th, 1929	77
Optional Protocol, Geneva, April 20th, 1929	78
XXI. TRANSIT CARD FOR EMIGRANTS:	
Agreement relating thereto. Geneva, June 14th, 1929	79
XXII. PERMANENT COURT OF INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE:	
Revision of the Statute of the Permanent Court of International Justice: Protocol. Geneva, September 14th, 1929	79
Accession of the United States of America to the Protocol of Signature of the Statute of the Permanent Court of International Justice: Protocol. Geneva, September 14th, 1929	81

	Page
XXIII. REFUGEES.	
Convention between the Hellenic Government and the Refugees Settlement Commission, signed at Geneva, January 24th, 1930	81
XXIV. CONCERTED ECONOMIC ACTION.	
Commercial Convention and Protocol, Geneva, March 24th, 1930	82
Protocol regarding the Programme of Future Negotiations, Geneva, March 24th, 1930	83
XXV. PROGRESSIVE CODIFICATION OF INTERNATIONAL LAW.	
Convention on Certain Questions relating to the Conflict of Nationality Laws. The Hague, April 12th, 1930	84
Protocol relating to Military Obligations in Certain Cases of Double Nationality. The Hague, April 12th, 1930	85
Protocol relating to a Certain Case of Statelessness. The Hague, April 12th, 1930	86
Special Protocol relating to Statelessness. The Hague, April 12th, 1930	87
XXVI. UNIFICATION OF LAWS ON BILLS OF EXCHANGE, PROMISSORY NOTES AND CHEQUES.	
Convention providing a Uniform Law for Bills of Exchange and Promissory Notes, and Protocol. Geneva, June 7th, 1930	88
Convention for the Settlement of Certain Conflicts of Laws in Connection with Bills of Exchange and Promissory Notes, and Protocol. Geneva, June 7th, 1930	89
Convention on the Stamp Laws in Connection with Bills of Exchange and Promissory Notes, and Protocol. Geneva, June 7th, 1930	90
XXVII. FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE.	
Convention on Financial Assistance. Geneva, October 2nd, 1930	91
XXVIII. UNIFICATION OF BUOYAGE AND LIGHTING OF COASTS.	
Agreement concerning Maritime Signals. Lisbon, October 23rd, 1930	92
Agreement concerning Manned Lightships not on their Stations. Lisbon, October 23rd, 1930.	93
XXIX. DEFINITE STATUTE OF THE DANUBE.	
Declaration by the Governments of the Powers which are Parties to the Convention instituting the Definite Statute of the Danube. Geneva, December 5th, 1930	93
XXX. UNIFICATION OF RIVER LAW.	
Convention for the Unification of Certain Rules concerning Collisions in Inland Navigation. Geneva, December 9th, 1930	94
Convention on the Registration of Inland Navigation Vessels, Rights <i>in rem</i> over such Vessels and Other Cognate Questions. Geneva, December 9th, 1930	94
Convention on Administrative Measures for attesting the Right of Inland Navigation Vessels to a Flag. Geneva, December 9th, 1930	95
XXXI. UNIFICATION OF LAWS ON BILLS OF EXCHANGE, PROMISSORY NOTES AND CHEQUES.	
Convention providing a Uniform Law for Cheques, and Protocol. Geneva, March 19th, 1931	95
Convention for the Settlement of Certain Conflicts of Laws in connection with Cheques, and Protocol. Geneva, March 19th, 1931	96
Convention on the Stamp Laws in connection with Cheques, and Protocol. Geneva, March 19th, 1931	97
XXXII. ROAD TRAFFIC.	
Convention concerning the Unification of Road Signals. Geneva, March 30th, 1931	98
Convention on the Taxation of Foreign Motor Vehicles, with Protocol-Annex. Geneva, March 30th, 1931	99
Agreement between Customs Authorities in order to facilitate the Procedure in the Case of Undischarged or Lost Triptychs. Geneva, March 28th, 1931	100
XXXIII. INTERNATIONAL AGRICULTURAL MORTGAGE CREDIT COMPANY.	
Convention for the Creation of an International Agricultural Mortgage Credit Company. Geneva, May 21st, 1931	101
XXXIV. TRAFFIC IN OPIUM AND OTHER DANGEROUS DRUGS.	
Convention for limiting the Manufacture and regulating the Distribution of Narcotic Drugs. Geneva, July 13th, 1931	102
Protocol of Signature. Geneva, July 13th, 1931.	104
XXXV. INTERNATIONAL LABOUR CONVENTIONS.	
(a) Conventions adopted by the International Labour Conference at its First Session (Washington, October 29th-November 29th, 1919)	104
(b) Conventions adopted by the International Labour Conference at its Second Session (Genoa, June 15th-July 10th, 1920)	107
(c) Conventions adopted by the International Labour Conference at its Third Session (Geneva, October 25th-November 19th, 1921)	108
(d) Conventions adopted by the International Labour Conference at its Seventh Session (Geneva, May 19th-June 10th, 1925)	111
(e) Conventions adopted by the International Labour Conference at its Eighth Session (Geneva, May 26th-June 5th, 1926)	112
(f) Conventions adopted by the International Labour Conference at its Ninth Session (Geneva, June 7th-24th, 1926)	112
(g) Conventions adopted by the International Labour Conference at its Tenth Session (Geneva, May 25th-June 16th, 1927)	113
(h) Convention adopted by the International Labour Conference at its Eleventh Session (Geneva, May 30th-June 16th, 1928)	113
(i) Conventions adopted by the International Labour Conference at its Twelfth Session (Geneva, May 30th-June 21st, 1929)	114
(j) Convention adopted by the International Labour Conference at its Fourteenth Session (Geneva, June 10th-28th, 1930)	114
(k) Convention adopted by the International Labour Conference at its Fifteenth Session. (Geneva, May 28th-June 18th, 1931)	114
XXXVI. AMENDMENTS TO THE LABOUR PART OF THE TREATIES OF PEACE.	
Amendment to Article 393 of the Treaty of Versailles and to the Corresponding Articles of the Other Treaties of Peace, adopted by the International Labour Conference at its Fourth Session, Geneva, November 2nd, 1922	115
Protocol relative to this Amendment opened for Signature at Geneva on June 14th, 1923	115

I. PERMANENT COURT OF INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE.

I. PROTOCOL OF SIGNATURE OF THE PERMANENT COURT OF INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE.¹ (Geneva, December 16th, 1920.)

In Force.

<i>Ratifications.</i>	<i>Signatures not yet perfected by Ratification.</i>	<i>Other Members or States which may sign the Protocol</i>
ABYSSINIA (July 16th, 1926)	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA	ARGENTINE REPUBLIC
UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA (August 4th, 1921)	BOLIVIA	ECUADOR
ALBANIA (July 13th, 1921)	COLOMBIA	HEJAZ
AUSTRALIA (August 4th, 1921)	COSTA RICA	HONDURAS
AUSTRIA (July 23rd, 1921)	DOMINICAN REPUBLIC	
BELGIUM (August 29th, 1921)	GUATEMALA	
BRAZIL (November 1st, 1921)	LIBERIA	
BRITISH EMPIRE (August 4th, 1921)	NICARAGUA	
BULGARIA (August 12th, 1921)	PARAGUAY	
CANADA (August 4th, 1921)	PERU	
CHILE (July 20th, 1928)		
CHINA (May 13th, 1922)		
CUBA (January 12th, 1922)		
CZECHOSLOVAKIA (September 2nd, 1921)		
DENMARK (June 13th, 1921)		
ESTONIA (May 2nd, 1923)		
FINLAND (April 6th, 1922)		
FRANCE (August 7th, 1921)		
GERMANY (March 11th, 1927)		
GREECE (October 3rd, 1921)		
HAITI (September 7th, 1921)		
HUNGARY (November 20th, ' 1925)		
INDIA (August 4th, 1921)		
IRISH FREE STATE		
ITALY (June 20th, 1921)		
JAPAN (November 16th, 1921)		
LATVIA (February 12th, 1924)		
LITHUANIA (May 16th, 1922)		
LUXEMBURG (September 15th, 1930)		
NETHERLANDS (August 6th, 1921)		
NEW ZEALAND (August 4th, 1921)		
NORWAY (August 20th, 1921)		
PANAMA (June 14th, 1929)		
PERSIA (April 25th, 1931)		
POLAND (August 26th, 1921)		
PORTUGAL (October 8th, 1921)		
ROUMANIA (August 8th, 1921)		
SALVADOR (August 29th, 1930)		
SIAM (February 27th, 1922)		
SPAIN (August 30th, 1921)		
SWEDEN (February 21st, 1921)		
SWITZERLAND (July 25th, 1921)		
URUGUAY (September 27th, 1921)		
VENEZUELA (December 2nd, 1921)		
YUGOSLAVIA (August 12th, 1921)		

¹ See *Treaty Series of the League of Nations*, Vol. VI, p. 379; Vol. XI, p. 404; Vol. XV, p. 304; Vol. XXIV, p. 152; Vol. XXVII, p. 416; Vol. XXXIX, p. 165; Vol. XLV, p. 96; Vol. L, p. 159; Vol. LIV, p. 387; Vol. LXIX, p. 70; Vol. LXXII, p. 452; Vol. LXXVIII, p. 435; Vol. LXXXVIII, p. 272; Vol. XCII, p. 362; Vol. XCVI, p. 180; Vol. C, p. 153, and Vol. CIV, p. 492.

The Annex to the Supplementary Report on the work of the Council and the Secretariat for 1929 (A.6(a).1929, Annex) contains, moreover, complete details concerning the Final Act of the Conference of States signatories of the Protocol of Signature of the Statute of the Permanent Court of International Justice, Geneva, September 23rd, 1926

2. OPTIONAL CLAUSE RECOGNISING THE COURT'S JURISDICTION, AS DESCRIBED IN ARTICLE 36 OF THE STATUTE.

(Geneva, December 16th, 1920.)

In Force.

Ratifications.

UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA

(April 7th, 1930)

Reciprocity, 10 years, and thereafter until such time as notice may be given to terminate the acceptance, over all disputes arising after the ratification of the present declaration with regard to situations or facts subsequent to the said ratification,

Other than disputes in regard to which the parties to the dispute have agreed or shall agree to have recourse to some other method of peaceful settlement, and

Disputes with the Government of any other Member of the League which is a Member of the British Commonwealth of Nations, all of which disputes shall be settled in such manner as the parties have agreed or shall agree, and

Disputes with regard to questions which by international law fall exclusively within the jurisdiction of the Union of South Africa,

And subject to the condition that His Majesty's Government in the Union of South Africa reserve the right to require that proceedings in the Court shall be suspended in respect of any dispute which has been submitted to and is under consideration by the Council of the League of Nations, provided that notice to suspend is given after the dispute has been submitted to the Council and is given within ten days of the notification of the initiation of the proceedings in the Court, and provided also that such suspension shall be limited to a period of twelve months or such longer period as may be agreed by the parties to the dispute or determined by a decision of all the Members of the Council other than the parties to the dispute.

ABYSSINIA (July 16th, 1926)

Reciprocity, 5 years, excepting disputes in respect to which the parties have agreed to have recourse to another method of peaceful settlement.

ALBANIA (September 17th, 1930)

Reciprocity, 5 years from the date of the deposit of the instrument of ratification, in any of the disputes enumerated in Article 36 of the Statute arising after the ratification of the present declaration with regard to situations or facts subsequent to this ratification, other than:

- (a) Disputes relating to the territorial status of Albania;
- (b) Disputes with regard to questions which, by international law, fall exclusively within the jurisdiction of the Kingdom of Albania;
- (c) Disputes relating directly or indirectly to the application of treaties or conventions accepted by the Kingdom of

Signatures not yet perfected by Ratification.

COSTA RICA

Reciprocity.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Reciprocity, 10 years from the date of the deposit of the instrument of ratification, in any dispute arising after the ratification of the present declaration with regard to situations or facts subsequent to this ratification, except in cases where the parties have agreed or shall agree to have recourse to another method of peaceful settlement, and subject to the right, for either of the parties to the dispute, to submit the dispute, before any recourse to the Court, to the Council of the League of Nations.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Reciprocity.

GUATEMALA

Reciprocity.

ITALY

Reciprocity, 5 years, subject to any other method of settlement provided by a special convention, and in any case where a solution through the diplomatic channel or, further, by the action of the Council of the League of Nations could not be reached, on the following classes of legal disputes arising after the ratification of the present declaration, and concerning:

- (a) The interpretation of a treaty,
- (b) Any question of international law,
- (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.

LIBERIA

Reciprocity.

NICARAGUA

Unconditional.

PERU

Reciprocity, 10 years from the date of deposit of the instrument of ratification, in any dispute arising with regard to situations and facts subsequent to that ratification, except in cases where the parties have agreed either to have recourse to another method of settlement by arbitration, or to submit the dispute previously to the Council of the League of Nations.

PERSIA

Reciprocity in any disputes arising after the ratification of the present declaration with regard to situations or facts relating directly or indirectly to the application of treaties or conventions accepted by Persia and subsequent to the ratification of this declaration, with the exception of:

- (a) Disputes relating to the territorial status of Persia, in-

Other Members or States which may sign the Clause.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC

BOLIVIA

CHILE

CHINA

COLOMBIA

CUBA

ECUADOR

HEJAZ

HONDURAS

JAPAN

PARAGUAY

VENEZUELA

2. OPTIONAL CLAUSE RECOGNISING THE COURT'S JURISDICTION, AS DESCRIBED IN ARTICLE 36
OF THE STATUTE (*continued*).
(*Geneva, December 16th, 1920.*)

In Force.

Ratifications.

Albania and providing for another method of peaceful settlement.

AUSTRALIA (August 18th, 1930)

Reciprocity, 10 years, and thereafter until such time as notice may be given to terminate the acceptance, over all disputes arising after the ratification of the present declaration with regard to situations or facts subsequent to the said ratification.

Other than disputes in regard to which the parties to the dispute have agreed or shall agree to have recourse to some other method of peaceful settlement, and

Disputes with the Government of any other Member of the League which is a Member of the British Commonwealth of Nations, all of which disputes shall be settled in such manner as the parties have agreed or shall agree, and

Disputes with regard to questions which by international law fall exclusively within the jurisdiction of the Commonwealth of Australia,

And subject to the condition that His Majesty's Government in the Commonwealth of Australia reserve the right to require that proceedings in the Court shall be suspended in respect of any dispute which has been submitted to and is under consideration by the Council of the League of Nations, provided that notice to suspend is given after the dispute has been submitted to the Council and is given within ten days of the notification of the initiation of the proceedings in the Court, and provided also that such suspension shall be limited to a period of twelve months or such longer period as may be agreed by the parties to the dispute or determined by a decision of all the Members of the Council other than the parties to the dispute.

AUSTRIA (March 13th, 1927)

Reciprocity, 10 years.

BELGIUM (March 10th, 1926)

Reciprocity, 15 years, in any disputes arising after ratification of the present declaration with regard to situations or facts subsequent to this ratification, except cases where the parties have agreed or shall agree to have recourse to another method of pacific settlement.

UNITED KINGDOM

(February 5th, 1930)

Reciprocity, 10 years, and thereafter until such time as notice may be given to terminate the acceptance, over all disputes arising after the ratification of the present declaration with regard to situations or facts subsequent to the said ratification,

Other than disputes in regard to which the parties to the dispute have agreed or shall

Signatures not yet perfected by Ratification.

cluding those concerning the rights of sovereignty of Persia over its islands and ports;

- (b) Disputes in regard to which the Parties have agreed or shall agree to have recourse to some other method of peaceful settlement;
- (c) Disputes with regard to questions which, by international law, fall exclusively within the jurisdiction of Persia.

However, the Imperial Government of Persia reserves the right to require that proceedings in the Court shall be suspended in respect of any dispute which has been submitted to the Council of the League of Nations.

The present declaration is made for a period of six years. At the expiration of that period, it shall continue to bear its full effects until notification is given of its abrogation.

POLAND

Reciprocity, 5 years, in any future disputes arising after the ratification of the present declaration with regard to situations or facts subsequent to such ratification, except in cases where the parties have agreed or shall agree to have recourse to another method of peaceful settlement.

The present declaration does not apply to disputes:

- (1) With regard to matters which, by international law, are solely within the domestic jurisdiction of States; or,
- (2) Arising between Poland and States which refuse to establish or maintain normal diplomatic relations with Poland; or,
- (3) Connected directly or indirectly with the world war or with the Polono-Sovietic war; or,
- (4) Resulting directly or indirectly from the provisions of the Treaty of Peace signed at Riga, on March 18th, 1921; or,
- (5) Relating to provisions of internal law connected with points (3) and (4).

2. OPTIONAL CLAUSE RECOGNISING THE COURT'S JURISDICTION, AS DESCRIBED IN ARTICLE 36
OF THE STATUTE (*continued*).
(*Geneva, December 16th, 1920.*)

In Force.

Ratifications.

agree to have recourse to some other method of peaceful settlement, and

Disputes with the Government of any other Member of the League which is a Member of the British Commonwealth of Nations, all of which disputes shall be settled in such manner as the parties have agreed or shall agree, and

Disputes with regard to questions which by international law fall exclusively within the jurisdiction of the United Kingdom,

And subject to the condition that His Majesty's Government reserve the right to require that proceedings in the Court shall be suspended in respect of any dispute which has been submitted to and is under consideration by the Council of the League of Nations, provided that notice to suspend is given after the dispute has been submitted to the Council and is given within ten days of the notification of the initiation of the proceedings in the Court, and provided also that such suspension shall be limited to a period of twelve months or such longer period as may be agreed by the parties to the dispute or determined by a decision of all the Members of the Council other than the parties to the dispute.

BRAZIL¹ (November 1st, 1921)

Reciprocity, 5 years, and as soon as it has been recognised as such by two at least of the Powers permanently represented on the Council of the League of Nations.

BULGARIA (August 12th, 1921)

Reciprocity.

CANADA (July 28th, 1930)

Reciprocity, 10 years, and thereafter until such time as notice may be given to terminate the acceptance, in all disputes arising after ratification of the present declaration with regard to situations or facts subsequent to said ratification, other than:

Disputes in regard to which parties have agreed or shall agree to have recourse to some other method of peaceful settlement; and

Disputes with the Government of any other Member of the League which is a Member of the British Commonwealth of Nations, all of which disputes shall be settled in such manner as the parties have agreed or shall agree; and

Disputes with regard to questions which by international law fall exclusively within the jurisdiction of the Dominion of Canada.

And subject to the condition that His Majesty's Government in Canada reserve the right to require that proceedings in the Court shall be suspended in respect of any dispute which has been submitted to and is under consideration by the Council of

¹ Brazil is bound by the Optional Clause as from February 5th, 1930.

2. OPTIONAL CLAUSE RECOGNISING THE COURT'S JURISDICTION, AS DESCRIBED IN ARTICLE 36
OF THE STATUTE (*continued*).
(*Geneva, December 16th, 1920.*)

In Force.

Ratifications.

the League of Nations, provided that notice to suspend is given after the dispute has been submitted to the Council and is given within ten days of the notification of the initiation of the proceedings in the Court, and provided also that such suspension shall be limited to a period of twelve months or such longer period as may be agreed by the parties to the dispute or determined by a decision of all the Members of the Council other than the parties to the dispute.

DENMARK (June 13th, 1926)

Reciprocity, 10 years.

ESTONIA (May 2nd, 1928)

Reciprocity, 10 years, in any future dispute in respect of which the parties have not agreed to have recourse to another method of pacific settlement.

*FINLAND (April 6th, 1927)

Reciprocity, 10 years.

FRANCE (April 25th, 1931)

Reciprocity, 5 years, in any disputes arising after the ratification of the present declaration with regard to situations or facts subsequent to this ratification, and which could not have been settled by a procedure of conciliation or by the Council according to the terms of Article 15, paragraph 6, of the Covenant, with reservation as to the case where the parties have agreed or shall agree to have recourse to another method of settlement by arbitration. This declaration replaces the declaration of October 2nd, 1924, which has now lapsed.

GERMANY (February 29th, 1928)

Reciprocity, 5 years, in any disputes arising after the ratification of the present Declaration with regard to situations or facts subsequent to this ratification, except in cases where the parties have agreed or shall agree to have recourse to another method of pacific settlement.

*GREECE (September 12th, 1929)

Reciprocity, 5 years.

For all the classes of disputes mentioned in Article 36, with the exception of:

- (a) Disputes relating to the territorial status of Greece, including disputes relating to its rights of sovereignty over its ports and lines of communication;
- (b) Disputes relating directly or indirectly to the application of treaties or conventions accepted by Greece and providing for another procedure.

*HAITI (September 7th, 1921)

Unconditional.

HUNGARY (August 13th, 1929)

Reciprocity, 5 years.

INDIA (February 5th, 1930)

Reciprocity, 10 years, and thereafter until such time as notice

* Declaration not subject to ratification.

2. OPTIONAL CLAUSE RECOGNISING THE COURT'S JURISDICTION, AS DESCRIBED IN ARTICLE 36
OF THE STATUTE (*continued*).
(*Geneva, December 16th, 1920.*)

In Force.

Ratifications.

may be given to terminate the acceptance, over all disputes arising after the ratification of the present declaration with regard to situations or facts subsequent to the said ratification.

Other than disputes in regard to which the parties to the dispute have agreed or shall agree to have recourse to some other method of peaceful settlement, and

Disputes with the Government of any other Member of the League which is a Member of the British Commonwealth of Nations, all of which disputes shall be settled in such manner as the parties have agreed or shall agree; and

Disputes with regard to questions which by international law fall exclusively within the jurisdiction of India, And subject to the condition that the Government of India reserve the right to require that proceedings in the Court shall be suspended in respect of any dispute which has been submitted to and is under consideration by the Council of the League of Nations, provided that notice to suspend is given after the dispute has been submitted to the Council and is given within ten days of the notification of the initiation of the proceedings in the Court, and provided also that such suspension shall be limited to a period of twelve months or such longer period as may be agreed by the parties to the dispute or determined by decision of all the Members of the Council other than the parties to the dispute.

IRISH FREE STATE (July 11th, 1930)

Reciprocity, 20 years.

LATVIA (February 26th, 1930)

Reciprocity, 5 years, in any disputes arising after the ratification of the present declaration with regard to situations or facts subsequent to this ratification, except in cases where the parties have agreed or shall agree to have recourse to another method of pacific settlement. This declaration replaces the declaration made on September 11th, 1923.

*LITHUANIA (January 14th, 1930)

Five years, unconditional.

*LUXEMBURG (September 15th, 1930)

Reciprocity, in any disputes arising after the signature of the present declaration with regard to situations or facts subsequent to this signature, except in cases where the Parties have agreed or shall agree to have recourse to another procedure or to another method of pacific settlement. The present declaration is made for a period of five years. Unless it is denounced six months before the expiration of that period, it shall be considered as renewed for a further period of five years and similarly thereafter.

* Declaration not subject to ratification.

2. OPTIONAL CLAUSE RECOGNISING THE COURT'S JURISDICTION, AS DESCRIBED IN ARTICLE 36
OF THE STATUTE (*continued*).
(*Geneva, December 16th, 1920.*)

Ratifications.

In Force.

*NETHERLANDS (August 6th,
1926)

Reciprocity, 10 years, and in 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.

NEW ZEALAND (March 29th,
1930)

Reciprocity, 10 years, and thereafter until such time as notice may be given to terminate the acceptance, over all disputes arising after the ratification of the present declaration with regard to situations or facts subsequent to the said ratification,

Other than disputes in regard to which the parties to the dispute have agreed or shall agree to have recourse to some other method of peaceful settlement, and

Disputes with the Government of any other Member of the League which is a Member of the British Commonwealth of Nations, all of which disputes shall be settled in such manner as the parties have agreed or shall agree, and

Disputes with regard to questions which by international law fall exclusively within the jurisdiction of the Dominion of New Zealand,

And subject to the condition that His Majesty's Government in New Zealand reserve the right to require that proceedings in the Court shall be suspended in respect of any dispute which has been submitted to and is under consideration by the Council of the League of Nations, provided that notice to suspend is given after the dispute has been submitted to the Council and is given within ten days of the notification of the initiation of the proceedings in the Court, and provided also that such suspension shall be limited to a period of twelve months or such longer period as may be agreed by the parties to the dispute or determined by a decision of all the Members of the Council other than the parties to the dispute.

*NORWAY (October 3rd, 1926)

Reciprocity, 10 years.

PANAMA (June 14th, 1929)

Reciprocity.

PORTUGAL (October 8th, 1921)

Reciprocity.

Roumania (June 9th, 1931)

Reciprocity, 5 years, in respect of the Governments recognised by Roumania and on condition of reciprocity in regard to legal disputes arising out of situations or facts subsequent to the ratification by the Roumanian Parliament of this accession and with the exception of matters for which a special procedure has been or may be established and subject to the right of Roumania to submit the dispute to the Council

* Declaration not subject to ratification.

2. OPTIONAL CLAUSE RECOGNISING THE COURT'S JURISDICTION, AS DESCRIBED IN ARTICLE 36 OF THE STATUTE (*continued*).
(Geneva, December 16th, 1920.)

Ratifications.

In Force.

of the League of Nations before having recourse to the Court. The following are, however, excepted:

- (a) Any question of substance or of procedure which might directly or indirectly cause the existing territorial integrity of Roumania and her sovereign rights, including her rights over her ports and communications, to be brought into question;
- (b) Disputes relating to questions which, according to international law, fall under the domestic jurisdiction of Roumania.

SALVADOR (August 29th, 1930)

The provisions of this Statute do not apply to any disputes or differences concerning points or questions which cannot be submitted to arbitration in accordance with the political Constitution of this Republic.

The provisions of this Statute also do not apply to disputes which arose before that date or to pecuniary claims made against the Nation, it being further understood that Article 36 binds Salvador only in regard to States which accept the arbitration in that form.

SIAM (May 7th, 1930)

Reciprocity, 10 years, the jurisdiction of the Court as compulsory *ipso facto* and without any special convention, in conformity with Article 36, paragraph 2, of the Statute of the Court, for a period of ten years in all disputes as to which no other means of pacific settlement is agreed upon between the Parties.

***SPAIN (September 21st, 1928)**

Reciprocity, 10 years, in any disputes arising after the signature of the present declaration with regard to situations or facts subsequent to this signature, except in cases where the Parties have agreed or shall agree to have recourse to another method of pacific settlement.

***SWEDEN (August 16th, 1926)**

Reciprocity, 10 years.

SWITZERLAND (July 24th, 1926)

Reciprocity, 10 years.

URUGUAY (Sept. 27th, 1921)

Reciprocity.

YUGOSLAVIA (November 24th, 1930).

Reciprocity, 5 years, in relation to any other Member of the League of Nations or State the Government of which is recognised by the Kingdom of Yugoslavia, and from the date of the deposit of the instrument of ratification, in any disputes arising after the ratification of the present declaration, except disputes with regard to questions which by international law, fall exclusively within the jurisdiction of the Kingdom of Yugoslavia, and except in cases where the Parties have agreed or shall agree to have recourse to some other method of peaceful settlement.

* Declaration not subject to ratification.

II. COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSIT.

I. CONVENTION AND STATUTE ON FREEDOM OF TRANSIT.¹

(Barcelona, April 20th, 1921.)

In Force.

<i>Ratifications or definitive Accessions.</i>	<i>Signatures or Accessions not yet perfected by Ratification.</i>	<i>The Convention is open to Accession by:</i>
ALBANIA (October 8th, 1921)	BOLIVIA	ABYSSINIA
AUSTRIA (November 15th, 1923)	CHINA	UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA
BELGIUM (May 16th, 1927)	GUATEMALA	ARGENTINE REPUBLIC
BRITISH EMPIRE, including NEWFOUNDLAND (August 2nd, 1922)	LITHUANIA	AUSTRALIA
Subject to the declaration inserted in the Procès-verbal of the meeting of April 19th, 1921, as to the British Dominions which have not been represented at the Barcelona Conference.	PANAMA	BRAZIL
Federated Malay States: States of Perak, Selangor, Negri Sembilan and Pahang (August 22nd, 1923 <i>a</i>)	PERU (<i>a</i>)	CANADA
Non-Federated Malay States: States of Brunei, Johore, Kedah, Perlis, Kelantan and Trengganu (August 22nd, 1923 <i>a</i>)	PORTUGAL	COLOMBIA
PALESTINE (British Mandate) (January 28th, 1924 <i>a</i>)	URUGUAY	COSTA RICA
NEW ZEALAND (August 2nd, 1922)		CUBA
INDIA (August 2nd, 1922)		DOMINICAN REPUBLIC
BULGARIA (July 11th, 1922)		HAITI
CHILE (March 19th, 1928)		HONDURAS
CZECHOSLOVAKIA (October 29th, 1923)		IRISH FREE STATE
FREE CITY OF DANZIG (through the intermediary of Poland) (April 3rd, 1925 <i>a</i>)		LIBERIA
DENMARK (November 13th, 1922)		NICARAGUA
ESTONIA (June 6th, 1925)		PARAGUAY
FINLAND (January 29th, 1923)		SALVADOR
FRANCE (September 19th, 1924)		VENEZUELA
SYRIA AND LEBANON (French Mandate) (February 7th, 1929 <i>a</i>)		
GERMANY (April 9th, 1924 <i>a</i>)		
GREECE (February 18th, 1924)		
HUNGARY (May 18th, 1928 <i>a</i>)		
IRAQ (March 1st, 1930 <i>a</i>)		
ITALY (August 5th, 1922)		
JAPAN (February 20th, 1924)		
LATVIA (September 29th, 1923)		
LUXEMBURG (March 19th, 1930)		
NETHERLANDS (including Netherlands Indies, Surinam and Curaçao) (April 17th, 1924)		
NORWAY (September 4th, 1923)		
PERSIA (January 29th, 1931)		
POLAND (October 8th, 1924)		
ROUMANIA (September 5th, 1923)		
SIAM (November 29th, 1922 <i>a</i>)		
SPAIN (December 17th, 1929)		
SWEDEN (January 19th, 1925)		
SWITZERLAND (July 14th, 1924)		
YUGOSLAVIA (May 7th, 1930)		

¹ This Convention came into force on October 31st, 1922, ninety days after it had been ratified by five Powers. See League of Nations *Treaty Series*, Vol. VII, p. 11; Vol. XI, p. 406; Vol. XV, p. 304; Vol. XIX, p. 278; Vol. XXIV, p. 154; Vol. XXXI, p. 244; Vol. XXXV, p. 298; Vol. XXXIX, p. 166; Vol. LIX, p. 344; Vol. LXIX, p. 70; Vol. LXXXIII, p. 373; Vol. XCII, p. 363, Vol. XCVI, p. 181, and Vol. CIV, p. 495.

2. CONVENTION AND STATUTE ON THE REGIME OF NAVIGABLE WATERWAYS OF INTERNATIONAL CONCERN.¹

(Barcelona, April 20th, 1921.)

In Force.

<i>Ratifications or definitive Accessions.</i>	<i>Signatures or Accessions not yet perfected by Ratification.</i>	<i>The Convention is open to Accession by:</i>
ALBANIA (October 8th, 1921)	BELGIUM	ABYSSINIA
AUSTRIA (November 15th, 1923)	BOLIVIA	UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA
BRITISH EMPIRE, including NEWFOUNDLAND (August 2nd, 1922)	CHINA	ARGENTINE REPUBLIC
Subject to the declaration inserted in the Procès-verbal of the meeting of April 19th, 1921, as to the British Dominions which have not been represented at the Barcelona Conference.	COLOMBIA (a)	AUSTRALIA
Federated Malay States; States of Perak, Selangor, Negri Sembilan and Pahang (August 22nd, 1923 a)	ESTONIA	BRAZIL
Non-Federated Malay States: States of Brunei, Johore, Kedah, Perlis, Kelantan and Trengganu (August 22nd, 1923 a)	GUATEMALA	CANADA
PALESTINE (British Mandate) (January 28th, 1924 a)	LITHUANIA	COSTA RICA
NEW ZEALAND (August 2nd, 1922)	PANAMA	CUBA
INDIA (August 2nd, 1922)	PERU (a)	DOMINICAN REPUBLIC
BULGARIA (July 11th, 1922)	POLAND	GERMANY
CHILE (March 19th, 1928)	PORTUGAL	HAITI
CZECHOSLOVAKIA (September 8th, 1924)	SPAIN	HONDURAS
DENMARK (November 13th, 1922)	URUGUAY	IRISH FREE STATE
FINLAND (January 29th, 1923)		JAPAN
FRANCE (December 31st, 1926)		LATVIA
GREECE (January 3rd, 1928)		LIBERIA
HUNGARY (May 18th, 1928 a)		NETHERLANDS
ITALY (August 5th, 1922)		NICARAGUA
LUXEMBURG (March 19th, 1930)		PARAGUAY
NORWAY (September 4th, 1923)		PERSIA
ROUMANIA (May 9th, 1924 a)		SALVADOR
In so far as its provisions are not in conflict with the principles of the new Danube Statute drawn up by the International Commission which was appointed in accordance with Articles 349 of the Treaty of Versailles, 304 of the Treaty of Saint-Germain, 232 of the Treaty of Neuilly and 288 of the Treaty of Trianon.		SWITZERLAND
SIAM (November 29th, 1922 a)		VENEZUELA
SWEDEN (September 15th, 1927)		YUGOSLAVIA

¹ This Convention came into force on October 31st, 1922, ninety days after it had been ratified by five Powers. See League of Nations *Treaty Series*, Vol. VII, p. 35; Vol. XI, p. 406; Vol. XV, p. 306; Vol. XIX, p. 280; Vol. XXIV, p. 156; Vol. L, p. 160; Vol. LIX, p. 344; Vol. LXIX, p. 71 and Vol. XCVI, p. 182.

3. ADDITIONAL PROTOCOL TO THE CONVENTION ON THE REGIME OF NAVIGABLE WATERWAYS OF INTERNATIONAL CONCERN.¹

(Barcelona, April 20th, 1921.)

In Force

Ratifications or definitive Accessions.

Signatures or Accessions not yet perfected by Ratification.

The Protocol is open to Accession by:

ALBANIA (October 8th, 1921)
 AUSTRIA (November 15th, 1923 *a*)
 To the full extent indicated under paragraph (a) of the Protocol.
 BRITISH EMPIRE (August 2nd, 1922)
 In respect of the United Kingdom only accepting paragraph (a).
 NEWFOUNDLAND (August 2nd, 1922) to the full extent indicated under paragraph (a).
 Nyasaland Protectorate and Tanganyika Territory (August 2nd, 1922)
 To the full extent indicated in paragraph (b).
 Bahamas
 Barbados
 British Guiana
 Jamaica (including Turks and Caicos Islands and Cayman Islands)
 Leeward Islands
 Trinidad and Tobago
 Windward Islands (Grenada, St. Lucia and St. Vincent)
 Gibraltar
 Malta
 Cyprus
 Gambia Colony and Protectorate
 Sierra Leone Colony and Protectorate
 Nigeria Colony and Protectorate
 Gold Coast, Ashanti and northern territories of the Gold Coast
 Kenya Colony and Protectorate
 Uganda Protectorate
 Zanzibar
 St. Helena
 Ceylon
 Mauritius
 Seychelles
 Hong-Kong
 Straits Settlements
 Fiji
 Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony
 British Solomon Islands
 Tonga Islands
 Federated Malay States:
 States of Perak, Selangor, Negri Sembilan and Pahang (August 22nd, 1923 *a*) to the full extent indicated under paragraph (a).
 Non-Federated Malay States:
 States of Brunei, Johore,

(August 2, 1922 *a*) to the full extent indicated under paragraph (a)

BELGIUM
 Accepting paragraph (a).
 PERU (*a*)
 PORTUGAL
 SPAIN
 Accepting paragraph (a).

ABYSSINIA
 UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA
 ARGENTINE REPUBLIC
 AUSTRALIA
 BOLIVIA
 BRAZIL
 BULGARIA
 CANADA
 CHINA
 COLOMBIA
 COSTA RICA
 CUBA
 DOMINICAN REPUBLIC
 ESTONIA
 FRANCE
 GERMANY
 GUATEMALA
 HAITI
 HONDURAS
 IRISH FREE STATE
 ITALY
 JAPAN
 LATVIA
 LIBERIA
 LITHUANIA
 NETHERLANDS
 NICARAGUA
 PANAMA
 PARAGUAY
 PERSIA
 POLAND
 SALVADOR
 SWITZERLAND
 URUGUAY
 VENEZUELA
 YUGOSLAVIA

¹ The Convention being in force, this Protocol became operative after it had been ratified by two Powers. See League of Nations *Treaty Series*, Vol. VII, p. 65; Vol. XI, p. 406; Vol. XV, p. 308; Vol. XIX, p. 280; Vol. XXIV, p. 156; Vol. LIX, p. 345; Vol. LXIX, p. 71; Vol. LXXVIII, p. 437, and Vol. XCVI, p. 182.

3. ADDITIONAL PROTOCOL TO THE CONVENTION ON THE REGIME OF NAVIGABLE WATERWAYS OF INTERNATIONAL CONCERN (*continued*).

(Barcelona, April 20th, 1921.)

In Force.

*Ratifications or
definitive Accessions.*

Kedah, Perlis, Kelantan and Trengganu (August 22nd, 1923 *a*) to the full extent indicated under paragraph (*a*).

PALESTINE (British Mandate) (January 28th, 1924 *a*)

To the full extent indicated in paragraph (*a*) of the Protocol.

BERMUDA (December 27th, 1928 *a*)

To the full extent indicated in paragraph (*a*).

NEW ZEALAND (August 2nd, 1922)

Accepting paragraph (*a*).

INDIA (August 2nd, 1922)

In respect of India only accepting paragraph (*a*).

CHILE (March 19th, 1928)

Accepting paragraph (*b*).

CZECHOSLOVAKIA (September 8th, 1924)

Accepting paragraph (*b*).

DENMARK (November 13th, 1922)

Accepting paragraph (*a*).

FINLAND (January 29th, 1923)

Accepting paragraph (*b*).

GREECE (January 3rd, 1928)

HUNGARY (May 18th, 1928 *a*)

To the full extent indicated in paragraph (*a*).

LUXEMBURG (March 19th, 1930 *a*)

NORWAY (September 4th, 1923)

ROUMANIA (May 9th, 1924 *a*)
Is unable to accept any restriction of her liberty in administrative matters on the waterways which are not of international concern, that is to say, on purely national rivers, while at the same time accepting the principles of liberty in accordance with the laws of the country.

SIAM (November 29th, 1922 *a*) to the full extent indicated under paragraph (*a*).

SWEDEN (September 15th, 1927 *a*)

Accepting paragraph (*b*).

4. DECLARATION RECOGNISING THE RIGHT TO A FLAG OF STATES HAVING NO SEA-COAST.¹

(Barcelona, April 20th, 1921.)

In Force.

*Ratifications or
definitive Accessions.*

ALBANIA (October 8th, 1921)

AUSTRIA (July 10th, 1924)

BELGIUM (May 16th, 1927)

BRITISH EMPIRE, including
NEWFOUNDLAND (October 9th, 1922)

CANADA (October 31st, 1922 *a*)

AUSTRALIA (October 31st, 1922 *a*)

*Signatures or Accessions not yet
perfected by Ratification.*

BOLIVIA

CHINA

GUATEMALA

LITHUANIA

PANAMA

PERSIA

PERU

PORTUGAL

URUGUAY

*The Declaration is open
to Accession by:*

ABYSSINIA

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC

BRAZIL

COLOMBIA

COSTA RICA

CUBA

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

GERMANY

HAITI

¹ See League of Nations *Treaty Series*, Vol. VII, p. 73; Vol. XI, p. 410; Vol. XV, p. 308; Vol. XIX, p. 280; Vol. XXIV, p. 158; Vol. XXXI, p. 244; Vol. LIX, p. 345; Vol. LXIX, p. 72; Vol. LXXXVIII, p. 283; Vol. XCII, p. 363; and Vol. XCVI, p. 183.

4. DECLARATION RECOGNISING THE RIGHT TO A FLAG OF STATES HAVING NO SEA-COAST. (*contd.*)
(Barcelona, April 20th, 1921.)

In Force.

*Ratifications or
definitive Accessions.*

*The Declaration is open
to Accession by:*

UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA
(October 31st, 1922 *a*)
NEW ZEALAND (October 9th,
1922)
INDIA (October 9th, 1922)
BULGARIA (July 11th, 1922)
CHILE (March 19th, 1928)
CZECHOSLOVAKIA (September
8th, 1924)
DENMARK (November 13th,
1922)
*ESTONIA
FINLAND (September 22nd,
1922 *a*)
*FRANCE
GREECE (January 3rd, 1928)
HUNGARY (May 18th, 1928 *a*)
*ITALY
JAPAN (February 20th, 1924)
LATVIA (February 12th, 1924)
*NETHERLANDS (including
Netherlands Indies, Surinam
and Curaçao)
NORWAY (September 4th, 1923)
POLAND (December 20th, 1924)
ROUMANIA (February 22nd,
1923 *a*)
SIAM (November 29th, 1922)
SPAIN (July 1st, 1929)
SWEDEN (January 19th, 1925)
*SWITZERLAND
YUGOSLAVIA (May 7th, 1930)

HONDURAS
IRISH FREE STATE
LIBERIA
LUXEMBURG
NICARAGUA
PARAGUAY
SALVADOR
VENEZUELA

III. TRAFFIC IN WOMEN AND CHILDREN.¹

INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION FOR THE SUPPRESSION OF THE TRAFFIC IN WOMEN AND CHILDREN.²
(Geneva, September 30th, 1921.)

In Force.

*Ratifications or
definitive Accessions.*

*Signatures or Accessions not yet
perfected by Ratification.*

*The Convention is open
to Accession by:*

ALBANIA (October 13th, 1924)
AUSTRIA (August 9th, 1922)
BELGIUM (June 15th, 1922)
BRITISH EMPIRE (June 28th,
1922)
Does not include the Island of New-
foundland, the British Colonies
and Protectorates, the Island
of Nauru, or any territories
administered under mandates by
Great Britain.
Bahamas, Trinidad, Ken-
ya, Nyasaland, Cey-
lon, Hong-Kong, Straits
Settlements, Gibraltar,
Malta, Cyprus, Sou-
thern Rhodesia, Bar-
bados, Grenada, St.
Lucia, St. Vincent,
Seychelles, Northern
Rhodesia, British Hon-
duras

BRAZIL
COLOMBIA
COSTA RICA
LITHUANIA
PANAMA(*a*)
PERSIA
PERU (*a*)

ABYSSINIA
AFGHANISTAN
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
ARGENTINE REPUBLIC
BOLIVIA
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC
ECUADOR
EGYPT
GUATEMALA
HAITI
HEJAZ
HONDURAS
ICELAND
IRISH FREE STATE
LIBERIA
LIECHTENSTEIN
MEXICO
NICARAGUA
PARAGUAY
SAN MARINO
SALVADOR

^a Accepts Declaration as binding without ratification.

¹ The Annex to the Supplementary Report for 1923 (A.10(a).1923, Annex) contains, moreover, complete details concerning:

1. The Agreement for the Suppression of the White Slave Traffic, Paris, May 18th, 1904.
2. The Convention for the Suppression of the White Slave Traffic, Paris, May 4th, 1910.

² "The present Convention shall come into force in respect of each Party on the date of the deposit of its ratification or act of accession" (Article 11). See *Treaty Series of the League of Nations*, Vol. IX, p. 415; Vol. XV, p. 310; Vol. XIX, p. 282; Vol. XXIV, p. 162; Vol. XXVII, p. 418; Vol. XXXV, p. 300; Vol. XXXIX, p. 167; Vol. XLV, p. 99; Vol. L, p. 160; Vol. LIV, p. 388; Vol. LXIII, p. 378; Vol. LXXXIII, p. 379; Vol. XCII, p. 367 and Vol. C, p. 156.

INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION FOR THE SUPPRESSION OF THE TRAFFIC IN WOMEN AND CHILDREN.
| (continued).
(Geneva, September 30th, 1921.)

In Force.

*Ratifications or
definitive Accessions.*

British Guiana and Fiji
(October 24th, 1922 a)
Leeward Islands (March 7th,
1924 a)
Jamaica and Mauritius
(March 7th, 1924 a)
Falkland Islands (May 8th,
1924 a)
Gold Coast Colony (July 3rd,
1924 a)

IRAQ (May 15th, 1925 a)
The Government of Iraq desire to
reserve to themselves the right
to fix an age-limit lower than
that specified in Article 5 of the
Convention.

SIERRA LEONE (November
16th, 1927 a)

Colony and Protecto-
rate of the Gambia
Protectorate of Uganda
Territory of Tanga-
nyika

April 10th,
1931 a)

CANADA (June 28th, 1922)
AUSTRALIA (June 28th, 1922)
Does not include Papua, Norfolk
Island and the mandated terri-
tory of New Guinea.

UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA
(June 28th, 1922)

NEW ZEALAND (June 28th,
1922)

Does not include the mandated
territory of Western Samoa.

INDIA (June 28th, 1922)
Reserves the right at its discretion
to substitute the age of sixteen
years or any greater age that
may be subsequently decided
upon for the age-limits prescribed
in paragraph (b) of the Final
Protocol of the Convention of
May 4th, 1910, and in Article 5
of the present Convention.

BULGARIA (April 29th, 1925 a)

CHILE (January 15th, 1929)

CHINA (February 24th, 1926)

CUBA (May 7th, 1923)

CZECHOSLOVAKIA (September
29th, 1923)

DENMARK (April 23rd, 1931 a)
Upon depositing the instrument of
ratification by His Majesty the
King of Denmark and Iceland of
the International Convention for
the Suppression of the Traffic in
Women and Children, signed at
Geneva, September 30th, 1921,
to which Denmark acceded by a
declaration dated March 12th,
1923, I have the honour, by
order of my Government, to
state:

- (1) That my Government's rati-
fication is subject to the
reservation that the above-
mentioned Convention will
take effect in respect of
Denmark only upon the
coming into force of the
Danish penal code of April
15th, 1930.
- (2) That my Government's rati-
fication does not include

*The Convention is open
to Accession by:*

SUDAN
TURKEY
UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST
REPUBLICS
VENEZUELA

INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION FOR THE SUPPRESSION OF THE TRAFFIC IN WOMEN AND CHILDREN
(continued).

(Geneva, September 30th, 1921.)

In Force.

*Ratifications or
definitive Accessions.*

Greenland, the Convention,
in view of the special cir-
cumstances, being of no
interest for that possession.

I have the honour to add that, under
a special law dated April 15th,
1930, the penal code in question
is to be brought into force by an
ordinance of the Minister of
Justice not later than January
1st, 1933.

ESTONIA (February 28th, 1930)

FINLAND (August 16th, 1926 *a*)

FRANCE (March 1st, 1926 *a*)

Does not include the French Colo-
nies, the countries in the French
Protectorate or the territories
under French mandate.

SYRIA AND THE LEBANON

(June 2nd, 1930 *a*)

GERMANY (July 8th, 1924)

GREECE (April 9th, 1923)

HUNGARY (April 25th, 1925)

ITALY (June 30th, 1924)

ITALIAN COLONIES (July 27th,
1922 *a*)

JAPAN (December 15th, 1925)

Does not include Chosen, Taiwan,
the leased Territory of Kwan-
tung, the Japanese Section of
Saghalien Island and Japan's
mandated territory in the
South Seas.

LATVIA (February 12th, 1924)

LUXEMBURG (December 31st,
1929 *a*)

Monaco (July 18th, 1931 *a*)

NETHERLANDS (including Ne-
therlands Indies, Surinam
and Curaçao) (September
19th, 1923)

NORWAY (August 16th, 1922)

POLAND and FREE CITY OF
DANZIG (October 8th, 1924)

PORTUGAL (December 1st, 1923)

ROUMANIA (September 5th,
1923)

SIAM (July 13th, 1922)

With reservation as to the age-limit
prescribed in paragraph (b) of
the Final Protocol of the Con-
vention of 1910 and Article 5 of
this Convention, in so far as
concerns the nationals of Siam.

SPAIN (May 12th, 1924 *a*)

Does not include the Spanish Posses-
sions in Africa or the territories
of the Spanish Protectorate
in Morocco.

SWEDEN (June 9th, 1925)

SWITZERLAND (January 20th,
1926)

URUGUAY (October 21st, 1924 *a*)

YUGOSLAVIA

(May 2nd, 1929 *a*)

IV. AMENDMENTS TO THE COVENANT OF THE LEAGUE.¹
(Geneva, October 5th, 1921.)

9. PROTOCOL OF AN AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE 16.²

(First Paragraph to be inserted after the First Amended Paragraph of Article 16.)

Not in Force.

<i>Ratifications.</i>	<i>Signatures not yet perfected by Ratification.</i>	<i>Other Members to whose Signature the Protocol is open.</i>
UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA (August 12th, 1924)	BOLIVIA	ABYSSINIA
AUSTRALIA (August 12th, 1924)	COLOMBIA	ALBANIA
AUSTRIA (August 29th, 1927)	COSTA RICA	ARGENTINE REPUBLIC
BELGIUM (September 28th, 1923)	CUBA	DOMINICAN REPUBLIC
BRAZIL (August 13th, 1924)	HAITI	FRANCE
BRITISH EMPIRE (August 12th, 1924)	LIBERIA	GERMANY
BULGARIA (October 4th, 1922)	PANAMA	GUATEMALA
CANADA (August 12th, 1924)	PARAGUAY	HONDURAS
CHILE (August 1st, 1928)	PERU	IRISH FREE STATE
CHINA (July 4th, 1923)	VENEZUELA	LUXEMBURG
CZECHOSLOVAKIA (September 1st, 1923)		NICARAGUA
DENMARK (August 11th, 1922)		PERSIA
ESTONIA (September 7th, 1923)		POLAND
FINLAND (June 25th, 1923)		SALVADOR
GREECE (January 20th, 1925)		SPAIN
HUNGARY (June 22nd, 1923)		YUGOSLAVIA
INDIA (August 12th, 1924)		
ITALY (August 5th, 1922)		
JAPAN (June 13th, 1923)		
LATVIA (February 12th, 1924)		
LITHUANIA (March 13th, 1925)		
NETHERLANDS (April 4th, 1923)		
NEW ZEALAND (August 12th, 1924)		
NORWAY (March 29th, 1922)		
PORTUGAL (October 5th, 1923)		
ROUMANIA (September 5th, 1923)		
SIAM (September 12th, 1922)		
SWEDEN (August 24th, 1922)		
SWITZERLAND (March 29th, 1923)		
URUGUAY (January 12th, 1924)		

10. PROTOCOL OF AN AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE 16.

(Second Paragraph to be inserted after the First Amended Paragraph of Article 16.)

Not in Force.

<i>Ratifications.</i>	<i>Signatures not yet perfected by Ratification.</i>	<i>Other Members to whose Signature the Protocol is open.</i>
UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA (August 12th, 1924)	BOLIVIA	ABYSSINIA
AUSTRALIA (August 12th, 1924)	COLOMBIA	ALBANIA
AUSTRIA (August 29th, 1927)	COSTA RICA	ARGENTINE REPUBLIC
BELGIUM (September 28th, 1923)	CUBA	DOMINICAN REPUBLIC
BRAZIL (August 13th, 1924)	HAITI	FRANCE
	LIBERIA	GERMANY
	PANAMA	GUATEMALA

¹ Article 26 of the Covenant provides: "Amendments to this Covenant will take effect when ratified by the Members of the League whose representatives compose the Council and by a majority of the Members of the League whose representatives compose the Assembly".

The Annex to the Supplementary Report on the work of the Council and the Secretariat for 1929 (document A.6(a).1929, Annex) contains, moreover, complete details concerning the amendments to Articles 4, 6, 12, 13 and 15 of the Covenant. These amendments being now in force, no reference is made to them in the present document.

² The Assembly adopted at its fifth ordinary session (1924) a resolution according to which it is no longer opportune to ratify the first amendment to Article 16 of the Covenant adopted in 1921. As a consequence of this resolution, the first amendment to Article 16 adopted by the Assembly at its second ordinary session does not appear in the present report. See in No. IX the new amendment adopted in 1924.

10. PROTOCOL OF AN AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE 16 (*continued*).

(*Second Paragraph to be inserted after the First Amended Paragraph of Article 16.*)

Not in Force.

<i>Ratifications.</i>	<i>Signatures not yet perfected by Ratification.</i>	<i>Other Members to whose Signature the Protocol is open.</i>
BRITISH EMPIRE (August 12th, 1924)	PARAGUAY	HONDURAS
BULGARIA (October 4th, 1922)	PERU	IRISH FREE STATE
CANADA (August 12th, 1924)	VENEZUELA	LUXEMBURG
CHILE (August 1st, 1928)		NICARAGUA
CHINA (July 4th, 1923)		PERSIA
CZECHOSLOVAKIA (September 1st, 1923)		POLAND
DENMARK (August 11th, 1922)		SALVADOR
ESTONIA (September 7th, 1923)		SPAIN
FINLAND (June 25th, 1923)		YUGOSLAVIA
GREECE (January 20th, 1925)		
HUNGARY (June 22nd, 1923)		
INDIA (August 12th, 1924)		
ITALY (August 5th, 1922)		
JAPAN (June 13th, 1923)		
LATVIA (February 12th, 1924)		
LITHUANIA (March 13th, 1925)		
NETHERLANDS (April 4th, 1923)		
NEW ZEALAND (August 12th, 1924)		
NORWAY (March 29th, 1922)		
PORTUGAL (October 5th, 1923)		
ROUMANIA (September 5th, 1923)		
SIAM (September 12th, 1922)		
SWEDEN (August 24th, 1922)		
SWITZERLAND (March 29th, 1923)		
URUGUAY (January 12th, 1924)		

11. PROTOCOL OF AN AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE 16.

(*Paragraph to be inserted between the New Third Paragraph and the Original Second Paragraph of Article 16.*)

Not in Force.

<i>Ratifications.</i>	<i>Signatures not yet perfected by Ratification.</i>	<i>Other Members to whose Signature the Protocol is open.</i>
UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA (August 12th, 1924)	ALBANIA	ABYSSINIA
AUSTRALIA (August 12th, 1924)	BOLIVIA	ARGENTINE REPUBLIC
AUSTRIA (August 29th, 1927)	COLOMBIA	DOMINICAN REPUBLIC
BELGIUM (September 28th, 1923)	COSTA RICA	FRANCE
BRAZIL (July 7th, 1923)	CUBA	GERMANY
BRITISH EMPIRE (August 12th, 1924)	HAITI	GUATEMALA
BULGARIA (October 4th, 1922)	LATVIA	HONDURAS
CANADA (August 12th, 1924)	LIBERIA	IRISH FREE STATE
CHILE (August 1st, 1928)	PANAMA	LUXEMBURG
CHINA (July 4th, 1923)	PARAGUAY	NICARAGUA
CZECHOSLOVAKIA (September 1st, 1923)	PERU	PERSIA
DENMARK (August 11th, 1922)	VENEZUELA	POLAND
ESTONIA (September 7th, 1923)		SALVADOR
FINLAND (June 25th, 1923)		SPAIN
GREECE (January 20th, 1925)		YUGOSLAVIA
HUNGARY (June 22nd, 1923)		
INDIA (August 12th, 1924)		
ITALY (August 5th, 1922)		
JAPAN (June 13th, 1923)		

II. PROTOCOL OF AN AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE 16
(continued).

(Paragraph to be inserted between the New Third Paragraph and the Original Second Paragraph of Article 16.)

Not in Force.

Ratifications.

LITHUANIA (March 13th, 1925)
NETHERLANDS (April 4th, 1923)
NEW ZEALAND (August 12th,
1924)
NORWAY (March 29th, 1922)
PORTUGAL (October 5th, 1923)
ROUMANIA (September 5th,
1923)
SIAM (September 12th, 1922)
SWEDEN (August 24th, 1922)
SWITZERLAND (March 29th,
1923)
URUGUAY (January 12th, 1924)

12. PROTOCOL OF AN AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE 26.
(First Paragraph.)

Not in Force.

Ratifications.

UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA
(February 3rd, 1923)
AUSTRALIA (February 3rd, 1923)
AUSTRIA (August 29th, 1927)
BELGIUM (September 28th,
1923)
BRAZIL (August 13th, 1924)
BRITISH EMPIRE (February
3rd, 1923)
BULGARIA (October 4th, 1922)
CANADA (February 3rd, 1923)
CHILE (August 1st, 1928)
CHINA (July 4th, 1923)
CUBA (May 7th, 1923)
CZECHOSLOVAKIA (September
1st, 1923)
DENMARK (August 11th, 1922)
ESTONIA (September 7th, 1923)
FINLAND (June 25th, 1923)
FRANCE (August 2nd, 1923)
GREECE (August 20th, 1923)
HAITI (November 2nd, 1925)
HUNGARY (June 22nd, 1923)
INDIA (February 3rd, 1923)
ITALY (August 5th, 1922)
JAPAN (June 13th, 1923)
LATVIA (December 10th, 1923)
LITHUANIA (March 13th, 1925)
NETHERLANDS (April 4th, 1923)
NEW ZEALAND (February 3rd,
1923)
NORWAY (March 29th, 1922)
POLAND (December 15th, 1922)
PORTUGAL (October 5th, 1923)
ROUMANIA (September 5th,
1923)
SIAM (September 12th, 1922)
SPAIN (January 15th, 1930)
SWEDEN (August 24th, 1922)
SWITZERLAND (March 29th,
1923)
URUGUAY (January 12th, 1924)
VENEZUELA (March 24th, 1925)

*Signatures not yet perfected by
Ratification.*

ALBANIA
BOLIVIA
COLOMBIA
COSTA RICA
LIBERIA
PANAMA
PARAGUAY
PERSIA
PERU

*Other Members to whose Signature
the Protocol is open.*

ABYSSINIA
ARGENTINE REPUBLIC
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC
GERMANY
GUATEMALA
HONDURAS
IRISH FREE STATE
LUXEMBURG
NICARAGUA
SALVADOR
YUGOSLAVIA

13. PROTOCOL OF AN AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE 26.
(Adding a New Paragraph after the First Paragraph.)

Not in Force.

<i>Ratifications.</i>	<i>Signatures not yet perfected by Ratification.</i>	<i>Other Members to whose Signature the Protocol is open.</i>
UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA (February 3rd, 1923)	BOLIVIA	ABYSSINIA
AUSTRALIA (February 3rd, 1923)	COLOMBIA	ALBANIA
AUSTRIA (August 29th, 1927)	COSTA RICA	ARGENTINE REPUBLIC
BELGIUM (September 28th, 1923)	LIBERIA	DOMINICAN REPUBLIC
BRAZIL (August 13th, 1924)	PANAMA	GERMANY
BRITISH EMPIRE (February 3rd, 1923)	PARAGUAY	GUATEMALA
BULGARIA (October 4th, 1922)	PERSIA	HONDURAS
CANADA (February 3rd, 1923)	PERU	IRISH FREE STATE
CHILE (August 1st, 1928)		LUXEMBURG
CHINA (July 4th, 1923)		NICARAGUA
CUBA (May 7th, 1923)		SALVADOR
CZECHOSLOVAKIA (September 1st, 1923)		YUGOSLAVIA
DENMARK (August 11th, 1922)		
ESTONIA (September 7th, 1923)		
FINLAND (June 25th, 1923)		
FRANCE (August 2nd, 1923)		
GREECE (August 20th, 1923)		
HAITI (November 2nd, 1925)		
HUNGARY (June 22nd, 1923)		
INDIA (February 3rd, 1923)		
ITALY (August 5th, 1922)		
JAPAN (June 13th, 1923)		
LATVIA (December 10th, 1923)		
LITHUANIA (March 13th, 1925)		
NETHERLANDS (April 4th, 1923)		
NEW ZEALAND (February 3rd, 1923)		
NORWAY (March 29th, 1922)		
POLAND (December 15th, 1922)		
PORTUGAL (October 5th, 1923)		
ROUMANIA (September 5th, 1923)		
SIAM (September 12th, 1922)		
SPAIN (January 15th, 1930)		
SWEDEN (August 24th, 1922)		
SWITZERLAND (March 29th, 1923)		
URUGUAY (January 12th, 1924)		
VENEZUELA (March 24th, 1925)		

14. PROTOCOL OF AN AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE 26.
(Second Paragraph.)

Not in Force.

<i>Ratifications.</i>	<i>Signatures not yet perfected by Ratification.</i>	<i>Other Members to whose Signature the Protocol is open.</i>
UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA (February 3rd, 1923)	BOLIVIA	ABYSSINIA
AUSTRALIA (February 3rd, 1923)	COLOMBIA	ALBANIA
AUSTRIA (August 29th, 1927)	COSTA RICA	ARGENTINE REPUBLIC
BELGIUM (September 28th, 1923)	LIBERIA	DOMINICAN REPUBLIC
BRAZIL (July 7th, 1923)	PANAMA	GERMANY
BRITISH EMPIRE (February 3rd, 1923)	PARAGUAY	GUATEMALA
BULGARIA (October 4th, 1922)	PERSIA	HONDURAS
CANADA (February 3rd, 1923)	PERU	IRISH FREE STATE
CHILE (August 1st, 1928)		LUXEMBURG
		NICARAGUA
		SALVADOR
		YUGOSLAVIA

14. PROTOCOL OF AN AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE 26 (*continued*).
(*Second Paragraph.*)

Not in Force.

Ratifications.

CHINA (July 4th, 1923)
CUBA (May 7th, 1923)
CZECHOSLOVAKIA (September 1st, 1923)
DENMARK (August 31st, 1922)
ESTONIA (September 7th, 1923)
FINLAND (June 25th, 1923)
FRANCE (August 2nd, 1923)
GREECE (August 20th, 1923)
HAITI (November 2nd, 1925)
HUNGARY (June 22nd, 1923)
INDIA (February 3rd, 1923)
ITALY (August 5th, 1922)
JAPAN (June 13th, 1923)
LATVIA (December 10th, 1923)
LITHUANIA (March 13th, 1925)
NETHERLANDS (April 4th, 1923)
NEW ZEALAND (February 3rd, 1923)
NORWAY (March 29th, 1922)
POLAND (December 15th, 1922)
PORTUGAL (October 5th, 1923)
ROUMANIA (September 5th, 1923)
SIAM (September 12th, 1922)
SPAIN (January 15th, 1930)
SWEDEN (August 24th, 1922)
SWITZERLAND (March 29th, 1923)
URUGUAY (January 12th, 1924)
VENEZUELA (March 24th, 1925)

V. OBSCENE PUBLICATIONS.

INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION FOR THE SUPPRESSION OF THE CIRCULATION OF AND TRAFFIC IN OBSCENE PUBLICATIONS.¹

(*Geneva, September 12th, 1923.*)

In Force.

Ratifications or definitive Accessions.

ALBANIA (October 13th, 1924)
AUSTRIA (January 12th, 1925)
BELGIUM (July 31st, 1926)
Includes also the Belgian Congo and the mandated territory of Ruanda-Urundi.
BRITISH EMPIRE:
GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND
(December 11th, 1925)
Does not include any of the Colonies, Overseas Possessions, Protectorates or Territories under His Britannic Majesty's sovereignty or authority.
NEWFOUNDLAND (December 31st, 1925 a)
CANADA (May 23rd, 1924 a)
UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA, including SOUTH WEST AFRICA (Mandated)
(December 11th, 1925)
SOUTHERN RHODESIA
(December 31st, 1925 a)

Signatures or Accessions not yet perfected by Ratification.

BRAZIL
COLOMBIA
COSTA RICA
CUBA
FRANCE
HAITI
HONDURAS
JAPAN
Is not binding in respect of Taiwan, Chosen, the leased territory of Kwantung, Karafuto or the territories under Japanese mandate, and that the provisions of Article 15 of the Convention are in no way derogatory to the acts of the Japanese judicial authorities in the application of Japanese laws and decrees.
LITHUANIA
PANAMA
PERSIA
PERU (a)
SALVADOR
URUGUAY

The Convention is open to Accession by:

ABYSSINIA
AFGHANISTAN
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
ARGENTINE REPUBLIC
AUSTRALIA
BOLIVIA
CHILE
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC
ECUADOR
ESTONIA
GUATEMALA
HEJAZ
ICELAND
LIBERIA
LIECHTENSTEIN
MEXICO
NICARAGUA
PARAGUAY
UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS
SWEDEN
VENEZUELA

¹ The present Convention came into force on August 7th, 1924, viz., on the thirtieth day following the one to which the deposit of the second ratification took place (Article 11). See *Treaty Series* of the League of Nations, Vol. XXVII, p. 213; Vol. XXXI, p. 260; Vol. XXXV, p. 314; Vol. XXXIX, p. 190; Vol. XLV, p. 122; Vol. LIV, p. 391; Vol. LIX, p. 357; Vol. LXXXIII, p. 394; Vol. LXXXVIII, p. 313; Vol. XCII, p. 368; Vol. XCVI, p. 191 and Vol. C, p. 211.

INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION FOR THE SUPPRESSION OF THE CIRCULATION OF AND TRAFFIC IN
OBSCENE PUBLICATIONS (*continued*).
(Geneva, September 12th, 1923.)

In Force.

*Ratifications or
definitive Accessions.*

NEW ZEALAND, including the
Mandated Territory of
Western Samoa (December
11th, 1925)
IRISH FREE STATE
(September 15th, 1930)
INDIA (December 11th, 1925)
The following British Colo-
nies, Protectorates and
Mandated Territories :
Nigeria
Seychelles
British Honduras
Ceylon
Kenya
Mauritius
British Solomon Is-
lands Protectorate
Gilbert and Ellice Is-
lands
Fiji
Uganda
Trinidad
Zanzibar
Tanganyika Territory
Leeward Islands
Windward Islands
Gambia
Nyasaland
Straits Settlements
Federated Malay States
Non-Federated Malay
States:
Brunei
Johore
Kedah
Kelantan
Trengganu
Sierra Leone
Northern Rhodesia
Barbados
Gold Coast
Cyprus
Gibraltar
Malta
Somaliland
Basutoland
Bechuanaland
Swaziland
Hong-Kong
Bermuda
The Bahamas
The Falkland Islands
St. Helena
Palestine
Transjordan
Jamaica (August 22nd,
1927 a)
British Guiana (September
23rd, 1929 a)
BULGARIA (July 1st, 1924)
CHINA (February 24th, 1926)
CZECHOSLOVAKIA (April 11th,
1927)
FREE CITY OF DANZIG (through
the intermediary of Poland)
(March 31st, 1926)

(November 3rd, 1926 a)

(May 23rd, 1927 a)

INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION FOR THE SUPPRESSION OF THE CIRCULATION OF AND TRAFFIC IN
OBSCENE PUBLICATIONS (*continued.*)

(Geneva, September 12th, 1923.)

*Ratifications or
definitive Accessions.*

In Force.

DENMARK (May 6th, 1930)

With regard to Article IV, see also Article I. The acts mentioned in Article I are punishable under the rules of Danish law only if they fall within the provisions of Article 184 of the Danish Penal Code, which inflicts penalties upon any person publishing obscene writings, or placing on sale, distributing, or otherwise circulating or publicly exposing obscene images. Further, it is to be observed that the Danish legislation relating to the Press contains special provisions on the subject of the persons who may be prosecuted for Press offences. The latter provisions apply to the acts covered by Article 184 in so far as these acts can be considered as Press offences. The modification of Danish legislation on these points must await the revision of the Danish Penal Code, which is likely to be effected in the near future.

EGYPT (October 29th, 1924 a)

FINLAND (June 29th, 1925)

GERMANY (May 11th, 1925)

GREECE (October 9th, 1929)

HUNGARY (February 12th, 1929)

IRAQ (April 26th, 1929 a)

ITALY (July 8th, 1924)

LATVIA (October 7th, 1925)

***LUXEMBURG (Aug. 10th, 1927)**

Subject to reservation "that, in the application of the penal clauses of the Convention, the Luxemburg authorities will observe the closing paragraph of Article 24 of the Constitution of the Grand-Duchy, which provides that proceedings may not be taken against the publisher, printer or distributor if the author is known and if he is a Luxemburg subject residing in the Grand-Duchy".

SAN MARINO (April 21st, 1926 a)

MONACO (May 11th, 1925)

NETHERLANDS (including Netherlands Indies, Surinam and Curaçao) (Septemb. 13th, 1927)

NORWAY (May 8th, 1929 a)

POLAND (March 8th, 1927)

PORTUGAL (October 4th, 1927)

ROUMANIA (June 7th, 1926)

SIAM (July 28th, 1924)

The Siamese Government reserve full right to enforce the provisions of the present Convention against foreigners in Siam in accordance with the principles prevailing for applying Siamese legislation to such foreigners.

SPAIN (December 19th, 1924)

SWITZERLAND (January 20th, 1926)

TURKEY (September 12th, 1929)

YUGOSLAVIA (May 2nd, 1929)

* This ratification, given subject to reservation, has been submitted to the signatory States for acceptance.

VI. ARBITRATION CLAUSES IN COMMERCIAL MATTERS.

PROTOCOL ON ARBITRATION CLAUSES.¹
(Geneva, September 24th, 1923.)

In Force.

Ratifications.

ALBANIA (August 29th, 1924)
AUSTRIA (January 25th, 1928)
BELGIUM (September 23rd, 1924)
Reserves the right to limit the obligation mentioned in the first paragraph of Article 1 to contracts which are considered as commercial under national law.
BRITISH EMPIRE (September 27th, 1924)
Applies only to Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and consequently does not include any of the Colonies, Overseas Possessions or Protectorates under His Britannic Majesty's sovereignty or authority or any territory in respect of which His Majesty's Government exercises a mandate.
SOUTHERN RHODESIA (December 18th, 1924 a),
NEWFOUNDLAND (June 22nd, 1925 a)
British Guiana
British Honduras
Jamaica:
Turks and Caicos Islands and Cayman Islands.
Leeward Islands
Grenada
St. Lucia
St. Vincent
Gambia
Gold Coast (including Ashanti and the Northern Territories of the Gold Coast and Togoland.)
Kenya
Zanzibar
Northern Rhodesia
Ceylon
Mauritius
Gibraltar
Malta
Falkland Islands
IRAQ and PALESTINE
Tanganyika (June 17th, 1926 a)
St. Helena (July 29th, 1926 a)
Uganda (June 28th, 1929 a)
Bahamas (January 23rd, 1931 a)
DENMARK (April 6th, 1925)
Under Danish law, arbitral awards made by an Arbitral Tribunal do not immediately become operative; it is necessary in each case, in order to make an award operative, to apply to the ordinary courts of law. In the course

(March 12th, 1926 a)

Signatures not yet perfected by Ratification.

BOLIVIA
BRAZIL
CHILE
CZECHOSLOVAKIA
The Czechoslovak Republic will regard itself as being bound only in relation to States which will have ratified the Convention of September 26th, 1927, on the Execution of Foreign Arbitral Awards, and the Czechoslovak Republic does not intend by this signature to invalidate in any way the bilateral treaties concluded by it which regulate the questions referred to in the present Protocol by provisions going beyond the provisions of the Protocol.
FREE CITY OF DANZIG (through the intermediary of Poland)
LATVIA
Reserves the right to limit the obligation mentioned in paragraph 2 of Article 1 to contracts which are considered as commercial under its national law.
LITHUANIA
NICARAGUA
PANAMA
PARAGUAY
PERU
SALVADOR
URUGUAY

The Protocol is open to Signature by:

ABYSSINIA
UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
ARGENTINE REPUBLIC
AUSTRALIA
BULGARIA
CANADA
CHINA
COLOMBIA
COSTA RICA
CUBA
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC
ECUADOR
EGYPT
GUATEMALA
HAITI
HONDURAS
HUNGARY
INDIA
IRISH FREE STATE
LIBERIA
MEXICO
PERSIA
TURKEY
VENEZUELA
YUGOSLAVIA

¹ The present Protocol came into force on July 28th, 1924, date of the second deposit of ratification (Article 6). See *Treaty Series of the League of Nations*, Vol. XXVII, p. 157; Vol. XXXI, p. 260; Vol. XXXV, p. 314; Vol. XXXIX, p. 190; Vol. XLV, p. 116; Vol. L, p. 161; Vol. LIV, p. 355; Vol. LXIX, p. 79; Vol. LXXII, p. 452; Vol. LXXXIII, p. 393; Vol. LXXXVIII, p. 312; Vol. XCVI, p. 190; Vol. C, p. 211 and Vol. CIV, p. 499.

PROTOCOL ON ARBITRATION CLAUSES (*continued*).
(*Geneva, September 24th, 1923.*)

Ratifications.

In Force.

of the proceedings, however, the arbitral award will generally be accepted by such Courts without further examination as a basis of the final judgments in the affair.

ESTONIA (May 16th, 1929)

Limits, in accordance with Article 1, paragraph 2, of this Protocol, the obligation mentioned in paragraph 1 of the said article to contracts which are considered as commercial under its national law.

FINLAND (July 10th, 1924)

FRANCE (June 7th, 1928)

Reserves the right to limit the obligation mentioned in paragraph 2 of Article 1 to contracts which are considered as commercial under its own national law. Its acceptance of the present Protocol does not include the Colonies, Overseas Possessions or Protectorates or Territories in respect of which France exercises a mandate.

GERMANY (November 5th, 1924)

GREECE (May 26th, 1926)

ITALY (July 28th, 1924)

Except Colonies.

JAPAN (June 4th, 1928)

Chosen, Taiwan, Karafuto, the leased territory of Kwantung, and the territories in respect of which Japan exercises a mandate. (February 26th, 1929 a).

LUXEMBURG (September 15th, 1930)

Reserves the right to limit the obligation mentioned in the first paragraph of Article 1 to contracts which are considered as commercial under its national law.

MONACO (February 8th, 1927)

Reserves the right to limit its obligation to contracts which are considered as commercial under its national law.

NETHERLANDS (including Netherlands Indies, Surinam and Curaçao) (August 6th, 1925)

The Government of the Netherlands reserves its right to restrict the obligation mentioned in the first paragraph of Article 1 to contracts which are considered as commercial under Netherlands law.

Further, it declares its opinion that the recognition in principle of the validity of arbitration clauses in no way affects either the restrictive provisions at present existing under Netherlands law or the right to introduce other restrictions in the future.

NEW ZEALAND (June 9th, 1926)

NORWAY (September 2nd, 1927)

Poland (June 26th, 1931)

Under reservation that, in conformity with paragraph 2 of Article 1, the undertaking contemplated in the said article will apply only to contracts which are declared as commercial in accordance with national Polish law.

PROTOCOL ON ARBITRATION CLAUSES (*continued*).
(*Geneva, September 24th, 1923.*)

In Force.

Ratifications.

PORTUGAL (December 10th, 1930)

(1) In accordance with the second paragraph of Article 1, the Portuguese Government reserves the right to limit the obligation mentioned in the first paragraph of Article 1 to contracts which are considered as commercial under its national law.

(2) According to the terms of the first paragraph of Article 8, the Portuguese Government declares that its acceptance of the present Protocol does not include its colonies.

ROUMANIA (March 12th, 1925)

Subject to the reservation that the Royal Government may in all circumstances limit the obligation mentioned in Article 1, paragraph 2, to contracts which are considered as commercial under its national law.

SIAM (September 3rd, 1930)

SPAIN (July 29th, 1926)

Reserves the right to limit the obligation mentioned in Article 1, paragraph 2, to contracts which are considered as commercial under its national law. Its acceptance of the present Protocol does not include the Spanish Possessions in Africa, or the territories of the Spanish Protectorate in Morocco.

SWEDEN (August 8th, 1929)

SWITZERLAND (May 14th, 1928)

VII. CUSTOMS FORMALITIES.

INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION RELATING TO THE SIMPLIFICATION OF CUSTOMS FORMALITIES AND PROTOCOL RELATING THERETO.¹

(*Geneva, November 3rd, 1923.*)

In Force.

*Ratifications or
definitive Accessions.*

AUSTRIA (September 11th, 1924)

BELGIUM (October 4th, 1924)

Does not apply to the Belgian Congo or to the territory of Ruanda Urundi under Belgian mandate, without prejudice to the right of ratification at a subsequent date on behalf of either or both of these territories.

BRAZIL (July 10th, 1929)

BRITISH EMPIRE (August 29th, 1924)

AUSTRALIA (March 13th, 1925)

UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA (August 29th, 1924)

NEW ZEALAND (August 29th, 1924)

Includes the mandated territory of Western Samoa.

INDIA (March 13th, 1925)

BULGARIA (December 10th, 1926)

*Signatures or Accessions not yet
perfected by Ratification.*

CHILE

JAPAN

LITHUANIA

PARAGUAY

POLAND

PORTUGAL

SPAIN

URUGUAY

*The Convention is open
to Accession by:*

ABYSSINIA

ALBANIA

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC

BOLIVIA

CANADA

COLOMBIA

COSTA RICA

CUBA

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

ECUADOR

GUATEMALA

HAITI

HONDURAS

IRISH FREE STATE

LATVIA

LIBERIA

MEXICO

NICARAGUA

PANAMA

PERU

SALVADOR

¹ The present Convention came into force on November 27th, 1924, ninety days after the deposit of the fifth ratification (Article 26). The Protocol came into force on the same conditions as the Convention to which it relates. See *Treaty Series* of the League of Nations, Vol. XXX, p. 371; Vol. XXXV, p. 324; Vol. XXXIX, p. 208; Vol. XLV, p. 140; Vol. L, p. 161; Vol. LIV, p. 398; Vol. LIX, p. 365; Vol. LXIX, p. 79; Vol. LXXXIII, p. 394; Vol. LXXXVIII, p. 319; and Vol. XCII, p. 370.

INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION RELATING TO THE SIMPLIFICATION OF CUSTOMS
FORMALITIES AND PROTOCOL RELATING THERETO (*continued*).

(Geneva, November 3rd, 1923.)

In Force.

*Ratifications or
definitive Accessions.*

CHINA (February 23rd, 1926)
CZECHOSLOVAKIA (February
10th, 1927)
DENMARK (May 17th, 1924)
EGYPT (March 23rd, 1925)
ESTONIA (February 28th,
1930 *a*)
FINLAND (May 23rd, 1928)
FRANCE (September 13th, 1926)
Does not apply to the Colonies
under its sovereignty.
GERMANY (August 1st, 1925)
GREECE (July 6th, 1927)
HUNGARY (February 23rd,
1926)
ITALY (June 13th, 1924)
LUXEMBURG (June 10th, 1927)
FRENCH PROTECTORATE OF
MOROCCO (November 8th,
1926)
NETHERLANDS (including Ne-
therlands Indies, Surinam
and Curaçao) (May 30th,
1925)
NORWAY (September 7th, 1926)
PERSIA (May 8th, 1925 *a*)
ROUMANIA (December 23rd,
1925)
Under the same reservations as
those formulated by the other
Governments and inserted in
Article 6 of the Protocol, the
Royal Government understands
that Article 22 of the Convention
confers the right to have recourse
to the procedure provided for in
this article for questions of a
general nature solely on the
High Contracting Parties, pri-
vate persons being only entitled
to appeal to their own judicial
authorities in case any dispute
arises with the authorities of the
Kingdom.
SIAM (May 19th, 1925)
SWEDEN (February 12th, 1926)
SWITZERLAND (January 3rd,
1927)
REGENCY OF TUNIS (French
Protectorate) (November
8th, 1926)
YUGOSLAVIA (May 2nd, 1929)

*The Convention is open
to Accession by:*

UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST
REPUBLICS
TURKEY
VENEZUELA

VIII. COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSIT.

5. CONVENTION AND STATUTE ON THE INTERNATIONAL REGIME OF RAILWAYS AND PROTOCOL
OF SIGNATURE.¹

(Geneva, December 9th, 1923.)

In Force.

*Ratifications or
definitive Accessions.*

ABYSSINIA (September 20th,
1928 *a*)
AUSTRIA (January 20th, 1927)
BELGIUM (May 16th, 1927)
Does not apply to the Belgian Congo
or to the territory of Ruanda-

*Signatures or Accessions not yet
perfected by Ratification.*

BRAZIL
BULGARIA
CHILE
CHINA (*a*)
The Chinese Government, subject
to the declarations made in its

*The Convention is open
to Accession by:*

UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA
ALBANIA
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
ARGENTINE REPUBLIC
AUSTRALIA
BOLIVIA

¹ The Convention and the Protocol came into force (Article 6) on March 23rd, 1926. See League of Nations, *Treaty Series*, Vol. XLVII, page 55. Vol. L, p. 180; Vol. LIX, p. 383; Vol. LXIII, p. 417; Vol. LXIX, p. 92; Vol. LXXVIII, p. 472; Vol. LXXXIII, p. 403; Vol. LXXXVIII, p. 336; Vol. XCII, p. 381; and Vol. XCVI, p. 191.

5. CONVENTION AND STATUTE ON THE INTERNATIONAL REGIME OF RAILWAYS AND PROTOCOL OF SIGNATURE (*continued*).

(Geneva, December 9th, 1923.)

In Force.

Ratifications or definitive Accessions.

Urundi under Belgian mandate, without prejudice to the right of ratification at a subsequent date on behalf of either or both of these territories.

BRITISH EMPIRE (August 29th, 1924)

This ratification shall not be deemed to apply in the case of the Dominion of Canada, the Commonwealth of Australia, the Dominion of New Zealand, the Union of South Africa or the Irish Free State (or any territories under their authority) or in the case of India, and that, in pursuance of the power reserved in Article 9 of this Convention, it shall not be deemed to apply in the case of any of the Colonies, Possessions or Protectorates or of the territories in respect of which His Britannic Majesty has accepted a mandate ; without prejudice, however, to the right of subsequent ratification or accession on behalf of any or all those Dominions, Colonies, Possessions, Protectorates or territories.

SOUTHERN RHODESIA (April 23rd, 1925 *a*)

NEWFOUNDLAND (April 23rd, 1925 *a*)

The following British Colonies, Protectorates and Mandated Territories:

British Guiana
British Honduras
Brunei

Federated Malay States:

States of Perak, Selangor, Negri Sembilan and Pahang

Gambia

Gold Coast

Hong-Kong

Non-Federated Malay States: Johore, Kedah, Perlis, Kelantan, Trengganu

Nigeria

Northern Rhodesia

Nyasaland

Palestine

Sierra Leone

Straits Settlements

Tanganyika Territory

NEW ZEALAND (April 1st, 1925)

INDIA (April 1st, 1925)

DENMARK (April 27th, 1926)

ESTONIA (September 21st, 1929)

GERMANY (December 5th, 1927)

GREECE (March 6th, 1929)

HUNGARY (March 21st, 1929)

JAPAN (September 30th, 1926)

Signatures or Accessions not yet perfected by Ratification.

name by the delegates whom it instructed to take part in the discussions on the Convention and Statute on the International Regime of Railways, confirms the said declarations regarding:

- (1) The whole of Part III: " Relations between the railway and its users ", Articles 14, 15, 16 and 17;
- (2) In Part VI: " General Regulations ", Article 37, relating to the conclusion of special agreements for the purpose of putting the provisions of the Statute into force in cases where existing agreements are not adequate for this purpose.

COLOMBIA (*a*)

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

FINLAND

FRANCE

Subject to the reservation contained in Article 9 of the present Convention to the effect that its provisions do not apply to the various Protectorates, Colonies, Possessions or Overseas Territories under the sovereignty or authority of the French Republic.

ITALY

LATVIA

LITHUANIA

PANAMA (*a*)

PORTUGAL

SALVADOR

URUGUAY

The Convention is open to Accession by:

CANADA
COSTA RICA
CUBA
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC
GUATEMALA
HAITI
HONDURAS
IRISH FREE STATE
LIBERIA
LUXEMBURG
NICARAGUA
PARAGUAY
PERSIA
PERU
TURKEY
VENEZUELA

(September 22nd, 1925 *a*)

5. CONVENTION AND STATUTE ON THE INTERNATIONAL REGIME OF RAILWAYS AND PROTOCOL OF SIGNATURE (*continued*).

(Geneva, December 9th, 1923.)

In Force.

*Ratifications
or definitive Accessions.*

NETHERLANDS (for the Kingdom in Europe) (February 22nd, 1928)
NORWAY (February 24th, 1926)
POLAND and FREE CITY OF DANZIG (January 7th, 1928)
ROUMANIA (December 23rd, 1925)
SIAM (January 9th, 1925)
SPAIN (January 15th, 1930)
SWEDEN (September 15th, 1927)
SWITZERLAND (October 23rd, 1926)
YUGOSLAVIA (May 7th, 1930)

6. CONVENTION AND STATUTE ON THE INTERNATIONAL REGIME OF MARITIME PORTS AND PROTOCOL OF SIGNATURE.¹

(Geneva, December 9th, 1923.)

In Force.

*Ratifications or
definitive Accessions.*

AUSTRIA (January 20th, 1927^a)
BELGIUM (May 16th, 1927)

Does not apply to the Belgian Congo or to the territory of Ruanda-Urundi under Belgian mandate, without prejudice to the right of ratification at a subsequent date on behalf of either or both of these territories.

With regard to Article 12 of the Statute, the Belgian Government declares that legislation exists in Belgium on the transport of emigrants, and that this legislation, whilst it does not distinguish between flags and consequently does not affect the principle of equality of treatment of flags, imposes special obligations on all vessels engaged in the transport of emigrants.

BRITISH EMPIRE (August 29th, 1924)

This ratification shall not be deemed to apply in the case of the Dominion of Canada, the Commonwealth of Australia, the Dominion of New Zealand, the Union of South Africa or the Irish Free State (or any territories under their authority) or in the case of India, and that, in pursuance of the power reserved in Article 9 of this Convention, it shall not be deemed to apply in the case of any of the Colonies, Possessions or Protectorates or of the territories in respect of which His Britannic Majesty has accepted a mandate; without prejudice, however, to the right of subsequent ratification or accession on behalf of any or all those Dominions, Colonies, Possessions, Protectorates or Territories.

*Signatures or Accessions not yet
perfected by Ratification.*

BRAZIL
BULGARIA
CHILE
ESTONIA
FRANCE (*a*)

Shall have the power, in conformity with Article 8 of the Statute, of suspending the benefit of equality of treatment as regards the mercantile marine of a State which, under the provisions of Article 12, paragraph 1, has itself departed from equality of treatment in favour of its own marine.

Does not include any of the Protectorates, Colonies, Overseas Possessions or Territories under the sovereignty or authority of the French Republic.

ITALY

With reservation as to the right relating to emigrants mentioned in Article twelve (12) of the Statute.

LITHUANIA

With reservation as to the right relating to emigrants mentioned in Article twelve (12) of the Statute.

PANAMA (*a*)
SALVADOR

*The Convention is open
to Accession by:*

ABYSSINIA
UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA
ALBANIA
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
ARGENTINE REPUBLIC
BOLIVIA
CANADA
CHINA
COLOMBIA
COSTA RICA
CUBA
FREE CITY OF DANZIG
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC
FINLAND
GUATEMALA
HAITI
HONDURAS
IRISH FREE STATE
LATVIA
LIBERIA
LUXEMBURG
NICARAGUA
PARAGUAY
PERSIA
PERU
POLAND
PORTUGAL
ROUMANIA
TURKEY
VENEZUELA

¹ The Convention and the Protocol came into force on July 26th, 1926. See League of Nations *Treaty Series*, Vol. LVIII, p. 285; Vol. LXIX, p. 102; Vol. LXXII, p. 485; and Vol. LXXXIII, p. 416.

6. CONVENTION AND STATUTE ON THE INTERNATIONAL REGIME OF MARITIME PORTS
AND PROTOCOL OF SIGNATURE (*continued*).

(Geneva, December 9th, 1923.)

In Force.

<i>Ratifications or definitive Accessions.</i>	<i>Signatures or Accessions not yet perfected by Ratification.</i>
NEWFOUNDLAND (April 23rd, 1925 <i>a</i>)	SPAIN With reservation as to the right relating to emigrants mentioned in Article twelve (12) of the Statute.
SOUTHERN RHODESIA (April 23rd, 1925 <i>a</i>)	URUGUAY
AUSTRALIA (June 29th, 1925 <i>a</i>) Does not apply in the case of Papua, Norfolk Island and the man- dated territories of Nauru and New Guinea.	YUGOSLAVIA With reservation as to the right relating to emigrants mentioned in Article twelve (12) of the Statute.
The following British Colo- nies, Protectorates and Mandated Territories:	
Bahamas	
Barbados	
Bermuda	
British Guiana	
British Honduras	
British Solomon Islands Protectorate	
Brunei	
Ceylon	
Cyprus	
Falkland Islands	
Federated Malay States:	
States of Perak, Se- langor, Negri Sem- bilan and Pahang	
Fiji	
Gambia	
Gibraltar	
Gilbert and Ellice Islands	
Gold Coast	
Grenada	
Hong-Kong	
Jamaica (excluding Turks and Caicos Islands and Cayman Islands)	
Kenya	
Leeward Islands:	
Antigua	
Dominica	
Montserrat	
St. Christopher Nevis Virgin Islands	
Non-Federated Malay States: States of Johore, Kedah, Perlis Kelantan, Trengganu	
Mauritius	
Nigeria	
Palestine	
St. Helena	
St. Lucia	
St. Vincent	
Seychelles	
Sierra Leone	
Somaliland	
Straits Settlements	
Tanganyika Territory	
Tonga	
Trinidad and Tobago	
Zanzibar	
Malta (November 7th 1925 <i>a</i>)	

(September 22nd, 1925 *a*)

6. CONVENTION AND STATUTE ON THE INTERNATIONAL REGIME OF MARITIME PORTS
AND PROTOCOL OF SIGNATURE (*continued*).

(*Geneva, December 9th, 1923.*)

In Force.

*Ratifications
or definitive Accessions.*

NEW ZEALAND (April 1st,
1925)

INDIA (April 1st, 1925)

Czechoslovakia (July 10th 1931)

With reservation as to the right
relating to emigrants men-
tioned in Article twelve (12)
of the Statute.

DENMARK (excluding Green-
land) (April 27th, 1926)

The maritime ports of which are
subject to a separate regime.

GERMANY (May 1st, 1928)

In conformity with Article 12 of the
Statute on the International
Regime of Maritime Ports, the
German Government declares
that it reserves the right of
limiting the transport of emi-
grants, in accordance with the
provisions of its own legislation,
to vessels which have been
granted special authorisation as
fulfilling the requirements of the
said legislation.

In exercising this right, the
German Government will con-
tinue to be guided as far as pos-
sible by the principles of this
Statute.

GREECE (January 24th, 1927)

With reservation as to the right
relating to emigrants mentioned
in Article twelve (12) of the
Statute.

HUNGARY (March 21st, 1929)

With reservation as to the right
regarding emigration provided
in Article 12 of the Statute.

IRAQ (May 1st, 1929 a)

With reservation as to all the rights
regarding emigration provided
in Article 12 of the Statute.

JAPAN (September 30th, 1926)

With reservation as to the right
relating to emigrants mentioned
in Article twelve (12) of the
Statute.

NETHERLANDS (February
22nd, 1928)

Netherlands Indies, Surinam
and Curaçao

(February 22nd, 1928 a)

The Netherlands Government re-
serves the right mentioned in
Article 12, paragraph 1, of the
Statute annexed to the Conven-
tion, it being understood that no
discrimination shall be made
against the flag of any contract-
ing State which in regard to the
transport of emigrants does not
discriminate against the Nether-
lands flag.

NORWAY (June 21st, 1928)

SIAM (January 9th, 1925)

SWEDEN (September 15th,
1927)

SWITZERLAND (October 23rd,
1926)

7. CONVENTION RELATING TO THE TRANSMISSION IN TRANSIT OF ELECTRIC POWER AND PROTOCOL OF SIGNATURE. ¹

(Geneva, December 9th, 1923.)

In Force.

*Ratifications or
definitive Accessions.*

AUSTRIA (January 20th, 1927)
BRITISH EMPIRE (April 1st,
1925)

This ratification has been given on behalf of the British Empire and New Zealand, including the mandated territory of Western Samoa. It shall not be deemed to apply in the case of the Dominion of Canada, the Commonwealth of Australia, the Union of South Africa or the Irish Free State (or any territories under their authority) or in the case of India, and that, in pursuance of the power reserved in Article 21 of this Convention, it shall not be deemed to apply in the case of any of the Colonies, Possessions, or Protectorates or of the territories in respect of which His Britannic Majesty has accepted a mandate other than the territory mentioned above; without prejudice, however, to the right of subsequent ratification or accession on behalf of any or all of those Dominions, Colonies, Possessions, Protectorates, or Territories.

NEWFOUNDLAND (April 23rd,
1925 *a*)

SOUTHERN RHODESIA (April
23rd, 1925 *a*)

The following British Colonies, Protectorates and Mandated Territories:

British Guiana
British Honduras
Brunei
Federated Malay States:
States of Perak, Selangor, Negri Sembilan and Pahang
Gambia
Gold Coast
Hong-Kong
Kenya
Non-Federated Malay States: States of Johore, Kedah, Perlis, Kelantan, Trengganu
Nigeria
Northern Rhodesia
Nyasaland
Palestine
Sierra Leone
Straits Settlements
Tanganyika Territory
Uganda Protectorate

(January 12th, 1927 *a*)

NEW ZEALAND (April 1st,
1925)

*Signatures or Accessions not yet
perfected by Ratification.*

BELGIUM
BULGARIA
CHILE

FREE CITY OF DANZIG
(through the intermediary
of Poland)

FRANCE

Subject to the reservation contained in Article 21 of the present Convention to the effect that its provisions do not apply to the various Protectorates, Colonies, Possessions or Overseas Territories under the sovereignty or authority of the French Republic.

HUNGARY
ITALY
LITHUANIA
POLAND
URUGUAY
YUGOSLAVIA

*The Convention is open
to Accession by:*

ABYSSINIA
UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA
ALBANIA
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
ARGENTINE REPUBLIC
AUSTRALIA
BOLIVIA
BRAZIL
CANADA
CHINA
COLOMBIA
COSTA RICA
CUBA
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC
ESTONIA
FINLAND
GERMANY
GUATEMALA
HAITI
HONDURAS
INDIA
IRISH FREE STATE
JAPAN
LATVIA
LIBERIA
LUXEMBURG
NETHERLANDS
NICARAGUA
NORWAY
PANAMA
PARAGUAY
PERSIA
PERU
PORTUGAL
ROUMANIA
SALVADOR
SIAM
SWEDEN
SWITZERLAND
TURKEY
VENEZUELA

(September 22nd, 1925 *a*)

¹ The Convention and Protocol came into force on July 26th, 1926. See *League of Nations Treaty Series*, Vol. LVIII, p. 315; Vol. LXXXIII, p. 416; and Vol. XCII, p. 399.

7. CONVENTION RELATING TO THE TRANSMISSION IN TRANSIT OF ELECTRIC POWER AND PROTOCOL OF SIGNATURE (*continued*).

(Geneva, December 9th, 1923.)

In Force.

*Ratifications or
definitive Accessions:*

CZECHOSLOVAKIA (November 30th, 1926)
DENMARK (April 27th, 1926)
GREECE (February 15th, 1929).
SPAIN (January 15th, 1930)

8. CONVENTION RELATING TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF HYDRAULIC POWER AFFECTING MORE THAN ONE STATE AND PROTOCOL OF SIGNATURE. ¹

(Geneva, December 9th, 1923.)

In Force.

*Ratifications or
definitive Accessions:*

AUSTRIA (January 20th, 1927)
BRITISH EMPIRE (April 1st, 1925)

This ratification has been given on behalf of the British Empire and New Zealand, including the mandated territory of Western Samoa. This ratification shall not be deemed to apply in the case of the Dominion of Canada, the Commonwealth of Australia, the Union of South Africa or the Irish Free State (or any territories under their authority) or in the case of India, and that, in pursuance of the power reserved in Article 21 of this Convention, it shall not be deemed to apply in the case of any of the Colonies, Possessions or Protectorates or of the territories in respect of which His Britannic Majesty has accepted a mandate other than the territory mentioned above; without prejudice, however, to the right of subsequent ratification or accession on behalf of any or all of those Dominions, Colonies, Possessions, Protectorates or Territories.

SOUTHERN RHODESIA (April 23rd, 1925 a)

NEWFOUNDLAND (April 23rd, 1925 a)

The following British Colonies, Protectorates and Mandated Territories:

British Guiana
British Honduras
Brunei
Federated Malay States:
States of Perak, Selangor, Negri Sembilan and Pahang
Gambia
Gold Coast
Hong-Kong
Kenya
Non-Federated Malay States : States of Johore, Kedah, Perlis, Kelantan, Trengganu

(September 22nd, 1925 a)

*Signatures or Accessions not yet
perfected by Ratification.*

BELGIUM
BULGARIA
CHILE
FREE CITY OF DANZIG
(through the intermediary of Poland)
FRANCE
Subject to the reservation contained in Article 21 of the present Convention to the effect that its provisions do not apply to the various Protectorates, Colonies, Possessions or Overseas Territories under the sovereignty or authority of the French Republic.
HUNGARY
ITALY
LITHUANIA
POLAND
URUGUAY
YUGOSLAVIA

*The Convention is open
to Accession by:*

ABYSSINIA
UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA
ALBANIA
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
ARGENTINE REPUBLIC
AUSTRALIA
BOLIVIA
BRAZIL
CANADA
CHINA
COLOMBIA
COSTA RICA
CUBA
CZECHOSLOVAKIA
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC
ESTONIA
FINLAND
GERMANY
GUATEMALA
HAITI
HONDURAS
INDIA
IRISH FREE STATE
JAPAN
LATVIA
LIBERIA
LUXEMBURG
NETHERLANDS
NICARAGUA
NORWAY
PANAMA
PARAGUAY
PERSIA
PERU
PORTUGAL
ROUMANIA
SALVADOR
SPAIN
SWEDEN
SWITZERLAND
TURKEY
VENEZUELA

¹ The Convention and the Protocol came into force on June 30th, 1925. See League of Nations *Treaty Series*, Vol. XXXVI, p. 75; Vol. XLV, p. 170; Vol. L, p. 166; and Vol. LXXXIII, p. 395.

8. CONVENTION RELATING TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF HYDRAULIC POWER AFFECTING MORE THAN ONE STATE AND PROTOCOL OF SIGNATURE *(continued)*.

(Geneva, December 9th, 1923.)

In Force

*Ratifications or
definitive Accessions.*

Nigeria	} (Sept. 22, 1925 a)
Northern Rhodesia	
Nyasaland	
Palestine	
Sierra Leone	
Straits Settlements	
Tanganyika Territory	
Uganda Protectorate	(January 12th, 1927 a)
NEW ZEALAND (April 1st, 1925)	
DENMARK (April 27th, 1926)	
GREECE (March 14th, 1929)	
SIAM (January 9th, 1925)	

IX. AMENDMENTS TO THE COVENANT.

15. PROTOCOL OF AN AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE 16.

(Latter Part of First Paragraph of Article 16.)

(Geneva, September 27th, 1924.)

Not in Force.

Ratifications.

ESTONIA (September 18th, 1926)
NETHERLANDS (February 8th, 1926)
ROUMANIA (March 12th, 1925)
SALVADOR (June 4th, 1925)
SIAM (September 30th, 1925)

*Signatures not yet perfected by
Ratification.*

UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA
ALBANIA
BOLIVIA
BRAZIL
BULGARIA
CANADA
CHILE
CUBA
GREECE
NEW ZEALAND
PERU
POLAND
URUGUAY

*Other Members to whose Signatures
the Protocol is open.*

ABYSSINIA
ARGENTINE REPUBLIC
AUSTRALIA
AUSTRIA
BELGIUM
BRITISH EMPIRE
CHINA
COLOMBIA
CZECHOSLOVAKIA
DENMARK
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC
FINLAND
FRANCE
GERMANY
GUATEMALA
HAITI
HONDURAS
HUNGARY
INDIA
IRISH FREE STATE
ITALY
JAPAN
LATVIA
LIBERIA
LITHUANIA
LUXEMBURG
NICARAGUA
NORWAY
PANAMA
PARAGUAY
PERSIA
PORTUGAL
SPAIN
SWEDEN
SWITZERLAND
VENEZUELA
YUGOSLAVIA

X. TRAFFIC IN OPIUM AND OTHER DANGEROUS DRUGS.

I. INTERNATIONAL OPIUM CONVENTION OF JANUARY 23RD, 1912.¹

Schedule containing the signatures of the Convention, the signatures of the Protocol of Signature of the Powers not represented at the First Opium Conference, provided for in the penultimate paragraph of Article 22 of the Convention, the ratifications of the Convention, and the signatures of the Protocol respecting the putting into force of the Convention provided under "B" of the Final Protocol of the Third International Opium Conference.*

(The ratifications and signatures in accordance with Article 295 of the Peace Treaty of Versailles or in accordance with a similar article of other treaties of peace are marked **.)

States	Signatures of the Convention	Signatures of the Protocol of the Powers not represented at the Opium Conference	Ratifications of the Convention	Signatures of the Protocol relative to the bringing into force of the Convention (dates of the entry into force)
ALBANIA	—	Feb. 3, 1925	Feb. 3, 1925	Feb. 3, 1925
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA	Jan. 23, 1912	—	Dec. 15, 1913	Feb. 11, 1915
ARGENTINE	—	Oct. 17, 1912	—	—
AUSTRIA	—	—	July 16, 1920**	July 16, 1920**
BELGIUM ²	—	June 18, 1912	June 16, 1914	May 14, 1919
BOLIVIA	—	June 4, 1913	Jan. 10, 1920**	Jan. 10, 1920**
BRAZIL	—	Oct. 16, 1912	Dec. 23, 1914	Jan. 10, 1920**
GREAT BRITAIN ³	Jan. 23, 1912	April 24, 1922	July 15, 1914	Jan. 10, 1920**
BULGARIA	—	March 2, 1914	Aug. 9, 1920**	Aug. 9, 1920**
CHILE	—	July 2, 1913	Jan. 16, 1923	May 18, 1923
CHINA	Jan. 23, 1912	—	Feb. 9, 1914	Feb. 11, 1915
COLOMBIA ⁴	—	Jan. 15, 1913	June 26, 1924	June 30, 1924
COSTA RICA	—	April 25, 1912	August 1, 1924	July 29, 1925
CUBA	—	May 8, 1913	March 8, 1920**	March 8, 1920**
CZECHOSLOVAKIA	—	—	Jan. 10, 1920**	Jan. 10, 1920**
FREE CITY OF DANZIG (through the intermediary of Poland)	—	Nov. 8, 1921	April 18, 1922	March 5, 1931
DENMARK ⁵	—	Dec. 17, 1912	July 10, 1913	Oct. 21, 1921
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC	—	Nov. 12, 1912	June 7, 1923	April 14, 1931
ECUADOR	—	July 2, 1912	Feb. 25, 1915	August 23, 1923
ESTONIA	—	Jan. 9, 1923	April 20, 1923	January 21, 1931
FINLAND	—	April 24, 1922	May 16, 1922	Dec. 1, 1922
FRANCE ⁶	Jan. 23, 1912	—	Jan. 10, 1920**	Jan. 10, 1920**
GERMANY	Jan. 23, 1912	—	Jan. 10, 1920**	Jan. 10, 1920**
GREECE	—	—	March 30, 1920**	March 30, 1920**

* This Schedule which appeared in the annexes to the supplementary report on the work of the Council and the Secretariat is reproduced here for purposes of information.

¹ See *Treaty Series* of the League of Nations, Vol. VIII, p. 187; Vol. XI, p. 414; Vol. XV, p. 310; Vol. XIX, p. 282; Vol. XXIV, p. 162; Vol. XXXI, p. 244; Vol. XXXV, p. 298; Vol. XXXIX, p. 167, and Vol. LIX, p. 346.

² Subject to adherence or denunciation as regards Belgian Congo.

³ In accordance with the following reservation:

The articles of the present Convention, if ratified by His Britannic Majesty's Government, shall apply to the Government of British India, Ceylon, the Straits Settlements, Hong-Kong, and Wei-hai-Wei in every respect in the same way as they shall apply to the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland; but His Britannic Majesty's Government reserve the right of signing or denouncing separately the said Convention in the name of any Dominion, Colony, Dependency, or Protectorate of His Majesty other than those which have been specified.

In virtue of the above-mentioned reservation, Great Britain signed the Convention for the following Dominions, Colonies, Dependencies, and Protectorates:

On December 17th, 1912, for Canada, Newfoundland, New Zealand, Brunei, Cyprus, the East Africa Protectorate, Falkland Islands, Malay Protectorates, Gambia, Gibraltar, Gold Coast, Jamaica, Johore, Kedah, Kelantan, Perlis, Trengganu, Malta, Northern Nigeria, Northern Borneo, Nyasaland, St. Helena, Sarawak, Seychelles, Somaliland, Southern Nigeria, Trinidad, Uganda; on February 27th, 1913, for the Colony of Fiji; on April 22nd, 1913, for the Colony of Sierra Leone, the Gilbert and Ellice Islands Protectorate and the Solomon Islands Protectorate; on June 25th, 1913, for the Government of the Commonwealth of Australia; on November 14th, 1913, for the Bahamas Islands and for the three Colonies of the Windward Islands, that is to say, Grenada, St. Lucia and St. Vincent; on January 30th, 1914, for the Leeward Islands; on February 11th, 1914, for British Guiana as well as for British Honduras; on March 11th, 1914, for the Government of the Union of South Africa; on March 28th, 1914, for Zanzibar, Southern and Northern Rhodesia, Basutoland, the Bechuanaland Protectorate and Swaziland; on April 4th, 1914, for the Colony of Barbados; on April 8th, 1914, for Mauritius and its dependencies; on July 11th, 1914, for the Bermuda Islands; on August 21st, 1924, for Palestine and together with France for the New Hebrides; on October 20th, 1924, for Iraq.

⁴ Subject to the approval of the Colombian Parliament.

⁵ The signature of the Protocol of Signature of the Powers not represented at the Conference as well as its ratification were given by Denmark for Iceland and the Danish Antilles; the signature of the Protocol respecting the putting into force of the Convention was given separately by Denmark and Iceland.

⁶ With the reservation that a separate and special ratification or denunciation may subsequently be obtained for the French Protectorates. France and Great Britain signed the Convention for the New Hebrides, August 21st, 1924.

INTERNATIONAL OPIUM CONVENTION OF JANUARY 23RD, 1912 (*continued*).

(The ratifications and signatures in accordance with Article 205 of the Peace Treaty of Versailles or in accordance with a similar article of other treaties of peace are marked **.)

States	Signatures of the Convention	Signatures of the Protocol of the Powers not represented at the Opium Conference	Ratifications of the Convention	Signatures of the Protocol relative to the bringing into force of the Convention (dates of the entry into force)
GUATEMALA	—	June 17, 1912	Aug. 27, 1913	Jan. 10, 1920**
HAITI	—	Aug. 21, 1912	June 30, 1920**	June 30, 1920**
HONDURAS	—	July 5, 1912	Aug. 29, 1913	April 3, 1915
HUNGARY	—	—	July 26, 1921**	July 26, 1921**
ITALY	Jan. 23, 1912	—	June 28, 1914	Jan. 10, 1920**
JAPAN	Jan. 23, 1912	—	Jan. 10, 1920**	Jan. 10, 1920**
LATVIA	—	Feb. 6, 1922	March 25, 1924	—
LIBERIA	—	—	June 30, 1920**	June 30, 1920**
LITHUANIA	—	April 7, 1922	—	—
LUXEMBURG	—	June 18, 1912	Aug. 21, 1922	Aug. 21, 1922
MEXICO	—	May 15, 1912	April 2, 1925	May 8, 1925
MONACO	—	May 1, 1923	Feb. 20, 1925	May 26, 1925
THE NETHERLANDS	Jan. 23, 1912	—	July 28, 1914	Feb. 11, 1915
NICARAGUA	—	July 18, 1913	Nov. 10, 1914	Nov. 3, 1920
NORWAY	—	Sept. 2, 1913	Nov. 12, 1914	Sept. 20, 1915
PANAMA	—	June 19, 1912	Nov. 25, 1920**	Nov. 25, 1920**
PARAGUAY	—	Dec. 14, 1912	—	—
PERU	—	July 24, 1913	Jan. 10, 1920**	Jan. 10, 1920**
PERSIA ¹	Jan. 23, 1912	—	—	—
POLAND	—	—	Jan. 10, 1920**	Jan. 10, 1920**
PORTUGAL	Jan. 23, 1912	—	Dec. 15, 1913	April 8, 1920**
ROUMANIA	—	Dec. 27, 1913	Sept. 14, 1920**	Sept. 14, 1920**
RUSSIA	Jan. 23, 1912	—	—	—
SALVADOR	—	July 30, 1912	Sept. 19, 1922	May, 29 1931
SIAM ²	Jan. 23, 1912	—	July 10, 1913	Jan. 10, 1920**
SPAIN	—	Oct. 23, 1912	Jan. 25, 1919	Feb. 11, 1921
SWEDEN ³	—	Aug. 27, 1913	April 17, 1914	Jan. 13, 1921
SWITZERLAND ⁴	—	Dec. 29, 1913	Jan. 15, 1925	Jan. 15, 1925
URUGUAY	—	March 9, 1914	April 3, 1916	Jan. 10, 1920**
VENEZUELA	—	Sept. 10, 1912	Oct. 28, 1913	July 12, 1927
YUGOSLAVIA	—	—	Feb. 10, 1920**	Feb. 10, 1920**

2. THE FIRST OPIUM CONFERENCE OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS.
AGREEMENT, PROTOCOL AND FINAL ACT.⁵

(Signed at Geneva, February 11th, 1925.)

In Force.

Ratifications.

Signatures not yet perfected by Ratification.

Other State to whose Signature the Agreement is open.

BRITISH EMPIRE (February 17th, 1926)

The signature of this Protocol is subject, in respect of British Protectorates, to the conditions contained in Article XIII of the Agreement.

INDIA (February 17th, 1926)

FRANCE (April 29th, 1926)

JAPAN (October 10th, 1928)

NETHERLANDS (including Netherlands Indies, Surinam and Curaçao) (March 1st, 1927)

CHINA

¹ With the reservation of Articles 15, 16, 17, 18 and 19 (Persia having no treaty with China) and paragraph (d) of Article 3.

² With the reservation of Articles 15, 16, 17, 18 and 19 (Siam having no treaty with China).

³ Subject to the following declaration: "Opium not being manufactured in Sweden, the Swedish Government will for the moment confine themselves to prohibiting the importation of prepared opium, but they declare at the same time that they are ready to take the measures indicated in Article 8 of the Convention if experience proves their expediency."

⁴ Subject to ratification and with the declaration that the Swiss Government will be unable to issue the necessary legal enactments within the terms fixed by the Convention.

⁵ The Agreement and the Protocol came into force on July 28th, 1926. See League of Nations Treaty Series, Vol. LI, p. 337; Vol. LIX, p. 401, and Vol. LXXVIII, p. 489.

2. THE FIRST OPIUM CONFERENCE OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS.
AGREEMENT, PROTOCOL AND FINAL ACT (*continued*).

(Signed at Geneva, February 11th, 1925.)

In Force.

Ratifications

PORTUGAL (September 13th, 1926)

While accepting the principle of a monopoly as formulated in Article I, does so, as regards the moment at which the measures provided for in the first paragraph thereof shall come into force, subject to the limitation contained in the second paragraph of the article.

The Portuguese Government, being bound by a contract consistent with the provisions of the Hague Convention of 1912, will not be able to put into operation the provisions of paragraph 1 of Article VI of the present Agreement so long as its obligations under this contract are in force

SIAM (May 6th, 1927)

Under reservation of Article I, paragraph 3 (a), with regard to the time when this provision shall come into force, and of Article V. The reason for these reservations had been stated by the First Delegate of Siam on November 14th, 1924. The Siamese Government is hoping to put into force the system of registration and rationing within the period of three years. After that date, the reservation in regard to Article I, paragraph 3 (a), will fall to the ground.

3. SECOND OPIUM CONFERENCE OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS.
CONVENTION.¹

(Geneva, February 19th, 1925.)

In Force.

*Ratifications or
definitive Accessions.*

AUSTRIA (November 25th, 1927)

BELGIUM (August 24th, 1927)
Does not apply to the Belgian Congo or to the territory of Ruanda-Urundi under Belgian mandate.

BRITISH EMPIRE (February 17th, 1926)

His Britannic Majesty's ratification shall not be deemed to apply in the case of the Dominion of Canada or the Irish Free State and, in pursuance of the power reserved in Article 39 of the Convention, the instrument shall not be deemed to apply in the case of the Colony of the Bahamas or the State of Sarawak under His Britannic Majesty's protection.

CANADA (June 27th, 1928)

AUSTRALIA (February 17th, 1926)

UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA (February 17th, 1926)

*Signatures or Accessions not yet
perfected by Ratification.*

ALBANIA
Argentine Republic a)
BOLIVIA (a)

1. Bolivia does not undertake to restrict the home cultivation or production of coca, or to prohibit the use of coca leaves by the native population.
2. The exportation of coca leaves shall be subject to control by the Bolivian Government, by means of export certificates.
3. The Bolivian Government designates the following as places from which coca may be exported:
Villazon, Yacuiba, Antofagasta, Arica and Mollendo.

BRAZIL
CHILE
NICARAGUA
PERSIA

Ad referendum and subject to the League of Nations complying with the request made by Persia in the Memorandum O.D.C. 24.

*The Convention is open
to Accession by:*

ABYSSINIA
AFGHANISTAN
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
CHINA
COSTA RICA
ECUADOR
GUATEMALA
HAITI
HEJAZ
HONDURAS
ICELAND
LIBERIA
LIECHTENSTEIN
MEXICO
PANAMA
PARAGUAY
PERU
UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST
REPUBLICS
TURKEY

¹ The Convention and the Protocol came into force September 25th, 1928 (Article 36). See League of Nations Treaty Series, Vol. LXXXI, p. 317; Vol. LXXXVIII, p. 390; Vol. XCII, p. 409; Vol. XCVI, p. 204; Vol. C, p. 249 and Vol. CIV, p. 516.

3. SECOND OPIUM CONFERENCE OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS.
CONVENTION (*continued*).

(Geneva, February 19th, 1925.)

In Force.

*Ratifications or
definitive Accessions.*

- NEW ZEALAND and WESTERN
SAMOA (February 17th,
1926)
Irish Free State (September
1st, 1931)
INDIA (February 17th, 1926)
Iraq (August 8th, 1931 *a*)
State of Sarawak (March
11th, 1926 *a*)
Bahamas (October 22nd,
1926 *a*)
BULGARIA (March 9th, 1927)
COLOMBIA (December 3rd,
1930 *a*)
Cuba (July 6th, 1931)
CZECHOSLOVAKIA (April 11th,
1927)
FREE CITY OF DANZIG (through
the intermediary of Poland)
(June 16th, 1927 *a*)
DENMARK (April 23rd, 1930)
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC (July
19th, 1928 *a*)
EGYPT (March 16th, 1926 *a*)
ESTONIA (August 30th, 1930 *a*)
FINLAND (December 5th, 1927 *a*)
FRANCE (July 2nd, 1927)
The French Government is com-
pelled to make all reservation, as
regards the Colonies, Protector-
ates and mandated territories
under its authority, as to the
possibility of regularly produc-
ing, within the strictly pre-
scribed time-limit, the quarterly
statistics provided for in para-
graph 2 of Article 22.
GERMANY (August 15th, 1929)
Subject to the reservation annexed
to the Procès-verbal of the
plenary meeting of February
16th, 1925. (The validity of the
signature and ratification of
this Convention are subject to
the condition that a German
expert will be appointed as a
member of the Central Board.)
GREECE (December 10th, 1929)
HUNGARY (August 27th, 1930)
ITALY (for the Kingdom and
Colonies) (December 11th,
1929 *a*)
JAPAN (October 10th, 1928)
LATVIA (October 31st, 1928)
LITHUANIA (February 13th,
1931 *a*)
LUXEMBURG (March 27th, 1928)
MONACO (February 9th, 1927 *a*)
NETHERLANDS (including Ne-
therlands Indies, Surinam
and Curaçao) (June 4th, 1928)
New Hebrides (December 27th,
1927 *a*)
NORWAY (March 16th, 1931 *a*)
POLAND (June 16th, 1927)
PORTUGAL (September 13th,
1926)
ROUMANIA (May 18th, 1928 *a*)
SALVADOR (December 2nd,
1926 *a*)
SAN MARINO (April 21st, 1929)

3. SECOND OPIUM CONFERENCE OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS.
CONVENTION (*continued*).
(*Geneva, February 19th, 1925.*)
In Force.

*Ratifications or
definitive Accessions.*

SIAM (October 11th, 1929)
SPAIN (June 22nd, 1928)
Includes also the Spanish Colonies,
and the Spanish Protectorate of
Morocco.
SUDAN (February 20th, 1926)
SWEDEN (December 6th, 1930*a*)
SWITZERLAND (April 3rd, 1929)
With reference to the declaration
made by the Swiss delegation
at the 36th plenary meeting
of the Conference concerning
the forwarding of the quarterly
statistics provided for in
Article 22, paragraph 2.
URUGUAY (September 11th,
1930)
VENEZUELA (June 19th, 1929*a*)
YUGOSLAVIA (September 4th,
1929)

PROTOCOL.
(*Geneva, February 19th, 1925.*)
In Force.

*Ratifications or
definitive Accessions.*

BRITISH EMPIRE (February
17th, 1926)
CANADA (June 27th, 1928)
AUSTRALIA (February 17th,
1926)
UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA
(February 17th, 1926)
NEW ZEALAND (February
17th, 1926)
INDIA (February 17th, 1926)
Iraq (August 8th, 1931 *a*)
State of Sarawak (March
11th, 1926 *a*)
Bahamas (October 22nd,
1926 *a*)
BULGARIA (March 9th, 1927)
COLOMBIA (December 3rd,
1930 *a*)
Cuba (July 6th, 1931)
CZECHOSLOVAKIA (April 11th,
1927)
EGYPT (March 16th, 1926 *a*)
ESTONIA (August 30th, 1930 *a*)
FINLAND (December 5th,
1927 *a*)
GERMANY (August 15th, 1929)
GREECE (December 10th, 1929)
JAPAN (October 10th, 1928)
LATVIA (October 31st, 1928)
LUXEMBURG (March 27th, 1928)
NETHERLANDS (including Ne-
therlands Indies, Surinam
and Curaçao) (June 4th, 1928)
PORTUGAL (September 13th,
1926)
ROUMANIA (May 18th, 1928 *a*)
SALVADOR (December 2nd,
1926 *a*)
SIAM (October 11th, 1929)
SPAIN (April 19th, 1930 *a*)
SUDAN (February 20th, 1926)
VENEZUELA (June 19th, 1929*a*)
YUGOSLAVIA (September 4th,
1929)

*Signatures or Accessions not yet
perfected by Ratification.*

ALBANIA
Argentine Republic (a)
BOLIVIA (*a*)
CHILE
NICARAGUA
PERSIA

*The Protocol is open
to Accession by:*

ABYSSINIA
AFGHANISTAN
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
AUSTRIA
BELGIUM
BRAZIL
CHINA
COSTA RICA
FREE CITY OF DANZIG
DENMARK
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC
ECUADOR
FRANCE
GUATEMALA
HAITI
HEJAZ
HONDURAS
HUNGARY
ICELAND
IRISH FREE STATE
ITALY
LIBERIA
LIECHTENSTEIN
LITHUANIA
MEXICO
MONACO
NORWAY
PANAMA
PARAGUAY
PERU
POLAND
SAN MARINO
UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST
REPUBLICS
SWEDEN
SWITZERLAND
TURKEY
URUGUAY

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

I. CONVENTION FOR THE SUPERVISION OF THE INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN ARMS AND AMMUNITION AND IN IMPLEMENTS OF WAR.¹

(Geneva, June 17th, 1925.)

Not in Force.

*Ratifications or
definitive Accessions.*

*Signatures or Accessions not yet
perfected by Ratification.*

*The Convention is open
to Accession by:*

BRITISH EMPIRE

Does not bind India or any British Dominion which is a separate Member of the League of Nations and does not separately sign or adhere to the Convention. This ratification will not become effective until the ratifications of the said Convention by all the following Powers, *i.e.* Austria, Belgium, Czechoslovakia, Germany, Italy, Japan, Spain, Sweden and United States of America have become effective in accordance with article 41 of the Convention.

AUSTRALIA *a)*

Subject to the reservation that this accession shall not take effect until ratifications of the Convention in respect of Austria, Belgium, Czechoslovakia, Germany, Italy, Japan, Spain, Sweden and the United States of America have been deposited with the French Government.

CHINA

DENMARK

The Danish Government makes the entry into force of this Convention, as far as Denmark is concerned, subject to its being put into force both in Sweden and in Switzerland.

EGYPT

FRANCE

This ratification will not become effective until the ratifications of the Convention by Belgium, Czechoslovakia, Italy, Japan, Sweden and the United States of America have become effective in accordance with Article 41 of the Convention.

Latvia

With reservation for the suspension of the application of Articles 6 and 9 in virtue of the right recognised to Latvia in Article 29.

LIBERIA *a)*

NETHERLANDS (including the Netherlands Indies, Surinam and Curaçao)

POLAND

With reservation for the suspension of the application of Articles 6 and 9 in virtue of the right recognised to Poland in Article 29.

SPAIN

SWEDEN

Subject to the condition that this ratification will only take effect when the other producing States shall have ratified the convention.

VENEZUELA

ABYSSINIA

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

AUSTRIA

BELGIUM

To the same extent as does the effect of the Convention apply in the States named hereafter: The United States of America, Austria, France, Great Britain, Czechoslovakia, Germany, Italy, Japan, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland.

BRAZIL

Reserves, during the whole period of application of the present Convention, the right of fulfilling it, as regards the part that concerns Brazil, according to the spirit of the provisions having for their object the generalisation of control both as concerns the commerce as well as concerns the manufacture of armaments.

BULGARIA

CANADA

CHILE

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

ESTONIA

With reservation for the suspension of the application of Articles 6 and 9 in virtue of the right recognised to Estonia in Article 29.

FINLAND

With reservation for the suspension of the application of Articles 6 and 9 in virtue of the right recognised to Finland in Article 29.

GERMANY

HUNGARY

INDIA

ITALY

JAPAN

LUXEMBURG

NORWAY

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC

COLOMBIA

GREECE

IRISH FREE STATE

LITHUANIA

NICARAGUA

PANAMA

PARAGUAY

PERSIA

PORTUGAL

TURKEY, and all other States invited to adhere in accordance with Article 37 of the Convention.

¹ " A first procès-verbal of the deposit of ratifications will be drawn up by the Government of the French Republic as soon as the present Convention shall have been ratified by fourteen Powers.

" The Convention shall come into force four months after the date of the notification of this procès-verbal by the Government of the French Republic to all signatory Powers " (Article 41).

I. CONVENTION FOR THE SUPERVISION OF THE INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN ARMS
AND AMMUNITION AND IN IMPLEMENTS OF WAR (*continued*).

(Geneva, June 17th, 1925.)

Not in Force.

*Signatures or Accessions not yet
perfected by Ratification.*

ROUMANIA

Ad referendum with the reservation provided in Article 29 of the Convention, in virtue of which the application of Articles 6 and 9, as far as they concern exports consigned to Roumania by the High Contracting Parties and as far as they concern imports manufactured in Roumania, will be suspended until the date of the accession of Russia to the present Convention, as also to the Annex.

SALVADOR

SIAM

SWITZERLAND

URUGUAY

YUGOSLAVIA

2. DECLARATION REGARDING THE TERRITORY OF IFNI.

(Geneva, June 17th, 1925.)

Not in Force.

*Ratifications or
definitive Accessions.*

AUSTRALIA a)

Subject to the reservation that this accession shall not take effect until ratifications of the Convention in respect of Austria, Belgium, Czechoslovakia, Germany, Italy, Japan, Spain, Sweden and the United States of America have been deposited with the French Government.

CHINA

DENMARK

The Danish Government makes the entry into force of this Declaration, as far as Denmark is concerned subject to its being put into force both in Sweden and in Switzerland.

EGYPT

FRANCE

LIBERIA

NETHERLANDS (including
Netherlands Indies, Surinam
and Curaçao)

POLAND

SPAIN

VENEZUELA

*Signatures or Accessions not yet
perfected by Ratification.*

ABYSSINIA

AUSTRIA

BELGIUM

BRAZIL

BRITISH EMPIRE:

Does not bind India or any British Dominion which is a separate Member of the League of Nations and does not separately sign or adhere to the Declaration.

CANADA

INDIA

BULGARIA

CHILE

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

ESTONIA

FINLAND

ITALY

JAPAN

LATVIA

LUXEMBURG

ROUMANIA

SALVADOR

SWITZERLAND

YUGOSLAVIA

*The Declaration is open
to Accession by:*

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC

COLOMBIA

GERMANY

GREECE

HUNGARY

IRISH FREE STATE

LITHUANIA

NICARAGUA

NORWAY

PANAMA

PARAGUAY

PERSIA

PORTUGAL

SIAM

SWEDEN

TURKEY

URUGUAY

And all other States invited to
adhere to the Convention in
accordance with Article 37.

3. PROTOCOL FOR THE PROHIBITION OF THE USE IN WAR OF ASPHYXIATING, POISONOUS AND OTHER GASES AND OF BACTERIOLOGICAL METHODS OF WARFARE. ¹

(Geneva, June 17th, 1925.)

In Force.

*Ratifications or
definitive Accessions.*

*Signatures or Accessions not yet
perfected by Ratification.*

*The Protocol is open
to Accession by:*

AUSTRIA (May 9th, 1928)
BELGIUM (December 4th, 1928)

- (1) The said Protocol is only binding on the Belgian Government as regards States which have signed or ratified it or which may accede to it.
- (2) The said Protocol shall *ipso facto* cease to be binding on the Belgian Government in regard to any enemy State whose armed forces or whose Allies fail to respect the prohibitions laid down in the Protocol.

BRITISH EMPIRE (April 9th, 1930)

Does not bind India or any British Dominion which is a separate Member of the League of Nations and does not separately sign or adhere to the Protocol.

- (1) The said Protocol is only binding on His Britannic Majesty as regards those Powers and States which have both signed and ratified the Protocol, or have finally acceded thereto;
- (2) The said Protocol shall cease to be binding on His Britannic Majesty towards any Power at enmity with Him whose armed forces, or the armed forces of whose allies, fail to respect the prohibitions laid down in the Protocol.

CANADA (May 6th, 1930)

- (1) The said Protocol is only binding on His Britannic Majesty as regards those States which have both signed and ratified it, or have finally acceded thereto;
- (2) The said Protocol shall cease to be binding on His Britannic Majesty towards any State at enmity with Him whose armed forces, or whose allies *de jure* or in fact fail to respect the prohibitions laid down in the Protocol.

AUSTRALIA (January 22nd, 1930 a)

Subject to the reservations that His Majesty is bound by the said Protocol only towards those Powers and States which have both signed and ratified the Protocol or have acceded thereto, and that His Majesty shall cease to be bound by the Protocol towards any Power at enmity with Him whose armed forces, or the armed forces of whose allies, do not respect the Protocol.

NEW ZEALAND (January 22nd, 1930 a)

Subject to the reservations that His Majesty is bound by the said Protocol only towards those Powers and States which have both signed and ratified the Protocol or have acceded thereto, and that His Majesty shall cease to be bound by the Protocol towards any Power at enmity with Him whose armed forces, or the armed forces of whose allies, do not respect the Protocol.

ABYSSINIA
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
BRAZIL
BULGARIA
CHILE
CZECHOSLOVAKIA
JAPAN
LITHUANIA
LUXEMBURG
NICARAGUA
NORWAY
SALVADOR
SWITZERLAND
URUGUAY

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC

COLOMBIA

HUNGARY

PANAMA

PARAGUAY

And all other States invited to adhere to the Convention in accordance with Article 37.

¹ This Protocol came into force February 8th, 1928. See League of Nations Treaty Series, Vol. XCIV, p. 65; Vol. C, p. 262, and Vol CIV, p. 528.

3. PROTOCOL FOR THE PROHIBITION OF THE USE IN WAR OF ASPHYXIATING, POISONOUS AND OTHER GASES AND OF BACTERIOLOGICAL METHODS OF WARFARE (*continued*).

(Geneva, June 17th, 1925.)

In Force.

*Ratifications or
definitive Accessions.*

UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA
(January 22nd, 1930 *a*)

Subject to the reservations that His Majesty is bound by the said Protocol only towards those Powers and States which have both signed and ratified the Protocol or have acceded thereto, and that His Majesty shall cease to be bound by the Protocol towards any Power at enmity with Him whose armed forces, or the armed forces of whose allies, do not respect the Protocol.

IRISH FREE STATE (August 18th, 1930 *a*)

The Government of the Irish Free State does not intend to assume, by this accession, any obligation except towards the States having signed and ratified this Protocol or which shall have finally acceded thereto, and

Should the armed forces or the Allies of an enemy State fail to respect the said Protocol, the Government of the Irish Free State would cease to be bound by the said Protocol in regard to such State.

INDIA (April 9th, 1930)

- (1) The said Protocol is only binding on His Britannic Majesty as regards those States which have both signed and ratified it, or have finally acceded thereto;
- (2) The said Protocol shall cease to be binding on His Britannic Majesty towards any Power at enmity with Him whose armed forces, or the armed forces of whose allies, fail to respect the prohibitions laid down in the Protocol.

CHINA (August 7th, 1929 *a*)

DENMARK (May 5th, 1930)

EGYPT (December 6th, 1928)

Estonia (August 28, 1931)

FINLAND (June 26th, 1929¹)

FRANCE (May 9th, 1926)

- (1) The said Protocol is only binding on the Government of the French Republic as regards States which have signed or ratified it or which may accede to it.
- (2) The said Protocol shall *ipso facto* cease to be binding on the Government of the French Republic in regard to any enemy State whose armed forces or whose Allies fail to respect the prohibitions laid down in the Protocol.

GERMANY (April 25th, 1929)

Greece (May 30th, 1931)

ITALY (April 3rd, 1928)

Latvia (June 3rd, 1931)

LIBERIA (April 2nd, 1927 *a*)

NETHERLANDS (including Netherlands Indies, Surinam and Curaçao) October 31st, 1930)

Subject to the reservation that, as regards the use in war of asphyxiating, poisonous or other gases,

3. PROTOCOL FOR THE PROHIBITION OF THE USE IN WAR OF ASPHYXIATING, POISONOUS AND OTHER GASES AND OF BACTERIOLOGICAL METHODS OF WARFARE (*continued*).
(Geneva, June 17th, 1925.)

In Force.

*Ratifications or
definitive Accessions.*

and of all analogous liquids, materials or devices, this Protocol shall *ipso facto* cease to be binding on the Royal Netherlands Government in regard to any enemy State whose armed forces or whose allies fail to respect the prohibitions laid down in the Protocol.

PERSIA (July 4th, 1929 *a*)

POLAND (February 4th, 1929)

PORTUGAL (July 1st, 1930)

- (1) The said Protocol is only binding on the Government of the Portuguese Republic as regards States which have signed or ratified it or which may accede to it.
- (2) The said Protocol shall *ipso facto* cease to be binding on the Government of the Portuguese Republic in regard to any enemy State whose armed forces or whose Allies fail to respect the prohibitions laid down in the Protocol.

ROUMANIA (August 23rd, 1929)

Subject to the reservation:

- (1) That the said Protocol only binds the Roumanian Government in relation to States which have signed and ratified or which have definitely acceded to the Protocol;
- (2) That the said Protocol shall cease to be binding on the Roumanian Government in regard to all enemy States whose armed forces or whose Allies *de jure* or in fact do not respect the restrictions which are the object of this Protocol.

Siam (June 6th, 1931)

SPAIN (August 22nd, 1929)

Declares as compulsory *ipso facto* and without special agreement, in relation to any other Member or State accepting and executing the same obligation, that is to say, on condition of reciprocity, the Protocol for the Prohibition of the Use in War of Asphyxiating, Poisonous and Other Gases and of Bacteriological Methods of Warfare, signed at Geneva, June 17, 1925.

UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS (April 5th, 1928 *a*)

- (1) That the said Protocol only binds the Government of the Union of the Soviet Socialist Republics in relation to the States which have signed and ratified or which have definitely acceded to the Protocol.
- (2) That the said Protocol shall cease to be binding on the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics in regard to all enemy States whose armed forces or whose Allies *de jure* or in fact do not respect restrictions which are the object of this Protocol.

SWEDEN (April 25th, 1930)

TURKEY (October 5th, 1929)

VENEZUELA (February 8th, 1928)

YUGOSLAVIA (April 12th, 1929)

XII. AMENDMENTS TO THE COVENANT.

16. PROTOCOL OF AN AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE 16. (*Second Paragraph of the Original Text.*)

(*Geneva, September 21st, 1925.*)

Not in Force.

Ratifications.

CHILE (August 1st, 1928)
DENMARK (March 28th, 1926)
ESTONIA (September 18th,
1926)
NETHERLANDS (August 20th,
1926)

*Signatures not yet
perfected by Ratification.*

UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA
ALBANIA
BOLIVIA
BRAZIL
BULGARIA
CANADA
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC
JAPAN
NEW ZEALAND
NORWAY
PERU
PORTUGAL
SALVADOR
SIAM
URUGUAY

*Other Members to whose Signature
the Protocol is open.*

ABYSSINIA
ARGENTINE REPUBLIC
AUSTRALIA
AUSTRIA
BELGIUM
BRITISH EMPIRE
CHINA
COLOMBIA
CUBA
CZECHOSLOVAKIA
FINLAND
FRANCE
GERMANY
GREECE
GUATEMALA
HAITI
HONDURAS
HUNGARY
INDIA
IRISH FREE STATE
ITALY
LATVIA
LIBERIA
LITHUANIA
LUXEMBURG
NICARAGUA
PANAMA
PARAGUAY
PERSIA
POLAND
ROUMANIA
SPAIN
SWEDEN
SWITZERLAND
VENEZUELA
YUGOSLAVIA

XIII. COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSIT.

9. CONVENTION REGARDING THE MEASUREMENT OF VESSELS EMPLOYED IN INLAND NAVIGATION AND PROTOCOL OF SIGNATURE.¹

(Paris, November 27th, 1925.)

In Force.

<i>Ratifications or definitive Accessions.</i>	<i>Signatures or Accessions not yet perfected by Ratification.</i>	<i>The Convention is open to Accession by:</i>
AUSTRIA (July 4th, 1927)	FINLAND	ALBANIA
BELGIUM (July 2nd, 1927)	ITALY	DENMARK
BRITISH EMPIRE (for Great Britain and Northern Ire- land) (June 14th, 1927)	UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS	ESTONIA
BULGARIA (July 2nd, 1927)		IRISH FREE STATE
CZECHOSLOVAKIA (January 17th, 1929)		LATVIA
FREE CITY OF DANZIG (through the intermediary of Poland) (July 23rd, 1930 a)		LITHUANIA
FRANCE (July 2nd, 1927)		LUXEMBURG
It being understood on behalf of the French Government, and as pro- vided for in Article 6 of the Pro- tocol of Signature, that in the event of a re-measurement of a vessel originally measured by its own officials the original indelible marks, when they are not in- tended solely to indicate that the vessel has been measured, shall have added to them an indelible cross having arms of equal length, and that this addition shall be regarded as equivalent to the removal described in Article 10 of the Annex to the Convention; that the old measurement plates shall be marked with a cross instead of being withdrawn; and that, if new plates are affixed, the old plates shall be placed at the same level and near to the new ones. In the case provided for above, the notification provided for in the third paragraph of Article 5 and in Article 6 of the Convention shall also be addressed to the original office of inscription.		NORWAY
GERMANY (July 2nd, 1927)		PERSIA
GREECE (February 6th, 1931)		PORTUGAL
HUNGARY (January 3rd, 1928)		SWEDEN
NETHERLANDS (for the King- dom in Europe) (July 2nd, 1927)		TURKEY
POLAND (June 16th, 1930)		
ROUMANIA (May 18th, 1928)		
SPAIN (July 11th, 1927)		
SWITZERLAND (July 2nd, 1927)		
YUGOSLAVIA (May 7th, 1930)		
Under Clause IV of the Protocol of Signature.		

¹ The Convention came into force on October 1st, 1927, in conformity with Article 12. See *League of Nations Treaty Series*, Vol. LXVII, p. 63; Vol. LXXXIII, p. 443; Vol. XCVI, p. 201; Vol. C, p. 228, and Vol. CIV, p. 511.

XIV. SLAVERY.

SLAVERY CONVENTION.¹ (Geneva, September 25th, 1926.)

In Force.

Ratifications or definitive Accessions.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA * (March 21st, 1929 a)

Subject to the reservation that the Government of the United States, adhering to its policy of opposition to forced or compulsory labour except as punishment for crime of which the person concerned has been duly convicted, adheres to the Convention except as to the first sub-division of the second paragraph of Article five, which reads as follows:

"(1) Subject to the transitional provisions laid down in paragraph (2) below, compulsory or forced labour may only be exacted for public purposes."

AUSTRIA (August 19th, 1927)

BELGIUM (September 23rd, 1927)

BRITISH EMPIRE (June 18th, 1927)

Does not bind India or any British Dominion which is a separate Member of the League of Nations and does not separately sign or accede to the Convention.

CANADA (August 6th, 1928)

AUSTRALIA (June 18th, 1927)

UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA (June 18th, 1927)

NEW ZEALAND (June 18th, 1927)

INDIA (June 18th, 1927)

Under the terms of Article 9 of this Convention, I declare that my signature is not binding as regards the enforcement of the provisions of Article 2, sub-section (b), Articles 5, 6 and 7 of this Convention upon the following territories, namely: in Burma, the Naga tracts lying west and south of the Hukawng Valley bounded on the north and west by the Assam boundary, on the east by the Nanphuk River and on the south by the Singaling Hikamti and the Somra tracts; in Assam, the Sadiya and Balipara frontier tracts, the tribal area to the east of the Naga Hills district, up to the Burma boundary, and a small tract in the south of the Lushai Hills district; or on the territories in India of any Prince or Chief under the suzerainty of His Majesty.

I also declare that my signature to the Convention is not binding in respect of Article 3 in so far as that article may require India to enter into any convention whereby vessels, by reason of the fact that they are owned, fitted out or commanded by Indians, or of the fact that one-half of the crew is Indian, are classified as native vessels, or are denied any privilege, right or immunity enjoyed by similar vessels of other States

Signatures or Accessions not yet perfected by Ratification.

ABYSSINIA

ALBANIA

CHINA

COLOMBIA

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC (a)

LITHUANIA

PANAMA

PERSIA

Ad referendum and interpreting Article 3 as without power to compel Persia to bind herself by any arrangement or convention which would place her ships of whatever tonnage in the category of native vessels provided for by the Convention on the Trade in Arms.

URUGUAY

The Convention is open to Accession by:

AFGHANISTAN

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC

BOLIVIA

BRAZIL

CHILE

COSTA RICA

FREE CITY OF DANZIG

GUATEMALA

HEJAZ

HONDURAS

ICELAND

JAPAN

LIECHTENSTEIN

LUXEMBURG

MEXICO

PARAGUAY

PERU

SALVADOR

SAN MARINO

SIAM

UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

TURKEY

VENEZUELA

* This accession, given subject to reservation, has been communicated to the signatory States for acceptance.

¹ This Convention came into force March 9th, 1927, according to its Article 12. See League of Nations *Treaty Series*, Vol. LX, p. 253; Vol. LXIX, p. 114; Vol. LXXII, p. 485; Vol. LXXXIII, p. 416; Vol. LXXXVIII, p. 356; Vol. XCVI, p. 192; Vol. C, p. 221, and Vol. CIV, p. 511.

SLAVERY CONVENTION (*continued*).
(Geneva, September 25th, 1926.)

In Force.

*Ratifications or
definitive Accessions.*

signatories of the Covenant or are made subject to any liability or disability to which similar ships of such other States are not subject.

- IRISH FREE STATE (July 18th, 1930 *a*)
BULGARIA (March 9th, 1927)
Cuba (July 6th, 1931)
CZECHOSLOVAKIA
(October 10th, 1930)
DENMARK (May 17th, 1927)
ECUADOR (March 26th, 1928 *a*)
EGYPT (January 25th, 1928 *a*)
ESTONIA (May 16th, 1929)
FINLAND (September 29th, 1927)
FRANCE (March 28th, 1931)
Syria and Lebanon (June 25th, 1931 *a*)
GERMANY (March 12th, 1929)
GREECE (July 4th, 1930)
HAITI (September 3rd, 1927 *a*)
HUNGARY* (April 16th, 1927 *a*)
The Royal Hungarian Government expresses, with respect to point (2) of paragraph 2 of Article 5, the opinion that the application of measures of coercion by public authorities against persons who without legal justification refuse to fulfil undertakings (duties as domestic servants, agricultural labourers or harvest labourers), entered into by them freely under the civil law, cannot be considered as a measure conducing to conditions analogous to slavery which is prohibited by the present Convention, since in such cases the sole object is to ensure the proper observance of the period of notice which the law requires to be given to the employer or to secure the completion of a task of short duration freely accepted by the workman.
IRAQ (January 18th, 1929 *a*)
ITALY (August 25th, 1928)
LATVIA (July 9th, 1927)
LIBERIA (May 17th, 1930)
MONACO (January 17th, 1928 *a*)
THE NETHERLANDS (including Netherlands Indies, Surinam and Curaçao) (January 7th, 1928)
NICARAGUA (October 3rd, 1927 *a*)
NORWAY (September 10th, 1927)
POLAND (September 17th, 1930)
PORTUGAL (October 4th, 1927)
Roumania (June 22nd, 1931)
SPAIN (September 12th, 1927)
For Spain and the Spanish Colonies, with the exception of the Spanish Protectorate of Morocco.
SUDAN (September 15th, 1927 *a*)
SWEDEN (December 17th, 1927)
SWITZERLAND (November 1st, 1930 *a*)
YUGOSLAVIA (September 28th, 1929)

* Subject to a reservation which has been submitted to the signatory States for acceptance.

XV. INTERNATIONAL RELIEF UNION.

CONVENTION AND STATUTE ESTABLISHING AN INTERNATIONAL RELIEF UNION.¹

(Geneva, July 12th, 1927.)

Not in Force.

*Ratifications or
definitive Accessions.*

ALBANIA (August 31st, 1929)
BELGIUM (May 9th, 1929)
GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTH-
ERN IRELAND (January 9th,
1929 a)

Does not include any of His
Britannic Majesty's Colonies,
Protectorates or territories under
suzerainty or mandate.

NEW ZEALAND (December
22nd, 1928 a)

On the understanding that no
contribution to the initial fund
of the Union will fall due by
New Zealand before the com-
mencement of the next financial
year in that country, viz., April
1st, 1929.

INDIA (April 2nd, 1929)

Bulgaria (May 22nd, 1931)

Czechoslovakia (August 20th,
1931)

ECUADOR (July 30th, 1928)

EGYPT (August 7th, 1928)

Subject to later acceptance by the
Egyptian Government of the de-
cisions of the Executive Com-
mittee fixing its contribution.

FINLAND (April 10th, 1929)

GERMANY (July 22nd, 1929)

GREECE (January 16th, 1931)

HUNGARY (April 17th, 1929)

Declares that "the most exten-
sive immunities, facilities and
exemptions" mentioned in Ar-
ticle 10 of the present Conven-
tion shall not include exterritoriality or the other rights and
immunities enjoyed in Hungary
by duly accredited diplomatic
agents.

ITALY (August 2nd, 1928)

Applies also to the Italian Colonies.

LUXEMBURG (June 27th, 1929 a)

MONACO (May 21st, 1929)

POLAND AND FREE CITY OF

DANZIG (July 11th, 1930)

ROUMANIA (September 11th,
1928)

SAN MARINO (August 12th,
1929)

SUDAN (May 11th, 1928 a)

SWITZERLAND (January 2nd,
1930 a)

VENEZUELA (June 19th, 1929)

Yugoslavia (August 28th,
1931 a)

*Signatures or Accessions not yet
perfected by Ratification.*

BRAZIL
COLOMBIA
CUBA
FRANCE
GUATEMALA
LATVIA
NICARAGUA
PERU
PORTUGAL
SPAIN
TURKEY
URUGUAY

*The Convention is open
to Accession by:*

ABYSSINIA
AFGHANISTAN
UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
ARGENTINE REPUBLIC
AUSTRALIA
AUSTRIA
BOLIVIA
CANADA
CHILE
CHINA
COSTA RICA
DENMARK
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC
ESTONIA
HAITI
HEJAZ
HONDURAS
ICELAND
IRISH FREE STATE
JAPAN
LIBERIA
LIECHTENSTEIN
LITHUANIA
MEXICO
NETHERLANDS
NORWAY
PANAMA
PARAGUAY
PERSIA
SALVADOR
SIAM
UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST
REPUBLICS
SWEDEN

¹ The present Convention shall not come into force until ratifications or accessions shall have been deposited in the name of at least twelve Members of the League of Nations or non-Member States of which the combined contributions amount to six hundred shares. The date of its entry into force will be the ninetieth day after the receipt by the Secretary-General of the League of Nations of the last of such ratifications or accessions.

XVI. ARBITRATION CLAUSES IN COMMERCIAL MATTERS.

2. CONVENTION ON THE EXECUTION OF FOREIGN ARBITRAL AWARDS.¹

(Geneva, September 26th, 1927.)

In Force.

Ratifications.

AUSTRIA (July 18th, 1930)
BELGIUM (April 27th, 1929)
Reserves the right to limit the obligation mentioned in Article 1 to contracts which are considered commercial under its national law.
BELGIAN CONGO, TERRITORY OF RUANDA-URUNDI (June 5th, 1930 a)
GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND (July 2nd, 1930)
Bahamas
British Guiana
British Honduras
Falkland Islands
Gibraltar
Gold Coast:
(a) *Colony*
(b) *Ashanti*
(c) *Northern Territories*
(d) *Togoland under British Mandate*
Jamaica (including *Turks and Caicos Islands and Cayman Islands*)
Kenya
Palestine (excluding *Transjordan*)
Tanganyika Territory
Uganda Protectorate
Windward Islands:
Grenada
St. Lucia
St. Vincent
Zanzibar
Mauritius (July 13th, 1931)
Northern Rhodesia } 1931.
NEW ZEALAND (Western Samoa included) (April 9th, 1929)
NEWFOUNDLAND (January 7th, 1931 a)
DENMARK (April 25th, 1929)

Under Danish law, arbitral awards made by an Arbitral Tribunal do not immediately become operative; it is necessary in each case, in order to make an award operative, to apply to the ordinary Courts of Law. In the course of the proceedings, however, the arbitral award will generally be accepted by

Signatures not yet perfected by Ratification.

BOLIVIA
CZECHOSLOVAKIA
The Czechoslovak Republic does not intend to invalidate in any way the bilateral treaties concluded by it with various States, which regulate the questions referred to in the present Convention by provisions going beyond the provisions of the Convention.
FREE CITY OF DANZIG (through the intermediary of Poland)
GREECE
The Hellenic Government reserves the right to limit the obligation mentioned in Article 1, to contracts which are considered as commercial under its national law.
NICARAGUA
PERU

The Convention is open to Signature by:

BRAZIL
CHILE
EGYPT
JAPAN
LATVIA
LITHUANIA
MONACO
NORWAY
PANAMA
PARAGUAY
POLAND
SALVADOR
URUGUAY
And all the other States which may sign the Protocol of September 24th, 1923.

(May, 26th, 1931 a)

¹ The Convention came into force July 25th, 1929 (Article 8). See *League of Nations Treaty Series*, Vol. XCII, p. 301; Vol. XCVI, p. 205; Vol. C, p. 259, and Vol. CIV, p. 526.

2. CONVENTION ON THE EXECUTION OF FOREIGN ARBITRAL AWARDS (*continued*).

(*Geneva, September 26th, 1927.*)

In Force.

Ratifications.

such Courts without further examination as a basis for the final judgment in the affair.

ESTONIA (May 16th, 1929)

Reserves the right to limit the obligation mentioned in Article 1 to contracts which are considered commercial under its national law.

Finland (July 30th, 1931)

France (May 13th, 1931)

Reserves the right to limit the obligation mentioned in Article 1 to contracts which are considered commercial under its national law.

GERMANY (September 1st, 1930)

ITALY (November 12th, 1930)

LUXEMBURG (September 15th, 1930)

Reserves the right to limit the obligation mentioned in Article 1 to contracts which are considered as commercial under its national law.

The Netherlands (August 12th, 1931)
(for the Kingdom in Europe)

PORTUGAL (December 10th, 1930)

- (1) The Portuguese Government reserves the right to limit the obligation mentioned in Article 1 to contracts which are considered commercial under its national law.
- (2) The Portuguese Government declares, according to the terms of Article 10 that the present Convention does not apply to its colonies.

Roumania (June 22nd, 1931)

Reserves the right to limit the obligation mentioned in Article 1, to contracts which are considered commercial under its national law.

Siam (July 7th, 1931)

SPAIN (January 15th, 1930)

SWEDEN (August 8th, 1929)

SWITZERLAND (September 25th, 1930)

XVII. ABOLITION OF IMPORT AND EXPORT PROHIBITIONS AND RESTRICTIONS.

I. INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION FOR THE ABOLITION OF IMPORT AND EXPORT PROHIBITIONS AND RESTRICTIONS.¹

(Geneva, November 8th, 1927.)

In Force.

Ratifications or definitive Accessions.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA (September 30th, 1929)

Does not assume any obligation in respect of the Philippine Islands and that the Convention and Protocol are signed subject to the following reservations and conditions with respect to the United States of America:

(a) That prohibitions or restrictions designed to extend to exported products the regime established within the country in respect of the production of, trade in, and transport and consumption of such products in domestic commerce are not prohibited by the said Convention, provided, however, that such prohibitions or restrictions shall not be applied in such a manner as to constitute a means of arbitrary discrimination between foreign countries or a disguised restriction on international trade.

(b) That the said Convention affects neither the tariff systems nor the treaty-making methods of the participating countries nor the measures taken to ensure the application thereof, including measures to counteract dumping, bounties, subsidies, unfair methods or acts in foreign trade, under-evaluation or discrimination.

AUSTRIA (June 26th, 1929)

The entry into force of this Convention as regards Austria is subject to its ratification by Germany, Hungary, Italy, the Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes, Switzerland, and Czechoslovakia.

BELGIUM (April 27th, 1929)

The entry into force of this Convention as regards Belgium is subject to its ratification by Germany, France, Great Britain, Poland, Switzerland, and Czechoslovakia.

The Belgian Government does not intend to assume any obligation as regards the Belgian Colony of the Congo and the territory under Belgian mandate of Ruanda-Urundi.

GREAT BRITAIN and NORTHERN IRELAND (April 12th, 1929)

Does not include any of His Britannic Majesty's Colonies, Protectorates or Territories under suzerainty or mandate.

Signatures or Accessions not yet perfected by Ratification.

BULGARIA CHILE

At the moment of signing the present Convention, the undersigned declares, on behalf of his Government:

(a) That he is fully convinced that Nos. 1 and 3 of Article 4 cannot be invoked by the other High Contracting Parties to prohibit or restrict the importation into their territories of Chilean nitrate of soda, principally employed in agriculture.

(b) That, in the Chilean Government's opinion, the Convention affects neither the tariff system nor the treaty-making methods of the participating countries nor the measures taken to ensure their application, including the measures intended to counteract the effects of dumping.

EGYPT ESTONIA INDIA

According to the terms of Article 10, does not include the territories of India belonging to a Prince or Chief placed under the suzerainty of His Britannic Majesty.

LATVIA POLAND SIAM TURKEY

The Convention is open to Accession by:

ABYSSINIA
UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA
ALBANIA
ARGENTINE REPUBLIC
AUSTRALIA
BOLIVIA
BRAZIL
CANADA
CHINA
COLOMBIA
COSTA RICA
CUBA
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC
ECUADOR
GREECE
GUATEMALA
HAITI
HONDURAS
IRISH FREE STATE
LIBERIA
LITHUANIA
MEXICO
NEW ZEALAND
NICARAGUA
PANAMA
PARAGUAY
PERSIA
PERU
SALVADOR
UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST
REPUBLICS
SPAIN
URUGUAY
VENEZUELA

¹ In virtue of a Protocol signed at Paris, December 20th, 1929, the Convention came into force on January 1st, 1930. The ratifications necessary for the entry into force of the Convention, as provided in the Protocol of December 20th, 1929, not having been obtained and a certain number of States having made the entry into force the Convention conditional on its ratification by certain other States (see reservations quoted above), only Great Britain, United States of America, Denmark, Japan, Norway, Netherlands and Portugal remain, on the date of July 1st, 1930, bound the Convention.

(See League of Nations Treaty Series, Vol. XCVII, p. 391, and Vol. C, p. 264.)

However Portugal considers itself as relieved, on June 30th, 1931, of the obligations of this Convention.

I. INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION FOR THE ABOLITION OF IMPORT AND EXPORT PROHIBITIONS
AND RESTRICTIONS (*continued*).

(Geneva, November 8th, 1927.)

In Force.

*Ratifications or
definitive Accessions.*

CZECHOSLOVAKIA (June 25th,
1930)

The entry into force of this Convention as regards Czechoslovakia is subject to the ratification or accession of the following countries: Germany, Austria, United States of America, France, Great Britain, Hungary, Italy, Japan, Poland, Roumania, Yugoslavia and Switzerland.

DENMARK (September 9th,
1929)

Subject to reservation as regards Greenland.

“ On proceeding to the deposit of the instrument of ratification by the Danish Government of the International Convention for the abolition of import and export prohibitions and restrictions, concluded at Geneva, on November 8th, 1927, with Protocol, and of the Supplementary Agreement, concluded at Geneva July 11th, 1928, with Protocol, I have the honour to declare by order of my Government that, in accordance with Article C of the Supplementary Agreement, the Danish Government makes the entry into force of the above-mentioned Convention subject, as regards Denmark, to its ratification by Germany, Poland and Czechoslovakia.”

FINLAND (September 6th, 1929)

Finland undertakes to extend, towards any other High Contracting Party accepting the same obligation, the application of the provisions of paragraph 3 of Article 8 of the Convention of November 8th, 1927, to all disputes which might arise on the subject of the interpretation or the application of the provisions of the said Convention—including the whole or part of Articles 4, 5 and 6—or of the Supplementary Agreement of July 11th, 1928, whether or no the dispute be of a legal character.

FRANCE (July 31st, 1929)

By its acceptance, it does not intend to assume any obligation in regard to any of its Colonies, Protectorates and Territories under its suzerainty or mandate. The entry into force of this Convention as regards France is subject to its ratification by Germany, Italy, Poland, Switzerland and Czechoslovakia.

GERMANY (November 23rd,
1929)

The entry into force of this Convention as regards Germany is subject to its ratification by Austria, the United States of America, France, Great Britain, Hungary, Italy, Japan, Poland, Roumania, Yugoslavia, Switzerland and Czechoslovakia.

HUNGARY (July 26th, 1929)

The entry into force of this Convention as regards Hungary is subject to its ratification by

I. INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION FOR THE ABOLITION OF IMPORT AND EXPORT PROHIBITIONS
AND RESTRICTIONS (*continued*).
(*Geneva, November 8th, 1927.*)

In Force.

*Ratifications or
definitive Accessions.*

Austria, Italy, Poland, Roumania, the Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes, Switzerland and Czechoslovakia.

ITALY (September 30th, 1929)

The entry into force of this Convention, in so far as Italy is concerned, is subject to the ratification or accession of the following countries: Germany, United States of America, Austria, Great Britain, France, Hungary, Poland, Roumania, Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes, Switzerland, Czechoslovakia and Turkey.

In conformity with Article 10 of the Convention, the Royal Italian Government does not assume any obligation in respect of the Italian colonies and possessions.

JAPAN (September 28th, 1929)

The provisions of Article 8 of the present Convention are in no way derogatory to the acts of the Japanese judicial authorities in the application of Japanese laws and decrees.

LUXEMBURG (June 27th, 1929)

The entry into force of this Convention in the Grand-Duchy of Luxemburg is subject to its ratification by Germany, France, Great Britain, Poland, Switzerland and Czechoslovakia.

THE NETHERLANDS (June 28th, 1929)

The Netherlands Government does not intend to assume any obligation as regards overseas territories.

The Netherlands undertake to extend, towards any other High Contracting Party accepting the same obligation, the application of the provisions of paragraph 3 of Article 8 of the Convention to all disputes which might arise on the subject of the interpretation or the application of the provisions of the said Convention — including the whole or part of Articles 4, 5 and 6 — or of the agreements of July 11th, 1928, whether or no the dispute be of a legal character.

NORWAY (September 26th, 1930)

PORTUGAL (September 30th, 1929)

Subject to the reservation provided in Article 10 as regards the application of the Convention to all its colonies.

Portugal considers itself as relieved, on June 30th, 1931, in accordance with the terms of Article 6 of the Protocol of Paris, dated December 20th, 1929, of the obligations accepted by the ratification of this Convention and Protocol.

ROUMANIA (June 30th, 1929)

The entry into force of this Convention in Roumania is subject to its ratification by Austria, Hungary, Poland, the Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes and Czechoslovakia.

I. INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION FOR THE ABOLITION OF IMPORT AND EXPORT PROHIBITIONS AND RESTRICTIONS (*continued*).

(Geneva, November 8th, 1927.)

In Force.

*Ratifications or
definitive Accessions.*

SWEDEN (August 8th, 1929)

SWITZERLAND (June 27th, 1929)

The entry into force of this Convention as regards Switzerland is subject to the ratification or accession of Germany, Austria, France, Great Britain, Hungary, Italy and Czechoslovakia.

YUGOSLAVIA (September 30th, 1929)

The entry into force of this Convention in so far as the Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes is concerned is subject to its ratification by Germany, Austria, Hungary, Italy, Poland, Roumania and Czechoslovakia, and to the coming into force of the Convention in those countries.

2. PROTOCOL TO THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION.

(Geneva, November 8th, 1927.)

In Force.

*Ratifications or
definitive Accessions.*

*Signatures or Accessions not yet
perfected by Ratification.*

*The Protocol is open
to Accession by:*

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
(September 30th, 1929)

On the understanding that the provision of Section VI of the Protocol excepting from the scope of the Convention prohibitions or restrictions applying to prison-made goods, includes goods the product of forced or slave labour, however employed.*

AUSTRIA (June 26th, 1929)

BELGIUM (April 27th, 1929)

GREAT BRITAIN and NORTHERN
IRELAND (April 12th, 1929)

Does not include any of His Britannic Majesty's Colonies, Protectorates or Territories under suzerainty or mandate.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA (June 25th,
1930)

DENMARK (September 9th,
1929)

Subject to reservation as regards
Greenland.

FINLAND (September 6th, 1929)

FRANCE (July 31st, 1929)

Subject to the reservations made
on signing the Convention.

GERMANY (November 23rd,
1929)

Same reservation as for the Conven-
tion.

HUNGARY (July 26th, 1929)

ITALY (September 30th, 1929)

JAPAN (September 28th, 1929)

Subject to the reservations made
on signing the Convention.

LUXEBURG (June 27th, 1929)

BULGARIA

CHILE

EGYPT

ESTONIA

INDIA

Under the terms of Article 10 of the Convention, does not include the territories in India of any Prince or Chief under suzerainty of His Majesty.

LATVIA

POLAND

SIAM

TURKEY

ABYSSINIA

UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA

ALBANIA

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC

AUSTRALIA

BOLIVIA

BRAZIL

CANADA

CHINA

COLOMBIA

COSTA RICA

CUBA

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

ECUADOR

GREECE

GUATEMALA

HAITI

HONDURAS

IRISH FREE STATE

LIBERIA

LITHUANIA

MEXICO

NEW ZEALAND

NICARAGUA

PANAMA

PARAGUAY

PERSIA

PERU

SALVADOR

UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST
REPUBLICS

SPAIN

URUGUAY

VENEZUELA

* This reservation has been submitted to the signatory States for acceptance.

2. **PROTOCOL TO THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION (continued).**

(Geneva, November 8th, 1927.)

In Force.

*Ratifications or
definitive Accessions.*

THE NETHERLANDS (June 28th,
1929)

The Netherlands Government does not intend to assume any obligation as regards overseas territories.

NORWAY (September 26th,
1930)

PORTUGAL (September 30th,
1929)

Portugal considers itself as relieved, on June 30th, 1931, in accordance with the terms of Article 6 of the Protocol of Paris, dated December 20th, 1929, of the obligations accepted by the ratification of this Convention and Protocol.

ROUMANIA (June 30th, 1929)

Same reservation as for the Convention.

SWEDEN (August 8th, 1929)

SWITZERLAND (June 27th, 1929)

YUGOSLAVIA (September 30th,
1929)

3. **SUPPLEMENTARY AGREEMENT TO THE CONVENTION OF NOVEMBER 8TH, 1927, FOR THE ABOLITION OF IMPORT AND EXPORT PROHIBITIONS AND RESTRICTIONS.¹**

(Geneva, July 11th, 1928.)

In Force.

*Ratifications or
definitive Accessions.*

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
(September 30th, 1929)

AUSTRIA (June 26th, 1929)

BELGIUM (April 27th, 1929)

GREAT BRITAIN and NORTHERN
IRELAND (April 12th, 1929)

Does not include any of His Britannic Majesty's Colonies, Protectorates or Territories under suzerainty or mandate.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA (June 25th,
1930)

DENMARK (September 9th,
1929)

FINLAND (September 6th, 1929)

Finland undertakes to extend, towards any other High Contracting Party accepting the same obligation, the application of the provisions of paragraph 3 of Article 8 of the Convention of November 8th, 1927, to all disputes which might arise on the subject of the interpretation or the application of the provisions of the present Agreement, whether or no the dispute be of a legal character.

FRANCE (July 31st, 1929)

By its acceptance, it does not intend to assume any obligation in regard to any of its Colonies, Protectorates and Territories under its suzerainty or mandate.

*Signatures or Accessions not yet
perfected by Ratification.*

BULGARIA

On signing the present Supplementary Agreement, Bulgaria declares that it shall be ratified and put into force as soon as the national currency shall be re-established in gold.

CHILE

EGYPT

ESTONIA

INDIA

LATVIA

POLAND

SIAM

TURKEY

Subject to reservation as regards Article B.

*The Agreement is open
to Accession by:*

ABYSSINIA
UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA

ALBANIA

ARGENTINE

AUSTRALIA

BOLIVIA

BRAZIL

CANADA

CHINA

COLOMBIA

COSTA RICA

CUBA

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

ECUADOR

GREECE

GUATEMALA

HAITI

HONDURAS

IRISH FREE STATE

LIBERIA

LITHUANIA

NEW ZEALAND

NICARAGUA

PANAMA

PARAGUAY

PERSIA

PERU

SALVADOR

SPAIN

¹ In virtue of a Protocol signed at Paris, December 20th, 1929, the Convention came into force on January 1st, 1930. See League of Nations *Treaty Series*, Vol. XCVII, p. 436.

3. SUPPLEMENTARY AGREEMENT TO THE CONVENTION OF NOVEMBER 8TH, 1927, FOR THE ABOLITION OF IMPORT AND EXPORT PROHIBITIONS AND RESTRICTIONS (*continued*).

(Geneva, July 11th, 1928.)

In Force.

*Ratifications or definitive
Accessions.*

GERMANY (November 23rd,
1929)
Same reservation as for the Convention.

HUNGARY (July 26th, 1929)
The entry into force of this Agreement as regards Hungary is subject to its ratification by Austria, Italy, Poland, Roumania, the Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes, Switzerland and Czechoslovakia.

ITALY (September 30th, 1929)

JAPAN (September 28th, 1929)

LUXEMBURG (June 27th, 1929)

THE NETHERLANDS (June 28th,
1929)

The Netherlands Government does not intend to assume any obligation as regards overseas territories.

NORWAY (September 26th,
1930)

PORTUGAL (September 30th,
1929)

Subject to the reservation provided in Article 10 of the Convention as regards the application to all its Colonies.

Portugal considers itself as relieved, on June 30th, 1931, in accordance with the terms of Article 6 of the Protocol of Paris, dated December 20th, 1929, of the obligations accepted by the ratification of this Agreement and Protocol.

ROUMANIA (June 30th, 1929)

The entry into force of this Agreement in Roumania is subject to its ratification by Austria, Hungary, Poland, the Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes and Czechoslovakia.

SWEDEN (August 8th, 1929)

SWITZERLAND (June 27th, 1929)

YUGOSLAVIA (September 30th,
1929)

*The Agreement is open
to Accession by:*

UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST
REPUBLICS
URUGUAY
VENEZUELA

4. PROTOCOL TO THE SUPPLEMENTARY AGREEMENT.

(Geneva, July 11th, 1928.)

In Force.

*Ratifications or definitive
Accessions*

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
(September 30th, 1929)

AUSTRIA (June 26th, 1929)

BELGIUM (April 27th, 1929)

GREAT BRITAIN and NORTHERN

IRELAND (April 12th, 1929)

Does not include any of His Britannic Majesty's Colonies, Protectorates or Territories under suzerainty or mandate.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA (June 25th,
1930)

DENMARK (September 9th,
1929)

FINLAND (September 6th, 1929)

FRANCE (July 31st, 1929)

Subject to the reservations made on signing the Agreement.

*Signatures or Accessions not yet
perfected by Ratification.*

BULGARIA

Subject to the reservation made on signing the Supplementary Agreement.

CHILE

EGYPT

ESTONIA

INDIA

LATVIA

POLAND

PORTUGAL

SIAM

TURKEY

Subject to reservation as regards Article B.

*The Protocol is open
to Accession by:*

ABYSSINIA

UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA

ALBANIA

ARGENTINE

AUSTRALIA

BOLIVIA

BRAZIL

CANADA

CHINA

COLOMBIA

COSTA RICA

CUBA

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

ECUADOR

GREECE

GUATEMALA

HAITI

4. PROTOCOL TO THE SUPPLEMENTARY AGREEMENT (*continued*).
(*Geneva, July 11th, 1928.*)

In Force.

*Ratifications or definitive
Accessions.*

GERMANY (November 23rd,
1929)
Same reservation as for the Conven-
tion.
HUNGARY (July 26th, 1929)
ITALY (September 30th, 1929)
JAPAN (September 28th, 1929)
LUXEMBURG (June 27th, 1929)
THE NETHERLANDS (June 28th,
1929)
NORWAY (September 26th,
1930)
PORTUGAL (September 30th,
1929)
Portugal considers itself as relieved,
on June 30th, 1931, in accordance
with the terms of Article 6 of the
Protocol of Paris, dated Decem-
ber 20th, 1929, of the obliga-
tions accepted by the ratifi-
cation of this Agreement and
Protocol.
ROUMANIA (June 30th, 1929)
Same reservation as for the Con-
vention.
SWEDEN (August 8th, 1929)
SWITZERLAND (June 27th, 1929)
YUGOSLAVIA (September 30th,
1929)

*The Protocol is open
to Accession by:*

HONDURAS
IRISH FREE STATE
LIBERIA
LITHUANIA
NEW ZEALAND
NICARAGUA
PANAMA
PARAGUAY
PERSIA
PERU
SALVADOR
SPAIN
UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST
REPUBLICS
URUGUAY
VENEZUELA

5. INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENT RELATING TO THE EXPORTATION OF HIDES AND SKINS.
(*Geneva, July 11th, 1928.*)

In Force.¹

*Ratifications or definitive
Accessions.*

AUSTRIA (June 26th, 1929)
BELGIUM (April 27th, 1929)
The Belgian Government does not
intend to assume any obligation
as regards the Belgian Colony of
the Congo and the territory
under Belgian mandate of
Ruanda-Urundi.
GREAT BRITAIN and NORTHERN
IRELAND (April 9th, 1929)
Does not include any of His
Britannic Majesty's Colonies,
Protectorates or Territories
under suzerainty or mandate.
CZECHOSLOVAKIA (June 28th,
1929)
DENMARK (June 14th, 1929)
The ratification does not include
Greenland.
FINLAND (June 27th, 1929)
FRANCE (June 30th, 1929)
By its acceptance, it does not
intend to assume any obligation
in regard to any of its Colonies,
Protectorates and Territories
under its suzerainty or mandate.
GERMANY (June 30th, 1929)
HUNGARY (July 26th, 1929)
The entry into force of this Agree-
ment as regards Hungary is
subject to its ratification by
Austria, Roumania, the King-
dom of the Serbs, Croats and
Slovenes and Czechoslovakia.
ITALY (June 29th, 1929)
LUXEMBURG (June 27th, 1929)

*Signatures or Accessions not yet
perfected by Ratification.*

BULGARIA
On signing the present Agreement
Bulgaria declares that it shall be
ratified and put into force as
soon as the national currency
shall be re-established in gold.
TURKEY²
Turkey reserves the right to main-
tain the "muamele vergisi"
(general tax on export formal-
ties) of two and a-half per cent
ad valorem, and also the very
low veterinary examination tax.

*The Agreement is open
to Accession by:*

ABYSSINIA
UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA
ALBANIA
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
ARGENTINE
AUSTRALIA
BOLIVIA
BRAZIL
CANADA
CHILE
CHINA
COLOMBIA
COSTA RICA
CUBA
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC
ECUADOR
EGYPT
ESTONIA
GREECE
GUATEMALA
HAITI
HONDURAS
INDIA
IRISH FREE STATE
JAPAN
LATVIA
LIBERIA
LITHUANIA
MEXICO
NEW ZEALAND
NICARAGUA
PANAMA

¹ This Agreement came into force on October 1st, 1929, between the States having ratified it, in virtue of a Protocol drawn up at Geneva on September 11th, 1929. See League of Nations *Treaty Series*, Vol. XCV, p. 357.

² The reservation to which this signature is subject has been submitted to the signatory States for acceptance.

5. INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENT RELATING TO THE EXPORTATION OF HIDES AND SKINS.

(continued).

(Geneva, July 11th, 1928.)

In Force.

*Ratifications or definitive
Accessions.*

THE NETHERLANDS (June 28th, 1929)

The Netherlands Government does not intend to assume any obligation as regards overseas territories.

The Netherlands undertake to extend, towards any other High Contracting Party accepting the same obligation, the application of the provisions of paragraph 3 of Article 8 of the Convention of November 8th, 1927, to all disputes which might arise on the subject of the interpretation or the application of the provisions of this Agreement, whether or no the dispute be of a legal character.

NORWAY (September 26th, 1930)

Poland¹ (August 8th, 1931)

ROUMANIA (June 30th, 1929)

The entry into force of this Agreement in Roumania is subject to its ratification by Austria, Hungary, Poland, the Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes and Czechoslovakia.

SWEDEN (June 27th, 1929)

SWITZERLAND (June 27th, 1929)

YUGOSLAVIA (September 30th, 1929)

*The Agreement is open to
Accession by:*

PARAGUAY
PERSIA
PERU
PORTUGAL
SALVADOR
SIAM
SPAIN
UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST
REPUBLICS
URUGUAY
VENEZUELA

6. PROTOCOL TO THE INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENT.

(Geneva, July 11th, 1928.)

In Force.

*Ratifications or definitive
Accessions.*

AUSTRIA (June 26th, 1929)

BELGIUM (April 27th, 1929)

GREAT BRITAIN and NORTHERN
IRELAND (April 9th, 1929)

Does not include any of His Britannic Majesty's Colonies, Protectorates or Territories under suzerainty or mandate.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA (June 28th, 1929)

DENMARK (June 14th, 1929)

The ratification does not include Greenland.

FINLAND (June 27th, 1929)

FRANCE (June 30th, 1929)

Subject to the reservations made on signing the Agreement.

GERMANY (June 30th, 1929)

HUNGARY (July 26th, 1929)

ITALY (June 29th, 1929)

LUXEMBURG (June 27th, 1929)

THE NETHERLANDS (June 28th, 1929)

The Netherlands Government does not intend to assume any obligation as regards overseas territories.

NORWAY (September 26th, 1930)

Poland (August 8th, 1931)

*Signatures or Accessions not yet
perfected by Ratification.*

BULGARIA

Subject to the reservation made on signing the Agreement.

TURKEY

Subject to the reservation made on signing the Agreement.

*The Protocol is open
to Accession by:*

ABYSSINIA
UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA
ALBANIA
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
ARGENTINE
AUSTRALIA
BOLIVIA
BRAZIL
CANADA
CHILE
CHINA
COLOMBIA
COSTA RICA
CUBA
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC
ECUADOR
EGYPT
ESTONIA
GREECE
GUATEMALA
HAITI
HONDURAS
INDIA
IRISH FREE STATE
JAPAN
LATVIA
LIBERIA
LITHUANIA

¹ The Polish Government has undertaken to put this Agreement into force by administrative measures, as from October 1st, 1929.

6. PROTOCOL TO THE INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENT (*continued*).
(Geneva, July 11th, 1928.)

In Force.

*Ratifications or definitive
Accessions.*

ROUMANIA (June 30th, 1929)
Same reservations as for the Agreement.
SWEDEN (June 27th, 1929)
SWITZERLAND (June 27th, 1929)
YUGOSLAVIA (September 30th, 1929)

*The Protocol is open
to Accession by:*

MEXICO
NEW ZEALAND
NICARAGUA
PANAMA
PARAGUAY
PERSIA
PERU
PORTUGAL
SALVADOR
SIAM
SPAIN
UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST
REPUBLICS
URUGUAY
VENEZUELA

7. INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENT RELATING TO THE EXPORTATION OF BONES.
(Geneva, July 11th, 1928.)

In Force.¹

*Ratifications or definitive
Accessions.*

AUSTRIA (June 26th, 1929)
BELGIUM (April 27th, 1929)
The Belgian Government does not intend to assume any obligation as regards the Belgian Colony of the Congo and the territory under Belgian mandate of Ruanda-Urundi.
GREAT BRITAIN and NORTHERN IRELAND (April 9th, 1929)
Does not include any of His Britannic Majesty's Colonies, Protectorates or Territories under suzerainty or mandate.
CZECHOSLOVAKIA (June 28th, 1929)
DENMARK (June 14th, 1929)
The ratification does not include Greenland.
FINLAND (June 27th, 1929)
FRANCE (June 30th, 1929)
By its acceptance, it does not intend to assume any obligation in regard to any of its Colonies, Protectorates and Territories under its suzerainty or mandate.
GERMANY (June 30th, 1929)
HUNGARY (July 26th, 1929)
ITALY (June 29th, 1929)
LUXEMBURG (June 27th, 1929)
THE NETHERLANDS (June 28th, 1929)
The Netherlands Government does not intend to assume any obligation as regards overseas territories.
The Netherlands undertake to extend, towards any other High Contracting Party accepting the same obligation, the application of the provisions of paragraph 3 of Article 8 of the Convention of November 8th, 1927, to all disputes which might arise on the subject of the interpretation or the application of the provisions of this Agreement, whether or no the dispute be of a legal character.

*Signatures or Accessions not yet
perfected by Ratification.*

BULGARIA
On signing the present Agreement Bulgaria declares that it shall be ratified and put into force as soon as the national currency shall be re-established in gold.
TURKEY
Turkey reserves the right to maintain the "muamele vergisi" (general tax on export formalities) of two and a-half per cent *ad valorem*, and also the very low veterinary examination tax.

*The Agreement is open
to Accession by:*

ABYSSINIA
UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA
ARGENTINE
ALBANIA
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
AUSTRALIA
BOLIVIA
BRAZIL
CANADA
CHILE
CHINA
COLOMBIA
COSTA RICA
CUBA
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC
ECUADOR
EGYPT
ESTONIA
GREECE
GUATEMALA
HAITI
HONDURAS
INDIA
IRISH FREE STATE
JAPAN
LATVIA
LIBERIA
LITHUANIA
MEXICO
NEW ZEALAND
NICARAGUA
PANAMA
PARAGUAY
PERSIA
PERU
PORTUGAL
SALVADOR
SIAM
SPAIN
UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST
REPUBLICS
URUGUAY
VENEZUELA

¹ This Agreement came into force on October 1st, 1929, between the States having ratified it, in virtue of a Protocol drawn up at Geneva on September 11th, 1929. See League of Nations *Treaty Series*, Vol. XCV, p. 373.

7. INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENT RELATING TO THE EXPORTATION OF BONES (*continued*).

(Geneva, July 11th, 1928.)

*Ratifications or definitive
Accessions.*

In Force.

NORWAY (Sept. 26th, 1930)

Poland¹ (August 8th, 1931)

ROUMANIA (June 30th, 1929)

The entry into force of this Agreement in Roumania is subject to its ratification by Austria, Hungary, Poland, the Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes and Czechoslovakia.

SWEDEN (June 27th, 1929)

SWITZERLAND (June 27th, 1929)

YUGOSLAVIA (September 30th, 1929)

The obligations resulting from this Agreement shall be binding for the Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes only as regards signatory States which do not render exportation impossible, either by formal prohibitions or by prohibitive duties (duties considered as prohibitive are duties imposing a tax of 5 francs Swiss or more per hundred kilogrammes).

8. PROTOCOL TO THE INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENT.

(Geneva, July 11th, 1928.)

In Force.

*Ratifications or definitive
Accessions.*

*Signatures or Accessions not yet
perfected by Ratification.*

*The Protocol is open to
Accession by:*

AUSTRIA (June 26th, 1929)

BELGIUM (April 27th, 1929)

GREAT BRITAIN and NORTHERN

IRELAND (April 9th, 1929)

Does not include any of His Britannic Majesty's Colonies, Protectorates or Territories under suzerainty or mandate.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA (June 28th, 1929)

DENMARK (June 14th, 1929)

The ratification does not include Greenland.

FINLAND (June 27th, 1929)

FRANCE (June 30th, 1929)

Subject to the reservations made on signing the Agreement.

GERMANY (June 30th, 1929)

HUNGARY (July 26th, 1929)

ITALY (June 29th, 1929)

LUXEMBURG (June 27th, 1929)

THE NETHERLANDS (June 28th, 1929)

The Netherlands Government does not intend to assume any obligation as regards overseas territories.

NORWAY (September 26th, 1930)

BULGARIA

Subject to the reservation made on signing the Agreement.

TURKEY

Subject to the reservation made on signing the Agreement.

ABYSSINIA

UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA

ALBANIA

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

ARGENTINE

AUSTRALIA

BOLIVIA

BRAZIL

CANADA

CHILE

CHINA

COLOMBIA

COSTA RICA

CUBA

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

ECUADOR

EGYPT

ESTONIA

GREECE

GUATEMALA

HAITI

HONDURAS

INDIA

IRISH FREE STATE

JAPAN

LATVIA

LIBERIA

¹ The Polish Government has undertaken to put this Agreement into force by administrative measures as from October 1st, 1929.

8. PROTOCOL TO THE INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENT (*continued*).

(Geneva, July 11th, 1928.)

In Force.

*Ratifications or definitive
Accessions.*

*The Protocol is open to
Accession by:*

Poland (August 8th, 1931)
ROUMANIA (June 30th, 1929)
Same reservation as for the
Agreement.
SWEDEN (June 27th, 1929)
SWITZERLAND (June 27th, 1929)
YUGOSLAVIA (September 30th,
1929)

LITHUANIA
MEXICO
NEW ZEALAND
NICARAGUA
PANAMA
PARAGUAY
PERSIA
PERU
PORTUGAL
SALVADOR
SIAM
SPAIN
UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST
REPUBLICS
URUGUAY
VENEZUELA

XVIII. PACIFIC SETTLEMENT OF INTERNATIONAL DISPUTES.¹

GENERAL ACT.²

(Geneva, September 26th, 1928.)

In Force.

Accessions

*This Act is open to
Accession by*

A	B	C	All the Members of the League of Nations, with the exception of those mentioned in the preceding columns, and:
All the provisions of the Act	Provisions relating to conciliation and judicial settlement (Chapters I and II) and general provisions dealing with these procedures (Chapter IV).	Provisions relating to conciliation (Chapter I), and general provisions concerning that procedure (Chapter IV).	AFGHANISTAN UNITED STATES OF AMERICA BRAZIL COSTA RICA EGYPT ECUADOR MEXICO TURKEY UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS
BELGIUM (May 18th, 1929) Subject to the reservation provided in Article 39 (2) (a), with the effect of excluding from the procedures described in this Act disputes arising out of facts prior to the accession of Belgium or prior to the accession of any other Party with whom Belgium may have a dispute.	THE NETHERLANDS (including Netherlands Indies, Surinam and Curaçao) (August 8th, 1930) NORWAY ³ (June 11th, 1929) SWEDEN (May 13th, 1929)		
United Kingdom (May 21st, 1931) Subject to the following conditions: 1. That the following disputes are excluded from the procedure described in the General Act, including the procedure of conciliation: (i) Disputes arising prior to the accession of			

¹ The Annex to the Supplementary Report on the work of the Council and the Secretariat for 1929 (A.6(a).1929, Annex) contains, moreover, complete details concerning the Protocol for the pacific settlement of international disputes, annexed to the Resolution adopted by the Fifth Assembly of the League of Nations on October 2nd, 1924.

² The General Act came into force August 16th, 1929 (Article 44). See *League of Nations Treaty Series*, Vol. XCIII, p. 343, and Vol. C, p. 260.

³ Norway having acceded on June 11th, 1929, to Chapters I, II and IV, and thereafter having extended its accession to Chapter III, on June 11th, 1930, has therefore accepted all the provisions of the Act. However, it has been deemed necessary to make it appear also under "B" in the present list, so as to make it clear that Norway had already accepted the provisions provided under that heading as from June 11th, 1929.

GENERAL ACT (*continued*).
(*Geneva, September 26th, 1928.*)
In Force.

*This Act is open to
Accession by*

Accessions

A	B	C	
All the provisions of the Act	Provisions relating to conciliation and judicial settlement (Chapters I and II) and general provisions dealing with these procedures (Chapter IV).	Provisions relating to conciliation (Chapter I), and general provisions concerning that procedure (Chapter IV).	All the Members of the League of Nations, with the exception of those mentioned in the preceding columns and:
<p>His Majesty to the said General Act or relating to situations or facts prior to the said accession;</p> <p>(ii) Disputes in regard to which the parties to the dispute have agreed or shall agree to have recourse to some other method of peaceful settlement;</p> <p>(iii) Disputes between His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom and the Government of any other Member of the League which is a Member of the British Commonwealth of Nations, all of which disputes shall be settled in such a manner as the parties have agreed or shall agree;</p> <p>(iv) Disputes concerning questions which by international law are solely within the domestic jurisdiction of States; and</p> <p>(v) Disputes with any Party to the General Act who is not a Member of the League of Nations.</p>			
<p>2. That His Majesty reserves the right in relation to the disputes mentioned in Article 17 of the General Act to require that the procedure prescribed in Chapter II of the said Act shall be suspended in respect of any dispute which has been submitted to and is under consideration by the Council of the League of Nations, provided that notice to suspend is given after the dispute has been submitted to the Council and is given within ten days of the notification of the initiation of the procedure, and provided also that such suspension shall be limited to a period of twelve months or such longer period as may be agreed by the parties to the dispute or determined by a decision of all the Members of the Council other than the parties to the dispute.</p>			
<p>3. (i) That, in the case of a dispute, not being a dispute mentioned in Article 17 of the General Act, which is brought before the Council of the League of Nations in accordance with the provisions of the Covenant, the procedure prescribed in Chapter I of the General Act, shall not be applied, and, if already commenced, shall be sus-</p>			

GENERAL ACT (continued).
(Geneva, September 26th, 1928.)

In Force.

Accessions

A	B	C
All the provisions of the Act	Provisions relating to conciliation and judicial settlement (Chapters I and II) and general provisions dealing with these procedures (Chapter IV).	Provisions relating to conciliation (Chapter I), and general provisions concerning that procedure (Chapter IV).

This Act is open to
Accession by

All the Members of the League of Nations, with the exception of those mentioned in the preceding column, and:

pending, unless the Council determines that the said procedure shall be adopted.

(ii) That, in the case of such a dispute, the procedure described in Chapter III of the General Act shall not be applied unless the Council has failed to effect a settlement of the dispute within twelve months from the date on which it was first submitted to the Council, or, in a case where the procedure prescribed in Chapter I has been adopted without producing an agreement between the parties, within six months from the termination of the work of the Conciliation Commission. The Council may extend either of the above periods by a decision of all its Members other than the parties to the dispute.

Canada

(July 1st, 1931)

Subject to the following conditions:

1. That the following disputes are excluded from the procedure described in the General Act, including the procedure of conciliation:

(i) Disputes arising prior to the accession in respect of Canada to the said General Act or relating to situations or facts prior to the said accession;

(ii) Disputes in regard to which the parties to the dispute have agreed or shall agree to have recourse to some other method of peaceful settlement;

(iii) Disputes between His Majesty's Government in Canada and the Government of any other Member of the League which is a Member of the British Commonwealth of Nations, all of which disputes shall be settled in such a manner as the parties have agreed or shall agree;

(iv) Disputes concerning questions which by international law are solely within the domestic jurisdiction of States and

(v) Disputes with any Party to the General Act who is not a Member of the League of Nations.

2. That His Majesty

GENERAL ACT (*continued*).
(*Geneva, September 26th, 1928.*)
In Force.

Accessions

*This Act is open to
Accession by*

A

B

C

All the provisions of the Act

Provisions relating to conciliation and judicial settlement (Chapters I and II) and general provisions dealing with these procedures (Chapter IV).

Provisions relating to conciliation (Chapter I), and general provisions concerning that procedure (Chapter IV).

All the Members of the League of Nations, with the exception of those mentioned in the preceding columns, and:

in respect of Canada reserves the right in relation to the disputes mentioned in Article 17 of the General Act to require that the procedure prescribed in Chapter II of the said Act shall be suspended in respect of any dispute which has been submitted to and is under consideration by the Council of the League of Nations, provided that notice to suspend is given after the dispute has been submitted to the Council and is given within ten days of the notification of the initiation of the procedure, and provided also that such suspension shall be limited to a period of twelve months or such longer period as may be agreed by the parties to the dispute or determined by a decision of all the Members of the Council other than the parties to the dispute.

3. (i) That, in the case of a dispute, not being a dispute mentioned in Article 17 of the General Act, which is brought before the Council of the League of Nations in accordance with the provisions of the Covenant, the procedure prescribed in Chapter I of the General Act, shall not be applied, and, if already commenced, shall be suspended, unless the Council determines that the said procedure shall be adopted.

(ii) That, in the case of such a dispute, the procedure described in Chapter III of the General Act shall not be applied unless the Council has failed to effect a settlement of the dispute within twelve months from the date on which it was first submitted to the Council, or, in a case where the procedure prescribed in Chapter I has been adopted without producing an agreement between the parties, within six months from the termination of the work of the Conciliation Commission. The Council may extend either of the above periods by a decision of all its Members other than the parties to the dispute.

Australia (May 21st, 1931)

Subject to the following conditions :

GENERAL ACT (*continued*).
(*Geneva, September 26th, 1928.*)
In Force.

Accessions

A	B	C	<i>This Act is open to Accession by</i>
All the provisions of the Act	Provisions relating to conciliation and judicial settlement (Chapters I and II) and general provisions dealing with these procedures (Chapter IV).	Provisions relating to conciliation (Chapter I), and general provisions concerning that procedure (Chapter IV).	All the Members of the League of Nations, with the exception of those mentioned in the preceding columns and:
1. That the following disputes are excluded from the procedure described in the General Act, including the procedure of conciliation:			
(i) Disputes arising prior to the accession of His Majesty to the said General Act or relating to situations or facts prior to the said accession;			
(ii) Disputes in regard to which the parties to the dispute have agreed or shall agree to have recourse to some other method of peaceful settlement;			
(iii) Disputes between His Majesty's Government in the Commonwealth of Australia and the Government of any other Member of the League which is a Member of the British Commonwealth of Nations, all of which disputes shall be settled in such a manner as the parties have agreed or shall agree;			
(iv) Disputes concerning questions which by international law are solely within the domestic jurisdiction of States; and			
(v) Disputes with any Party to the General Act who is not a Member of the League of Nations.			
2. That His Majesty reserves the right in relation to the disputes mentioned in Article 17 of the General Act to require that the procedure prescribed in Chapter II of the said Act shall be suspended in respect of any dispute which has been submitted to and is under consideration by the Council of the League of Nations, provided that notice to suspend is given after the dispute has been submitted to the Council and is given within ten days of the notification of the initiation of the procedure, and provided also that such suspension shall be limited to a period of twelve months or such longer period as may be agreed by the parties to the dispute or determined by a decision of all the Members of the Council other than the parties to the dispute.			
3. (i) That, in the case of a dispute, not being a dispute mentioned in Article 17 of the General Act, which is brought			

GENERAL ACT (*continued*).
(*Geneva, September 26th, 1928.*)
In Force.

*This Act is open to
Accession by*

A	B	C	All the Members of the League of Nations, with the exception of those mentioned in the preceding columns and:
All the provisions of the Act	Provisions relating to conciliation and judicial settlement (Chapters I and II) and general provisions dealing with these procedures (Chapter IV).	Provisions relating to conciliation (Chapter I), and general provisions concerning that procedure (Chapter IV).	

before the Council of the League of Nations in accordance with the provisions of the Covenant, the procedure prescribed in Chapter I of the General Act, shall not be applied, and, if already commenced, shall be suspended, unless the Council determines that the said procedure shall be adopted.

(ii) That, in the case of such a dispute, the procedure described in Chapter III of the General Act shall not be applied unless the Council has failed to effect a settlement of the dispute within twelve months from the date on which it was first submitted to the Council, or, in a case where the procedure prescribed in Chapter I has been adopted without producing an agreement between the parties, within six months from the termination of the work of the Conciliation Commission. The Council may extend either of the above periods by a decision of all its Members other than the parties to the dispute.

New Zealand (May 21st, 1931)

Subject to the following conditions:

1. That the following disputes are excluded from the procedure described in the General Act, including the procedure of conciliation:

(i) Disputes arising prior to the accession of His Majesty to the said General Act or relating to situations or facts prior to the said accession;

(ii) Disputes in regard to which the parties to the dispute have agreed or shall agree to have recourse to some other method of peaceful settlement;

(iii) Disputes between His Majesty's Government in New Zealand and the Government of any other Member of the League which is a Member of the British Commonwealth of Nations, all of which disputes shall be settled in such a manner as the parties have agreed or shall agree;

(iv) Disputes concerning questions which by

GENERAL ACT (*continued*).
(*Geneva, September 26th, 1928.*)
In Force.

*This Act is open to
Accession by*

<i>Accessions</i>		
A	B	C
<p>All the provisions of the Act</p> <p>international law are solely within the domestic jurisdiction of States; and</p> <p>(v) Disputes with any Party to the General Act who is not a Member of the League of Nations.</p> <p>2. That His Majesty reserves the right, in relation to the disputes mentioned in Article 17 of the General Act to require that the procedure prescribed in Chapter II of the said Act shall be suspended in respect of any dispute which has been submitted to and is under consideration by the Council of the League of Nations, provided that notice to suspend is given after the dispute has been submitted to the Council and is given within ten days of the notification of the initiation of the procedure, and provided also that such suspension shall be limited to a period of twelve months or such longer period as may be agreed by the parties to the dispute or determined by a decision of all the Members of the Council other than the parties to the dispute.</p> <p>3. (i) That, in the case of a dispute, not being a dispute mentioned in Article 17 of the General Act, which is brought before the Council of the League of Nations in accordance with the provisions of the Covenant, the procedure prescribed in Chapter I of the General Act, shall not be applied, and, if already commenced, shall be suspended, unless the Council determines that the said procedure shall be adopted.</p> <p>(ii) That, in the case of such a dispute, the procedure described in Chapter III of the General Act shall not be applied unless the Council has failed to effect a settlement of the dispute within twelve months from the date on which it was first submitted to the Council, or, in a case where the procedure prescribed in Chapter I has been adopted without producing an agreement between the parties, within six months from the termination of the work of the Conciliation Commission. The Council may extend either of the above periods by a</p>	<p>Provisions relating to conciliation and judicial settlement (Chapters I and II) and general provisions dealing with these procedures (Chapter IV).</p>	<p>Provisions relating to conciliation (Chapter I), and general provisions concerning that procedure (Chapter IV).</p>
		<p>All the Members of the League of Nations, with the exception of those mentioned in the preceding columns and:</p>

GENERAL ACT (*continued*).
(Geneva, September 26th, 1928.)

In Force.

*This Act is open to
Accession by*

Accessions

A	B	C	All the Members of the League of Nations, with the exception of those mentioned in the preceding columns and:
All the provisions of the Act	Provisions relating to conciliation and judicial settlement (Chapters I and II) and general provisions dealing with these procedures (Chapter IV).	Provisions relating to conciliation (Chapter I), and general provisions concerning that procedure (Chapter IV).	
decision of all its Members other than the parties to the dispute.			
<i>India</i> (May 21st, 1931)			
Subject to the following conditions:			
1. That the following disputes are excluded from the procedure described in the General Act, including the procedure of conciliation:			
(i) Disputes arising prior to the accession of His Majesty to the said General Act or relating to situations or facts prior to the said accession;			
(ii) Disputes in regard to which the parties to the dispute have agreed or shall agree to have recourse to some other method of peaceful settlement;			
(iii) Disputes between the Government of India and the Government of any other Member of the League which is a Member of the British Commonwealth of Nations, all of which disputes shall be settled in such a manner as the parties have agreed or shall agree;			
(iv) Disputes concerning questions which by international law are solely within the domestic jurisdiction of States; and			
(v) Disputes with any Party to the General Act who is not a Member of the League of Nations.			
2. That His Majesty reserves the right in relation to the disputes mentioned in Article 17 of the General Act to require that the procedure prescribed in Chapter II of the said Act shall be suspended in respect of any dispute which has been submitted to and is under consideration by the Council of the League of Nations, provided that notice to suspend is given after the dispute has been submitted to the Council and is given within ten days of the notification of the initiation of the procedure, and provided also that such suspension shall be limited to a period of twelve months or such longer period as may be agreed by the parties to the dispute or determined by a decision of all the Members of the Council other than the parties to the dispute.			
3. (i) That, in the case			

GENERAL ACT (continued).
(Geneva, September 26th, 1928.)
In Force.

Accessions

*This Act is open to
Accession by*

A	B	C	All the Members of the League of Nations, with the exception of those mentioned in the preceding columns, and:
All the provisions of the Act	Provisions relating to conciliation and judicial settlement (Chapters I and II) and general provisions dealing with these procedures (Chapter IV).	Provisions relating to conciliation (Chapter I), and general provisions concerning that procedure (Chapter IV).	
of a dispute, not being a dispute mentioned in Article 17 of the General Act, which is brought before the Council of the League of Nations in accordance with the provisions of the Covenant, the procedure prescribed in Chapter I of the General Act, shall not be applied, and, if already commenced, shall be suspended, unless the Council determines that the said procedure shall be adopted.			
(ii) That, in the case of such a dispute, the procedure described in Chapter III of the General Act shall not be applied unless the Council has failed to effect a settlement of the dispute within twelve months from the date on which it was first submitted to the Council, or, in a case where the procedure prescribed in Chapter I has been adopted without producing an agreement between the parties, within six months from the termination of the work of the Conciliation Commission. The Council may extend either of the above periods by a decision of all its Members other than the parties to the dispute.			
DENMARK (April 14th, 1930)			
ESTONIA (September 3rd 1931.)			
Subject to the following conditions:			
The following disputes are excluded from the procedures described in the General Act, including the procedure of conciliation:			
a) disputes resulting from facts prior either to the accession of Estonia or to the accession of another Party with whom Estonia might have a dispute;			
b) disputes concerning questions which by international law are solely within the domestic jurisdiction of States.			
FINLAND (September 6th, 1930)			
France (May 21st, 1931)			
The said accession concerning all disputes that may arise after the said accession with			

GENERAL ACT (continued).
(Geneva, September 26th, 1928.)

In Force.

This Act is open to
Accession by

Accessions

A	B	C	All the Members of the League of Nations, with the exception of those mentioned in the preceding columns and:
All the provisions of the Act	Provisions relating to conciliation and judicial settlement (Chapters I and II) and general provisions dealing with these procedures (Chapter IV).	Provisions relating to conciliation (Chapter I), and general provisions concerning that procedure (Chapter IV).	
<p>regard to situations or facts subsequent thereto, other than those which the Permanent Court of International Justice may recognise as bearing on a question left by international law to the exclusive competence of the State, it being understood that in application of Article 39 of the said Act the disputes which the parties or one of them may have referred to the Council of the League of Nations will not be submitted to the procedures described in this Act unless the Council has been unable to pronounce a decision under the conditions laid down in Article 15, paragraph 6, of the Covenant.</p>			
<p>Furthermore, in accordance with the resolution adopted by the Assembly of the League of Nations "on the submission and recommendation of the General Act", Article 28 of this Act is interpreted by the French Government as meaning in particular that "respect for rights established by treaty or resulting from international law" is obligatory upon arbitral tribunals constituted in application of Chapter 3 of the said General Act.</p>			
LUXEMBURG (September 15th, 1930)			
NORWAY (June 11th, 1930)			
<p>SPAIN (September 16th, 1930) Subject to reservations (a) and (b) provided for in Article 39, paragraph 2.</p>			

XIX. ECONOMIC STATISTICS.

INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION RELATING TO ECONOMIC STATISTICS.¹
(Geneva, December 14th, 1928.)

In Force.

Ratifications or definitive Accessions	Signatures or Accessions not yet perfected by Ratification	The Convention is open to Accession by:
<p>AUSTRIA (March 27th, 1931) GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND and all parts of the British Empire which are not separate Members of the League of Nations (May 9th, 1930)</p>	<p>BELGIUM In pursuance of Article 11 of the Convention, the Belgian Delegation declares on behalf of its Government that it cannot accept, in regard to the Colony of the Belgian Congo, the obligations arising out of the clauses of the present Convention.</p>	<p>ABYSSINIA ALBANIA UNITED STATES OF AMERICA ARGENTINE AUSTRALIA BOLIVIA CHILE</p>

¹ The Convention and Protocol came into force December 14th, 1930, in accordance with Article 14 of the Convention.

INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION RELATING TO ECONOMIC STATISTICS (*continued*).

(Geneva, December 14th, 1928.)

In Force.

<i>Ratifications or definitive Accessions.</i>	<i>Signatures or Accessions of yet perfected by Ratification</i>	<i>The Convention is open to Accession by:</i>
Does not include any of His Britannic Majesty's Colonies, Protectorates or Territories under suzerainty or mandate.	BRAZIL	CHINA
CANADA (August 23rd, 1930 <i>a</i>)	FREE CITY OF DANZIG (through the intermediary of Poland)	COLOMBIA
UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA (including the mandated territory of South-West Africa) (May 1st, 1930)	ESTONIA	CUBA
IRISH FREE STATE (September 15th, 1930)	FINLAND	DOMINICAN REPUBLIC
<i>India</i> (May 15th, 1931 <i>a</i>)	FRANCE	ECUADOR
A. Under the terms of Article 11, the obligations of the Convention shall not extend to the territories in India of any Prince or Chief under the suzerainty of His Majesty the King Emperor.	By its acceptance, France does not intend to assume any obligation in regard to any of its Colonies, Protectorates and Territories under its suzerainty or mandate.	GUATEMALA
B ¹ (1) Article 2 I (a). — The provisions for returns of "transit trade" made in Annex 1, Part 1, 1 (b) shall not apply to India nor shall returns of the "land frontier trade" of India be acquired.	GERMANY	HAITI
(2) Article 2. II (a). — The question whether a general census of agriculture can be held in India and, if so, on what lines and at what intervals still remains to be settled. For the present, India can assume no obligations under this article.	HUNGARY	HONDURAS
(3) Article 2. III (b). (1). — For farms in the "permanently settled" tracts in India, estimates of the cultivated areas may be used in compiling the returns.	JAPAN	LIBERIA
(4) Article 2. III (b). (2). — The returns of quantities of crops harvested may be based on estimates of yield each year per unit area in each locality.	In virtue of Article 11 of the present Convention, the Japanese Government declares that its acceptance of the present Convention does not extend to its Territories mentioned below: Chosen, Taiwan, Karafuto, the Leased Territory of Kwantung, the Territories under Japanese mandate.	LITHUANIA
(5) Article 2. III (d). — Complete returns cannot be guaranteed from Burma and in respect of the rest of India, the returns shall refer to Government forests only.	LATVIA	MEXICO
BULGARIA (November 29th, 1929)	LUXEMBURG	NICARAGUA
CZECHOSLOVAKIA (February 19th, 1931)	THE NETHERLANDS	NEW ZEALAND
DENMARK (September 9th, 1929)	In accepting the present Convention, the Netherlands assumes no obligation as regards the Dutch East Indies, Surinam and Curaçao.	PANAMA
In pursuance of Article 11, Greenland is excepted from the provisions of this Convention. Furthermore, the Danish Government, in accepting the Convention, does not assume any obligation in respect of statistics concerning the Faroe Islands.	PORTUGAL	PARAGUAY
EGYPT (June 27th, 1930)	In accordance with Article 11, the Portuguese Delegation declares on behalf of its Government that the present Convention does not apply to the Portuguese Colonies.	PERSIA
GREECE (September 18th, 1930)	YUGOSLAVIA	PERU
<i>Italy</i> (June 11th, 1931)		SALVADOR
In accepting the present Convention, Italy does not assume any obligation in respect of her		SIAM
		SPAIN
		TURKEY
		UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS
		URUGUAY
		VENEZUELA

¹ These reservations were accepted by the States parties to the Convention which were consulted in accordance with Article 17.

INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION RELATING TO ECONOMIC STATISTICS (*continued*).

(Geneva, December 14th, 1928.)

In Force.

*Ratifications or definitive
Accessions*

Colonies, Protectorates and other Territories referred to in the first paragraph of Article 11.

NORWAY (March 20th, 1929)

In accordance with Article 11, the Bouvet Island is excepted from the provisions of the present Convention. Furthermore, in ratifying the Convention, Norway does not assume any obligation as regards statistics relating to the Svalbard.

Poland (July 23rd, 1931)

Roumania (June 22nd, 1931)

SWEDEN (February 17th, 1930)

SWITZERLAND (July 10th, 1930)

PROTOCOL.

(Geneva, December 14th, 1928.)

In Force.

*Ratifications or definitive
Accessions*

*Signatures or Accessions not yet
perfected by Ratification*

*The Protocol is open to
Accession by:*

AUSTRIA (March 27th, 1931)
GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND and all parts of the British Empire which are not separate Members of the League of Nations (May 9th, 1930)
CANADA (August 23rd, 1930 a)
UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA (including the mandated territory of South-West Africa) (May 1st, 1930)
IRISH FREE STATE (September 15th, 1930)
India (May 15th, 1931 a)
BULGARIA (November 29th, 1929)
CZECHOSLOVAKIA (February 19th, 1931)
DENMARK (September 9th, 1929)
EGYPT (June 27th, 1930)
GREECE (Sept. 18th, 1930)
Italy (June 11th, 1931)
NORWAY (March 20th, 1929)
Poland (July 23rd, 1931)
Roumania (June 22nd, 1931)
SWEDEN (February 17th, 1930)
SWITZERLAND (July 10th, 1930)

BELGIUM
BRAZIL
FREE CITY OF DANZIG (through the intermediary of Poland)
ESTONIA
FINLAND
FRANCE
GERMANY
HUNGARY
JAPAN
LATVIA
LUXEMBURG
THE NETHERLANDS
PORTUGAL
YUGOSLAVIA

ABYSSINIA
ALBANIA
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
ARGENTINE
AUSTRALIA
BOLIVIA
CHILE
CHINA
COLOMBIA
CUBA
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC
ECUADOR
GUATEMALA
HAITI
HONDURAS
LIBERIA
LITHUANIA
MEXICO
NICARAGUA
NEW ZEALAND
PANAMA
PARAGUAY
PERSIA
PERU
SALVADOR
SIAM
SPAIN
TURKEY
UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS
URUGUAY
VENEZUELA

XX. SUPPRESSION OF COUNTERFEITING CURRENCY.

INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION FOR THE SUPPRESSION OF COUNTERFEITING CURRENCY.¹

(Geneva, April 20th, 1929.)

In Force.

*Ratifications or definitive
Accessions*

Austria (June 25th, 1931)
BULGARIA (May 22nd, 1930)
DENMARK (February 19th,
1931)

Upon depositing the instrument of ratification by His Majesty the King of Denmark and Iceland of the International Convention for the Suppression of Counterfeiting Currency, with Protocol, signed at Geneva on April 20th, 1929, I have the honour, by order of my Government, to state that my Government's ratification is subject to the reservation that the above-mentioned Convention and Protocol will take effect in respect of Denmark only upon the coming into force of the Danish Penal Code of April 15th, 1930.

In this connection, I have the honour to point out that under a special law of the same date the penal code in question is to be brought into force by an ordinance of the Minister of Justice not later than January 1st, 1933.

ESTONIA (August 30th, 1930 a)
Greece (May 19th, 1931)
NORWAY² (March 16th, 1931)

In view of the provisions of Article 176, paragraph 2, of the Norwegian Ordinary Criminal Code and Article 2 of the Norwegian Law on the Extradition of Criminals, the extradition provided for in Article 10 of the present Convention may not be granted for the offence referred to in Article 3, No. 2, where the person uttering the counterfeit currency himself accepted it *bona fide* as genuine.

SPAIN (April 28th, 1930)
PORTUGAL (September 18th,
1930)
YUGOSLAVIA (November 24th,
1930)

*Signatures or Accessions not yet
perfected by Ratification*

ALBANIA
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
BELGIUM
GREAT BRITAIN and NORTHERN
IRELAND and all parts of
the British Empire which
are not separate Members
of the League of Nations.
INDIA
As provided in Article 24 of the
Convention, this signature does
not include the territories of
any Prince or Chief under the
suzerainty of His Majesty.

CHINA
COLOMBIA
CUBA
CZECHOSLOVAKIA
FREE CITY OF DANZIG
(through the intermediary
of Poland)

FRANCE
GERMANY
HUNGARY
ITALY
JAPAN
LUXEMBURG
MONACO
THE NETHERLANDS
PANAMA
POLAND
ROUMANIA
UNION OF SOVIET
SOCIALIST REPUBLICS
SWITZERLAND

*The Convention is open to
Accession by:*

ABYSSINIA
UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA
ARGENTINE
AUSTRALIA
BOLIVIA
BRAZIL
CANADA
CHILE
COSTA RICA
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC
ECUADOR
EGYPT
FINLAND
GUATEMALA
HAITI
HONDURAS
ICELAND
IRAQ
IRISH FREE STATE
LATVIA
LIBERIA
LIECHTENSTEIN
LITHUANIA
MEXICO
NICARAGUA
NEW ZEALAND
PARAGUAY
PERSIA
PERU
SAN MARINO
SALVADOR
SIAM
SWEDEN
TURKEY
URUGUAY
VENEZUELA

PROTOCOL.

(Geneva, April 20th, 1929.)

In Force.

*Ratifications or definitive
Accessions.*

Austria (June 25th, 1931)
BULGARIA (May 22nd, 1930)
DENMARK (February 19th,
1931)

(Same reservation as for the Con-
vention.)

*Signatures or Accessions
not yet perfected by Ratification.*

ALBANIA
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
BELGIUM
GREAT BRITAIN and NORTHERN
IRELAND and all parts of
the British Empire which

*The Protocol is open to
Accession by:*

ABYSSINIA
UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA
ARGENTINE
AUSTRALIA
BOLIVIA
BRAZIL

¹ The Convention and Protocol came into force on February 22nd, 1931, in accordance with Article 25 of the Convention.

² As the reservation made by Norway on signing and ratifying the Convention has not given rise to any objection on the part of the States to which it was communicated in accordance with Article 22, it may be considered as accepted.

PROTOCOL (*continued*).

(*Geneva, April 20th, 1929.*)

In Force.

*Ratifications or definitive
Accessions.*

ESTONIA (August 30th, 1930 *a*)
Greece (May 19th, 1931)
NORWAY (March 16th, 1931)
PORTUGAL (September 18th,
1930)
SPAIN (April 28th, 1930)
YUGOSLAVIA (November 24th,
1930)

*Signatures or Accessions
not yet perfected by Ratification.*

are not separate Members
of the League of Nations.
INDIA
CHINA
COLOMBIA
CUBA
CZECHOSLOVAKIA
FREE CITY OF DANZIG
(through the intermediary
of Poland)
FRANCE
GERMANY
HUNGARY
ITALY
JAPAN
LUXEMBURG
MONACO
THE NETHERLANDS
PANAMA
POLAND
ROUMANIA
UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST
REPUBLICS
SWITZERLAND

*The Protocol is open to
Accession by:*

CANADA
CHILE
COSTA RICA
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC
ECUADOR
EGYPT
FINLAND
GUATEMALA
HAITI
HONDURAS
ICELAND
IRAQ
IRISH FREE STATE
LATVIA
LIBERIA
LIECHTENSTEIN
LITHUANIA
MEXICO
NICARAGUA
NEW ZEALAND
PARAGUAY
PERSIA
PERU
SAN MARINO
SALVADOR
SIAM
SWEDEN
TURKEY
URUGUAY
VENEZUELA

OPTIONAL PROTOCOL.¹

(*Geneva, April 20th, 1929.*)

In Force.

*Ratifications or definitive
Accessions.*

Austria (June 25th, 1931)
BULGARIA (May 22nd, 1930)
ESTONIA (August 30th, 1930 *a*)
Greece (May 19th, 1931)
PORTUGAL (September 18th,
1930)
ROUMANIA (November 10th,
1930)
SPAIN (April 28th, 1930)
YUGOSLAVIA (November 24th,
1930)

*Signatures or Accessions
not yet perfected by Ratification.*

COLOMBIA
CUBA
CZECHOSLOVAKIA
PANAMA
POLAND

*The Protocol is open to
Accession by:*

The Members of the League
of Nations who did not sign it
and the non-Member States
having signed or who have
been invited to accede to
the International Convention
for the Suppression of
Counterfeiting Currency.

¹ This Protocol came into force on August 30th, 1930.

XXI. AGREEMENT CONCERNING THE PREPARATION OF A TRANSIT CARD FOR EMIGRANTS.¹

(Geneva, June 14th, 1929.)

In Force.

<i>Signatures.</i>	<i>Signatures ad referendum.</i>	<i>The Agreement is open to Signature by:</i>
AUSTRIA (February 3rd, 1930)	FREE CITY OF DANZIG	ALBANIA
BELGIUM (June 14th, 1929)	(through the intermediary of	BULGARIA
GREAT BRITAIN and NORTHERN	Poland)	CZECHOSLOVAKIA
IRELAND (June 14th, 1929)	HUNGARY	DENMARK
FINLAND (October 9th, 1929)	SWITZERLAND	ESTONIA
FRANCE (June 14th, 1929)		IRISH FREE STATE
GERMANY (May 12th, 1930)		LATVIA
Greece (June 22nd, 1931)		LITHUANIA
ITALY (June 14th, 1929)		LUXEMBURG
THE NETHERLANDS (for the		NORWAY
Kingdom in Europe) July		PORTUGAL
3rd, 1930)		SWEDEN
POLAND (December, 23rd 1929)		YUGOSLAVIA
ROUMANIA (November 26th,		
1929)		
SAAR TERRITORY GOVERNING		
COMMISSION (June 14th, 1929)		
SPAIN (December 17th, 1929)		

XXII. PERMANENT COURT OF INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE.

3. PROTOCOL CONCERNING THE REVISION OF THE STATUTE OF THE PERMANENT COURT OF INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE.²

(Geneva, September 14th, 1929.)

Not in Force.

<i>Ratifications.</i>	<i>Signatures not yet perfected by Ratification.</i>	<i>The Protocol is open to Signature by:</i>
UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA*	ABYSSINIA
(February 17th, 1930)	BOLIVIA **	COSTA RICA
ALBANIA (September 12th,	BRAZIL **	
1930)		
AUSTRALIA (August 28th, 1930)		
AUSTRIA (February 26th, 1930)		

¹ This Agreement is not subject to ratification. It came into force, September 12th, 1929, in accordance with its Article 11. See League of Nations *Treaty Series*, Vol. XCIV, p. 277, and Vol. C, p. 263.

² Under the terms of Article 4 of the Protocol the only condition necessary for the coming into force of the amendments is ratification by those Members of the League of Nations and States mentioned in the Annex to the Covenant which have ratified the Protocol of December 16th, 1920, or notification by such States that they have no objection to the coming into force of the amendments. For the purposes of the Protocol of 1929, the United States of America shall be in the same position as a State which has ratified the Protocol of December 16th, 1920.

* Sees no objection to the coming into force of the amendments.

** Cannot give a final reply as regards the entry into force until the Protocol has obtained parliamentary approval.

3. PROTOCOL CONCERNING THE REVISION OF THE STATUTE OF THE PERMANENT COURT OF INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE (*continued*).

(Geneva, September 14th, 1929)

Not in Force.

Ratifications.

Signatures not yet perfected by Ratification.

BELGIUM (November 18th, 1929)
GREAT BRITAIN and NORTHERN IRELAND and all parts of the British Empire which are not separate Members of the League of Nations (February 12th, 1930)
BULGARIA (April 27th, 1931)
CANADA (August 28th, 1930)
CHINA (October 14th, 1930)
CUBA (January 5, 1931)
Subject to reservation as regards Article 4 of the Protocol and the amended form of Article 23 of the Statute of the Court.
CZECHOSLOVAKIA (October 30th, 1930)
DENMARK (March 11th, 1930)
ESTONIA (September 8th, 1930)
FINLAND (August 28th, 1930)
FRANCE (May 8th, 1931)
GERMANY (August 13th, 1930)
GREECE (August 29th, 1930)
HAITI (September 30th, 1930)
HUNGARY (August 13th, 1930)
INDIA (February 26th, 1930)
IRISH FREE STATE (August 2nd, 1930)
ITALY (April 2nd, 1931)
JAPAN (November 14th, 1930)
LATVIA (August 29th, 1930)
LIBERIA (August 29th, 1930)
LUXEMBURG (September 15th, 1930)
THE NETHERLANDS, including Netherlands Indies, Surinam and Curaçao (August 8th, 1930)
NEW ZEALAND (June 4th, 1930)
NORWAY (April 10th, 1930)
PERSIA (April 25th, 1931)
POLAND (May 13th, 1930)
PORTUGAL (June 12th, 1930)
ROUMANIA (August 4th, 1930)
SALVADOR (August 29th, 1930)
SIAM (June 2nd, 1930)
SPAIN (July 15th, 1930)
SWEDEN (March 20th, 1930)
SWITZERLAND (July 5th, 1930)
YUGOSLAVIA (August 27th, 1930)

CHILE*
COLOMBIA*
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC****
GUATEMALA****
LITHUANIA**
NICARAGUA
PANAMA**
PARAGUAY
PERU**
URUGUAY***
VENEZUELA*

* Have instituted proceedings for ratification and have no objection to the coming into force of the amendments.
** Sees no objection to the coming into force of the amendments.
*** Cannot give a final reply as regards the entry into force until the Protocol has obtained parliamentary approval.
**** Does not agree to the coming into force of the amendments.

4. PROTOCOL RELATING TO THE ACCESSION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE PROTOCOL OF SIGNATURE OF THE STATUTE OF THE PERMANENT COURT OF INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE. ¹

(Geneva, September 14th, 1929.)

Not in Force.

<i>Ratifications.</i>	<i>Signatures not yet perfected by Ratification.</i>	<i>The Protocol is open to Signature by:</i>
UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA (February 17th, 1930)	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA	ABYSSINIA
ALBANIA (September 12th, 1930)	BELGIUM	COSTA RICA
AUSTRALIA (August 28th, 1930)	BOLIVIA	
AUSTRIA (February 26th, 1930)	BRAZIL	
GREAT BRITAIN and NORTHERN IRELAND and all parts of the British Empire which are not separate Members of the League of Nations (February 12th, 1930)	CHILE	
BULGARIA (April 27th, 1931)	COLOMBIA	
CANADA (August 28th, 1930)	DOMINICAN REPUBLIC	
CHINA (October 14th, 1930)	GUATEMALA	
CUBA (November 26th, 1930)	HAITI	
CZECHOSLOVAKIA (October 30th, 1930)	LIBERIA	
DENMARK (March 11th, 1930)	LITHUANIA	
ESTONIA (September 8th, 1930)	NICARAGUA	
FINLAND (August 28th, 1930)	PANAMA	
FRANCE (May 8th, 1931)	PARAGUAY	
GERMANY (August 13th, 1930)	PERU	
GREECE (August 29th, 1930)	SALVADOR	
HUNGARY (August 13th, 1930)	URUGUAY	
INDIA (February 26th, 1930)	VENEZUELA	
IRISH FREE STATE (August 2nd, 1930)		
ITALY (April 2nd, 1931)		
JAPAN (November 14th, 1930)		
LATVIA (August 29th, 1930)		
LUXEMBURG (November 3rd, 1930)		
THE NETHERLANDS, including Netherlands Indies, Surinam and Curaçao (August 8th, 1930)		
NEW ZEALAND (June 4th, 1930)		
NORWAY (April 10th, 1930)		
PERSIA (April 25th, 1931)		
POLAND (May 13th, 1930)		
PORTUGAL (June 12th, 1930)		
ROUMANIA (August 4th, 1930)		
SIAM (June 2nd, 1930)		
SPAIN (July 15th, 1930)		
SWEDEN (March 20th, 1930)		
SWITZERLAND (July 5th, 1930)		
YUGOSLAVIA (August 27th, 1930)		

XXIII. REFUGEES. ²

CONVENTION BETWEEN THE HELLENIC GOVERNMENT AND THE REFUGEE SETTLEMENT COMMISSION.

(Geneva, January 24th, 1930.)

<i>Ratification</i>	<i>Signatures</i>
RATIFIED BY GREECE, June 20th, 1930.	GREECE REFUGEE SETTLEMENT COMMISSION

¹ The present Protocol shall come into force as soon as all States which have ratified the Protocol of December 16th, 1920, and also the United States, have deposited their ratifications.

² See note * on next page.

XXIV. CONCERTED ECONOMIC ACTION.

I. COMMERCIAL CONVENTION AND PROTOCOL.¹

(Geneva, March 24th, 1930.)

Not in Force.

*Ratifications or definitive
Accessions.*

*Signatures or Accessions
not yet perfected by Ratification.*

*The Convention is open to
Accession by*

BELGIUM (August 29th, 1930)²

The Belgian Government does not intend to assume any obligation as regards the Belgian Colony of the Congo and the territory under Belgian mandate of Ruanda-Urundi.

GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND (October 25th, 1930)

Does not include any of His Britannic Majesty's Colonies, Protectorates or Territories under suzerainty or mandate.

DENMARK (October 31st, 1930)

FINLAND (October 31st, 1930)

FRANCE (May 4th, 1931)

In signing the present Convention, the undersigned declare:

(1) That the provisions of Article II, paragraph 3, and of Article III, paragraph 2, apply to the products covered by the French laws of December 13th, 1897, and December 1st, 1929;

(2) That the French Government does not assume, as a result of the said Convention, as regards its colonies, protectorates and countries under French mandate, any obligation other than those arising out of the commercial treaties in force.

GREECE (January 16th, 1931)

ITALY (November 26th, 1930)

In signing the present Convention the Plenipotentiary of His Majesty the King of Italy declares that Article II, paragraph 3, and Article III of the Convention and *ad* Article III of the Protocol, referring to "urgent circumstances", apply, so far as Italy is concerned, to all cases in which modifications of Customs duties are adopted as emergency measures by the Government by means of an Act having a legislative character.

The Italian Government does not assume, by its acceptance of the said Convention, any new obligation in regard to the

AUSTRIA

ESTONIA

GERMANY

POLAND

Will only be in a position to submit the Commercial Convention of March 24th, 1930, to the procedure of ratification and thereafter put it into force, on the condition that the tariffs in existence on April 1st, 1930, applied by the other States, shall not be subject, until the entry into force of the said Convention, to any important modifications which would be unfavourable to Polish exports.

ROUMANIA

ABYSSINIA

AFGHANISTAN

UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA

ALBANIA

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC

AUSTRALIA

BOLIVIA

BRAZIL

BULGARIA

CANADA

CHILE

CHINA

COLOMBIA

COSTA RICA

CUBA

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

EGYPT

ECUADOR

GUATEMALA

HAITI

HEJAZ

HONDURAS

HUNGARY

ICELAND

INDIA

IRAQ

IRISH FREE STATE

JAPAN

LIBERIA

LITHUANIA

MEXICO

MONACO

NICARAGUA

NEW ZEALAND

PANAMA

PARAGUAY

PERSIA

PERU

PORTUGAL

SAN MARINO

SALVADOR

SIAM

* (See XXIII on preceding page.) The Annex to the Supplementary Report on the work of the Council and the Secretariat for 1929 (A.6(a).1929 Annex) contains, moreover, complete details concerning:

- (1) Additional Act to the Protocol of September 29th, 1923, relating to the Settlement of Greek Refugees, signed at Geneva, September 19th, 1924;
- (2) Declaration relating to the modifications made to the Protocol of September 29th, 1923, with regard to the Settlement of Refugees in Greece, by the additional Act of September 19th, 1924, Geneva, September 25th, 1924;
- (3) Protocol concerning the Settlement of Refugees in Bulgaria, signed at Geneva, September 8th, 1926;
- (4) Protocol for the stabilisation of the currency and liquidating the budget arrears of the Hellenic State and for further settlement of Greek Refugees, signed at Geneva, September 15th, 1927;
- (5) Declaration concerning the above Protocol on behalf of France, Great Britain and Italy, signed at Geneva, December 8th, 1927;
- (6) Arrangement relating to the issue of identity certificates to Russian and Armenian refugees, supplementing and amending the previous Arrangements dated July 5th, 1922, and May 31st, 1924, signed at Geneva, May 12th, 1926;
- (7) Arrangement concerning the legal status of Russian and Armenian Refugees, signed at Geneva, June 30th, 1928;
- (8) Arrangement concerning the extension to other categories of Refugees of certain measures taken to assist Russian and Armenian Refugees, signed at Geneva, June 30th, 1928;
- (9) Agreement concerning the functions of the representatives of the League of Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, signed at Geneva, June 30th, 1928.

¹ The present Convention is concluded for a period of one year from April 1st, 1930 (Article IX).

² When signing this Convention and the Protocol relating thereto, the Plenipotentiary of Belgium made the following declaration: "Jointly with the Grand-Duchy of Luxemburg, for the Economic Union of Belgium and Luxemburg". But the ratification deposited with the Secretariat on August 29th, 1930, applies only to Belgium.

I. COMMERCIAL CONVENTION AND PROTOCOL (*continued*).
(*Geneva, March 24th, 1930.*)

Not in Force.

*Ratifications, or definitive
Accessions.*

whole of its Colonies, Protectorates or territories under suzerainty.

Nevertheless, the Italian Government considers that the obligations arising out of the abovementioned Convention must be fully applied also to the stipulations concerning Colonies, Protectorates, etc. expressly covered by the bilateral treaties referred to in Article 1 of the Convention.

Consequently, if any one of the Contracting States having concluded bilateral treaties containing stipulations with regard to Colonies, Protectorates or territories under suzerainty or mandate, considered itself entitled, notwithstanding the provisions of the Convention of March 24th, 1930, to denounce, in any of these bilateral treaties the part concerning the abovementioned stipulations with regard to Colonies, etc., the Italian Government would have to regard such State as failing in its obligations under Article 1 of the Convention.

LATVIA (October 31st, 1930)
LUXEMBURG (November 3rd, 1930)

Jointly with Belgium, for the Economic Union of Belgium and Luxemburg.

NORWAY (June 18th, 1930)
THE NETHERLANDS (March 10th, 1931)

Does not include the Netherlands East Indies, Surinam and Curaçao.

SWEDEN (October 27th, 1930)
SWITZERLAND (October 23rd, 1930)

The entry into force of this Convention, as regards Switzerland, is subject to the condition that the neighbouring States—*i. e.*, Germany, Austria, France and Italy—also ratify it and put it into force.

2. PROTOCOL REGARDING THE PROGRAMME OF FUTURE NEGOTIATIONS.
(*Geneva, March 24th, 1930.*)

Not in Force.

Ratifications.

BELGIUM (August 29th, 1930)¹
GREECE (January 16th, 1931)
LUXEMBURG (November 3rd, 1930)

Jointly with Belgium, for the Economic Union of Belgium and Luxemburg.

AUSTRIA
GREAT BRITAIN AND
NORTHERN IRELAND

Does not include any of His Britannic Majesty's Colonies, Protectorates or Territories under suzerainty or mandate.

BULGARIA
CZECHOSLOVAKIA
DENMARK
ESTONIA
FINLAND
FRANCE
GERMANY

*The Protocol is open
to Signature by:*

COLOMBIA
JAPAN
PERU
TURKEY
And all other States which may accede to the Convention.

¹ When signing this Protocol, the Plenipotentiary of Belgium made the following declaration: "Jointly with the Grand-Duchy of Luxemburg for the Economic Union of Belgium and Luxemburg". But the ratification deposited with the Secretariat on August 29th, 1930, applies only to Belgium.

2. PROTOCOL REGARDING THE PROGRAMME OF FUTURE NEGOTIATIONS (*continued*).
(Geneva, March 24th, 1930.)

Not in Force.

Ratifications.

Signatures.

HUNGARY
IRISH FREE STATE
ITALY
LATVIA
LITHUANIA
THE NETHERLANDS
Does not include the Netherlands
East Indies, Surinam and
Curaçao.
NORWAY
POLAND
PORTUGAL
Does not cover the Portuguese
Colonies.
ROUMANIA
SPAIN
SWEDEN
SWITZERLAND
YUGOSLAVIA

XXV. PROGRESSIVE CODIFICATION OF INTERNATIONAL LAW.

I. CONVENTION ON CERTAIN QUESTIONS RELATING TO THE CONFLICT OF NATIONALITY LAWS.¹
(The Hague, April 12th, 1930.)

Not in Force.

*Ratifications or definitive
Accessions*

MONACO (April 27, 1931 a)
NORWAY (March 16th, 1931 a)

*Signatures or Accessions not yet
perfected by Ratification*

AUSTRIA
BELGIUM
Subject to accession later for
the Colony of the Congo and the
Mandated Territories.
GREAT BRITAIN AND
NORTHERN IRELAND
CANADA
AUSTRALIA
UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA
IRISH FREE STATE
INDIA
In accordance with the provisions
of Article 29, His Britannic
Majesty does not assume any
obligation in respect of the
territories in India of any
Prince or Chief under His
Suzerainty or the population
of the said territories.
CHILE
CHINA
Subject to reservation as regards
Article 4.
COLOMBIA
Subject to reservation as regards
Article 10.
CUBA
Subject to reservation as regards
Articles 9, 10 and 11.
CZECHOSLOVAKIA
DENMARK
Subject to reservation as regards
Articles 5 and 11.
FREE CITY OF DANZIG (through
the intermediary of Poland)

*The Convention is open
to Accession by :*

ABYSSINIA
ALBANIA
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
ARGENTINE
BRAZIL
BOLIVIA
BULGARIA
COSTA RICA
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC
ECUADOR
FINLAND
GUATEMALA
HAITI
HONDURAS
LIBERIA
LITHUANIA
NEW ZEALAND
NICARAGUA
PANAMA
PARAGUAY
PERSIA
ROUMANIA
SAN MARINO
SIAM
UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST
REPUBLICS
TURKEY
VENEZUELA

¹ A procès-verbal shall be drawn up by the Secretary-General of the League of Nations as soon as ratifications or accessions on behalf of ten Members of the League of Nations or non-Member States have been deposited (Article 25, § 1).

The present Convention shall enter into force on the ninetieth day after the date of the procès-verbal mentioned in Article 25 as regards all Members of the League of Nations or non-Member States on whose behalf ratifications or accessions have been deposited on the date of the procès-verbal (Article 26, § 1).

I. CONVENTION ON CERTAIN QUESTIONS RELATING TO THE CONFLICT OF NATIONALITY LAWS
(continued).

(The Hague, April 12th, 1930.)

Not in Force.

Ratifications or definitive
Accessions

Signatures or Accessions not yet
perfected by Ratification

EGYPT
ESTONIA
FRANCE
GERMANY
GREECE
HUNGARY
ICELAND
ITALY
JAPAN

Subject to reservation as regards
Article 4 and 10 and as regards
the words "according to its law"
of Article 13.

LATVIA
LUXEMBURG
MEXICO

Subject to reservation as regards
paragraph 2 of Article 1.

THE NETHERLANDS

(1) exclude from acceptance
Articles 8, 9 and 10;
(2) do not intend to assume any
obligation as regards the Nether-
land Indies, Surinam and Curaçao.

PERU

Subject to reservation as regards
Article 4.

POLAND
PORTUGAL
SALVADOR
SPAIN

SWITZERLAND

Subject to reservation as regards
Article 10.

SWEDEN

The Swedish Government declares
that it does not accept to be
bound by the provisions of the
second sentence of Article 11, in
the case where the wife referred
to in the Article, after recovering
the nationality of her country of
origin, fails to establish her
ordinary residence in that country.

URUGUAY
YUGOSLAVIA

2. PROTOCOL RELATING TO MILITARY OBLIGATIONS IN CERTAIN CASES OF DOUBLE NATIONALITY.¹

(The Hague, April 12th, 1930.)

Not in Force.

Ratifications or definitive
Accessions

Signatures or Accessions not yet
perfected by Ratification

The Protocol is open
to Accession by:

AUSTRIA
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
BELGIUM
Subject to accession later for the
Colony of the Congo and the
Mandated Territories.
GREAT BRITAIN AND
NORTHERN IRELAND
CANADA
IRISH FREE STATE
INDIA

In accordance with the provisions
of Article 15, His Britannic
Majesty does not assume any
obligation in respect of the
territories in India of any
Prince or Chief under His

ABYSSINIA
ALBANIA
ARGENTINE
AUSTRALIA
BOLIVIA
BRAZIL
BULGARIA
CHINA
COSTA RICA
CZECHOSLOVAKIA
FREE CITY OF DANZIG
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC
ECUADOR
ESTONIA
FINLAND

¹ A procès-verbal shall be drawn up by the Secretary-General of the League of Nations as soon as ratifications or accessions on behalf of ten Members of the League of Nations or non-Member States have been deposited (Article 11, § 1). The present Protocol shall enter into force on the ninetieth day after the date of the procès-verbal mentioned in Article 11 as regards all Members of the League of Nations or non-Member States on whose behalf ratifications or accessions have been deposited on the date of the procès-verbal (Article 12, § 1).

2. **PROTOCOL RELATING TO MILITARY OBLIGATIONS IN CERTAIN CASES OF DOUBLE NATIONALITY**
(continued)
(The Hague, April 12th, 1930.)

Not in Force.

*Ratifications, or definitive
Accessions*

*Signatures or Accessions
not yet perfected by Ratification.
Suzerainty or the population
of the said territories.*

*The Protocol is open to
Accession by:*

CHILE
 COLOMBIA
 CUBA
 DENMARK
 EGYPT
 FRANCE
 GERMANY
 GREECE
 LUXEMBURG
 MEXICO
 THE NETHERLANDS
 (1) exclude from acceptance
 Article 3;
 (2) do not intend to assume any
 obligation as regards Netherlands
 Indies, Surinam and Curaçao.
 PERU
 PORTUGAL
 SALVADOR
 SPAIN
 SWEDEN
 URUGUAY

GUATEMALA
 HAITI
 HONDURAS
 HUNGARY
 ICELAND
 ITALY
 JAPAN
 LATVIA
 LIBERIA
 LITHUANIA
 MONACO
 NEW ZEALAND
 NICARAGUA
 NORWAY
 PANAMA
 PARAGUAY
 PERSIA
 POLAND
 ROUMANIA
 SAN MARINO
 SIAM
 UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST
 REPUBLICS
 SWITZERLAND
 TURKEY
 VENEZUELA
 YUGOSLAVIA

3. **PROTOCOL RELATING TO A CERTAIN CASE OF STATELESSNESS.¹**
(The Hague, April 12th, 1930.)

Not in Force.

*Ratifications, or definitive
Accessions*

*Signatures or Accessions
not yet perfected by Ratification.*

*The Protocol is open to
Accession by:*

BELGIUM
 Subject to accession later for the
 Colony of the Congo and the
 Mandated Territories.
 GREAT BRITAIN AND
 NORTHERN IRELAND
 CANADA
 AUSTRALIA
 UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA
 IRISH FREE STATE
 INDIA

In accordance with the Provisions
 of Article 13 of this Protocol,
 I declare that His Britannic
 Majesty does not assume any
 obligation in respect of the
 territories in India of any
 Prince or Chief under His
 Suzerainty or the population
 of the said territories.

CHILE
 CHINA
 COLOMBIA
 CUBA
 CZECHOSLOVAKIA
 DENMARK
 FREE CITY OF DANZIG (through
 the intermediary of Poland)
 EGYPT
 ESTONIA
 FRANCE

ABYSSINIA
 ALBANIA
 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
 ARGENTINE
 AUSTRIA
 BOLIVIA
 BRAZIL
 BULGARIA
 COSTA RICA
 DOMINICAN REPUBLIC
 ECUADOR
 FINLAND
 GERMANY
 GUATEMALA
 HAITI
 HONDURAS
 HUNGARY
 ICELAND
 ITALY
 LIBERIA
 LITHUANIA
 MONACO
 NEW ZEALAND
 NICARAGUA
 NORWAY
 PANAMA
 PARAGUAY
 PERSIA
 ROUMANIA
 SALVADOR

¹ A procès-verbal shall be drawn up by the Secretary-General of the League of Nations as soon as ratifications or accessions on behalf of ten Members of the League of Nations or non-Member States have been deposited (Article 9, § 1). The present Protocol shall enter into force on the ninetieth day after the date of the procès-verbal mentioned in Article 9 as regards all Members of the League of Nations or non-Member States on whose behalf ratifications or accessions have been deposited on the date of the procès-verbal (Article 10, § 1).

3. PROTOCOL RELATING TO A CERTAIN CASE OF STATELESSNESS (*continued*).
(*The Hague, April 12th, 1930.*)

Not in Force.

*Ratifications or definitive
Accessions*

*Signatures or Accessions not yet
perfected by Ratification*

*The Protocol is open to
Accession by:*

GREECE
JAPAN
LATVIA
LUXEMBURG
MEXICO
THE NETHERLANDS
Do not intend to assume any
obligation as regards the Nether-
lands Indies, Surinam and
Curaçao.
PERU
POLAND
PORTUGAL
SPAIN
URUGUAY

SAN MARINO
SIAM
UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST
REPUBLICS
SWEDEN
SWITZERLAND
TURKEY
VENEZUELA
YUGOSLAVIA

4. SPECIAL PROTOCOL CONCERNING STATELESSNESS.¹
(*The Hague, April 12th, 1930.*)

Not in Force.

*Ratifications or definitive
Accessions*

*Signatures or Accessions not yet
perfected by Ratification*

*The Protocol is open to
Accession by:*

AUSTRIA
GREAT BRITAIN AND
NORTHERN IRELAND
CANADA
UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA
IRISH FREE STATE
INDIA
In accordance with the Provisions
of Article 13 of this Protocol,
I declare that His Britannic
Majesty does not assume any
obligation in respect of the
territories in India of any
Prince or Chief under His
Suzerainty or the population
of the said territories.
BELGIUM
With the reservation that the appli-
cation of this Protocol will not be
extended to the Colony of the
Belgian Congo nor to the Terri-
tories under mandate.
CHINA
COLOMBIA
CUBA
EGYPT
GREECE
LUXEMBURG
MEXICO
PERU
PORTUGAL
SALVADOR
SPAIN
URUGUAY

ABYSSINIA
ALBANIA
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
ARGENTINE
AUSTRALIA
BOLIVIA
BRAZIL
BULGARIA
CHILE
COSTA RICA
CZECHOSLOVAKIA
FREE CITY OF DANZIG
DENMARK
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC
ECUADOR
ESTONIA
FINLAND
FRANCE
GERMANY
GUATEMALA
HAITI
HONDURAS
HUNGARY
ICELAND
ITALY
JAPAN
LATVIA
LIBERIA
LITHUANIA
MONACO
THE NETHERLANDS
NEW ZEALAND
NICARAGUA
NORWAY
PANAMA
PARAGUAY
PERSIA
POLAND
ROUMANIA
SAN MARINO
SIAM

¹ A procès-verbal shall be drawn up by the Secretary-General of the League of Nations as soon as ratifications or accessions on behalf of ten Members of the League of Nations or non-Member States have been deposited (Article 9, § 1). The present Protocol shall enter into force on the ninetieth day after the date of the procès-verbal mentioned in Article 9 as regards all Members of the League of Nations or non-Member States on whose behalf ratifications or accessions have been deposited on the date of the procès-verbal (Article 10, § 1).

4. SPECIAL PROTOCOL CONCERNING STATELESSNESS (*continued*).
(*The Hague, April 12th, 1930.*)

Not in Force.

*The Protocol is open to
Accession by:*

UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST
REPUBLICS
SWEDEN
SWITZERLAND
TURKEY
VENEZUELA
YUGOSLAVIA

XXVI. UNIFICATION OF LAWS ON BILLS OF EXCHANGE, PROMISSORY NOTES
AND CHEQUES.

I. CONVENTION PROVIDING A UNIFORM LAW FOR BILLS OF EXCHANGE AND PROMISSORY NOTES
AND PROTOCOL.¹

(*Geneva, June 7th, 1930.*)

Not in Force.

*Ratifications or definitive
Accessions*

*Signatures or Accessions not yet
perfected by Ratification:*

*The Convention is open to
Accession by:*

Greece (August 31st, 1931)

Subject to the following reservations
with regard to Annex II:

Article 8: Paragraphs 1 and 3.

Article 9: As regards bills payable
at a fixed date, or at a fixed
period after date or after sight.

Article 13.

Article 15: (a) Proceedings against
a drawer or endorser who has
made an inequitable gain;

(b) Same proceedings against
an acceptor who has made an
inequitable gain.

"These proceedings shall be
taken within a period of five
years counting from the date of
the bill of exchange."

Article 17: The provisions of Greek
law relating to short-term limi-
tations shall apply.

Article 20: The above-mentioned
reservations apply equally to
promissory notes.

AUSTRIA
BELGIUM
BRAZIL
COLOMBIA
CZECHOSLOVAKIA
DENMARK
FREE CITY OF DANZIG (through
the intermediary of Poland)
ECUADOR
FINLAND
FRANCE
GERMANY
HUNGARY
ITALY
JAPAN
LUXEMBURG
THE NETHERLANDS
NORWAY
PERU
POLAND
PORTUGAL
SPAIN
SWEDEN
SWITZERLAND
TURKEY
YUGOSLAVIA

ABYSSINIA
AFGHANISTAN
UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA
ALBANIA
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
ARGENTINE
AUSTRALIA
BOLIVIA
GREAT BRITAIN and NORTHERN
IRELAND
BULGARIA
CANADA
CHILE
CHINA
COSTA-RICA
CUBA
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC
EGYPT
ESTONIA
GUATEMALA
HAITI
HEDJAZ
HONDURAS
ICELAND
INDIA
IRAQ
IRISH FREE STATE
LATVIA
LIBERIA
LIECHTENSTEIN
LITHUANIA
MEXICO
MONACO
NEW ZEALAND
NICARAGUA
PANAMA
PARAGUAY
PERSIA
ROUMANIA
SALVADOR
SAN MARINO
SIAM
UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST
REPUBLICS
SUDAN
URUGUAY
VENEZUELA

¹ The present Convention shall not come into force until it has been ratified or acceded to on behalf of seven Members of the League of Nations or non-Member States, including therein three of the Members of the League permanently represented on the Council.

The date of entry into force shall be the ninetieth day following the receipt by the Secretary-General of the League of Nations of the seventh ratification or accession, in accordance with the first paragraph of the present Article (Article 6, §§ 1 and 2).

2. CONVENTION FOR THE SETTLEMENT OF CERTAIN CONFLICTS OF LAWS IN CONNECTION WITH BILLS OF EXCHANGE AND PROMISSORY NOTES, AND PROTOCOL.¹

(Geneva, June 7th, 1930.)

Not in Force.

<i>Ratifications or definitive Accessions</i>	<i>Signatures or Accessions not yet perfected by Ratification</i>	<i>The Convention is open to Accession by:</i>
Greece (August 31st, 1931)	AUSTRIA BELGIUM BRAZIL COLOMBIA CZECHOSLOVAKIA DENMARK FREE CITY OF DANZIG (through the intermediary of Poland) ECUADOR FINLAND FRANCE GERMANY HUNGARY ITALY JAPAN LUXEMBURG THE NETHERLANDS NORWAY PERU POLAND PORTUGAL SPAIN SWEDEN SWITZERLAND TURKEY YUGOSLAVIA	ABYSSINIA AFGHANISTAN UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA ALBANIA UNITED STATES OF AMERICA ARGENTINE AUSTRALIA BOLIVIA GREAT BRITAIN and NORTHERN IRELAND BULGARIA CANADA CHILE CHINA COSTA RICA CUBA DOMINICAN REPUBLIC EGYPT ESTONIA GUATEMALA HAITI HEDJAZ HONDURAS ICELAND INDIA IRAQ IRISH FREE STATE LATVIA LIBERIA LIECHTENSTEIN LITHUANIA MEXICO MONACO NEW ZEALAND NICARAGUA PANAMA PARAGUAY PERSIA ROUMANIA SALVADOR SAN MARINO SIAM UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS SUDAN URUGUAY VENEZUELA

¹ The present Convention shall not come into force until it has been ratified or acceded to on behalf of seven Members of the League of Nations or non-Member States, which shall include three of the Members of the League permanently represented on the Council.

The date of entry into force shall be the ninetieth day following the receipt by the Secretary-General of the League of Nations of the seventh ratification or accession, in accordance with the first paragraph of the present article. (Article 15, §§ 1 and 2).

3. CONVENTION ON THE STAMP LAWS IN CONNECTION WITH BILLS OF EXCHANGE AND PROMISSORY NOTES, AND PROTOCOL.¹

(Geneva, June 7th, 1930.)

Not in Force.

*Ratifications or definitive
Accessions*

*Signatures or Accessions not yet
perfected by Ratification*

*The Convention is open to
Accession by:*

AUSTRIA
BELGIUM
BRAZIL
GREAT BRITAIN AND
NORTHERN IRELAND
COLOMBIA
CZECHOSLOVAKIA
DENMARK
FREE CITY OF DANZIG (through
the intermediary of Poland)
ECUADOR
FINLAND
FRANCE
GERMANY
HUNGARY
ITALY
JAPAN
LUXEMBURG
THE NETHERLANDS
NORWAY
PERU
POLAND
PORTUGAL
SPAIN
SWEDEN
SWITZERLAND
TURKEY
YUGOSLAVIA

ABYSSINIA
AFGHANISTAN
UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA
ALBANIA
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
ARGENTINE
AUSTRALIA
BOLIVIA
BULGARIA
CANADA
CHILE
CHINA
COSTA RICA
CUBA
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC
EGYPT
ESTONIA
GREECE
GUATEMALA
HAITI
HEDJAZ
HONDURAS
ICELAND
INDIA
IRAQ
IRISH FREE STATE
LATVIA
LIBERIA
LIECHTENSTEIN
LITHUANIA
MEXICO
MONACO
NEW ZEALAND
NICARAGUA
PANAMA
PARAGUAY
PERSIA
ROUMANIA
SALVADOR
SAN MARINO
SIAM
UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST
REPUBLICS
SUDAN
URUGUAY
VENEZUELA

¹ The present Convention shall not come into force until it has been ratified or acceded to on behalf of seven Members of the League of Nations or non-Member States, which shall include three of the Members of the League permanently represented on the Council.

The date of entry into force shall be the ninetieth day following the receipt by the Secretary-General of the League of Nations of the seventh ratification or accession in accordance with the first paragraph of the present Article (Article 5, §§ 1 and 2).

XXVII. FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE.

CONVENTION ON FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE.¹

(Geneva, October 2nd, 1930.)

Not in Force.

Ratifications.

Denmark (May 15th, 1931)
Finland (July 30th, 1931)

Signatures not yet perfected by Ratification.

ABYSSINIA
ALBANIA
AUSTRIA
Subject to the reservation that this signature shall only take effect when an agreement with the States concerned has removed the obstacles which still stand in the way of the application of the Convention as regards Austria —*i.e.* the supervision of credit exercised by the Committee of Control and the general lien belonging to the States which have granted reconstruction credits.
BELGIUM
BOLIVIA
GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND and all parts of the British Empire which are not separate Members of the League of Nations
AUSTRALIA
IRISH FREE STATE
BULGARIA
CUBA
CZECHOSLOVAKIA
ESTONIA
FRANCE
GERMANY
GREECE
ITALY
LATVIA
LITHUANIA
THE NETHERLANDS, including Netherlands Indies, Surinam and Curaçao.
NORWAY
PERSIA
PERU
POLAND
PORTUGAL
ROUMANIA
SPAIN
SWEDEN
In virtue of the constitutional laws of Sweden, loan operations are entrusted to a special authority (Riksgäldskontoret) appointed direct by Parliament.
YUGOSLAVIA

The Convention is open to Signature by:

UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA
ARGENTINE
CANADA
CHILE
CHINA
COLOMBIA
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC
GUATEMALA
HAITI
HONDURAS
HUNGARY
INDIA
JAPAN
LIBERIA
LUXEMBURG
NEW ZEALAND
NICARAGUA
PANAMA
PARAGUAY
SALVADOR
SIAM
SWITZERLAND
URUGUAY
VENEZUELA

¹ The present Convention shall not come into force until it has received ratifications or accessions resulting in causing a sum of not less than 50 million gold francs, for the annual service of loans, to be covered by ordinary guarantees and also by the special guarantees of not less than three Governments. It shall enter into force ninety days after the date on which the conditions provided above are satisfied and subject to the provisions of Article 35.

XXVIII. UNIFICATION OF BUOYAGE AND LIGHTING OF COASTS.

I. AGREEMENT CONCERNING MARITIME SIGNALS.¹

(Lisbon, October 23rd, 1930.)

Not in Force.

<i>Definitive Signatures or Accessions and Ratifications</i>	<i>Signatures or Accessions subject to Ratification.</i>	<i>The Agreement is open to Accession by:</i>
France (July 13th, 1931 r)	UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA	ALBANIA
MOROCCO (September 3rd, 1931 r)	BELGIUM	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
The Netherlands (August 24th, 1931)	CHINA	ARGENTINE
Including the Netherlands Indies.	CUBA	AUSTRALIA
PORTUGAL (October 23rd, 1930)	FREE CITY OF DANZIG (through the intermediary of Poland).	GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND
Roumania (June 1st, 1931)	ESTONIA	BRAZIL
UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS (April 27th, 1931)	FINLAND	BULGARIA
	TUNIS	CANADA
	GERMANY	CHILE
	GREECE	COLOMBIA
	MONACO	COSTA RICA
	POLAND	DENMARK
	SPAIN	DOMINICAN REPUBLIC
	SWEDEN	EGYPT
	YUGOSLAVIA	ECUADOR
		GUATEMALA
		HAITI
		HONDURAS
		INDIA
		IRISH FREE STATE
		ICELAND
		ITALY
		JAPAN
		LATVIA
		LIBERIA
		LITHUANIA
		MEXICO
		NICARAGUA
		NORWAY
		NEW ZEALAND
		PANAMA
		PERU
		PERSIA
		SALVADOR
		SIAM
		TANGIERS
		TURKEY
		URUGUAY
		VENEZUELA

¹ The present Agreement shall enter into force on November 22nd, 1931, on the ninetieth day following its final acceptance by five Governments. (Article 5.)

2. AGREEMENT CONCERNING MANNED LIGHTSHIPS NOT ON THEIR STATIONS.¹

(Lisbon, October 23rd, 1930.)

In Force.

*Definitive Signatures or Accessions
and Ratifications*

GREAT BRITAIN AND
NORTHERN IRELAND
(October 23rd, 1930)
Does not include any Colonies, Pro-
tectorates or territories under su-
zerainty or mandate of His Bri-
tannic Majesty.
INDIA (October 23rd, 1930)
Does not include any of the Indian
States under British suzerainty.
DENMARK (April 29th, 1931)
FRANCE (October 23rd, 1930)
MOROCCO (October 23rd, 1930)
TUNIS, (October 23rd, 1930)
GREECE (October 23rd, 1930)
MONACO (October 23rd, 1930)
THE NETHERLANDS (October
23rd, 1930)
Including the Netherlands Indies.
PORTUGAL (October 23rd, 1930)
Roumania (June 1st, 1931)
UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST
REPUBLICS (April 27th, 1931)

*Signatures or Accessions subject
to Ratification.*

BELGIUM
CHINA
CUBA
FREE CITY OF DANZIG
(through the intermediary of
Poland).
ESTONIA
FINLAND
GERMANY
POLAND
SPAIN
SWEDEN
YUGOSLAVIA

*The Agreement is open to
Accession by:*

UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA
ALBANIA
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
ARGENTINE
AUSTRALIA
BRAZIL
BULGARIA
CANADA
CHILE
COLOMBIA
COSTA RICA
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC
EGYPT
ECUADOR
GUATEMALA
HAITI
HONDURAS
IRISH FREE STATE
ICELAND
ITALY
JAPAN
LATVIA
LIBERIA
LITHUANIA
MEXICO
NICARAGUA
NORWAY
NEW ZEALAND
PANAMA
PERU
PERSIA
SALVADOR
SIAM
TANGIERS
TURKEY
URUGUAY
VENEZUELA

XXIX. DECLARATION BY THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE POWERS WHICH
ARE PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION INSTITUTING THE
DEFINITIVE STATUTE OF THE DANUBE

(Geneva, December 5th, 1930.)

Signatures.

AUSTRIA
BELGIUM
GREAT BRITAIN AND
NORTHERN IRELAND
BULGARIA
FRANCE
ITALY
ROUMANIA
YUGOSLAVIA

*Signatures
ad referendum.*

CZECHOSLOVAKIA
GERMANY
GREECE
HUNGARY

¹ The present Agreement entered into force on January 21st, 1931, on the ninetieth day following its final acceptance by five Governments. (Article 4.)

XXX. UNIFICATION OF RIVER LAW.

I. CONVENTION FOR THE UNIFICATION OF CERTAIN RULES CONCERNING COLLISIONS IN INLAND NAVIGATION.¹

(Geneva, December 9th, 1930.)

Not in Force

*Ratifications or definitive
Accessions*

*Signatures or Accessions not yet
perfected by Ratification*

*The Convention is open to
Accession by:*

Austria

Subject to the reservation provided under III, *ad* Article 14, of the Protocol Annex.

BELGIUM

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

FREE CITY OF DANZIG (through the intermediary of Poland).

Subject to the reservation provided under III, *ad* Article 14 of the Protocol Annex.

FRANCE

GERMANY

Subject to the reservation provided under III, *ad* Article 14 of the Protocol Annex.

HUNGARY

Subject to the reservation provided under III, *ad* Article 14 of the Protocol Annex.

ITALY

Luxemburg

THE NETHERLANDS

Subject to the reservation provided under III, *ad* Article 14 of the Protocol Annex.

POLAND

ROUMANIA

SWITZERLAND

Subject to the reservation provided under III, *ad* Article 14 of the Protocol Annex.

YUGOSLAVIA

ALBANIA

GREAT BRITAIN AND
NORTHERN IRELAND

BULGARIA

DENMARK

ESTONIA

FINLAND

GREECE

IRISH FREE STATE

LATVIA

LITHUANIA

NORWAY

PORTUGAL

SPAIN

SWEDEN

TURKEY

UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST
REPUBLICS

2. CONVENTION ON THE REGISTRATION OF INLAND NAVIGATION VESSELS, RIGHTS IN REM OVER SUCH VESSELS AND OTHER COGNATE QUESTIONS.²

(Geneva, December 9th, 1930.)

Not in Force

*Ratifications or definitive
Accessions*

*Signatures or Accessions not yet
perfected by Ratification*

*The Convention is open to
Accession by:*

Austria

Subject to the reservation provided under IX, *ad* Article 50, of the Protocol Annex.

BELGIUM

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

FREE CITY OF DANZIG (through the intermediary of Poland).

Subject to the reservation provided under IX, *ad* Article 50, of the Protocol Annex.

FRANCE

GERMANY

Subject to the reservation provided under IX, *ad* Article 50, of the Protocol Annex.

HUNGARY

Subject to the reservation provided under IX, *ad* Article 50, of the Protocol Annex.

ITALY

Luxemburg

THE NETHERLANDS

Subject to the reservation provided under IX, *ad* Article 50, of the Protocol Annex.

POLAND

SWITZERLAND

Subject to the reservation provided under IX, *ad* Article 50, of the Protocol Annex.

YUGOSLAVIA

ALBANIA

GREAT BRITAIN AND
NORTHERN IRELAND

BULGARIA

DENMARK

ESTONIA

FINLAND

GREECE

IRISH FREE STATE

LATVIA

LITHUANIA

NORWAY

PORTUGAL

ROUMANIA

SPAIN

SWEDEN

TURKEY

UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST
REPUBLICS

¹ This Convention shall enter into force ninety days after the deposit of the third ratification or accession (Article 17).

² This Convention shall enter into force six months after the deposit of the third ratification or accession (Article 53).

3. CONVENTION ON ADMINISTRATIVE MEASURES FOR ATTESTING THE RIGHT OF INLAND NAVIGATION VESSELS TO A FLAG.¹

(Geneva, December 9th, 1930).

Not in Force

*Ratifications or definitive
Accessions*

*Signatures or Accessions not yet
perfected by Ratification*

*The Convention is open to
Accession by:*

BELGIUM
CZECHOSLOVAKIA
FRANCE
HUNGARY
Subject to the reservation provided
under IV, *ad* Article 8, of the
Protocol Annex.
ITALY
Luxemburg
POLAND
YUGOSLAVIA

ALBANIA
AUSTRIA
GREAT BRITAIN AND
NORTHERN IRELAND
BULGARIA
DENMARK
FREE CITY OF DANZIG
ESTONIA
FINLAND
GERMANY
GREECE
IRISH FREE STATE
LATVIA
LITHUANIA
THE NETHERLANDS
NORWAY
PORTUGAL
ROUMANIA
SPAIN
SWEDEN
SWITZERLAND
TURKEY
UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST
REPUBLICS

XXXI. UNIFICATION OF LAWS ON BILLS OF EXCHANGE, PROMISSORY NOTES AND CHEQUES.

I. CONVENTION PROVIDING A UNIFORM LAW FOR CHEQUES, AND PROTOCOL.²

(Geneva, March 19th, 1931.)

Not in Force.

*Ratifications or definitive
Accessions*

*Signatures or Accessions not yet
perfected by Ratification*

*The Convention is open to
Accession by:*

AUSTRIA
BELGIUM
CZECHOSLOVAKIA
FREE CITY OF DANZIG (through
the intermediary of Poland)
DENMARK
ECUADOR
FINLAND
FRANCE
GERMANY
Greece
Hungary
ITALY
Japan
LUXEMBURG
MEXICO
MONACO
THE NETHERLANDS
NORWAY
POLAND
PORTUGAL
Roumania
SPAIN
SWEDEN
Switzerland
TURKEY
Yugoslavia

ABYSSINIA
AFGHANISTAN
UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA
ALBANIA
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
ARGENTINE
AUSTRALIA
BOLIVIA
BRAZIL
GREAT BRITAIN
BULGARIA
CANADA
CHILE
CHINA
COLOMBIA
COSTA RICA
CUBA
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC
EGYPT
ESTONIA
GUATEMALA
HAITI
HEJAZ
HONDURAS

¹ This Convention shall enter into force ninety days after the deposit of the third ratification or accession (Article 11).

² This Convention shall enter into force ninety days after the deposit of the seventh ratification or accession. These ratifications shall include three of the Members of the League permanently represented on the Council (Article VI).

I. CONVENTION PROVIDING A UNIFORM LAW FOR CHEQUES, AND PROTOCOL (*continued*).

(*Geneva, March 19th, 1931.*)

Not in Force.

*The Convention is open to
Accession by:*

ICELAND
INDIA
IRAQ
IRISH FREE STATE
LATVIA
LIBERIA
LIECHTENSTEIN
LITHUANIA
NEW ZEALAND
NICARAGUA
PANAMA
PARAGUAY
PERSIA
PERU
SALVADOR
SAN MARINO
SIAM
UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST
REPUBLICS
URUGUAY
VENEZUELA

2. CONVENTION FOR THE SETTLEMENT OF CERTAIN CONFLICTS OF LAWS IN CONNECTION WITH
CHEQUES, AND PROTOCOL.¹

(*Geneva, March 19th, 1931.*)

Not in Force.

*Ratifications or definitive
Accessions*

*Signatures or Accessions not yet
perfected by Ratification*

*The Convention is open to
Accession by:*

AUSTRIA
BELGIUM
CZECHOSLOVAKIA
FREE CITY OF DANZIG (through
the intermediary of Poland)
DENMARK
ECUADOR
FINLAND
FRANCE
GERMANY
Greece
Hungary
ITALY
Japan
LUXEMBURG
MEXICO
MONACO
THE NETHERLANDS
NORWAY
POLAND
PORTUGAL
Roumania
SPAIN
SWEDEN
Switzerland
TURKEY
Yugoslavia

ABYSSINIA
AFGHANISTAN
UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA
ALBANIA
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
ARGENTINE
AUSTRALIA
BOLIVIA
BRAZIL
GREAT BRITAIN
BULGARIA
CANADA
CHILE
CHINA
COLOMBIA
COSTA RICA
CUBA
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC
EGYPT
ESTONIA
GUATEMALA
HAITI
HEJAZ
HONDURAS

¹ This Convention shall enter into force ninety days after the deposit of the seventh ratification or accession. These ratifications shall include three of the Members of the League permanently represented on the Council (Article 14).

2. CONVENTION FOR THE SETTLEMENT OF CERTAIN CONFLICTS OF LAWS IN CONNECTION WITH CHEQUES, AND PROTOCOL (*continued*).

(*Geneva, March 19th, 1931.*)

Not in Force.

Signatures or Accessions not yet perfected by Ratification

The Convention is open to Accession by:

ICELAND
INDIA
IRAQ
IRISH FREE STATE
LATVIA
LIBERIA
LIECHTENSTEIN
LITHUANIA
NEW ZEALAND
NICARAGUA
PANAMA
PARAGUAY
PERSIA
PERU
SALVADOR
SAN MARINO
SIAM
UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST
REPUBLICS
URUGUAY
VENEZUELA

3. CONVENTION ON THE STAMP LAWS IN CONNECTION WITH CHEQUES, AND PROTOCOL.¹

(*Geneva, March 19th, 1931.*)

Not in Force.

Ratifications or definitive Accessions

Signatures or Accessions not yet perfected by Ratification

The Convention is open to Accession by:

AUSTRIA
BELGIUM
GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND and all parts of the British Empire which are not separate Members of the League of Nations.
CZECHOSLOVAKIA
FREE CITY OF DANZIG (through the intermediary of Poland)
DENMARK
ECUADOR
FINLAND
FRANCE
GERMANY
Greece
Hungary
ITALY
Japan
LUXEMBURG
MEXICO
MONACO
THE NETHERLANDS
NORWAY
POLAND
PORTUGAL
Roumania
SPAIN
SWEDEN
Switzerland
TURKEY
Yugoslavia

ABYSSINIA
AFGHANISTAN
UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA
ALBANIA
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
ARGENTINE
AUSTRALIA
BOLIVIA
BRAZIL
BULGARIA
CANADA
CHILE
CHINA
COLOMBIA
COSTA RICA
CUBA
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC
EGYPT
ESTONIA
GUATEMALA
HAITI
HEJAZ
HONDURAS
ICELAND

¹ This Convention shall enter into force ninety days after the deposit of the seventh ratification or accession. These ratifications shall include three of the Members of the League permanently represented on the Council (Article 5).

3. CONVENTION ON THE STAMP LAWS IN CONNECTION WITH CHEQUES, AND PROTOCOL (*continued*).

(Geneva, March 19th, 1931.)

Not in Force.

*Ratifications or definitive
Accessions*

*Signatures or Accessions not yet
perfected by Ratification*

*The Convention is open to
Accession by:*

INDIA
IRAQ
IRISH FREE STATE
LATVIA
LIBERIA
LIECHTENSTEIN
LITHUANIA
NEW ZEALAND
NICARAGUA
PANAMA
PARAGUAY
PERSIA
PERU
SALVADOR
SAN MARINO
SIAM
UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST
REPUBLICS
URUGUAY
VENEZUELA

XXXII. ROAD TRAFFIC.

I. CONVENTION CONCERNING THE UNIFICATION OF ROAD SIGNALS.¹

(Geneva, March 30th, 1931.)

Not in Force.

Ratifications.

*Signatures not yet perfected
by Ratification.*

*The Convention is open
to Signature by:*

BELGIUM	ABYSSINIA
Subject to subsequent accession for the colonies and territories under mandate.	UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA
CZECHOSLOVAKIA	ALBANIA
FREE CITY OF DANZIG (through the intermediary of Poland).	ARGENTINE
DENMARK	AUSTRALIA
FRANCE	AUSTRIA
Does not assume any obligation in regard to Algeria, colonies, protectorates and territories under its mandate.	BOLIVIA
GERMANY	GREAT BRITAIN
<i>Hungary</i>	BULGARIA
ITALY	CANADA
LUXEMBURG	CHILE
<i>The Netherlands</i>	CHINA
(for the Kingdom in Europe)	COLOMBIA
POLAND	CUBA
<i>Spain</i>	DOMINICAN REPUBLIC
SWITZERLAND	ESTONIA
YUGOSLAVIA	FINLAND
	GREECE
	GUATEMALA.
	HAITI
	HONDURAS
	INDIA
	IRISH FREE STATE
	JAPAN
	LATVIA
	LIBERIA

¹ This Convention shall enter into force six months after the deposit of the fifth accession or ratification (Article 11).

1. CONVENTION CONCERNING THE UNIFICATION OF ROAD SIGNALS (*continued*).

(*Geneva, March 30th, 1931.*)

Not in Force.

Ratifications

*Signatures not yet perfected
by Ratification.*

*The Convention is open
to Signature by:*

LITHUANIA
MONACO
NEW ZEALAND
NICARAGUA
NORWAY
PANAMA
PARAGUAY
PERSIA
PERU
PORTUGAL
ROUMANIA
SALVADOR
SIAM
SWEDEN
TURKEY
URUGUAY
VENEZUELA

2. CONVENTION ON THE TAXATION OF FOREIGN MOTOR-VEHICLES, WITH PROTOCOL-ANNEX. ¹

(*Geneva, March 30th, 1931.*)

Not in Force.

Ratifications.

*Signatures not yet perfected
by Ratification.*

*The Convention is open
to Signature by:*

BELGIUM
Subject to subsequent accession for
the colonies and territories under
mandate.
GREAT BRITAIN AND
NORTHERN IRELAND
Does not include any colonies, pro-
tectorates or overseas territories
or territories under suzerainty
or mandate.
CZECHOSLOVAKIA
FREE CITY OF DANZIG (through
the intermediary of Poland)
DENMARK
ITALY
LUXEMBURG
THE NETHERLANDS
POLAND
Portugal
Does not assume any obligation as
regards its Colonies.
Spain
SWITZERLAND

ABYSSINIA
UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA
ALBANIA
ARGENTINE
AUSTRALIA
AUSTRIA
BOLIVIA
BULGARIA
CANADA
CHILE
CHINA
COLOMBIA
CUBA
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC
ESTONIA
FINLAND
FRANCE
GERMANY
GREECE
GUATEMALA
HAITI
HONDURAS
HUNGARY
INDIA
IRISH FREE STATE
JAPAN
LATVIA
LIBERIA
LITHUANIA

¹ This Convention shall enter into force six months after the deposit of the fifth accession or ratification (Article 4).

2. CONVENTION ON THE TAXATION OF FOREIGN MOTOR-VEHICLES, WITH PROTOCOL-ANNEX
(continued).

(Geneva, March 30th, 1931.)

Not in Force.

Ratifications.

The Convention is open
to Signature by:

MONACO
NEW ZEALAND
NICARAGUA
NORWAY
PANAMA
PARAGUAY
PERSIA
PERU
ROUMANIA
SALVADOR
SIAM
SWEDEN
TURKEY
URUGUAY
VENEZUELA
YUGOSLAVIA.

3. AGREEMENT BETWEEN CUSTOMS AUTHORITIES IN ORDER TO FACILITATE THE PROCEDURE
IN THE CASE OF UNDISCHARGED OR LOST TRIPTYCHS.¹

(Geneva, March 28th, 1931.)

In Force.

Definitive Signatures.

Signatures ad referendum.

The Agreement is open
to Signature by:

Austria (August 4th, 1931)
BELGIUM (March 28th, 1931)
GREAT BRITAIN and NORTHERN
IRELAND (March 28th, 1931)
IRISH FREE STATE (May 6th,
1931)
DENMARK (March 28th, 1931)
France (April 15th, 1931)
GERMANY (March 28th, 1931)
Greece (August 18th, 1931)
Hungary (August 14th, 1931)
Italy (May 27th, 1931)
LUXEMBURG (March 28th,
1931)
The Netherlands (June 11th,
1931)
Portugal (August 26th, 1931)
Spain (July 8th, 1931)
SWITZERLAND (March 28th,
1931)

YUGOSLAVIA (March 28th,
1931)

ABYSSINIA
UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA
ALBANIA
ARGENTINE
AUSTRALIA
BOLIVIA
BULGARIA
CANADA
CHILE
CHINA
COLOMBIA
CUBA
CZECHOSLOVAKIA
FREE CITY OF DANZIG.
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC
ESTONIA
FINLAND
GUATEMALA
HAITI
HONDURAS
INDIA
ICELAND
JAPAN
LATVIA
LIBERIA
LIECHTENSTEIN
LITHUANIA
MONACO

¹ This Agreement entered into force on June 26th, 1931, on the ninetieth day after its signature on behalf of three Customs administrations (Article III).

3. AGREEMENT BETWEEN CUSTOMS AUTHORITIES IN ORDER TO FACILITATE THE PROCEDURE
IN THE CASE OF UNDISCHARGED OR LOST TRIPTYCHS (*continued*).

(Geneva, March 28th, 1931.)

In Force.

Ratifications

*Signatures not yet perfected
by Ratification.*

*The Agreement is open
to Signatures by:*

NEW ZEALAND
NICARAGUA
NORWAY
PANAMA
PARAGUAY
PERSIA
PERU
POLAND
ROUMANIA
SALVADOR
SAN MARINO
SIAM
UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST
REPUBLICS
SWEDEN
TURKEY
URUGUAY
VENEZUELA

XXXIII. INTERNATIONAL AGRICULTURAL MORTGAGE CREDIT COMPANY.

CONVENTION FOR THE CREATION OF AN INTERNATIONAL AGRICULTURAL MORTGAGE CREDIT
COMPANY,¹ WITH CHARTER AND STATUTES.

(Geneva, May 21st, 1931.)

Ratifications

*Signatures not yet perfected
by Ratification*

*The Convention is open to
Signatures by:*

Greece (August 31st, 1931)

*Belgium
Great Britain and Northern
Ireland
Bulgaria
Czechoslovakia
Estonia
France
Germany
Hungary
Italy
Latvia
Luxemburg
The Netherlands
(for the Kingdom in Europe
only)
Poland
Portugal
Roumania
Switzerland
Yugoslavia*

ALBANIA
AUSTRIA
DENMARK
FINLAND
IRISH FREE STATE
LITHUANIA
NORWAY
SPAIN
SWEDEN

¹ The present Convention shall come into force as soon as the amount of the contributions, whether obligatory or voluntary, to the Special Reserve due from the Governments which have ratified the Convention attains the sum of twenty-five million francs. If this condition is not realised before December 31st, 1931, a Conference of the Governments which have ratified the Convention shall be called by the Council of the League of Nations. This Conference will determine new conditions for the coming into force of the Convention (Article 16).

XXXIV. TRAFFIC IN OPIUM AND OTHER DANGEROUS DRUGS.

4. CONVENTION FOR LIMITING THE MANUFACTURE AND REGULATING THE DISTRIBUTION OF NARCOTIC DRUGS.¹

(Geneva, July 13th, 1931.)

Ratifications.

Signatures not yet perfected by Ratification.

The Convention is open to Signature by:

Abyssinia

United States of America

1. The Government of the United States of America reserves the right to impose, for purpose of internal control and control of import into, and export from, territory under its jurisdiction, of opium, coca leaves, all of their derivatives and similar substances produced by synthetic process, measures stricter than the provisions of the Convention.
2. The Government of the United States of America reserves the right to impose, for purposes of controlling transit through its territories of raw opium, coca leaves, all of their derivatives and similar substances produced by synthetic process, measures by which the production of an import permit issued by the country of destination may be made a condition precedent to the granting of permission for transit through its territory.
3. The Government of the United States of America finds it impracticable to undertake to send statistics of import and export to the Permanent Central Opium Board short of 60 days after the close of the three months' period to which such statistics refer.
4. The Government of the United States of America finds it impracticable to undertake to state separately amounts of drugs purchased or imported for Government purposes.
5. Plenipotentiaries of the United States of America formally declare that the signing of the Convention for limiting the Manufacture and regulating the Distribution, of Narcotic Drugs by them on the part of the United States of America on this date is not to be construed to mean that the Government of the United States of America recognises a regime or entity which signs or accedes to the Convention as the Government of a country when that regime or entity is not recognised by the Government of the United States of America as the Government of that country.
6. The plenipotentiaries of the United States of America further declare that the participation of the United States of America in the Convention for limiting the Manufacture, and regulating the Distribution, of narcotic

UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA
ALBANIA
AUSTRALIA
BULGARIA
CHINA
COLOMBIA
FREE CITY OF DANZIG
ESTONIA
FINLAND
GREECE
HAITI
HONDURAS
HUNGARY
IRISH FREE STATE
LATVIA
LITHUANIA
NICARAGUA
NEW ZEALAND
NORWAY
PERSIA
PERU
POLAND
ROUMANIA
SALVADOR
UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST
REPUBLICS
SWEDEN
TURKEY
YUGOSLAVIA

¹ The present Convention shall come into force ninety days after the Secretary-General of the League of Nations has received the ratifications or accessions of twenty-five Members of the League of Nations or non-Member States, including any four of the following:

France, Germany, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Japan, Netherlands, Switzerland, Turkey and United States of America.

Provided always that the provisions of the Convention other than Articles 2 to 5 shall only be applicable from the first of January in the first year in respect of which estimates are furnished in conformity with Articles 2 to 5 (Article 30).

4. CONVENTION FOR LIMITING THE MANUFACTURE AND REGULATING THE DISTRIBUTION,
OF NARCOTIC DRUGS (*continued*).

(Geneva, July 13th, 1931.)

*Signatures not yet perfected by
Ratifications:*

drugs, signed on this date does not involve any contractual obligation on the part of the United States of America to a country represented by a regime or entity which the Government of the United States of America does not recognise as the Government of that country until such country has a Government recognised by the Government of the United States of America.

Argentine Republic

Austria

Belgium

Bolivia

*Great Britain and Northern
Ireland and all parts of the
British Empire which are not
separate Members of the
League of Nations*

Canada

India

Chile

Costa Rica

Cuba

Czechoslovakia

Denmark

Dominican Republic

Egypt

France

The French Government makes every reservation, with regard to the Colonies, Protectorates and mandated Territories under its authority, as to the possibility of regularly producing the quarterly statistics referred to in Article 13 within the strict time-limit laid down.

Germany

Guatemala

Hejaz, Nejd and Dependencies

Italy

Japan

Liberia

Luxemburg

Mexico

Monaco

The Netherlands

Panama

Paraguay

Portugal

San Marino

Siam

As our Harmful-Habit-Forming Drugs Law goes beyond the provisions of the Geneva Convention and the present Convention on certain points, my Government reserves the right to apply our existing law.

Spain

Switzerland

Uruguay

Venezuela

PROTOCOL OF SIGNATURE.

(Geneva, July 13th, 1931.)

Ratifications.

Signatures not yet perfected
by Ratification.

The Protocol is open to
Signature by.

Abyssinia
United States of America
Argentine Republic
Austria
Belgium
Bolivia
*Great Britain and Northern
Ireland* and all parts of the
British Empire which are
not separate Members of the
League of Nations.
Canada
India
Chile
Costa Rica
Cuba
Denmark
Dominican Republic
Egypt
France
Germany
Guatemala
Hejaz, Nejd and Dependencies
Italy
Japan
Lithuania
Luxemburg
Mexico
Monaco
The Netherlands

UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA
ALBANIA
AUSTRALIA
BULGARIA
CHINA
COLOMBIA
CZECHOSLOVAKIA
FREE CITY OF DANZIG
ESTONIA
FINLAND
GREECE
HAITI
HONDURAS
HUNGARY
IRISH FREE STATE
LATVIA
LIBERIA
NICARAGUA
NEW ZEALAND
NORWAY
PERSIA
PERU
POLAND
ROUMANIA
SALVADOR
UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST
REPUBLICS
SWEDEN
TURKEY
YUGOSLAVIA

My signature is subject to the
reserve made by me on Section 2 of
Article 22 in the morning meeting of
July 12th, 1931.

Panama
Paraguay
Portugal
San Marino
Siam
Spain
Switzerland
Uruguay
Venezuela

XXXV. INTERNATIONAL LABOUR CONVENTIONS.¹

(a)

I. Convention limiting the hours of work in industrial undertakings to eight in the day and forty-eight in the week, adopted as a Draft Convention by the International Labour Conference at its First Session on November 28th, 1919.

This Convention has been
ratified by and is in
force between

Date of Registration

AUSTRIA ²	June 12th, 1924
BELGIUM	September 6th, 1926
BULGARIA	February 14th, 1922

¹ The Annex to the Supplementary Report for 1923 (A.10(a).1923, Annex) contains, moreover, complete details concerning: The Convention on the Prohibition of the Use of White Phosphorus in the Manufacture of Matches, Berne, September 26th, 1906.

² " . . . as regards Austria, this Convention will enter into force only when it has been ratified by those European Members of the International Labour Organisation which are of the chief industrial importance (Belgium, France, Germany, Great Britain and Italy) and by all the States, bordering upon Austria, with whom the latter has economic relations (the Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes, Poland, Switzerland, the Czechoslovak Republic and Hungary)".

This Convention has been ratified by and is in force between

Date of Registration

CHILE	September 15th, 1925
CZECHOSLOVAKIA	August 24th, 1921
FRANCE ¹	June 2nd, 1927
GREECE	November 19th, 1920
INDIA	July 14th, 1921
ITALY ²	October 6th, 1924
LATVIA ³	August 15th, 1925
<i>Lithuania</i>	June 19th, 1931
LUXEMBURG	April 16th, 1928
PORTUGAL	July 3rd, 1928
ROUMANIA	June 13th, 1921
SPAIN ⁴	February 22nd, 1929

2. Convention concerning unemployment, adopted as a Draft Convention by the International Labour Conference at its First Session on November 28th, 1919.

This Convention has been ratified by and is in force between

Date of Registration

UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA	February 20th, 1924
AUSTRIA	June 12th, 1924
GREAT BRITAIN	July 14th, 1921
BELGIUM ⁵	August 25th, 1930
BULGARIA	February 14th, 1922
DENMARK	October 13th, 1921
ESTONIA	December 20th, 1922
FINLAND	October 19th, 1921
FRANCE	August 25th, 1925
GERMANY	June 6th, 1925
GREECE	November 19th, 1920
HUNGARY	March 1st, 1928
INDIA	July 14th, 1921
IRISH FREE STATE	September 4th, 1925
ITALY	April 10th, 1923
JAPAN	November 23rd, 1922
LUXEMBURG	April 16th, 1928
NORWAY	November 23rd, 1921
POLAND	June 21st, 1924
ROUMANIA	June 13th, 1921
SPAIN	July 4th, 1923
SWEDEN	September 27th, 1921
SWITZERLAND	October 9th, 1922
YUGOSLAVIA	April 1st, 1927

3. Convention concerning the employment of women before and after childbirth, adopted as a Draft Convention by the International Labour Conference at its First Session on November 29th, 1919.

This Convention has been ratified by and is in force between

Date of Registration

BULGARIA	February 14th, 1922
CHILE	September 15th, 1925
CUBA	August 6th, 1928
GERMANY	October 31st, 1927
GREECE	November 19th, 1920
HUNGARY	April 19th, 1928
LATVIA	June 3th, 1926
LUXEMBURG	April 16th, 1928
ROUMANIA	June 13th, 1921
SPAIN	July 4th, 1923
YUGOSLAVIA	April 1st, 1927

¹ This ratification is subject to the condition that the obligations it entails for France shall not take effect until the Convention has been ratified by Germany and Great Britain.

² Subject to the condition that it shall only come into force when the ratifications, without reservations or other conditions, of the following Members of the International Labour Organisation have been registered with the Secretariat of the League of Nations: Belgium, France, Germany, Great Britain and Switzerland.

³ "The Convention shall come into force in Latvia, in accordance with the provisions of Article 18 of the Draft Convention, after the ratifications of three of the Powers which are of the chief industrial importance, as laid down in Article 393, paragraphs 5 and 6, of the Treaty of Peace of Versailles, shall have been registered with the Secretariat of the League of Nations."

⁴ This ratification is given on condition that the Convention is ratified by Germany, France, Great Britain and Italy.

⁵ Subject to subsequent decisions regarding the application of the Convention to the Belgian Congo and to the territories under Belgian mandate.

4. Convention concerning the employment of women during the night, adopted as a Draft Convention by the International Labour Conference at its First Session on November 28th, 1919.

This Convention has been ratified by and is in force between	Date of Registration
UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA	November 1st, 1921
AUSTRIA	June 12th, 1924
BELGIUM	July 12th, 1924
GREAT BRITAIN	July 14th, 1921
BULGARIA	February 14th, 1922
CUBA	August 6th, 1928
CZECHOSLOVAKIA	August 24th, 1921
ESTONIA	December 20th, 1922
FRANCE	May 14th, 1925
GREECE	November 19th, 1920
HUNGARY	April 19th, 1928
INDIA	July 14th, 1921
IRISH FREE STATE	September 4th, 1925
ITALY	April 10th, 1923
<i>Lithuania.</i>	June 19th, 1931
LUXEMBURG	April 16th, 1928
THE NETHERLANDS	September 4th, 1922
ROUMANIA	June 13th, 1921
SWITZERLAND	October 9th, 1922
YUGOSLAVIA	April 1st, 1927

5. Convention fixing the minimum age for admission of children to industrial employment, adopted as a Draft Convention by the International Labour Conference at its First Session on November 28th, 1919.

This Convention has been ratified by and is in force between	Date of Registration
BELGIUM	July 12th, 1924
GREAT BRITAIN	July 14th, 1921
BULGARIA	February 14th, 1922
CHILE	September 15th, 1925
CUBA	August 6th, 1928
CZECHOSLOVAKIA	August 24th, 1921
DENMARK	January 4th, 1923
ESTONIA	December 20th, 1922
GREECE	November 19th, 1920
IRISH FREE STATE	September 4th, 1925
JAPAN	August 7th, 1926
LATVIA.	June 3rd, 1926
LUXEMBURG	April 16th, 1928
THE NETHERLANDS	July 21st, 1928
POLAND	June 21st, 1924
ROUMANIA	June 13th, 1921
SWITZERLAND.	October 9th, 1922
YUGOSLAVIA	April 1st, 1927

6. Convention concerning the night work of young persons employed in industry, adopted as a Draft Convention by the International Labour Conference at its First Session on November 28th, 1919.

This Convention has been ratified by and is in force between	Date of Registration
AUSTRIA	June 12th, 1924
BELGIUM	July 12th, 1924
GREAT BRITAIN	July 14th, 1921
BULGARIA	February 14th, 1922
CHILE	September 15th, 1925
CUBA	August 6th, 1928
DENMARK	January 4th, 1923
ESTONIA	December 20th, 1922
FRANCE	August 25th, 1925
GREECE	November 19th, 1920
HUNGARY	April 19th, 1928
INDIA	July 14th, 1921
IRISH FREE STATE	September 4th, 1925
ITALY	April 10th, 1923
LATVIA.	June 3rd, 1926

This Convention has been ratified by and is in force between	Date of Registration
<i>Lithuania</i>	June 19th, 1931
LUXEMBURG	April 16th, 1928
THE NETHERLANDS	March 17th, 1924
POLAND	June 21st, 1924
ROUMANIA	June 13th, 1921
SWITZERLAND	October 9th, 1922
YUGOSLAVIA	April 1st, 1927

(b)

7. Convention fixing the minimum age for admission of children to employment at sea, adopted as a Draft Convention by the International Labour Conference at its Second Session on July 9th, 1920.

This Convention has been ratified by and is in force between	Date of Registration
BELGIUM ¹	February 4th, 1925
GREAT BRITAIN	July 14th, 1921
BULGARIA	March 16th, 1923
CANADA	March 31st, 1926
CUBA	August 6th, 1928
DENMARK	May 12th, 1924
ESTONIA	March 3rd, 1923
FINLAND	October 10th, 1925
GERMANY	June 11th, 1929
GREECE	December 16th, 1925
HUNGARY	March 1st, 1928
IRISH FREE STATE	September 4th, 1925
JAPAN	June 7th, 1924
LATVIA	June 3rd, 1926
LUXEMBURG	April 16th, 1928
THE NETHERLANDS	March 26th, 1925
NORWAY	October 7th, 1927
POLAND	June 21st, 1924
ROUMANIA	May 8th, 1922
SPAIN	June 20th, 1924
SWEDEN	September 27th, 1921
YUGOSLAVIA	April 1st, 1927

8. Convention concerning unemployment indemnity in case of loss or foundering of the ship, adopted as a Draft Convention by the International Labour Conference at its Second Session on July 9th, 1920.

This Convention has been ratified by and is in force between	Date of Registration
BELGIUM ¹	February 4th, 1925
GREAT BRITAIN	March 12th, 1926
BULGARIA	March 16th, 1923
CANADA	March 31st, 1926
CUBA	August 6th, 1928
ESTONIA	March 3rd, 1923
FRANCE	March 21st, 1929
GERMANY	March 4th, 1930
GREECE	December 16th, 1925
IRISH FREE STATE	July 5th, 1930
ITALY	September 8th, 1924
LATVIA ²	August 29th, 1930
LUXEMBURG	April 16th, 1928
POLAND	June 21st, 1924
ROUMANIA	November 10th, 1930
SPAIN	June 20th, 1924
YUGOSLAVIA	September 30th, 1929

¹ Subject to subsequent decisions regarding the application of the Convention to the Belgian Congo and to the territories under Belgian mandate.

² Latvia had ratified this Convention on August 5th, 1926, subject to the following reservation: "The Convention shall enter into force in Latvia, in accordance with the provisions of Article 7 of this Convention, when the States which are of chief importance in maritime commerce shall have sent their ratifications for registration by the Secretariat of the League of Nations." By an instrument deposited with the Secretariat on August 29th, 1930, this reservation was withdrawn.

9. Convention for establishing facilities for finding employment for seamen, adopted as a Draft Convention by the International Labour Conference at its Second Session on July 10th, 1920.

This Convention has been ratified by and is in force between	Date of Registration
AUSTRALIA	August 3rd, 1925
BELGIUM ¹	February 4th, 1925
BULGARIA	March 16th, 1923
CUBA	August 6th, 1928
ESTONIA	March 3rd, 1923
FINLAND	October 7th, 1922
FRANCE	January 25th, 1928
GERMANY	June 6th, 1925
GREECE	December 16th, 1925
ITALY	September 8th, 1924
JAPAN	November 23rd, 1922
LATVIA	June 3rd, 1926
LUXEMBURG	April 16th, 1928
NORWAY	November 23rd, 1921
POLAND	June 21st, 1924
ROUMANIA	November 10th, 1930
SPAIN	February 23rd, 1931
SWEDEN	September 27th, 1921
YUGOSLAVIA	September 30th, 1929

(c)

10. Convention concerning the age for admission of children to employment in agriculture, adopted as a Draft Convention by the International Labour Conference at its Third Session on November 16th, 1921.

This Convention has been ratified by and is in force between	Date of Registration
AUSTRIA	June 12th, 1924
BELGIUM ¹	June 13th, 1928
BULGARIA	March 6th, 1925
CZECHOSLOVAKIA	August 31st, 1923
ESTONIA	September 8th, 1922
HUNGARY	February 2nd, 1927
IRISH FREE STATE	May 26th, 1925
ITALY	September 8th, 1924
JAPAN	December 19th, 1923
LUXEMBURG	April 16th, 1928
POLAND	June 21st, 1924
ROUMANIA	November 10th, 1930
SWEDEN	November 27th, 1923

11. Convention concerning the rights of association and combination of agricultural workers, adopted as a Draft Convention by the International Labour Conference at its Third Session on November 12th, 1921.

This Convention has been ratified by and is in force between	Date of Registration
AUSTRIA	June 12th, 1924
BELGIUM ¹	July 19th, 1926
GREAT BRITAIN	August 6th, 1923
BULGARIA	March 6th, 1925
CHILE	September 15th, 1925
CZECHOSLOVAKIA	August 31st, 1923
DENMARK ²	June 20th, 1930
ESTONIA	September 8th, 1922
FINLAND	June 19, 1923
FRANCE	March 23, 1929
GERMANY	June 6th, 1925
INDIA	May 11th, 1923
IRISH FREE STATE	June 17th, 1924

¹ Subject to subsequent decisions regarding the application of the Convention to the Belgian Congo and to the territories under Belgian mandate.
² This ratification does not include Greenland.

This Convention has been ratified by and is in force between

Date of Registration

ITALY	September 8th, 1924
LATVIA	September 9th, 1924
LUXEMBURG	April 16th, 1928
NORWAY	June 11th, 1929
THE NETHERLANDS	August 20th, 1926
POLAND	June 21st, 1924
ROUMANIA	November 10th, 1930
SWEDEN	November 27th, 1923
YUGOSLAVIA	September 30th, 1929

12. Convention concerning workmen's compensation in agriculture, adopted as a Draft Convention by the International Labour Conference at its Third Session on November 12th, 1921.

This Convention has been ratified by and is in force between

Date of Registration

GREAT BRITAIN	August 6th, 1923
BULGARIA	March 6th, 1925
CHILE	September 15th, 1925
DENMARK	February 26th, 1923
ESTONIA	September 8th, 1922
FRANCE	April 4th, 1928
GERMANY	June 6th, 1925
ITALY ¹	September 1st, 1930
IRISH FREE STATE	June 17th, 1924
LATVIA	November 29th, 1929
LUXEMBURG	April 16th, 1928
THE NETHERLANDS	August 20th, 1926
POLAND	June 21st, 1924
SWEDEN	November 27th, 1923

13. Convention concerning the use of white lead in painting, adopted as a Draft Convention by the International Labour Conference at its Third Session on November 19th, 1921.

This Convention has been ratified by and is in force between

Date of Registration

AUSTRIA	June 12th, 1924
BELGIUM ²	July 19th, 1926
BULGARIA	March 6th, 1925
CHILE	September 15th, 1925
CUBA	July 7th, 1928
CZECHOSLOVAKIA	August 31st, 1923
ESTONIA	September 8th, 1922
FINLAND ³	April 5th, 1929
FRANCE	February 19th, 1929
GREECE	December 22nd, 1926
HUNGARY ⁴	January 4th, 1928
LATVIA	September 9th, 1924
LUXEMBURG	April 16th, 1928
NORWAY	June 11th, 1929
POLAND	June 21st, 1924
ROUMANIA	December 4th, 1925
SPAIN	June 20th, 1924
SWEDEN	November 27th, 1923
YUGOSLAVIA	September 30th, 1929

14. Convention concerning the application of the weekly rest in industrial undertakings, adopted as a Draft Convention by the International Labour Conference at its Third Session on November 17th, 1921.

This Convention has been ratified by and is in force between

Date of Registration

BELGIUM ²	July 19th, 1926
BULGARIA	March 6th, 1925
CHILE	September 15th, 1925
CZECHOSLOVAKIA	August 31st, 1923

¹ This ratification does not apply to Italian colonies and possessions.

² Subject to subsequent decisions regarding the application of the Convention to the Belgian Congo and to the territories under Belgian mandate.

³ Effective as from October 1st, 1929.

⁴ The Convention shall not come into force as regards Hungary until it has been ratified by France, Great Britain and Germany.

This Convention has been ratified by and is in force between	Date of Registration
ESTONIA	November 29th, 1923
FINLAND	June 19th, 1923
FRANCE	September 3rd, 1926
GREECE	May 11th, 1929
INDIA	May 11th, 1923
IRISH FREE STATE	July 22nd, 1930
ITALY	September 8th, 1924
LATVIA	September 9th, 1924
<i>Lithuania</i>	June 19th, 1931
LUXEMBURG	April 16th, 1928
POLAND	June 21st, 1924
PORTUGAL	July 3rd, 1928
ROUMANIA	August 18th, 1923
SPAIN	June 20th, 1924
YUGOSLAVIA	April 1st, 1927

15. Convention fixing the minimum age for the admission of young persons to employment as trimmers and stokers, adopted as a Draft Convention by the International Labour Conference at its Third Session on November 11th, 1921.

This Convention has been ratified by and is in force between	Date of Registration
BELGIUM ¹	July 19th, 1926
GREAT BRITAIN	March 8th, 1926
BULGARIA	March 6th, 1925
CANADA	March 31st, 1926
CUBA	July 7th, 1928
DENMARK	May 12th, 1924
ESTONIA	September 8th, 1922
FINLAND	October 10th, 1925
FRANCE	January 16th, 1928
GERMANY	June 11th, 1929
GREECE	June 14th, 1930
HUNGARY	March 1st, 1928
INDIA	November 20th, 1922
IRISH FREE STATE	June 5th, 1930
ITALY	September 8th, 1924
JAPAN ²	December 4th, 1930
LATVIA	September 9th, 1924
LUXEMBURG	April 16th, 1928
<i>The Netherlands</i>	June 17th, 1931
NORWAY	October 7th, 1927
POLAND	June 21st, 1924
ROUMANIA	August 18th, 1923
SPAIN	June 20th, 1924
SWEDEN	July 14th, 1925
YUGOSLAVIA	April 1st, 1927

16. Convention concerning the compulsory medical examination of children and young persons employed at sea, adopted as a Draft Convention by the International Labour Conference at its Third Session on November 11th, 1921.

This Convention has been ratified by and is in force between	Date of Registration
BELGIUM ¹	July 19th, 1926
GREAT BRITAIN	March 8th, 1926
BULGARIA	March 6th, 1925
CANADA	March 31st, 1926
CUBA	July 7th, 1928
ESTONIA	September 8th, 1922
FINLAND	October 10th, 1925
FRANCE	March 22nd, 1928
GERMANY	June 11th, 1929
GREECE	June 28th, 1930
HUNGARY	March 1st, 1928
INDIA	November 20th, 1922

¹ Subject to subsequent decisions regarding the application of the Convention to the Belgian Congo and to the territories under Belgian mandate.

² This ratification does not apply to Chosen, Taiwan, Karafuto, the Leased Territory of Kwantung or the South Sea Islands under Japanese mandate.

This Convention has been ratified by and is in force between	Date of Registration
IRISH FREE STATE	July 5th, 1930
ITALY	September 8th, 1924
JAPAN	June 7th, 1924
LATVIA.	September 9th, 1924
LUXEMBURG	April 16th, 1928
THE NETHERLANDS	March 9th, 1928
POLAND	June 21st, 1924
ROUMANIA	August 18th, 1923
SPAIN	June 20th, 1924
SWEDEN	July 14th, 1925
YUGOSLAVIA	April 1st, 1927

(d)

17. Convention concerning workmen's compensation for accidents, adopted as a Draft Convention by the International Labour Conference at its Seventh Session on June 10th, 1925.

This Convention has been ratified by and is in force between	Date of Registration
BELGIUM ¹	October 3rd, 1927
BULGARIA	September 5th, 1929
CUBA	August 6th, 1928
HUNGARY	April 19th, 1928
LATVIA.	May 29th, 1928
LUXEMBURG	April 16th, 1928
THE NETHERLANDS	September 13th, 1927
PORTUGAL ²	March 27th, 1929
SPAIN	February 22nd, 1929
SWEDEN	September 8th, 1926
YUGOSLAVIA	April 1st, 1927

18. Convention concerning workmen's compensation for occupational diseases, adopted as a Draft Convention by the International Labour Conference at its Seventh Session on June 10th, 1925.

This Convention has been ratified by and is in force between	Date of Registration
AUSTRIA	September 29th, 1928
BELGIUM ¹	October 3rd, 1927
GREAT BRITAIN	October 6th, 1926
BULGARIA	September 5th, 1929
CUBA	August 6th, 1928
FINLAND	September 17th, 1927
France	August 13th, 1931
GERMANY	September 18th, 1928
HUNGARY	April 19th, 1928
INDIA ³	September 30th, 1927
IRISH FREE STATE	November 25th, 1927
JAPAN ⁴	October 8th, 1928
LATVIA.	November 29th, 1929
LUXEMBURG	April 16th, 1928
THE NETHERLANDS	November 1st, 1928
NORWAY	June 11th, 1929
PORTUGAL ²	March 27th, 1929
SWEDEN	October 15th, 1929
SWITZERLAND	November 16th, 1927
YUGOSLAVIA	April 1st, 1927

19. Convention concerning equality of treatment for national and foreign workers as regards workmen's compensation for accidents, adopted as a Draft Convention by the International Labour Conference at its Seventh Session on June 5th, 1925.

This Convention has been ratified by and is in force between	Date of Registration
UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA	March 30th, 1926
AUSTRIA	September 29th, 1928

¹ Subject to subsequent decisions regarding the application of the Convention to the Belgian Congo and to the territories under Belgian mandate.
² With reservation as regards the application of the Convention to the Portuguese Colonies, until ulterior decisions can be taken.
³ The ratification by the Indian Government applies only to British India.
⁴ This ratification does not include Chosen, Taiwan, Karafuto, the Leased Territory of Kwantung and the South Sea Islands under Japanese mandate.

This Convention has been ratified by and is in force between

	Date of Registration
BELGIUM ¹	October 3rd, 1927
GREAT BRITAIN	October 6th, 1926
BULGARIA	September 5th, 1929
CUBA	August 6th, 1928
CZECHOSLOVAKIA	February 8th, 1927
DENMARK ²	March 31st, 1928
FINLAND	September 17th, 1927
FRANCE	April 4th, 1928
ESTONIA	April 14th, 1930
GERMANY	September 18th, 1928
HUNGARY	April 19th, 1928
INDIA ³	September 30th, 1927
IRISH FREE STATE	July 5th, 1930
ITALY	March 15th, 1928
JAPAN ⁴	October 8th, 1928
LATVIA	May 29th, 1928
LUXEMBURG	April 16th, 1928
THE NETHERLANDS	September 13th, 1927
NORWAY	June 11th, 1929
POLAND	February 28th, 1928
PORTUGAL ⁵	March 27th, 1929
SPAIN	February 22nd, 1929
SWEDEN	September 8th, 1926
SWITZERLAND	February 1st, 1929
YUGOSLAVIA	April 1st, 1927

20. Convention concerning night work in bakeries, adopted as a Draft Convention by the International Labour Conference at its Seventh Session on June 8th, 1925.

This Convention has been ratified by and is in force between

	Date of Registration
BULGARIA	September 5th, 1929
CUBA	August 6th, 1928
ESTONIA	December 23rd, 1929
FINLAND	May 26th, 1928
LUXEMBURG	April 16th, 1928

(e)

21. Convention concerning the simplification of the inspection of emigrants on board ship, adopted as a Draft Convention by the International Labour Conference at its Eighth Session on June 5th, 1926.

This Convention has been ratified by and is in force between

	Date of Registration
AUSTRALIA	April 18th, 1931
AUSTRIA	December 29th, 1927
BELGIUM ¹	February 15th, 1928
BULGARIA	November 29th, 1929
GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND ⁶	September 16th, 1927
CZECHOSLOVAKIA	May 25th, 1928
FINLAND	April 5th, 1929
HUNGARY	February 3rd, 1931
INDIA	January 14th, 1928
IRISH FREE STATE	July 5th, 1930
JAPAN ⁴	October 8th, 1928
LUXEMBURG	April 16th, 1928
THE NETHERLANDS	September 13th, 1927
SWEDEN ⁷	October 15th, 1929

(f)

22. Convention concerning seamen's articles of agreement, adopted as a Draft Convention by the International Labour Conference at its Ninth Session on June 24th, 1926.

This Convention has been ratified by and is in force between

	Date of Registration
BELGIUM ¹	October 3rd, 1927
BULGARIA	November 29th, 1929

¹ Subject to subsequent decisions regarding the application of the Convention to the Belgian Congo and to the territories under Belgian mandate.
² This ratification does not include Greenland.
³ The ratification by the Indian Government applies only to British India.
⁴ This ratification does not include Chosen, Taiwan, Karafuto, the Leased Territory of Kwantung and the South Sea Islands under Japanese mandate.
⁵ With reservation as regards the application of the Convention to the Portuguese Colonies, until ulterior decisions can be taken.
⁶ As regards Great Britain and Northern Ireland, this Convention will enter into force only when it has been ratified without reservation by France, Germany, The Netherlands, Italy, Norway and Spain.
⁷ As regards Sweden, this Convention will enter into force only when it has been ratified without reservation by Denmark, Finland and Norway.

This Convention has been ratified by and is in force between

	Date of Registration
GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND	June 14th, 1929
CUBA	July 7th, 1928
ESTONIA	May 10th, 1929
FRANCE	April 4th, 1928
GERMANY	September 20th, 1930
IRISH FREE STATE	July 5th, 1930
ITALY ¹	October 10th, 1929
LUXEMBURG	April 16th, 1928
<i>Poland</i>	August 8th, 1931
SPAIN	February 23rd, 1931
YUGOSLAVIA	September 30th, 1929

23. Convention concerning the repatriation of seamen, adopted as a Draft Convention by the International Labour Conference at its Ninth Session on June 23rd, 1926.

This Convention has been ratified by and is in force between

	Date of Registration
BELGIUM ²	October 3rd, 1927
BULGARIA	November 29th, 1929
CUBA	July 7th, 1928
ESTONIA	July 9th, 1928
FRANCE	March 4th, 1929
GERMANY	March 14th, 1930
IRISH FREE STATE	July 5th, 1930
ITALY ¹	October 10th, 1929
LUXEMBURG	April 16th, 1928
<i>Poland</i>	August 8th, 1931
SPAIN	February 23rd, 1931
YUGOSLAVIA	September 30th, 1929

(g)

24. Convention concerning sickness insurance for workers in industry and commerce and domestic servants, adopted as a Draft Convention by the International Labour Conference at its Tenth Session on June 15th, 1927.

This Convention has been ratified by and is in force between

	Date of Registration
AUSTRIA	February 18th, 1929
GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND	February 20th, 1931
BULGARIA	November 1st, 1930
CZECHOSLOVAKIA	January 17th, 1929
GERMANY	January 23rd, 1928
HUNGARY	April 19th, 1928
LATVIA	November 29th, 1929
LUXEMBURG	April 16th, 1928
<i>Lithuania</i>	June 19th, 1931
ROUMANIA	June 28th, 1929
YUGOSLAVIA	September 30th, 1929

25. Convention concerning sickness insurance for agricultural workers, adopted as a Draft Convention by the International Labour Conference at its Tenth Session on June 15th, 1927.

This Convention has been ratified by and is in force between

	Date of Registration
AUSTRIA	February 18th, 1929
GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND	February 20th, 1931
BULGARIA	November 1st, 1930
CZECHOSLOVAKIA	January 17th, 1929
GERMANY	January 23rd, 1928
LUXEMBURG	April 16th, 1928

(h)

26. Convention concerning the creation of minimum-wage-fixing machinery, adopted as a Draft Convention by the International Labour Conference at its Eleventh Session on June 16th, 1928.

This Convention has been ratified by and is in force between

	Date of Registration
AUSTRALIA	March 9th, 1931
CHINA	May 5th, 1930
GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND	June 14th, 1929
FRANCE	September 18th, 1930
GERMANY	May 30th, 1929
ITALY	September 9th, 1930
IRISH FREE STATE	June 3rd, 1930
SPAIN	April 8th, 1930

¹ This ratification applies also to the Italian colonies.

² Subject to subsequent decisions regarding the application of the Convention to the Belgian Congo and to the territories under Belgian mandate.

(i)

27. Convention concerning the marking of the weight on heavy packages transported by vessels, adopted as a Draft Convention by the International Labour Conference at its Twelfth Session, on June 21st, 1929.

This Convention has been ratified by and is in force between	Date of Registration
AUSTRALIA	March 9th, 1931
China	June 24th, 1931
IRISH FREE STATE	July 5th, 1930
JAPAN ¹	March 16th, 1931
LUXEMBURG	April 1st, 1931

28. Convention concerning the protection against accidents of workers employed in loading or unloading ships, adopted as a Draft Convention by the International Labour Conference at its Twelfth Session, on June 21st, 1929.

This Convention has been ratified by and is in force between	Date of Registration
IRISH FREE STATE	July 5th, 1930
LUXEMBURG.	April 1st, 1931

(j)

29. Convention concerning forced or compulsory labour, adopted as a Draft Convention by the International Labour Conference at its Fourteenth Session on June 28th, 1930.

This Convention has been ratified by	Date of registration.
<i>Great Britain and Northern Ireland</i> ²	June 3rd, 1931
IRISH FREE STATE	March 2nd, 1931
LIBERIA	May 1st, 1931.

30. Convention concerning the regulation of hours of work in commerce and offices, adopted as a Draft Convention by the International Labour Conference at its Fourteenth Session on June 28th, 1930.

This Convention has been ratified by	Date of registration.
.....

(k)

31. Convention limiting hours of work in coal-mines adopted as a Draft Convention by the International Labour Conference at its Fifteenth Session, on June 18th, 1931.

This Convention has been ratified by:	Date of registration:
.....

¹ This ratification includes Chosen, Taiwan, Karafuto, the Leased Territory of Kuantung and the South Sea islands under Japanese mandate.

² The ratification by the Government of His Majesty in Great Britain and Northern Ireland is accompanied with a Declaration, as provided for in Article 26 of the Convention, that the provisions of the Convention shall be applied without modification to the following Colonies, Protectorates and Territories under mandate:

- | | |
|---|---|
| Bahamas | Perlis |
| Barbados | Trengganu |
| Bermuda | Brunei |
| British Guiana | Malta |
| British Honduras | Mauritius |
| Ceylon | Nigeria: |
| Cyprus | (a) Colony |
| Falkland Islands and Dependencies | (b) Protectorate |
| Fiji | (c) Cameroons under British Mandate |
| Gambia (Colony and Protectorate) | North Borneo, State of |
| Gibraltar | Northern Rhodesia |
| Gold Coast: | Nyasaland Protectorate |
| (a) Colony | Palestine |
| (b) Ashanti | St. Helena and Ascension |
| (c) Northern Territories | Sarawak |
| (d) Togoland under British Mandate | Seychelles |
| Hong-Kong | Sierra Leone (Colony and Protectorate) |
| Jamaica (including Turks and Caicos Islands and the Cayman Islands) | Somaliland Protectorate |
| Kenya (Colony and Protectorate) | South Africa High Commission, Territories of the: |
| Leeward Islands: | Basutoland |
| Antigua | Bechuanaland Protectorate |
| Dominica | Swaziland |
| Montserrat | Straits Settlements |
| St. Christopher and Nevis | Tanganyika Territory |
| Virgin Islands | Transjordan |
| Malay States: | Trinidad and Tobago |
| (a) Federated Malay States: | Uganda Protectorate |
| Negri Sembilan | Western Pacific, Islands of: |
| Pahang | British Solomon Islands Protectorate |
| Perak | Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony |
| Selangor | Tonga |
| (b) Unfederated Malay States: | Windward Islands: |
| Johore | Grenada |
| Kedah | St. Lucia |
| Kelantan | St. Vincent |
| | Zanzibar Protectorate |

XXXVI. AMENDMENTS TO THE LABOUR PART OF THE TREATIES OF PEACE.

(a) AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE 393 OF THE TREATY OF VERSAILLES AND TO THE CORRESPONDING ARTICLES OF THE OTHER TREATIES OF PEACE.

(Adopted at the Fourth Session of the International Labour Conference, Geneva, November 2nd, 1922.¹)

Has been ratified by:

ALBANIA (November 26th, 1924)
 AUSTRIA (October 9th, 1924)
 BELGIUM (October 20th, 1924)
 BULGARIA (March 6th, 1925)
 CHILE (August 23rd, 1928)
 CZECHOSLOVAKIA (September 30th, 1924)
 DENMARK (June 20th, 1924)
 ESTONIA (April 12th, 1926)
 FINLAND (March 25th, 1924)
 GERMANY (June 6th, 1925)
 HAITI (November 2nd, 1925)
 HUNGARY (May 14th, 1925)
 IRISH FREE STATE (June 26th, 1925)
 LATVIA (March 16th, 1925)

Has been ratified by:

LITHUANIA (May 25th, 1928)
 LUXEMBURG (April 5th, 1928)
 THE NETHERLANDS (August 14th, 1924)
Peru (July 6th, 1931)
 PERSIA (August 14th, 1928)
 PORTUGAL (September 13th, 1926)
 ROUMANIA (July 19th, 1923)
 SALVADOR (May 4th, 1928)
 SPAIN (July 5th, 1924)
 SWEDEN (May 15th, 1924)
 SWITZERLAND (November 1st, 1924)
 URUGUAY (April 28th, 1928)
Venezuela (August 11th, 1931)

(b) PROTOCOL RELATIVE TO THIS AMENDMENT OPENED FOR SIGNATURE AT GENEVA ON JUNE 14TH, 1923.

<i>Signatures</i>	<i>Ratifications</i>	<i>Signatures</i>	<i>Ratifications</i>
UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA	UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA (October 20th, 1923)	INDIA	INDIA (October 20th, 1923)
AUSTRALIA	AUSTRALIA (October 20th, 1923)	JAPAN	JAPAN (May 11th, 1925)
BRITISH EMPIRE	BRITISH EMPIRE (October 20th, 1923)	NEW ZEALAND	NEW ZEALAND (October 20th, 1923)
CANADA	CANADA (October 20th, 1923)	NORWAY	NORWAY (April 8th, 1924)
CHINA	CHINA (June 3rd, 1926)	PARAGUAY	—
CUBA	CUBA (September 7th, 1925)	POLAND	POLAND (February 10th, 1925)
FRANCE	FRANCE (June 2nd, 1925)	SIAM	SIAM (March 18th, 1924)
GREECE	GREECE (June 8th, 1927)	YUGOSLAVIA	YUGOSLAVIA (March 11th, 1927)

¹ The amendment shall take effect when ratified by the States whose representatives compose the Council of the League of Nations and by three-quarters of the Members (Article 412 of the Treaty of Versailles).

Geneva, June 15th, 1931.

LEAGUE OF NATIONS

INTRODUCTION

to the

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

TABLE OF CONTENTS.

	Page
Legal Questions	5
Finances of the League	6
Reduction of Armaments.	6
Arbitration and Security	8
Commission of Enquiry for European Union	8
The Austro-German Protocol for the Establishment of a Customs Union	11
Political Questions	12
Administrative Questions	12
Protection of Minorities	13
Mandates	14
Economic Questions	15
Visit to India of the Director of the Economic and Financial Organisation of the League	18
Financial Questions	19
Transit Questions	20
Health Questions	21
The League of Nations and China	24
The League of Nations and Liberia	24
Traffic in Opium and Other Dangerous Drugs	24
Protection and Welfare of Children and Young People	27
Penal Administration	28
Refugees	29
Intellectual Co-operation	29
Enquiry into the Organisation of the Secretariat, the International Labour Office and the Registry of the Permanent Court of International Justice	29
Visit of the Secretary-General to Certain Latin-American Countries	30

INTRODUCTION

June 30th, 1931.

The work of the League since the last Assembly has been directed mainly to questions connected with the preparation of the Disarmament Conference, the present economic crisis and collaboration with certain Governments which have invited its assistance in technical matters.

International Conferences, however, in preparation for several years, have been held under the auspices of the Organisation for Communications and Transit, dealing with the buoyage and lighting of coasts, river law and road traffic, while a second session of the Conference for the Unification of the Law relating to Bills of Exchange has completed the work of its first session by adopting Conventions dealing with cheques.

The Conference on the Limitation of the Manufacture of Narcotics, convened in accordance with the resolution adopted by the Assembly in 1929, is still in session.

LEGAL QUESTIONS.

AMENDMENT OF THE COVENANT OF THE LEAGUE.

Proposals for the amendment of the Covenant of the League to bring it into harmony with the Pact of Paris, prepared last year by a Committee of Enquiry, were referred by the Assembly in 1930 to its First Committee which made a series of important amendments in the texts submitted. The Assembly was not invited to take an immediate decision on the question of the further amendment of the Covenant, but asked the Secretary-General to submit the texts to the Governments for their observations. The replies of the Governments will be communicated to the Assembly in a special report.

THE SIGNATURE AND RATIFICATION OF GENERAL CONVENTIONS.

The Secretary-General was requested by the Assembly in 1930 to ascertain each year from the Governments their intentions with regard to any general convention which they had signed but failed to ratify before the expiry of one year from the date of the closing of the protocol of signature. He was further asked to ascertain from the Governments Members of the League of Nations which had neither signed nor acceded to a convention within five years of its being opened for signature whether they intended to do so or what their objections might be. The Secretary-General has carried out these instructions in regard to all the conventions to which they apply and the results will be communicated to the Assembly in a special report.

PREPARATION OF GENERAL CONVENTIONS.

The Assembly, in 1930, recommended certain rules for the procedure to be followed in the preparation of general conventions negotiated under the auspices of the League. The rules in question have been communicated to the Technical Organisations of the League and to the Governments, and the Assembly will in September be invited to consider whether they should be modified as the result of any suggestions which may be made.

PROGRESSIVE CODIFICATION OF INTERNATIONAL LAW.

The Council asked the Assembly last year to consider proposals for the continuation of the work of the Conference for the Progressive Codification of International Law held at The Hague in March and April 1930. There was some difference of opinion among the delegations to the Assembly as to the steps to be taken with a view to carrying on the work of codification and the Governments have been invited to give their views on the subject. The question will be considered again this year by the Assembly.

FINANCES OF THE LEAGUE.

During the year 1930, 86.62 per cent of the amount of the contributions due for the year was received from the States Members as against 89 per cent in 1929. The total amount received, including working capital, on account of arrears during 1930 was 1,038,218.21 francs, as compared with 634,981.53 francs during 1929.

The Secretariat of the League showed a surplus of 273,101.07 francs on December 31st, 1930, and the Permanent Court of International Justice a surplus of 385,976.75 francs. On the same date the International Labour Organisation showed a deficit of 535,179 francs.

The budget for 1932 amounts to 35,407,109 francs as compared with 31,637,501 francs for 1931. There is a net increase in the budget of the International Labour Office of 389,158 francs. The Disarmament Conference involves an increased credit of 3,700,000 francs and there is an appropriation of 480,000 francs for the development of liaison with China.

REDUCTION OF ARMAMENTS.

WORK OF THE PREPARATORY COMMISSION FOR THE DISARMAMENT CONFERENCE.

The Assembly, on September 30th, 1930, expressed its conviction that the Preparatory Commission for the Disarmament Conference would, during its next session, to be held in November 1930, be able to complete its work on a preliminary draft Convention for the reduction and limitation of armaments and thus enable the Council to convene a Disarmament Conference at an early date. The Preparatory Commission met at Geneva from November 6th to December 9th, 1930. It drew up a draft Convention and a final report.

THE DRAFT CONVENTION.

The Convention opens with a general article under which the contracting parties agree to limit and as far as possible reduce their respective armaments in accordance with its provisions. The Convention provides for the limitation of effectives in time of peace, a limitation of the period of service in conscript armies, an indirect limitation of land material by means of a limitation of expenditure on armaments, a direct limitation of naval material, a limitation of expenditure on material for naval armaments, a limitation of the total horse-power for dirigibles and aircraft and a total limitation of annual expenditure on land, sea and air armed forces and formations organised on a military basis. It provides for publicity in respect of each of these limitations, for the prohibition, subject to reciprocity, of the use of chemical arms and for the absolute prohibition of bacteriological methods of warfare. It also contains provisions for the creation of a permanent Disarmament Commission.

THE REPORT OF THE PREPARATORY COMMISSION.

The report of the Preparatory Commission contains a commentary on the text of the draft Convention and gives particulars of all the reservations, whether general or particular, submitted by the delegations during the framing of the various texts. Certain Governments state that a reduction of some or all of the categories of armaments is not possible for them, as their present forces are insufficient to guarantee national safety. Other Governments reserve the right to submit further definite proposals to the Disarmament Conference. The German delegation declares that it will vote against the draft Convention as a whole, on the ground that it excludes essential elements from the limitation and reduction of land armaments and may even allow armaments to be increased. The American delegation makes a reservation in regard to the budgetary limitation of armaments, and the delegate of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics declares that the attitude of his Government is negative.

The Preparatory Commission observes that it will be for the Conference itself, not only to decide as to the adoption of the draft Convention, but also to define its practical scope by fixing in figures the extent of the undertakings which it involves. It represents that the successful discharge of this complicated and delicate task will depend first and foremost on a thorough and systematic preparation of the Conference, and in a large measure on the atmosphere that will prevail during its proceedings. It invites the Council to take the necessary

steps for the preparation of the Conference and to fix the date of its meeting. The President of the Preparatory Commission, while recognising that the draft Convention does not settle all divergencies of principle among the various Powers with regard to disarmament, emphasises that never before in the history of the world have the nations contemplated an international regulation of the means of national defence and that this fact alone gives to the work of the Commission a profound significance.

PRELIMINARY MEASURES TAKEN BY THE COUNCIL.

The Council began its preparatory work for the Disarmament Conference during its session held in January 1931. It fixed the date for the convening of the Conference for Tuesday, February 2nd, 1932. It requested the Secretary-General to forward to the Governments the report of the Preparatory Commission and the preliminary draft Convention. It further asked him to obtain from the Governments particulars of the present position as to their armaments and to secure such advice as might be necessary in order to complete the technical scheme embodied in the Convention. He was authorised, in particular, to obtain the views of the Governments on the proposals of the Committee of Experts on Budgetary Questions and to request the Communications and Transit Organisation of the League of Nations to convene a meeting of experts with a view to fixing rules for the adoption of a standard horse-power measurement for aeroplane and dirigible engines.

The Council, during its May session, reviewed the results of this preliminary work. The Secretary-General had, between the January and May sessions of the Council, received particulars of the present position as to their armaments from the Governments of the Grand Duchy of Luxemburg, Finland and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics. He had also received proposals from the British and German delegations as to the form in which the information supplied by Governments concerning their armaments should be given.

The British Government suggested that the preliminary exchange of information between the Governments as to the position of their armaments would be considerably more useful to the Disarmament Conference if it were supplied by each Government on a uniform model, and they submitted detailed proposals based on the publicity tables annexed to the draft Convention. The German Government, while agreeing that the information should be supplied on a uniform model, did not regard information supplied on the basis of the publicity tables annexed to the draft Convention as adequate, and it submitted tables providing for fuller information, particularly regarding material — in service and in stock — of land, sea and air armaments and regarding trained reserves.

The Council considered the German and British proposals at its meetings on May 20th and May 23rd, 1931. The representative of Great Britain emphasised that the publicity tables attached to the draft Convention had been adopted by the Preparatory Commission after full discussion, and that the German proposal was based on principles constantly advocated by the German Government but as constantly rejected by the majority of other countries. The German representative urged that the particulars supplied by the Governments should include all the essential factors of armaments and that the Disarmament Conference could neither obtain a clear idea as to the reduction of war material required by the different States, nor assess the military forces represented by the effectives of the different armies, unless it was supplied with complete and accurate tables.

The representative of Spain, acting as rapporteur, summarised the conclusions of the Council at its meeting of May 23rd, 1931. The British proposal was not ideal, but it was important to concentrate upon what appeared to be feasible, and the German proposal was based upon principles which, after lengthy discussion, had not been accepted by the Preparatory Commission. The Governments invited to the Conference should therefore be asked to supply the information required in accordance with the tables mentioned in the British proposal. The information should be forwarded to the Secretary-General not later than September 15th, so that it might be simultaneously interchanged between the Governments which had supplied it.

The German representative, not wishing to prevent unanimity from being achieved, abstained from voting on the report.

The Council decided, in January, that Geneva should be the seat of the Conference, provided the town was in a position to offer all the requisite facilities. The Secretary-General was able to assure the Council in May that these facilities would be adequate and the Council accordingly confirmed its previous decision.

THE BUDGETARY LIMITATION OF ARMAMENTS.

The Preparatory Commission adopted, during its session in November and December 1930, the principle of the limitation of expenditure on armaments. The Committee of Experts on budgetary questions, first constituted in November 1926, accordingly resumed its work at Geneva in December 1930. It was invited to study the methods of publicity and of the limitation of expenditure on armaments which the Preparatory Commission had decided to embody in the draft Convention. The Committee of Experts adopted a unanimous report, a draft annex to the Convention, a model form of budgetary expenditure and certain tables. The report was sent direct to the Governments in March 1931 in accordance with a decision of the Council.

The Council in May decided that the Governments should be asked to fill in the model form.

PRIVATE MANUFACTURE OF ARMS, AMMUNITION AND IMPLEMENTS OF WAR.

The Assembly, in 1930, recommended that the Special Commission appointed to frame a draft Convention on the supervision of the private manufacture of arms, ammunition and implements of war should be convened as soon as possible after the completion of the work of the Preparatory Commission for the Disarmament Conference. The Council, however, on considering the matter in January 1931, noted that the recommendations of the budgetary experts might have a direct bearing on the solution of certain problems entrusted to the Special Commission and therefore decided to postpone the convening of the Special Commission until the Committee of Budgetary Experts had submitted a final report.

The budgetary experts subsequently found it impossible to recommend any method of detailed publicity by categories in regard to material of war. The Council accordingly came to the conclusion that it would be for the Disarmament Conference to regulate, when the time came, the question of publicity in regard to war material and therefore decided that it would serve no useful purpose to convene the Special Commission until after the Disarmament Conference had met.

ARBITRATION AND SECURITY.

The Assembly, during its session in 1930, considered a report from the Committee on Arbitration and Security on the possibility of transforming into a general Convention the Model Treaty to strengthen the means of preventing War drawn up in 1928. The Committee on Arbitration and Security had not found it possible to submit the text of a general Convention, but, in respect of certain articles, had drafted two alternative texts, subject to reservations. The Assembly noted, however, the degree of progress which had been made in its third Committee in reconciling the different points of view and asked the Council to instruct a special Committee to continue the study of the question.

The special Committee, consisting of representatives of France, Germany, Great Britain, Greece, Guatemala, Italy, Japan, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Spain and Yugoslavia, met at Geneva from May 11th to 15th, 1931, and unanimously adopted a draft general Convention, with certain reservations, covering the questions on which the Committee on Arbitration and Security had only been able to submit alternative texts. The report of the special Committee, with the draft Convention, has been distributed to the Members of the League with a view to its examination by the forthcoming Assembly.

The Council has drawn special attention to a recommendation made by the special Committee to the effect that the Members of the League should give their delegates to the Assembly the necessary instructions to take a definite decision on the text and the necessary powers to sign the Convention, if they so desire, in the event of it being approved by the Assembly.

COMMISSION OF ENQUIRY FOR EUROPEAN UNION.

ORIGIN OF THE ENQUIRY.

During the session of the Assembly in 1929, M. Briand, Foreign Minister of France, announced that he had under consideration a scheme for closer union between the European States. The scheme was embodied in a memorandum which was distributed in May 1930 to the twenty-seven Governments of Europe, Members of the League, and during the months

that followed, certain of these Governments formulated their observations, which were duly forwarded to the Government of France.

On September 9th, 1930, at a private meeting held in the Council Room of the League of Nations at Geneva, representatives of the European Members of the League met and considered what further action should be taken. A resolution was adopted noting the results of the enquiry and expressing the conviction that a close collaboration of European Governments in all fields of activity would provide an essential guarantee for the maintenance of peace in the world. It was explicitly recognised that any action contemplated should be taken in full agreement with the League of Nations and with due respect to all the principles of the Covenant.

As a result of this resolution, the question was placed on the agenda of the Assembly, which, on September 17th, 1930, invited the Governments of the European States Members of the League of Nations, acting with the assistance of the Secretariat as a Commission of the League, to pursue their enquiry into the possibility of a closer co-operation between themselves. It requested that the first results of this enquiry should be embodied in definite proposals to be submitted to the Assembly in 1931. The Governments were reminded that, in so far as such co-operation might seem to them to be useful for the pursuit of their enquiry, it was open to them to conduct it in conjunction with non-European Members and non-member Governments.

There have been three sessions of the Commission of Enquiry — on September 3rd, 1930; from January 16th to January 21st, 1931; and from May 15th to May 21st, 1931.

ORGANISATION AND PROCEDURE.

The Commission has elected for its Chairman, M. Briand, and appointed as its Secretary the Secretary-General of the League.

The Secretary-General was instructed in September 1930 to collect such information as might assist it in carrying out its task, and in January 1931 he presented to the Commission a report on certain technical questions which had already been examined or were in course of examination by the League, bearing directly or indirectly on the economic crisis and of special interest to the European States. The International Labour Office also submitted a memorandum on questions within its competence. The Commission, after considering this material and the proposals of certain Governments, adopted in January 1931 a series of resolutions involving the appointment of special *ad hoc* committees to consider particular questions.

The Commission has declared itself to be a Commission of the League of Nations, whose duty it is to submit reports to the Assembly or the Council, which will decide on the effect to be given to its recommendations, the interests of all the Members of the League being thus secured. It may resort for assistance to the technical bodies and advisory committees of the League. The meetings of the Commission are open to extra-European States Members of the League, even if they do not sit on the Commission.

Members of the Commission desiring to place questions on its agenda are asked to communicate with the Secretary-General. The discussions of the Commission will, in principle, be public.

The Commission has invited the Governments of Iceland, Turkey, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the Free City of Danzig to participate in the enquiry on the economic crisis in so far as it affects Europe.

The Commission, in May, appointed an Economic Co-ordination Sub-Committee to co-ordinate the work of the special committees. The Sub-Committee will submit a general report to the Commission of Enquiry in September.

GENERAL POLITICAL SITUATION.

The Commission, meeting in January, expressed the view that economic recovery was being hindered by lack of confidence in the course of future events, due to widespread political anxiety, and that it was important for the improvement of economic conditions that there should be a firm assurance of European peace. The members of the Commission, as Foreign Ministers or responsible representatives of European States, asserted their determination to use the machinery of the League to prevent any resort to violence.

DISPOSAL OF THE GRAIN SURPLUS OF 1930.

The Commission, during its session in January, suggested that the representatives of the grain exporting countries of Central and Eastern Europe and the European importing countries should meet at an early date and make a common effort to find a means of disposing of the

existing grain surplus. A Conference of the countries concerned met in February and the representatives of certain of these countries undertook to arrange for the necessary contracts to be made for the purchase by the importing countries of the stocks of wheat available.

THE EXPORT OF FUTURE HARVEST SURPLUSES.

The Commission, in January 1931, set up a Committee to study measures which might facilitate the export of future harvest surpluses, including tariff arrangements. The Committee consisting of representatives of Austria, Belgium, Czechoslovakia, Estonia, France, German, the British Empire, Italy, Norway, Switzerland and Yugoslavia, met in February 1931. It expressed the view that it would be an advantage for producers in all continents to co-operate in meeting the crisis which had arisen from the over-production of cereals throughout the world.

The Commission also considered specific proposals for improving the European situation including conditions and cost of transport, banking facilities for the purchase and sale of cereals and methods of payment. More particularly it was requested to examine the Customs advantages which certain European countries had been asked to accord to the exporting countries of Central and Eastern Europe and it is trying to devise some scheme whereby an exceptional preferential system may be regularly applied and co-ordinated as between the exporting and the importing States. The Commission of Enquiry has emphasised that any such facilities would have to be regarded as an exceptional temporary measure and framed with due regard to the interest of third Parties.

AGRICULTURAL CREDITS.

The Commission noted, in January 1931, that the Financial Committee of the League was enquiring into the subject of agricultural credits. It appointed a Committee to keep in touch with the enquiry, so that a detailed programme, both financial and legal, might be submitted to the Council of the League.

This Committee met in April 1931 to examine a draft Convention, a constituent Charter and the Statute of an International Agricultural Mortgage Credit Company prepared by a delegation of the Financial Committee of the League. (For particulars of the scheme, see under "Financial Questions".)

PROBLEMS OF PRODUCTION AND TRADE.

The Commission of Enquiry has closely followed the proceedings of the Conference which met in November 1930 and again in March 1931 with a view to putting into force the Commercial Convention of March 24th, 1930, and it asked the Council, during its session in May, to convene a meeting at an appropriate moment, with a view to the application of the principles formulated in that Convention. Meanwhile, it recommends the European States to conform as far as possible with those principles. (For the proceedings of the Conferences of November 1930 and March 1931 see under "Economic Questions".)

The Commission further decided, during its session in May, to convene a Committee of Experts to examine all likely means of establishing closer and more effective co-operation between the different countries with a view to improving, in the general interest, the organisation of their production and trade. This Committee will work in contact with the Governments and avail itself of the technical services of the League. It will consist of members appointed by Belgium, Great Britain, Czechoslovakia, France, Germany, Italy, Netherlands, Sweden and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

The Commission considered it desirable that the work of mutual aid among the European countries should include an effective policy of financial co-operation more especially in the matter of long-term credit. It accordingly requested the Council to appoint a small committee of Government representatives to consider, with the help of a delegation of the Financial Committee, what practical steps could be taken to facilitate the issue of State loans of an international character by means of a more active intervention on the part of the League.

UNEMPLOYMENT.

The Commission of Enquiry, during its May session, appointed a Sub-Committee of six of its members to study, with six members of the Governing Body of the International Labour

Office, the problem of unemployment and to consider a scheme submitted by the International Institute of Agriculture for the better use of all the factors constituting production.

AUSTRIA.

The Commission during its May session noted a proposal that a committee should be set up to consider measures by which the difficulties peculiar to Austria might be remedied. The representative of Austria stated that this Government proposed, if necessary, itself to submit suggestions concerning the problems peculiar to Austria for consideration by the Special Committees appointed by the Commission. The Commission approved this procedure.

PACT OF ECONOMIC NON-AGGRESSION.

The Commission further considered a draft Protocol submitted by the delegation of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and referred it for further consideration to the Economic Co-Ordination Sub-Committee.

MISCELLANEOUS QUESTIONS.

The Commission of Enquiry has expressed its interest in a number of economic and transit problems and has asked the Council to have them considered by the appropriate Technical Organisations of the League. Among these questions are the trade in products of animal origin, international exchanges of electrical power, Customs exemption for liquid fuel, Customs nomenclature and the treatment of foreigners.

THE AUSTRO-GERMAN PROTOCOL FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A CUSTOMS UNION.

The Austro-German Protocol for the establishment of a Customs Union was signed and published on March 19th, 1931, in Vienna. It embodied proposals for an agreement between the two countries under which a single Customs law and a single Customs tariff would be put into force in their territories and in accordance with which no Customs duty on imports or exports would be levied on exchanges of goods between them. The question, at the request of the representative of Great Britain, was placed on the agenda of the Council and considered by the Council on May 18th and 19th, 1931.

The British representative, indicating the motives which had led him to take this step, said that doubts had been expressed whether the terms of the Protocol might not be contrary to the stipulations of certain international instruments. The question appeared to involve the consideration of purely legal problems, for the solution of which a system of procedure had been provided by the League. He accordingly moved that the Permanent Court of International Justice should be asked to give an advisory opinion on the question whether the system which Germany and Austria were proposing to establish under the Protocol would be compatible with Article 88 of the Treaty of St. Germain and with Protocol No. 1, signed at Geneva on October 4th, 1922.

Under Article 88 of the Treaty of St. Germain, the independence of Austria is declared inalienable, otherwise than with the consent of the Council of the League, and Austria undertakes to abstain from any act which might directly or indirectly, compromise her independence. The Protocol of October 4th, 1922, was the instrument under which Austria was accorded a loan under the auspices of the League with a view to her financial reconstruction. It includes an undertaking on the part of Austria to abstain from any negotiations calculated directly or indirectly to compromise her independence and not to grant to any State a special regime or exclusive advantages calculated to threaten that independence.

The British proposal to ask for an advisory opinion from the Court was adopted unanimously by the Council. During the discussion, declarations were made by the representatives of Austria, Belgium, Czechoslovakia, France, Germany, Italy and Yugoslavia.

POLITICAL QUESTIONS.

RELATIONS BETWEEN POLAND AND LITHUANIA.

The Council, during its session in January 1931, and on May 24th 1931, considered reports from the representatives of Poland and Lithuania on the direct negotiations carried out between the two Governments at the request made by the Council in September 1930, and on incidents which had occurred in the region of the administrative line between the two countries.

No agreement by negotiation was reached between the parties. The Polish and Lithuanian Ministers for Foreign Affairs, however, have given explicit assurances that adequate measures have been taken to avoid any incidents in future and the Council noted in May that its intervention had resulted in an immediate restoration of tranquillity along the administrative line.

THE TERRITORY OF MEMEL.

The German Government, on September 20th, 1930, forwarded to the Secretary-General a communication on the position which had arisen in the territory of Memel, proposing that the question as a matter of urgency should be placed on the agenda. The German Government represented that the Convention of Memel of May 8th, 1924, had been infringed in the following respects : (1) failure to observe democratic and parliamentary principles in the constitution of the Directorate, (2) obstruction of the Diet's legislative work, (3) encroachment upon judicial sovereignty, (4) hindrances to the operation of the financial regulations laid down in Article 35 of the Statute of Memel, (5) maintenance and application of the state of war, (6) interference with the freedom of suffrage.

The Lithuanian Government contended that the request of the German Government could not be a subject of discussion before the Council. The Council however was advised by a committee of jurists that the question might be placed on the agenda.

The most urgent questions were settled immediately by means of direct conversation between the German and Lithuanian representatives. During the Council session in May 1931, agreement was reached regarding the settlement of the financial questions, for which the Lithuanian representative requested the assistance of League experts. There remained only the legal questions concerning the application of the Memel Convention, in regard to which the Council was informed that the Members of the Council, signatories of the Memel Convention, the British Empire, France, Italy and Japan, were negotiating with the Lithuanian Government on the basis of the application of Article 17 (paragraph 2) of that instrument.

THE STRAITS COMMISSION.

The Secretary-General has received the annual report of the Straits Commission forwarded to the League of Nations under Article 15 of the Straits Convention of July 24th, 1923. The report has been communicated to the States Members of the League, to the Powers that signed the Straits Convention and to the technical organisations of the League.

The Commission protests in its report against the levying of taxes on vessels in transit through the Straits.

ADMINISTRATIVE QUESTIONS.

THE TERRITORY OF THE SAAR.

The Council, during its meetings on September 9th and September 12th, 1930, dealt with the question of freedom of transport and transit on the Saar railways.

The representative of Germany, at a meeting of the Council on September 9th, 1930, urged that, owing to the evacuation of the Rhineland, there was no longer any reason for maintaining forces to protect the Saar railways, and he asked the Council to take an immediate decision for their suppression.

The Saar Governing Commission was accordingly asked to consider whether it could guarantee freedom of transport and transit in the Saar, as provided in the Treaty, and upon what conditions. The Governing Commission declared that, in the event of the Council deciding to

withdraw the forces protecting the Saar railways, it was prepared, on certain conditions, to assume responsibility for their security.

The Council, on September 12th, thereupon decided to suppress the protecting forces and this decision was duly carried into effect.

The French and Belgian troops composing the Railway Commission and the protecting forces left the Saar on December 12th, 1930.

THE FREE CITY OF DANZIG.

The High Commissioner of Danzig, in July 1930, communicated to the Council a law for the amending of the Constitution of the Free City, in order that the League of Nations might decide whether it had any objections to the modifications proposed. The principal amendments relate to the number of deputies elected to the Popular Assembly, the conditions under which the Popular Assembly may be dissolved and the number and constitutional position of the senators.

The Council, on September 9th, 1930, authorised the High Commissioner to inform the Senate of Danzig that the League of Nations had no objection to these amendments.

The recent elections in Danzig resulted in a strengthening of the extreme parties of the right and left, and a situation was created which led to a series of demonstrations and incidents between Danzigers and Poles which ultimately caused the diplomatic representative of Poland at Danzig to resign his post. The Council on May 22nd, 1930, examined a special report of the High Commissioner concerning these incidents and approved the attitude which he had adopted. The Council expressed its disapproval of any action directed against the status of the Free City from any quarter whatsoever, and expressed its conviction that all necessary steps would be taken to restore a spirit of confidence as between Poland and Danzig and to calm public opinion in the two countries.

The Council, on September 9th, 1930, noted an advisory opinion of the Permanent Court of International Justice to the effect that the special legal status of the Free City of Danzig was not such as to enable the Free City to become a member of the International Labour Organisation. The text of this opinion was communicated to the Director of the International Labour Office.

A certain number of agreements during the period under review have been concluded between the Government of Danzig and the Polish Government, either directly or through the High Commissioner, and a certain number of questions have been submitted to the High Commissioner for mediation.

THE PROTECTION OF MINORITIES.

The Council has during the period under review, considered a number of cases relating to Upper Silesia under the provisions of the Convention between Germany and Poland of May 15th, 1922, and it has examined in detail the situation of the German minority in the districts of Silesia, Posnan and Pomorze with respect to incidents which took place during the preparation of the last Polish elections.

The Council was asked, in January 1931, to consider representations to the effect that the German minority in Poland and Silesia had been prevented from freely exercising their electoral rights and had been subjected to attacks against their persons and property.

In accordance with a decision adopted by the Council on the proposal of its Rapporteur on January 24th, 1931, the Polish Government forwarded a statement on the measures and decisions taken as a result of the incidents which had occurred and on the general steps which the Polish authorities were taking to encourage the pacific collaboration of all the elements of the Silesian population. The Council, on May 23rd, 1931, had before it a further statement of its Rapporteur but decided, at the request of the German representative, to postpone its examination until September.

A question raised by the descendants of the members of the former Szekler Hungarian Frontier Guard was placed on the Council agenda by the members of the Committee of Three which had examined the petition. The Council was informed that the Roumanian Government was anxious to find a friendly solution of the question by negotiation with the signatories of the petition, and accordingly decided on May 21st, 1931, to postpone the examination of the question to its autumn session.

The procedure followed in dealing with minorities petitions as set forth in the supplementary report of the Secretary-General submitted to the Assembly in 1925, completed by the supplementary report to the Assembly in 1929, has been regularly applied during the current year.

In conformity with this procedure, in addition to the Minorities Committees which met regularly during the Council sessions, a certain number also met between the Council sessions of January and May 1931. Whenever the examination of a petition was completed without its being placed on the agenda of the Council the members of the Committee concerned informed by letter the other members of the Council of the results.

MANDATES.

SESSIONS OF THE MANDATES COMMISSION.

The Mandates Commission, in 1930, held three sessions — a seventeenth session (extraordinary) held from June 3rd to June 30th, which was devoted to the events which had occurred in Palestine in August 1929 ; an eighteenth session, held from June 18th to July 1st, which examined the annual reports on the administration of Syria and the Lebanon, Tanganyika Territory, Togoland under French Mandate, New Guinea and South West Africa for 1929 ; and a nineteenth session, held in November 1930, which examined the administration of the mandated territories for 1929 of Iraq, the Cameroons under French mandate, Togoland and the Cameroons under British mandate, Ruanda Urundi, Western Samoa, the islands under Japanese mandate and Nauru.

The reports of the Commission on the work of its seventeenth and eighteenth sessions were duly considered and approved by the Council in September 1930. The report of the Commission on the work of its nineteenth session was considered and approved by the Council in January, 1931.

WESTERN SAMOA.

The Mandates Commission, during its session held in November 1930, again reviewed the position which had arisen in Western Samoa as a result of certain incidents which had been reported to the Council by the mandatory Power on its own initiative in January 1930. There had been open resistance to the administration on the part of a native organisation known as the " Mau ". The accredited representative of the mandatory Power assured the Commission that the leaders of the " Mau " had submitted and that the natives accused of offences during the disorders had been handed over to the judicial authorities.

The Mandates Commission learned with satisfaction that the administration of Samoa proposed to co-operate again with the native representatives and to accord them a constantly increasing share in the management of their own affairs.

THE ISLANDS UNDER JAPANESE MANDATE.

The Commission, during its nineteenth session, drew attention to the continuous and rapid fall in the numbers of the native population of the islands under Japanese mandate, especially the island of Yap, and expressed a hope that the efforts made by the Mandatory to discover the causes of this phenomenon would yield positive results.

IRAQ.

The Commission reviewed the administration of Iraq in the light of the recent announcement made by the British Government that it was proposing to terminate the British mandate in Iraq and to recommend that Iraq should be admitted to the League of Nations in 1932. The Commission felt that it had not yet sufficient information at its disposal to justify it in formulating an opinion on the progress achieved by Iraq as a result of eight years under the mandatory system. It accordingly expressed the hope that the mandatory Power would in future reports endeavour to indicate the results so far accomplished which might be attributed to the action of the British officials and those which must be attributed to the efforts of the Iraqi Government itself.

The report of the Commission was examined by the Council on January 22nd, 1931. The British representative on that occasion intimated that steps would be taken to prepare a comprehensive review of the progress made in Iraq under the mandate.

The Mandates Commission, in its observations on the political situation in Iraq, emphasised that respect should be assured for the rights of racial and linguistic minorities and, in this connection, gave special attention to the situation of the Kurdish minority. The Commission

had some misgivings as to the position of the minorities in Iraq in view of the preparations being made for the complete independence of the territory and for the withdrawal of the supervision of the mandatory administration. It noted a statement of the accredited representative of the mandatory Power to the effect that Iraq, on obtaining her freedom, would undoubtedly be prepared to accept international obligations safeguarding the rights of minorities in her territory.

The Kurdish minority had presented to the Commission a petition representing that the provision made for special treatment of the Kurds under the decisions reached by the Council on December 16th, 1925, whereby the area in which it lived had been assigned to Iraq, involved an obligation on the part of the mandatory Power to establish an independent Kurdish Government under the supervision of the League. The Mandates Commission considered this to be an erroneous interpretation of the decision, but recommended that the mandatory Power should be requested to ensure that legislative and administrative measures designed to secure for the Kurds the position to which they were entitled were promptly put into effect.

The Council, on January 22nd, 1931, approved these conclusions and forwarded them to the mandatory Power. The British representative on the Council assured his colleagues that no time would be lost in carrying into full effect the necessary programme of legislative and administrative reforms.

PALESTINE.

The Council, on September 8th, 1930, examined the report of the Mandates Commission on the work of its seventeenth session (extraordinary), held in June 1930, together with the observations of the mandatory Government on that report. It will be recalled that this session was devoted to an enquiry into the events which had occurred in Palestine in August 1929

The Council invited the British Government to adopt such measures as it might think fit to give effect to the recommendations and the conclusions of the Commission. It noted that the report of the Commission contained remarks on the policy to be henceforth followed in Palestine. It did not regard this circumstance as an attempt on the part of the Commission to supplant the mandatory Power in the exercise of its duties, but expressed the view that the Commission had been guided entirely by the letter and spirit of the mandaté and by its desire to contribute to the solution of the problem. It added that the difficulties in the way of finding a solution of the Palestine problem were bound to embarrass even a Power with the widest experience in governing peoples of diverse characteristics.

The British representative on the Council said that his Government was in full accord with the observations of the Commission as to the aims and obligations of the mandate for Palestine. He announced that the British Government had sent to Palestine Sir John Hope Simpson, an expert in land settlement and colonisation, to report on the present position in regard to these matters and in particular upon the questions of immigration and development. He assured the Council that the British Government intended to adopt measures with a view to promoting goodwill between the two sections of the population in the conviction that, without such goodwill, the peace and prosperity of Palestine could not be assured by any action of the mandatory Power alone.

ECONOMIC QUESTIONS.

CONCERTED ECONOMIC ACTION : THE COMMERCIAL CONVENTION OF MARCH 24th, 1930.

The Economic Committee, in addition to the problems which it has been considering for some time consequent upon the recommendations of the World Economic Conference of 1927, has in the past year been dealing also with problems arising out of the first Conference for Concerted Economic Action of last year, with special reference to problems which have a direct bearing on the present economic depression.

The first Conference for Concerted Economic Action adopted on March 24th, 1930, a Commercial Convention intended to ensure a certain degree of stability in Customs tariffs over a definite period. Attached to the Convention was a Protocol embodying a programme of future negotiations, to be undertaken by the States concerned, with a view to drawing up collective economic agreements. The entry into force of the Commercial Convention was contingent upon the fulfilment of certain conditions as to its ratification and a second Conference

was called on November 17th, 1930, to consider whether those conditions might be regarded as having been fulfilled. Up to that date only ten ratifications of the Convention had been deposited and the Conference was accordingly obliged to postpone its decision to a second session, which met from March 16th to 18th, 1931.

Twenty-five European countries took part in the Conference and six overseas countries sent observers. At the date of meeting, twelve countries had deposited ratifications and one other country had submitted a request to accede. It was found impossible to put the Convention into force as between these thirteen countries, particularly as the majority made their adherence contingent upon that of other countries which had not yet ratified.

The Conference, after considering a number of proposals put forward with a view to overcoming the difficulties arising from the absence of the necessary ratifications, finally adopted a Protocol to the effect that it was unable to agree upon a date for putting the Convention into force, expressing the opinion, however, that the postponement or lapse of the Convention did not necessarily mean that the negotiations between States with a view to collective economic agreements would not go forward according to the programme laid down in the Protocol of March 24th, 1930.

The second Conference for Concerted Economic Action had also to consider how these negotiations might best be initiated on the basis of a programme drawn up by the Economic Committee. The Economic Committee, after considering various proposals submitted by the Governments, had recommended that special attention should be given to three of them.

The first two proposals, put forward respectively by the British and the Netherlands Governments, related to tariff negotiations in general. The British Government suggested that an endeavour should be made to effect a general reduction of Customs tariffs by means of multilateral agreements between groups of countries to be gradually extended. The Netherlands Government suggested that negotiations should be started between States having an autonomous tariff and States with a conventional tariff, the first group undertaking to maintain their liberal system in return for tariff reductions by the second group. The third proposal was put forward by Hungary, Roumania and Yugoslavia, with whom Poland was also associated. These countries asked that effective steps should be taken to ensure the disposal of their surplus grain produce at prices which would secure to the farmer a better return and they suggested, as a means to this end, that preferential Customs treatment should be accorded to the produce in question by the countries in which it was normally marketed.

It became apparent that, in present circumstances, collective negotiations upon the basis of the British and Netherlands proposals were not likely to lead very far, though several countries expressed willingness to enter into bilateral negotiations with Great Britain and the Netherlands for the improvement of their commercial relations. The proposal of the Danubian States for preferential treatment of their grain produce also met with considerable difficulties, particularly in connection with the most-favoured-nation clause.

The Conference therefore directed its attention to the problem of agricultural credits, of particular importance to the Danubian States, and decided to recommend that the study of this question, already on the programme of the Financial Committee, should be urgently pursued.

VETERINARY RESTRICTIONS.

Attention was drawn during the International Conference for the Abolition of Import and Export Prohibitions and Restrictions, held in 1927, to the difficulties which arose for the international trade in live-stock and meat owing to the imposition of veterinary restrictions. A sub-committee of experts on veterinary matters was accordingly appointed to consider what guarantees should be given by countries exporting live-stock and what facilities might be accorded by importing countries on the basis of these guarantees. The sub-committee, between January 1928 and October 1930, held four sessions, secured the assistance of over-seas experts from the large meat-exporting countries and drafted a report which was submitted to the Economic Committee in November 1930.

The experts agreed as to the principles which should govern the organisation of veterinary health services and reached definite conclusions as to the essential guarantees to be offered by exporting to importing States. The Economic Committee, after carefully considering these conclusions, expressed the view that, pending the introduction of adequate guarantees, States should be allowed to regulate in their own interest a considerable part of the international trade in live-stock and meat and that arrangements for mitigating the severity of the veterinary

measures at present in force would, for the moment, be more completely secured by means of bilateral agreements than by general international action. The conclusions of the experts indicated, however, that the countries concerned would probably accept international conventions dealing with certain aspects of the problem.

Draft conventions have accordingly been prepared concerning: (a) the organisation of veterinary health services and the methods to be adopted for exchanging veterinary health information and ensuring closer co-operation between the different veterinary services; (b) the transit of animals and animal products, including meat and (c) the export and import of animal products other than meat.

The Council has authorised the Secretary-General to communicate these drafts to the Governments for their observations and with a view to an international conference as soon as the texts have been finally approved by the Economic Committee.

THE CRISIS IN AGRICULTURE.

The Economic Committee, in consultation with representatives of the International Institute of Agriculture in Rome, called together in January 1930 a meeting of agricultural experts to give their views on the agricultural crisis, more particularly on the question of cereals. The experts undertook to forward reports to the Secretariat and, in January 1931, a second meeting was convened to consider them. The discussions turned mainly on the question of cereals. Emphasis was laid on the practical difficulties in the way of reducing production, but the way was left open for further negotiations.

The Economic Committee proposes to publish the reports of the experts and has instructed its agricultural delegation to submit to the Council a general review of the agricultural depression to serve as a general introduction to the reports.

THE MOST-FAVoured-NATION CLAUSE.

The Assembly, in 1930, urgently recommended that the Economic Committee should begin a study of certain disputed questions concerning the application of the most-favoured-nation clause. The points to be examined include the question whether Customs quotas and anti-dumping or countervailing duties are compatible with the spirit of the clause. The Economic Committee in October 1930 instructed a Sub-Committee to study these and other points.

DUMPING.

The Committee is continuing its investigations into dumping in all its forms, with particular reference to practices adopted by certain States likely to hinder the free play of economic laws. It has made arrangements for a report to be prepared on dumping, its causes and effects, machinery and the most flagrant forms which it may assume. Particular attention will be paid to export bounties.

CUSTOMS NOMENCLATURE: THE APPLICATION OF TARIFFS.

The work of the experts on the Unification of Customs nomenclature is now virtually completed, and the full scheme will probably be ready before the Assembly meets in 1931.

Among the other questions with which the Economic Committee has dealt during the period under review, are methods of applying specific tariffs, the simplification of Customs formalities, marks and appellations of origin and the establishment of a permanent organ of conciliation and arbitration for the settlement of disputes which may arise between States in commercial matters.

THE CONFERENCE FOR THE UNIFICATION OF LAWS ON BILLS OF EXCHANGE, PROMISSORY NOTES AND CHEQUES.

The Conference convened in June 1930 for the Unification of Laws on Bills of Exchange, Promissory Notes and Cheques established three Conventions dealing with bills of exchange and promissory notes, which were signed by the delegates at the close of the proceedings. The Conference, owing to lack of time and the extreme complexity of the subject,

was unable to deal finally with the unification of laws relating to cheques and it recommended that subsequent enquiries should be made. The Governments were accordingly invited to submit their views upon three preliminary draft Conventions dealing with cheques. Replies received from twenty-three Governments and from the International Chamber of Commerce indicated that there was a unanimous desire for the conclusion of conventions on cheques similar to those which had been drafted to cover bills of exchange and promissory notes.

The Council of the League accordingly convened a second session of the Conference, which met on February 23rd, 1931, and was attended by the representatives of thirty-one countries. The Conference adopted a Convention under which the parties undertook to introduce a uniform law for cheques in their respective countries, a Convention embodying the provisions for the solution of certain conflicts of laws in connection with cheques and a Convention on the stamp laws relating to cheques. The results achieved by the Conference represent the culmination of efforts made during the past twenty years to introduce a certain degree of uniformity in the various countries of the world into the laws relating to cheques.

The three Conventions and the Final Act were, at the close of the proceedings, signed by the representatives of twenty countries.

ECONOMIC STATISTICS.

The International Convention relating to Economic Statistics, which was designed to ensure a measure of uniformity and comparability in the compilation of statistics by the various countries of the world, signed at Geneva in December 1928, came into force in December 1930. The Convention provides for the appointment of a committee of technical experts to which is entrusted an extensive programme of work.

The Committee was appointed by the Council in January 1931 and held its first meeting on March 23rd, 1931. It devoted the major part of its time to the organisation of its future work, but agreement was reached on two specific and urgent questions. First it drew up for adoption by all the parties to the Convention a minimum list of the statistical territories, whether isolated or grouped together, to be specified in the statistics of external trade by countries: Secondly, it submitted definite recommendations for the organisation of an experiment to be undertaken by the contracting parties to the Convention for a period of one year in recording external trade statistics of certain commodities, mainly foodstuffs and raw materials of international importance, according to the three main systems of registration at present in use. The object of the experiment is to render it possible to judge the relative merits of the different systems and prepare the way for the possible adoption of a uniform system by all countries.

ENQUIRY INTO THE PRESENT ECONOMIC DEPRESSION.

The Assembly in September 1930 adopted a resolution to the effect that the Economic and Financial Organisation of the League should undertake a study of the course and phases of the present economic depression and of the circumstances which had led up to it. For this purpose, it was instructed to get into touch with the national organisations which were dealing with the subject.

In pursuance of this resolution, a meeting of representatives of national economic councils and national research institutes was held at Geneva from March 2nd to March 4th, 1931. A scheme of enquiry was discussed, and the delegates agreed to furnish memoranda on a common plan dealing with the phenomena of the depression in their respective countries.

THE VISIT TO INDIA OF THE DIRECTOR OF THE ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL ORGANISATION

The Government of India, in the autumn of 1930, requested that Sir Arthur Salter, Director of the Economic and Financial Organisation of the League, should visit India to advise upon the creation of some organisation for the "study of economic questions, including both the continuous interpretation of current developments and the consideration of plans designed to achieve particular purposes". The results of the specific enquiry which Sir Arthur Salter was invited to make are embodied in a report dated February 16th, 1931, which has been sent to all the Members of the League and to the Indian Government.

The Secretary-General informed Sir Arthur Salter, previous to his visit, that members of the Indian delegation to the Assembly had on many occasions expressed regret at the insufficiency of the knowledge possessed in India regarding the past work and possibilities of future collaboration of the various organisations of the League, and in particular of the technical organisations. Sir Arthur Salter, during his visit to India, was able to acquaint the Indian Government with many aspects of the work of the League, especially in the technical field, and to discuss generally with the authorities the development of India's participation in that work.

FINANCIAL QUESTIONS.

FINANCIAL RECONSTRUCTION.

The Financial Committee, in a report to the Council adopted by that body and by the Assembly in September 1930, pointed out that the scope and character of its work was changing and that the nature of the change had become clearly apparent during the course of the previous twelve months. During the first ten years of its existence the principal work of the Committee had been to assist in financial reconstruction or the establishment of refugees in certain countries, and this work had naturally tended to the postponement of the more normal duties of the Committee as financial adviser to the League within the framework of the Covenant.

The work of the financial reconstruction and refugee settlement is now nearing completion. The Refugee Settlement Commission in Greece has been wound up and the official connection of the Financial Committee with the Greek Government has come to an end, while the work of settling the refugees in Bulgaria will shortly be completed. Owing to the resignation of M. Charron, a new adviser to the Bulgarian National Bank, M. Watteau, has been appointed and the Financial Committee, at the request of the Government of Bulgaria, has undertaken an intensive enquiry into the Bulgarian agricultural co-operative system. The adviser nominated by the Council of the League to the Estonian Central Bank has completed his term of office and his withdrawal closes another chapter in the post-war reconstruction work of the League.

THE ENQUIRY INTO GOLD SUPPLIES.

Apart from the work done in connection with the final stages of these reconstruction schemes, the two principal tasks which have been occupying the attention of the Financial Committees are the enquiry into the monetary gold problem and agricultural credits. These subjects have been referred to two special delegations of the Committee, a Gold Delegation and an Agricultural Credits Delegation. The Gold Delegation has published two interim reports dealing with (a) the current and prospective production of gold in relation to the demand for gold and (b) its distribution.

AGRICULTURAL CREDITS.

The Conference with a view to Concerted Economic Action drew the attention of the Council last year to the fact that the shortage of capital for agriculture constituted a serious hindrance to commercial relations between industrial and agricultural countries and urged a better organisation of agricultural credits. The question was referred by the Council to the technical organisations of the League, including the Financial Committee, with the result that an international convention and the constitutive charter and statutes of a mortgage institute, to be known as the International Agricultural Mortgage Credit Company, were drawn up by a delegation of the Financial Committee, under the chairmanship of M. ter Meulen, of whose work the Commission for European Union and the Council have expressed their warm appreciation.

The Convention has so far been signed by sixteen European Governments. The Council has appointed an Organising Committee to take all steps required for the first issue of the shares of the international company, for its organisation and operations. The Organising Committee held its first meeting in Paris on June 4th, and the Bank should be open early next year.

The purpose of the plan and of the collective effort on the part of European States which it entails is, in the words of the Financial Committee, to "alleviate the burdens which weigh on agricultural production in various countries, to diminish the working expenses which absorb too large a share of the profits and to increase the purchasing capacity of the agriculturists".

TRANSIT QUESTIONS.

UNIFICATION OF BUOYAGE AND LIGHTING OF COASTS.

Three important conferences dealing with transit questions have been held during the period under review : a Conference for the Unification of Buoyage and Lighting of Coasts met at Lisbon on October 6th, 1930 ; a Conference for the Unification of River Law met at Geneva on November 17th, 1930 ; a European Conference on Road Traffic met at Geneva in March 1931. The preparatory work for these conferences has taken several years to complete and represents a considerable effort on the part of the Transit Organisation to secure greater simplicity and uniformity in the international organisation of communications and transit.

The Conference for the Unification of Buoyage and Lighting of Coasts adopted two agreements and a series of recommendations. Under the first agreement, signed by twenty-one States, the contracting parties undertake to unify certain descriptions of maritime signals. Under the second agreement, signed by twenty-three States, the contracting parties undertake to unify certain rules in respect of manned lightships which have broken loose from their moorings. The recommendations, signed by twenty-six States, were framed with a view to providing, in a rational and uniform manner for the organisation of new lighthouse systems or the improvement of those already in existence, by means of an effective distribution of the characteristics available. They also laid down certain principles governing the installation and working of radio beacons.

The problem of the unification of buoyage presented serious difficulties and the Conference was unable to establish an agreed convention. It was found that accord on certain fundamental questions was necessary before a complete system of unification could be approved. Twelve countries were prepared to accept a uniform regional solution, but it was realised that any kind of fragmentary agreement might render more difficult the ultimate process of general unification. The Conference accordingly, after framing a series of uniform rules to be applied in the event of a general agreement on the main questions at issue being reached, decided to postpone further work in order that the Governments concerned might endeavour to agree upon a complete solution within the next twelve months. The Conference expressed the hope that it would then be able to meet again with every prospect of ultimate success.

UNIFICATION OF RIVER LAW.

The Conference for the Unification of River Law met at Geneva from November 17th to December 9th, 1930. It was attended by representatives from twenty-one countries and by delegates from the various international river commissions and other international associations interested in the subject. The Conference adopted three Conventions and a final act, to which were appended a number of recommendations.

The first Convention, signed by fourteen States, embodies the provisions which shall govern as between the contracting parties the compensation due in respect of damage to vessels, persons or objects on board as the result of collision between inland navigation vessels. The second Convention, signed by thirteen States, deals with the registration of inland navigation vessels, ownership, mortgages, liens, seizures and enforcement. The third Convention, signed by eight States, determines the conditions under which inland navigation vessels shall be accorded the right to a national flag.

EUROPEAN CONFERENCE ON ROAD TRAFFIC.

The European Conference on Road Traffic was attended by twenty-four States and delegates from the more important international tourist associations and organisations interested in tourist or commercial transport.

The Conference adopted an international Convention for the unification of road signals signed by twelve States, and a recommendation to the effect that a system of codification should, as soon as possible, be internationally established for signs made by traffic police and by drivers of vehicles.

The Conference adopted a Convention on the taxation of foreign motor vehicles, signed by ten States. The Convention exempts from taxation foreign motor vehicles, but not vehicles

used commercially for the transport of persons or goods, circulating for a period of ninety days in the country visited. The Conference, in approving the Convention, recommended that the contracting parties should endeavour, either through internal legislation or by agreement among themselves, to extend as widely as possible the system of tax exemption laid down in the Convention and to improve the methods of applying it.

It further approved an agreement between Customs authorities, signed by eleven States, facilitating the procedure relating to triptychs and removing certain practical difficulties arising for tourists under the present system.

The Conference was unable to come to an agreement upon a convention for the international regulation of commercial motor transport. Owing to the continuous and considerable development of motor traffic during the past few years, it was impossible for many of the delegates to appreciate the exact consequences to the signatories of a convention dealing with the matter. The Conference therefore decided to suspend its work on the convention, at the same time emphasising the expediency of referring to a future conference the task of finding an international solution of the problem. It recommended that, pending the conclusion of an international convention, separate agreements should be made between States on as liberal a basis as possible.

THE FOURTH GENERAL CONFERENCE ON COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSIT.

The Advisory and Technical Committee for Communications and Transit has established the agenda of the Fourth General Conference on Communications and Transit which will meet on October 26th, 1931. Among the specific questions to be discussed are the steps to be taken in the event of grave occurrences of a general character affecting routes of communication and the economic and social aspects of a stabilisation of Easter and of a simplification of the calendar.

HEALTH QUESTIONS.

DEVELOPMENT AND REORGANISATION OF THE WORK OF THE HEALTH COMMITTEE.

The Assembly, in 1930, expressed the hope that the experience gained by the Health Organisation during the previous ten years might be made available in increasing measure to Member States of the League, and noted with satisfaction that its activities were extending to countries in all parts of the world, being specially exercised in those which had invited the technical advice of the League on the development of their public health services.

The Health Committee during its session held in October 1930 reorganised its methods of work in the light of these developments. There are certain permanent duties of the Health Organisation which will be subject to relatively slight modification beyond such technical improvements as may be introduced. The epidemiological and statistical services belong to this class of work, while it will also be a permanent duty of the Organisation to keep continuously in touch with the health administrations of the various countries by means of collective study tours and individual missions. Several commissions of the Health Committee, moreover, such as those dealing with opium questions, malaria, cancer, leprosy, diphtheria, whooping-cough, scarlet fever and the standardisation of sera have, by the nature of their task, more or less permanent duties to perform.

There is, however, another class of questions for which a new method of work has been created. Governments are asking the Health Committee for advice on methods to be applied and technical schemes to be adopted in dealing with the many administrative and medical problems in the field of public health with which they are concerned, and the Committee, in order to meet these requests, has felt it necessary to establish for each question a more limited and adaptable machinery than the old system of commissions. The new method consists in appointing small drafting committees formed of a chairman and three or four experts, who may consult any other technical officers or competent authorities in the course of their enquiries. Such committees have been formed to deal with maternal and infant welfare, the health of the child of school age and adolescence, the campaign against tuberculosis, questions relating to venereal diseases, smallpox, cancer, rheumatism, diseases of the heart, health centres, the

administration of medical assistance by public authorities, the relations between public health and sickness insurance, the teaching of medicine, human sleeping-sickness, the problem of nutrition and physical education.

REORGANISATION OF THE HEALTH SERVICES IN BOLIVIA.

The President of the Republic of Bolivia on June 29th, 1929, requested the assistance of the Health Committee in the reorganisation of the health services of his country. Two experts of the Health Organisation went to Bolivia in April 1930 to make preliminary enquiries and the Bolivian Director-General of Health came to Europe in October of that year to make a study of public health work in several European countries. The Health Committee decided, in May 1931, to assist the Government of Bolivia in training abroad a certain number of public health officers to constitute a nucleus of the new public health services of Bolivia, to study the distribution of diseases in tropical and sub-tropical regions of Bolivia and to advise the Bolivian Government as to the development of the proposed scheme of reorganisation. An expert of the Health Organisation of the League will shortly go to Bolivia as the result of this decision.

THE ENQUIRY INTO INFANT MORTALITY IN LATIN AMERICA.

A Conference of Health Experts on Child Welfare was, at the invitation of the Government of Peru, convened at Lima in July 1930 by the Health Organisation, to discuss the results of the enquiries into infant mortality previously carried out in the Argentine, Brazil, Chile and Uruguay. The Conference was invited to consider the organisation of similar enquiries in other South-American countries and was attended by representatives of Colombia, Ecuador Peru and Venezuela. The Health Organisation was represented at the Conference by Professor Debrée and Dr. Olsen, who subsequently visited Chile, the Argentine, Uruguay and Brazil. A report on the enquiry was approved by the Health Committee in October 1930 in which the economic, legislative, sanitary and educational measures to be adopted with a view to reducing infant mortality were indicated.

SEROLOGICAL CONGRESS AT MONTEVIDEO.

A delegate of the Health Committee was, at the request of the Government of Uruguay, appointed to preside over the South-American Serological Congress held at Montevideo in September 1930 by the Institute for the Prevention of Syphilis in that city and a representative of the Health Organisation attended the Congress. The Conference was attended by experts from the Argentine, Brazil, Chile, Uruguay and Paraguay. It suggested, in view of the importance of the results achieved, that the Health Organisation should invite the Institute at Montevideo to continue its work on the sero-diagnosis of syphilis in collaboration with the Danish State Serum Institute which acts as the central laboratory of the Health Organisation.

REORGANISATION OF THE HEALTH SERVICES IN CHINA.

Proposals of the National Government of the Republic of China for collaboration with the League in public health matters were approved by the Council of the League in May 1930. An important item in this programme was the reorganisation of the quarantine services of Chinese ports, and a scheme of reorganisation, approved by the health and transit experts of the League, was sent to the Chinese Minister of Health in November 1930. A Chinese national quarantine service has now been working for nearly a year in Shanghai and for six months in Amoy.

Another important item in the programme of reorganisation was the establishment of a central field health station at Nanking, to become the nucleus of a national field health service and the headquarters of a technical body of officials who will, in due course, be competent to supervise and initiate the necessary measures of reform. The station is being actively organised and some of its services have begun work.

A first national hospital, established at Nanking, is already rendering excellent services to the local population and will ultimately develop into a large medical and health unit in full activity.

The Chinese Minister of Finance has allocated the sum of \$1,000,000 for the establishment of the institutions considered to be essential for the development of the services of the health station, and of this sum \$400,000 has already been placed at the disposal of the Chinese Minister of Health.

A striking feature of the Chinese development scheme is its insistence upon the value of publicity and propaganda among the younger generation. A national commission, assisted by an expert of the Health Organisation, is drafting a model programme of medical education adapted to the special needs of the country.

REORGANISATION OF THE HEALTH SERVICES IN GREECE.

The reorganisation by Greece of its public health services with the assistance of the Health Organisation of the League is now well under way. Arrangements have been made to ensure permanent contact between the Greek health administration and the technical services created under the new plan. An important element is the School of Hygiene at Athens, which has been working since March of this year.

EPIDEMIOLOGICAL INTELLIGENCE SERVICE.

The work of the Eastern Bureau at Singapore becomes increasingly effective owing to technical improvements in transmitting the notification of infectious diseases on board ship. Contributions to the expenses of the Bureau have been received from Japan, the Straits Settlements, the Netherlands East Indies, French Indo-China, Federal Malay States and the Philippine Islands.

MALARIA STUDIES.

Considerable progress has been made with the studies and enquiries of the Malaria Commission in India, Greece, Bolivia and the river deltas. Important technical studies in the treatment of Malaria have been organised. As a result of an enquiry in New Guinea and the Pacific Islands made under League auspices in 1928-1929, the Malaria Commission has considered the question of an entomological survey in Melanesia, with special reference to malaria and filariasis.

THE LEPROSY COMMISSION.

The Leprosy Commission, which met at Bangkok during the eighth congress of the Far Eastern Associations in Tropical Medicine in December 1930, has succeeded in establishing, for the first time, certain principles of leprosy prophylaxis in keeping with scientific developments and the practical experience acquired during the last thirty years. Its members took part in a Conference on Leprosy convened by the Leonard Wood Memorial for the Eradication of Leprosy at Manila in January 1931.

A representative of the Health Organisation has made a study of leprosy in several countries of Latin America, and an international centre for the study of leprosy has been established in Brazil under the auspices of the League of Nations.

FORTHCOMING CONFERENCE ON RURAL HYGIENE.

The Council in September 1930 on the proposal of the Spanish Government decided that a Conference of European States should be convened at Geneva for a general technical study of the problem of rural hygiene. A preparatory committee has undertaken the preliminary enquiries and the Conference was convened to meet on June 29th, 1931. Three items have been placed on the agenda of the Conference : medical care in rural districts, the organisation of health services in rural districts and sanitation.

HEALTH SCHOOLS AND THE TRAINING OF EXPERTS.

The Health Organisation is taking an increasing interest in the training of health experts. Reference has been made to the health school established at Athens and the central field health station in China. The Health Organisation has inaugurated in recent years a series of meetings between directors of schools of public hygiene : Warsaw in 1926, Budapest and Zagreb in 1927 and Dresden in 1930. These meetings will continue to be held in various countries in order that there may be a periodical exchange of experiences on the part of persons responsible for the direction of health schools with a view to establishing certain principles for the teaching of hygiene in all countries.

The Council of the League on September 24th, 1930, accepted a proposal of the French Government to create an international school of advanced health studies in Paris, with a view

to supplementing the interchanges and individual studies of the League of Nations by means of a permanent teaching institution. The new school will aim at extending the instruction given in national schools of hygiene by means of international courses, thus preparing the directors of national health services for their duties and providing facilities for the training of health experts and administrators.

THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS AND CHINA.

At the request of the National Government of China, the Director of the Economic and Financial Section and the Director of the Communications and Transit Section of the Secretariat visited that country early in the year, in order to discuss the effect of the present world depression on her activities and the specific problems of her inland waterways and the reclamation of land. The Director of the Health Section, as noted above, was already in conference with the Chinese Government and assisting in the re-organisation of the Chinese health services.

The Chinese Government, following this visit, set up a National Economic Council and asked for further advice in connection with its plan of reconstruction. It submitted a draft scheme of co-operation with the technical organisations of the League, which was approved in its general lines by the League Council on May 19th, 1931.

A proposal of the Chinese Government that the League might also assist it in finding advisers for the development of the Chinese educational system and in bringing China's intellectual centres of activity into touch with those abroad has been referred to the international Committee on intellectual Co-operation.

THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS AND LIBERIA.

The International Commission of Enquiry in Liberia, set up in the autumn of 1929 at the request of the Government of Liberia to examine whether forced labour and slavery existed in that country, submitted its report to the Liberian Government on September 8th, 1930, and at the request of the British Government the report was considered by the Council on January 22nd, 1931. The representative of Liberia stated that his Government was prepared to accept the recommendations of the Commission of Enquiry as a basis for improvements in Liberian social policy to the full extent of its resources and he asked the Council to assist his Government in carrying out these suggestions.

The Council appointed a small committee, selected from among its own members, to examine this request. The committee, meeting in January 1931 at Geneva and in February 1931 in London, decided to send to Liberia a mission composed of three competent experts in general administration, finance and public health, considering that further information would be necessary before a scheme under which Liberia might receive the proposed assistance could be framed.

THE TRAFFIC IN OPIUM AND OTHER DANGEROUS DRUGS.

THE RATIFICATION OF THE GENEVA CONVENTION OF 1925.

The Geneva Opium Convention of 1925 has now been ratified by a greater number of States than any other agreement concluded under the auspices of the League. The total number of ratifications in January 1931 stood at forty-four. Despite frequent and urgent appeals, however, by the Council and the Assembly, a large number of States have not yet ratified the largest single group being found amongst the countries of Latin America. Only five out of twenty of these States have deposited ratifications.

THE ILLICIT TRAFFIC : EFFECTS OF THE APPLICATION OF THE IMPORT CERTIFICATE SYSTEM.

The Advisory Committee on the Traffic in Opium, which met for its fourteenth session in January-February 1931, was in a better position than in previous years to appreciate the full effect of the coming into force of the Geneva Convention in the principal manufacturing countries. The Secretariat submitted, for the period 1925 to the second half of 1930, an

exhaustive study in all its aspects of the trade in drugs and especially of the relations between the licit and illicit traffic. It was shown that, while the illicit traffic, particularly during the years 1926-1929, had exceeded all previous estimates, a remarkable change had been effected in the situation at the beginning of 1930. The Geneva Convention had come into effect in the principal manufacturing countries of importance to the traffic, and the esters of morphine had been brought under full control. There was consequently, in 1930, a striking decrease in the manufacture and export of drugs in respect of the chief manufacturing countries of Europe and a notable decrease in the seizures of drugs originating from them. The important results achieved by the effective application of the Geneva Convention were most clearly seen in France, where a new system of control, involving a strict application of the import certificate system, had been introduced by the French Government on January 1st, 1929, and where, as a consequence, the imports and exports of narcotic drugs had fallen to very low figures.

The Advisory Committee was deeply impressed by the fact that, at a moment when the grave situation in regard to the illicit traffic from the European countries had been largely, if not completely, remedied, a new danger had suddenly appeared, owing to the manufacture on a very large scale of morphine and heroin in a country which was not a Member of the League or a party to the Opium Conventions. Evidence was produced showing that Turkey had become the principal source of supply for the illicit traffic in Egypt and there were large exports of drugs from Turkey to countries which had not been notified of such consignments and presumably had not received them. The Committee expressed the view that only a strict application in Turkey of the import certificate system would make it possible to remedy a state of affairs which constituted a real menace to the whole world.

Another source of danger, particularly for India, was noted, arising from the illicit traffic in cocaine from the Far East. A considerable quantity of this cocaine bore Japanese marks of origin and it was admitted by the Japanese delegate that, prior to 1930, when new regulations came into force in Japan, the control of narcotic drugs in that country had not been sufficiently strict. The Japanese delegate explained that, under the new system of control, there would henceforth be a strict supervision in Japan of the trade in narcotic drugs at all stages.

The situation in Persia has for many years caused the Advisory Committee much anxiety. Considerable quantities of Persian opium have recently been illicitly exported into the Far East and the Committee noted with interest a declaration made by the Persian representative on the Council in January 1931, that, under an exclusive concession recently granted by the Persian Monopoly Service for the total export of Persian opium, the holder undertook to submit a certificate from the importing country for each consignment of opium despatched. This arrangement amounts, in fact, to an application of the Geneva Convention.

The Chinese Government enacted new legislation during 1929 amending and supplementing the existing law with a view to introducing a stricter form of control and a national agency for narcotic drugs has been established. The Chinese delegate on the Committee emphasised the necessity of co-operation between China and the other Powers, owing to the enormous quantities of drugs of European and Japanese origin illicitly introduced into China. He submitted principles which in his view should govern co-operation between the Chinese authorities and the Powers which had signed the Hague Opium Convention of 1912 for the suppression of the drug industry in the settlements, concessions and leased territories in China. The Advisory Committee unanimously approved the principle of co-operation between the Chinese Government and the Treaty Powers but was unable to accept the suggestions made by the Chinese Government as presented or to form any definite or final opinion upon them.

The Advisory Committee, after reviewing the illicit seizures and statistics at its disposal, concluded that the suppression of the illicit traffic depended upon three fundamental conditions: adequate legislation, adequate administration to apply that legislation and inter-national co-operation. It requested the Secretariat to study the legislation at present in force in the various countries and ascertain to what extent it was in harmony with the Geneva Convention. It noted that progress had been made on the administrative side, but drew attention to specific defects and indicated how they might in future be remedied. Finally, it urged the necessity of closer co-operation between the authorities of the various countries.

PREPARATION OF THE CONFERENCE ON THE LIMITATION OF THE MANUFACTURE OF NARCOTICS.

The Conference on the Limitation of the Manufacture of Narcotics met in Geneva on May 27th, 1931.

The proposals framed by the Advisory Committee as a basis for the work of the Conference involved extending measures of limitation and control to substances not covered by the Geneva Convention of 1925 and the Secretary-General had accordingly asked the Governments to ensure that their delegates to the Conference should have full powers to discuss the limitation of all derivatives of opium and the coca leaf, as well as the control of the quantities to be limited by the future Convention.

The three fundamental points of the scheme established by the Advisory Committee in 1930 were as follows :

(1) The world manufacture of narcotic drugs should be limited each year to a specific quantity, on the basis of the estimates to be supplied by all countries of the quantities of narcotic drugs required each year for medical and scientific purposes ;

(2) The fraction of this total quantity to be manufactured by each of the manufacturing countries should be fixed in advance by means of agreements concluded between them according to a system of quotas ;

(3) The necessary arrangement should be made to provide each country with supplies of narcotic drugs up to the amounts indicated in its estimates.

A preliminary conference between representatives of the manufacturing countries and of the principal manufacturing firms met in October-November 1930 in London to confer upon the allocation of the quotas of the drugs to be manufactured and upon the arrangements for their distribution among the consuming countries.

The Advisory Committee, in January 1931, devoted the first half of a long session to a detailed examination of the scheme in the light of these preliminary negotiations. Its discussions were based on a draft Convention submitted by the British delegate, which aimed at an objective presentation of the views and decisions reached in London and of the proposals embodied in the scheme which the Advisory Committee had previously approved. It was understood, however, that the acceptance of this draft as a basis did not preclude the simultaneous examination of other schemes and that it was subject to any substantial amendments which might be moved.

The plan met with detailed criticism by representatives of some of the non-manufacturing countries and of countries which had not accepted the quota system as necessarily the most practical and effective method of limitation. The Advisory Committee, in its report to the Council, was careful to indicate that the submission to the Conference of a draft Convention, approved by the majority as basis of discussion, did not exclude the consideration of other proposals and solutions.

ENQUIRY INTO OPIUM-SMOKING IN THE FAR EAST.

The report of the Commission of Enquiry appointed by the Council in March 1929 to undertake a comprehensive review of the facts relating to the control of opium-smoking in the Far East, and the difficulties created for the Government of the Far East by the continued prevalence of the illicit traffic in opium was submitted to the Council in January 1931.

The Commission left Geneva in 1929 and visited Burma, the Straits Settlements, the Federated Malay States, the Dutch East Indies, Siam, the Union of Indo-China and Kwang chow-wan, Hong-kong, Macao, Formosa, Kwantung leased territory, the South Manchuria Railway zone and the Philippine Islands. It received official information regarding the position in the Unfederated Malay States, Sarawak, Brunei and British North Borneo. The Commission thus covered by its enquiry all the territories of the Far East where opium-smoking occurs to an appreciable extent, except China.

The Commission, in its report, reviews the general situation in the Far East with regard to opium-smoking and deals with the main features of the opium policies pursued by the various Governments. It finally concludes against a policy of total prohibition, expressing the view

that it is better for the opium habit to be gradually suppressed by legalising smoking for confirmed addicts and supplying them with Government opium.

THE PERMANENT OPIUM CENTRAL BOARD.

The Permanent Opium Central Board submitted to the Council in January 1931 a report in which, for the first time, it was able to embody definite conclusions and to make definite recommendations as a result of its examination of the statistics submitted to it for 1929. It submitted recommendations with a view to securing more complete and regular statistics from the Governments parties to the Geneva Convention of 1925 and put forward certain suggestions with a view to their consideration by the Conference on the Limitation of the Manufacture of Narcotic Drugs.

PROTECTION AND WELFARE OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE.

THE TRAFFIC IN WOMEN AND CHILDREN.

The Traffic in Women and Children Committee held its tenth session in Geneva, from April 21st to 27th, 1931.

Thirty-six Governments are now parties to the International Convention for the Suppression of the Traffic in Women and Children of 1921. The Committee suggests that all the Governments not Members of the League who have not acceded to the Convention should be asked whether they are prepared to do so.

The successful application of the Convention of 1921 necessarily depends on the efficient organisation and working of the central authorities responsible in the various countries for the co-ordination of all information relating to the traffic and empowered to correspond directly with similar departments established in other countries. The Committee considers that the duties of the central authorities are not sufficiently co-ordinated and not sufficiently uniform. It has therefore suggested that the Governments represented on the Committee should be asked for their observations and suggestions regarding the existing defects of the system and possible remedies.

Twenty-six annual reports were received from the Governments in 1929 on the suppression of traffic in women and children. The Committee has considered these reports, together with those of the voluntary organisations. Among the subjects to which special attention was given by the Committee, was a consideration of the rules to be followed in preparing propaganda films against the traffic, the importance of limiting the validity of passports issued to minors, the employment of women police, the assistance given to deported prostitutes, the protection of music-hall artistes, the abolition of the age-limit, the suppression of obscene publications and the steps taken by the voluntary organisations for protection and relief.

Twenty-six Governments have declared in favour of abolishing the age-limit in the Convention of 1910 as amended by that of 1921. Several Governments, however, have made reservations in regard to this proposal and the Committee will reconsider the question next year.

The Committee has for several years been considering how best to effect the suppression of the *souteneur*. It appointed a legal sub-committee in 1930 which has suggested that a Protocol should be drafted supplementary to the Convention of 1921. The Committee has adopted a preliminary draft Protocol and requested the Council to submit it to Governments Members of the League and signatories of the Convention of 1921 for their observations.

It is provided in the final act of the International Conference for the Suppression of Obscene Publications that the Secretariat of the League should periodically issue a questionnaire on the trade in obscene publications. The Committee framed a questionnaire in 1930 to be sent to the Governments parties to the Convention. Thirty-three Governments have replied to the questionnaire and a very complete collection of the laws on the subject has been obtained.

The Committee has collected further information on the employment of women police as a preventive measure. It is of opinion that definite conclusions would still be premature and that the different countries must be left full latitude in adapting the work of their women police to their own peculiar circumstances. It strongly recommends, however, in view of the results obtained by the employment of women police, that they should be more widely used, and emphasises the effective part which may be played by them in the campaign against the traffic.

The Travelling Commission on Traffic in Women and Children in the Far East is continuing its studies and will present its report in due course.

The International Bureau for the Suppression of the Traffic in Women and Children has submitted to the Advisory Committee a draft Convention for the repatriation of prostitutes. Resolutions protesting against the scheme have, however, been received from thirty-four organisations on the general grounds that it would tend to reintroduce a regulationist system in the countries which have abolished it and would rather facilitate than impede the activities of traffickers. The question has been adjourned, but arrangements have been made to study the whole question of repatriation in the light of the discussions and suggestions put forward

CHILD WELFARE.

The Child Welfare Committee held its seventh session at Geneva from April 14th to April 18th, 1931. It was concerned mainly with the consideration of draft conventions which it has had under preparation for some considerable time and with the study of the organisation and work of the auxiliary services of juvenile courts.

It further amended its preliminary draft Convention for the return of children and young people to their homes, and asked the Council to forward it to all Governments to serve as a model for multilateral or bilateral agreements.

The question was raised at a meeting of the Council on May 15th, 1930, whether the Committee would be well advised to devote further time to its preliminary draft Convention on assistance to foreign minors. It was urged that the question of assistance to foreigners should be considered as a whole and that it was not always easy to make a clear distinction between questions concerning children and questions concerning adults. The Assembly in 1930, however, expressed the view that, while the problem of assistance to foreigners deserved study as a whole, it did not necessarily follow that the Child Welfare Committee should abandon the enquiry to which it had already devoted considerable attention. Some countries have since declared that the Convention is acceptable in its present form; other countries have urged that the question of assistance to foreign minors cannot be dealt with in a satisfactory manner without reference to the families to which they belong. The Committee, feeling that it cannot undertake the study of so extensive a problem without going beyond its competence, now recommends that the Council should set up a special committee, to which experts would be appointed by certain Governments, with a view to preparing a preliminary draft international Convention dealing with the question as a whole.

The Child Welfare Committee in 1930 proposed that an effort should be made to frame international agreements on the recognition and enforcement of maintenance orders abroad. The Council, however, took the view that the question proposed for study went beyond the competence of the Committee, though it saw no objection to the mandate of the Committee being extended to cover it, provided that no objections were raised by the Governments concerned. Seventeen countries have since communicated their views and the Council, in January 1931, asked the Child Welfare Committee to submit a further report on the subject. The Committee recognises that, while the subject has an important bearing on child welfare maintenance orders may benefit adults as well as children. The subject may therefore be outside its competence, and it recommends that the question should be referred to the special Committee to which it proposes to refer the question of assistance to foreign minors.

The Council on May 20th, 1931, approved the recommendations of the Child Welfare Committee. The special committee will be appointed by the Council in September.

The Child Welfare Committee has made further progress with its enquiry into juvenile courts and their auxiliary services and with its enquiry concerning children in moral or social danger and illegitimate children. It has still further developed its system of co-operation with other organisations of the League, such as the International Labour Organisation, the Health Committee and the International Educational Cinematographic Institute.

PENAL ADMINISTRATION.

The Assembly, in 1930, asked the Council to communicate to the Governments States Members and non-members of the League for their consideration a set of standard minimum rules for the treatment of prisoners recently drawn up by the International Prison Commission. The Secretary-General was requested to submit the standard rules to various bodies of the League for their observations and to confer with the representatives of the International

Prison Commission with a view to considering the best way in which the League might assist that Commission in its efforts to secure an improvement in prison administration.

The International Prison Commission has indicated a programme of possible co-operation with the League of Nations, urging that, though the penal systems in force in the various countries are governed by national legislation, which necessarily varies according to circumstances, there are, nevertheless, certain international aspects in regard to which the co-operation of the League might be of the greatest assistance.

REFUGEES.

The Assembly, in 1930, decided that the work on behalf of refugees should be reorganised. The political and legal protection of the refugees remains entrusted to the regular bodies of the League of Nations. The humanitarian side of the work, on the other hand, for which hitherto the High Commissariat has been responsible, will henceforth be entrusted to an international office placed under the authority of the League in accordance with the principles of Article 24 of the Covenant.

The Council, during its session in January 1931, examined and approved the Statutes of the International Office, and, on April 1st, 1931, the Refugees Section of the Secretariat of the League was dissolved and the International Office entered upon its duties.

The Governing Body of the International Office has held two sessions during the period under review. It is preparing a plan for the liquidation of the refugee work by the end of 1939, and has approved the creation of a Nansen Memorial Fund. An appeal on behalf of this fund was issued on April 13th, the first anniversary of the death of Nansen.

INTELLECTUAL CO-OPERATION.

The proposals made by the Committee of Enquiry appointed to study the programme of work and organisation of the Committee on Intellectual Co-operation and of the organisations under its authority were approved by the Assembly in 1930 and have been carried into effect.

The International Committee, as an advisory body of the Council and Assembly, directs the work and supervises the general activity of the Organisation, meeting once a year as a Committee and once a year as a Governing Body of the Institute.

Between the annual sessions of the International Committee an Executive Committee follows and directs the development of intellectual co-operation and carries into effect any decisions which may be taken, while, between the annual sessions of the Governing Body, a Committee of Directors manages the affairs of the Institute. The Executive Committee and the Committee of Directors, which are composed of the same persons, sit simultaneously four times a year in Paris or Geneva.

The Sub-Committees of the International Committee have been suppressed, one of the Sub-Committees, the Sub-Committee for Arts and Letters, being replaced by a permanent committee. The work formerly done by the Sub-Committees is now entrusted to Committees or groups of experts appointed to deal with special subjects.

The International Committee has been partially renewed and the Permanent Committee for Arts and Letters has been duly constituted.

The International Institute of Intellectual Co-operation has adapted its organisation and programme of work to the new scheme. The number of State delegates accredited to the Institute remains at 44.

ENQUIRY INTO THE ORGANISATION OF THE SECRETARIAT, THE INTERNATIONAL LABOUR OFFICE AND THE REGISTRY OF THE PERMANENT COURT OF INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE.

The major part of the conclusions of the Committee of Enquiry appointed by the Assembly in 1929 to prepare a Report on the organisation of the Secretariat, the International Labour Office and the Registry of the Permanent Court of International Justice were approved last year by the Assembly as endorsed or amended by its Fourth Committee. The Secretary-General was requested to amend the Staff Regulations in accordance with these proposals and to take all necessary measures to ensure the application of a staff pensions scheme as from January 1st, 1931.

There were certain questions, however, affecting more particularly the position of the principal officers of the Secretariat, in regard to which the Committee of Enquiry had failed to reach unanimous conclusions, and there were also questions on which the Assembly did not desire at that moment to take a final decision. These questions were referred to a new Committee of Enquiry with instructions to submit a report in due time for examination by States Members of the League of Nations and submission to the Assembly in 1931.

The new Committee of Enquiry met at Geneva from February 2nd to February 5th, 1931, and its conclusions will be presented to the Assembly in September.

VISIT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL TO CERTAIN LATIN-AMERICAN COUNTRIES.

On September 25th, 1930, the Council received a communication from the Government of Uruguay requesting the Secretary-General to take part, as representative of the League of Nations, in the celebration of the first centenary of the independence of Uruguay, which was to be held in Montevideo the following December. The Council authorised the Secretary-General to accept this invitation and also to visit, if he were invited, other Latin-American countries whose capitals were on or near the coast.

The Secretary-General left Geneva on December 3, 1930, and arrived at Montevideo on December 24th. He returned to Geneva on February 16, 1931, having visited — in addition to Montevideo — Rio de Janeiro, Buenos Aires, Santiago de Chile, Lima, Panama and Havana. In all these capitals, the Secretary-General was received by the President and the Minister for Foreign Affairs and, so far as time permitted, met leaders of official and parliamentary, Press and university circles and members of the corps diplomatique.

On May 18th, 1931, the Council took note of a letter from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Uruguay expressing the gratification of the Uruguayan Government and people at having had the opportunity of receiving the Secretary-General at Montevideo. On behalf of the Council, the President expressed its appreciation of this friendly message and also of the warm welcome and generous hospitality accorded to the representative of the League, in the person of the Secretary-General, in Montevideo and in the other Latin-American capitals which he had visited.

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Geneva, September 21th, 1931.

LEAGUE OF NATIONS

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

REPORT SUBMITTED BY THE SIXTH COMMITTEE TO THE ASSEMBLY

Rapporteur : H. E. M. Constantin FOTITCH (Yugoslavia).

The Sixth Committee had under consideration the report of the Governing Body of the Nansen International Office for Refugees, prepared in conformity with the resolution of the eleventh session of the Assembly, and the report of the Inter-Governmental Advisory Commission for Refugees on the work of its fourth session. The Committee also had the great advantage of a detailed statement on the refugee work and on the work of the Office made by Dr. Max Huber, the President of the Governing Body of the Office.

The Committee expresses its gratitude to Dr. Max Huber for having agreed to act as President of the Governing Body of the Office and for the devoted efforts he has applied to his difficult task ; to the Governing Body of the Office and to the Inter-Governmental Advisory Commission for Refugees.

The Committee was gratified to learn from the report of the Governing Body of the Office and from the supplementary statement made by Dr. Max Huber that, in drawing up the plan of liquidation proposed in the report of the Office, the Governing Body had endeavoured to give the maximum possible effect to the suggestion made by the Supervisory Commission that the budget of the Office should be reduced approximately by 10 per cent per annum. The Committee noted that the Governing Body of the Office had taken as a basis for its plan of liquidation the total budget which the League would have been called upon to grant in the event of the budget of the Office being reduced by annual decreases of 10 per cent up to the end of the year 1939. The total cost of the plan of liquidation proposed by the Office does not exceed the sum thus contemplated, but, to achieve that result, the Governing Body has been obliged to propose the termination of the existence of the Office at the end of 1938 instead of on December 31st, 1939, as requested by the eleventh Assembly. In conformity with the recommendation made by the Inter-Governmental Advisory Commission at its first session in 1929, the Office proposes that budgetary reductions should be accentuated during the last five years of its existence and thus enable it during the early period of its work to exert its maximum efforts and accelerate the liquidation of the material side of the refugee problem. Taking into consideration the precarious situation of the refugees, owing to the existing economic conditions, the Committee considers that the proposals of the Office are sound and reasonable.

The liquidation of the Office raises the question of the staff actually employed by the Office. In order to facilitate the liquidation of this staff and to save the payment of any indemnities which that liquidation might involve, the Committee ventures to recommend the Secretary-General of the League and the Director of the International Labour Office to give, as far as possible, preference to the members of the staff of the Office when vacancies occur in their respective organisations.

* * *

The President of the Governing Body of the Office reminded the Committee of the resolution adopted by the tenth Assembly to the effect that the High Commissioner for Refugees should continue to keep in touch with the movement for the transfer of Armenian refugees to the Armenian (Erivan) Republic and to acquaint the Council if and when the High Commission's co-operation might appear to be opportune. The President of the

Governing Body informed the Committee that he had been approached recently by representative and responsible Armenian organisations with the request to facilitate the transfer of some thousands of refugees from Bulgaria and Greece to the Armenian Republic where provision had been made for their settlement. The Committee feels confident that the Office will examine with the greatest attention and interest the opportunities for the settlement of such an important number of refugees, and requests it to obtain and afford all possible facilities for the transfer of those refugees if it is satisfied that such transfer is in their best interests.

* * *

The Committee learned with satisfaction of the progress made towards the solution of the problem of the Armenian refugees in Syria, and noted that, of the 40,000 refugees who were in the refugee camps at Aleppo, Alexandretta and Beirut when the co-operation of the High Commission for Refugees was invited at the end of 1926, 25,000 had been settled. There now remain only 15,000, and steps are contemplated by the Office to ensure their transfer from the refugee camps and their settlement under satisfactory conditions before the end of 1933.

The Committee noted that the report of the Governing Body of the Office, which was prepared after the Office had been in existence for only three months, was necessarily devoted largely to the preparation of a liquidation plan in conformity with the express request of the eleventh Assembly, and to the measures taken for the organisation of the Office. The Committee learned with satisfaction, however, that future reports would deal fully with the various aspects of the refugee problems and with the steps taken and proposed by the Office for their solution, more especially as such information would be very useful to philanthropic organisations in connection with their appeals for funds for relief of the refugees.

Owing to the prevailing economic depression and to the reorganisation of the refugee work, the work of the Office has naturally, during the first months of its existence, been somewhat handicapped. Nevertheless, considerable assistance has been afforded to individual refugees and small groups, to help them to accept employment in various countries, and the Office, within the limits of its exiguous resources, has made grants to refugee organisations to enable them to continue their relief work in favour of the refugees. In this way, it has prevented the closing down of certain organisations whose work for the refugees is extremely useful.

* * *

The Committee listened with interest to a statement made by the Chinese delegate concerning the very difficult situation of about 100,000 Russian refugees in China, and particularly of about 2,000 Russian refugees of German origin who are at present in Harbin. The Committee supported the request made by the Chinese delegate that the Office should examine the possibility of securing the transfer of those refugees to other countries.

* * *

The Committee noted that the funds at the disposal of the Office for its manifold activities in favour of the refugees were at present altogether inadequate. The only revenue at the disposal of the Office for its relief work is that derived from the issue of the Nansen stamp. The revenue from that source amounts at present to a little more than 100,000 Swiss francs per annum and is derived from about 30 per cent of the total number of refugees. If the Governments of the countries offering hospitality to the remaining 70 per cent of the refugees could find it possible to enforce the Nansen stamp system, there is every reason to believe that the revenue from that source would reach at least 300,000 Swiss francs per annum. The Committee therefore urges the interested Governments to consider the possibility of enforcing in their countries the Nansen stamp system.

The Committee learned with very great satisfaction of the efforts made by the signatories to the Nansen memorial appeal to obtain funds for the Office; of the promise to transfer to the Office the balance — approximately 350,000 Swiss francs — of the relief fund administered by Dr. Alexander Nansen on behalf of the late Dr. Nansen; and of the success obtained by the national committees for the appeal formed in Denmark and Great Britain, which had both obtained contributions of 100,000 Swiss francs to the Nansen Memorial Fund. The Committee ventures to recommend that the work of the Office in raising additional funds should be facilitated by the creation in other countries — especially in those which were not already incurring heavy expenditure in favour of the refugees — of national committees for the Nansen Memorial Fund similar to those in Denmark and Great Britain.

* * *

The Committee had under consideration the statement of the Inter-Governmental Advisory Commission for refugees concerning the preparation of a Convention to ensure the protection of the refugees on the liquidation of the Office. As this question is of interest both to the Office and to the Inter-Governmental Advisory Commission, the Committee recommends that those two organisations should examine the advisability of preparing such a Convention.

With reference to the recommendation contained in the report of the Inter-Governmental Advisory Commission that a Belgian delegate should be included among its members, the Committee was very glad to learn that the Belgian Government acquiesced in that view. The Committee therefore recommended that the Belgian Government should be invited to nominate a delegate to the Inter-Governmental Advisory Commission. The Committee also took note of various recommendations in the report of the Inter-Governmental Advisory Commission concerning the definition of the term "refugee"; the validity of the Nansen certificate, the return clause in that certificate, the issue of visas, the renewal and extension of the Nansen certificate, and the expulsion and refusal of entry of refugees. The Committee feels sure that the Assembly will agree that a request should be made to the Council to communicate to the various Governments the recommendations mentioned in the report of the inter-Governmental Advisory Commission.

The Committee ventures to submit, for the approval of the Assembly, the following resolutions :

" The Assembly,

" Recognises the endeavours made by the Governing Body of the Office to comply with the request of the eleventh Assembly to prepare a plan for the liquidation of the Office before the end of 1939, and notes that it has prepared a scheme which gives effect to the suggestion made by the Supervisory Commission that the budget of the Office should be reduced by approximately 10 per cent per annum ;

" Recommends the adoption of the plan of liquidation proposed by the Governing Body and of the Rules of Procedure and Financial and Staff Regulations of the Office.

" With a view to facilitate the liquidation by the Office of its Staff :

" Invites the Secretary-General of the League and the Director of the International Labour Office to accord, as far as possible, a preference to that Staff when vacancies occur in their respective organisations.

" Requests the Governing Body of the Office, in its future reports to the Assembly, to give full information concerning the various aspects of the refugee problems and the measures taken and contemplated by the Office for their solution.

" Having noted proposals made for the transfer to the Armenian (Erivan) Republic of some thousands of Armenian refugees, and bearing in mind the resolution on this subject adopted by the tenth Assembly :

" Invites the Office to examine carefully the possibility of facilitating the transfer of such of those refugees who desire to proceed to the Armenian (Erivan) Republic, if it is satisfied that such transfer is in the best interests of the refugees.

" Requests the Office to devote particular attention to the precarious situation of more than 100,000 Russian refugees in China, with a view to their settlement in employment in other countries.

" Urges the interested Governments which have not already done so to put into full application the Nansen Stamp System ;

" Invites the Governments to encourage and facilitate the creation in their territories of National Committees for the Nansen Memorial Fund.

" Requests the Governing Body of the Office, in consultation with the Inter-Governmental Advisory Commission for Refugees, to consider the advisability of preparing a Convention to ensure the protection of the refugees on the liquidation of the Office.

" Recommends that the Belgian Government be invited to nominate a delegate to the Inter-Governmental Advisory Commission for Refugees ;

" Requests the Council to communicate to the Governments the recommendations adopted by the Inter-Governmental Advisory Commission for Refugees at its fourth session concerning certain facilities for the refugees. "

Geneva, September 25th, 1931.

LEAGUE OF NATIONS

**FINANCIAL QUESTIONS :
CONSTRUCTION OF THE NEW BUILDINGS**

REPORT OF THE FOURTH COMMITTEE TO THE ASSEMBLY

Rapporteur : M. E. C. BOHEMAN (Sweden).

I.

The Supervisory Commission laid before the Fourth Committee a special paper on the subject of the new buildings dealing with a report addressed by the Building Committee to the Secretary-General on September 18th, 1931, and transmitted by him immediately to the Supervisory Commission for consideration. In this report, the Building Committee warned the Secretary-General that the estimates approved by the Assembly in 1930 would probably be exceeded by seven to eight million francs. In face of this serious situation, the Supervisory Commission considered it essential to consult the Fourth Committee immediately.

It will perhaps be convenient to summarise briefly here the different stages which led to the adoption of the estimates for the construction of the new buildings by the Assembly of 1930.

The Assembly in 1927 approved the first report of the Special Committee of Five¹ concerning the new buildings and agreed in principle that the sum to be expended should be increased to approximately 19,500,000 francs.

In 1928, difficulties arose in regard to the lakeside site and the Assembly of that year approved the choice of the Ariana Park as the site for the new buildings.

A revised draft plan for the new site was approved by the Council in June 1929. This draft plan was accompanied by an estimate based on an average price per cubic metre, which put the cost of the buildings at 17,681,061 francs, leaving a margin of approximately 1,800,000 francs on the provisional credit of 19,500,000 francs. The architects stated that this sum would suffice for a modest layout of the grounds around the buildings, but that it would be insufficient to cover the cost of the arrangement of the park as shown in the plan, particularly the monumental terraces in front of the Assembly Hall facing the lake.

The Committee of Five instructed the architects to prepare an estimate of the cost of this latter work before the Assembly of 1929.

In the report of the Committee of Five to the Assembly of that year (document A 58. 1929) it was pointed out that the new site in the Ariana Park would involve much heavier expenditure on external work than the lakeside site and that the cost of erecting the buildings themselves would also be increased to some extent.

In view of these facts, and on the basis of further information furnished by the architects, the Committee of Five informed the Assembly that there was reason to fear that the rough estimate of cost presented by the architects with the draft plans approved by the Council in June 1929 would have to be increased by 10 to 15 per cent and that the cost of the supplementary external work mentioned above would amount to 1,500,000 francs in round figures.

¹ M. Adatci, M. Osuský, M. Politis, M. Urrutia and Sir Edward Hilton-Young.

The architects then proceeded with the preparation of their final plans and detailed estimates, and these were presented in June 1930. The total estimate for the Assembly Hall, Secretariat building and external work amounted to 23,633,150 francs, including architects' fees, office expenses and a margin of 759,555 francs for unforeseen expenditure. The cost of the new Library building, which is to be met out of the Rockefeller grant, was estimated at 4,250,000 francs. The plans and estimates were first submitted to the Building Committee for examination and a report was prepared by this Committee for the guidance of the Committee of Five.

The Building Committee stated that its technical members had proposed, as the margin for unforeseen expenditure was in their opinion inadequate, that the estimates should be increased by 5 per cent.

The architects replied that in addition to the sum of 759,555 francs, a certain margin was allowed under each heading of the estimates for unforeseen expenditure. They stated further that the estimates had been drawn up on a well-defined technical basis, and were founded on current prices at Geneva, liberally calculated, so that considerable reductions might safely be counted upon when tenders were received for the work. Moreover, the estimates had not taken into account the freedom from import duties enjoyed by the League of Nations, and the economies under this head would still further increase the margin available for unforeseen expenditure. In view of these considerations put forward by the architects, the Building Committee finally decided to adopt the estimates as they stood.

The Committee of Five, after careful consideration of all these points, also decided to accept the architects' estimates, and in its report to the Assembly (document A.55.1930) recommended that the Assembly should approve the detailed estimates for the Assembly Hall and Secretariat Building amounting to 23,633,150 francs and for the Library to 4,250,000 francs.

In making this recommendation, the Committee of Five reminded the Assembly that the architects had allowed for a very simple style of construction and decoration and even quoted the passage which occurred in its preceding report, which reads as follows :

“ It should be added that the rough estimate furnished by the architects for the building proper refers to a simple construction. On this point the architects state in this report which accompanied their plan :

“ ‘ We desire to state clearly that our provisions are based upon a very simple treatment of the buildings as a whole and in detail. That is imposed by the funds available, which certainly do not altogether correspond to the size and the character of the buildings as laid down in the programme. ’

“ The architects stated that the funds available would in any case be insufficient for really imposing buildings ; but the Committee believes that it has always been the Assembly's intention to have buildings worthy of the League, but simple in outline and unpretentious. It should be pointed out that no funds have been provided either for works of art or for rich decorative materials. ”

This report of the Committee of Five having been approved by the Assembly on October 3rd, 1930, the basis of the scheme could be considered as definitely settled.

In February 1931, the Secretary-General notified the Supervisory Commission that the estimates had been exceeded by 178,000 francs on the work of levelling, and by 50,000 francs for drainage. It was noted, moreover, that the necessity of a special system of drainage of the subsoil had not been provided for in the architects' estimates.

With regard to the overspending on the levelling work, the architects indicated that this was in part due to the lowering of the levels fixed for the buildings, but that this would be compensated by a reduction in the cubic content of the buildings which the lower levels would permit.

Subsequently, during the excavations, further difficulties due to the nature of the subsoil necessitated the enlargement and reinforcement of the foundations to an appreciable degree, which resulted in further unforeseen expenditure.

Seriously concerned by this continued overspending, the Building Committee instructed the architects during the summer 1931 to revise completely the estimates presented to the Assembly in 1930. This revised estimate, which the architects were unable to submit to the Building Committee until September 9th, 1931, showed an increase of 2,771,845 francs over the 1930 estimates for the Assembly Hall and Secretariat, the estimate for the Library remaining unchanged.

The additional expenditure on the foundations accounted for about 1,200,000 francs, and the balance was caused by a slight increase in the cubic contents of the buildings and certain increases in various chapters of the estimate.

The Building Committee observed with some surprise that the revised estimates included no margin for unforeseen expenditure and that in order to reduce if possible the increase on the credit already voted, the architects were contemplating certain economies which were scarcely acceptable, such as the use of artificial stone instead of natural stone in some part of the façade. The Building Committee therefore requested the architects to revise their calculations once again and to take fully into account all the accessory work necessary for the completion of the buildings.

Pending this further revision of the estimates, and before communicating the papers to the Supervisory Commission, the Building Committee asked its technical members for an approximate estimate of the final cost of the buildings. The technical members, while pointing out that it was impossible to make anything like an exact estimate at such short notice and without going into all the details, replied that it was their impression that the 1930 estimates would ultimately be exceeded by a sum in the neighbourhood of seven or eight million francs for the Assembly Hall and Secretariat¹. The estimates for the Library they thought might be exceeded by some 1,750,000 francs.

Following upon discussions that took place on this subject between the technical members of the Building Committee and the architects, the latter addressed to the Building Committee two letters dated September 15th and 17th, both of which modify the figures of the revised estimates submitted on September 9th, 1931.

In one of these letters the architects agreed that a margin of 10 per cent on the revised estimate would be prudent, and reiterated their previous statement as to the simple and economic lines on which their scheme was prepared. In the second letter, the architects stated that provisions for certain fittings and external work which the Building Committee had pointed out were not included in the revised estimate, would still further increase the total sum required.

The architects, at the invitation of the Building Committee, also suggested certain ways in which expenditure on the buildings might be cut down if absolutely necessary, with a view to avoid exceeding the credit already voted by the Assembly in 1930. It may be stated at once that these suggestions were not such as could be entertained.

The following table gives a comparison between the figures of the 1930 estimate, those of the revised estimate of September 9th, 1931, and those which result from the two above-mentioned letters from the architects :

	Swiss francs
<i>1930 Estimate (see document A.55.1930).</i>	
Assembly Hall, Secretariat and outside work (including fees and office expenses)	23,633,150
Library (including fees and office expenses)	4,250,000
<i>Estimate of September 9th, 1931.</i>	
Assembly Hall, Secretariat and outside work (including fees and office expenses)	26,404,995
Library (including fees and office expenses)	4,250,000
<i>Letter of September 15th, 1931.</i>	
Assembly Hall, Secretariat and outside work (including fees and office expenses)	28,748,941
Library (including fees and office expenses)	4,671,640
<i>Letter of September 17th, 1931.</i>	
Assembly Hall, Secretariat and outside work (including fees and office expenses)	29,925,494
Library (including fees and office expenses)	5,389,998

It is only fair to add that the architects, when questioned by the Supervisory Commission, stated that the approximate estimate of an increase amounting to seven or eight million francs emanated from the Building Committee and not from them, and that they maintained the figures of their revised estimate of September 9th, 1931, which showed an increase over the 1930 figures of 2,771,845 francs. Their two letters to which reference has been made in this report were written in reply to certain questions put to them by the Building Committee, and they regarded the further increases mentioned therein as destined to provide a margin of security and provision for certain work which need not necessarily be executed at the present time.

II.

The Fourth Committee were fully alive to the seriousness of the situation, which might even bring prejudice upon the prestige of the League. A very full and frank discussion took place, in the course of which the necessity for prompt and energetic action was strongly emphasised, in order to put the building operations on a sound basis. Various solutions were examined, even the advisability of suspending the work until the present uncertainties were cleared up.

¹ To make this estimate of the excess complete, it should be mentioned that, under the head of accessory expenditure (meetings of the Building Committee, staff salaries, printing expenses, etc.), provision must be made for an additional amount of something in the neighbourhood of 800,000 francs (see document C.C.478).

The difficulties arising out of the fact that the work is entrusted to an association of five architects were also considered, and various means of establishing unity of direction were examined, including the revision or cancellation of the architects' contract. The Fourth Committee finally came to the conclusion that it had neither the technical and legal competence nor, at this late stage, the time necessary to go fully into the matter. It therefore decided that the question should be referred to a Committee of Enquiry, enjoying the full confidence of the Assembly, to review the whole situation and, after having obtained the necessary technical and legal advice, to propose the necessary action. This Committee should be granted the fullest liberty, but would have to bear in mind the necessity, in principle, of remaining within the limits of the credits already voted. The Supervisory Commission, already requested by the Assembly of 1930 to deal with all financial questions in connection with the new buildings, was, in the opinion of the Fourth Committee, eminently qualified to undertake this task. In order to save time it was further decided to recommend that the same procedure which was followed in the case of the reports of the Special Committee of Five should be again adopted, and that the report of the Supervisory Commission should be submitted for approval and ratification to the Council of the League. The Fourth Committee therefore ventures to submit for the approval of the Assembly the following resolution :

“ The Assembly,

“ Having noted the report of the Fourth Committee on the question of the new buildings ;

“ Painfully surprised at the information furnished to the Fourth Committee by the Supervisory Commission, to the effect that it is feared that the estimate approved by the Assembly at its eleventh ordinary session may be exceeded by from seven to eight million Swiss francs unless the situation is taken in hand :

“ Declares that it is resolved in principle to keep within the estimate adopted last year ; and

“ Instructs the Supervisory Commission, after having obtained the necessary technical and legal advice and without excluding the possibility of reconsidering the contract concluded with the architects, to submit to the Council for approval as soon as possible a programme which will comply, under the best possible conditions, with the above decision.”
