

Geneva, September 3rd, 1928.

LEAGUE OF NATIONS

**Traffic in Opium and Other Dangerous Drugs.
CONTROL OF OPIUM-SMOKING IN THE FAR EAST.**

**PROPOSAL BY THE GOVERNMENT OF GREAT BRITAIN
FOR A COMMISSION OF ENQUIRY**

Note by the Secretary-General:

In accordance with the decision taken by the Council at its meeting on August 31st, 1928, the Secretary-General has the honour to communicate the following documents to the Assembly:

1. Letter and Memorandum respecting the Control of Opium-Smoking in the Far East, with Appendix. (Communicated by the British Government.)
2. Extract from the Minutes of the Council, August 31st, 1928.

I.

LETTER FROM THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT, DATED AUGUST 1ST, 1928, TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS.

I am directed by Secretary Sir Austen Chamberlain to enclose a copy of a memorandum respecting the control of opium-smoking in the Far East, which has been prepared by His Majesty's Government in Great Britain. I am to request that copies of this memorandum may be communicated to all Members of the Council and that the question may be placed upon the agenda of the forthcoming session of the Council in September.

2. The French, Japanese, Netherlands, Portuguese and Siamese Governments, as signatories of the Geneva Opium Agreement of 1925, have been invited to associate themselves with the proposal put forward in the last paragraph of the memorandum.

(Signed) George MOUNSEY.

II.

MEMORANDUM RESPECTING THE CONTROL OF OPIUM-SMOKING IN THE FAR EAST.

By Article 6 in Chapter II of the International Opium Convention, 1912, the contracting Powers undertook to:

“ Take measures for the gradual and effective suppression of the manufacture of, internal trade in, and use of prepared opium, with due regard to the varying circumstances of each country concerned, unless regulations on the subject are already in existence. ”

2. In 1923, the League of Nations Opium Advisory Committee reviewed the progress which had been made in carrying out this undertaking, and came to the conclusion that the measures which had been adopted had met with a considerable measure of success, but that the maximum effect of these measures appeared to have been reached and that the position as to the reduction of the consumption of prepared opium had become stationary. The Committee accordingly recommended that the Powers concerned should meet and consider the possibility of taking in concert further measures to secure the more effective application of Chapter II of the Hague Convention.

3. The recommendation of the Advisory Committee was adopted by the Assembly in September 1923, and representatives of the Powers having territories in the Far East in which opium-smoking was still permitted met at Geneva in the First Opium Conference in November 1924. A draft Agreement was prepared prescribing certain measures, mainly of an administrative character.

4. Before, however, the First Opium Conference had concluded its labours, the Second Conference met, and the United States delegate gave notice of a motion to present for the consideration of the Conference and for reference to an appropriate committee certain proposals. These proposals were to the effect that each of the Far-Eastern Powers should agree to reduce its imports of opium for smoking by 10 per cent annually, starting from the date of ratification of the Convention, and not to "supplement the reduction by domestically produced opium", so that at the end of ten years the use — or, rather, the legal use — of opium for smoking in the Far-Eastern territories would be ended.

5. The discussions which took place on these proposals are on record, and it will be sufficient for the purpose of this memorandum to recall that, while the Powers concerned recognised the value of the principle of suppression within a definite period, they were unable to bind themselves by an undertaking of this nature.

6. The obstacle to the adoption of the United States proposal was the fact that, in spite of their efforts to combat it, the prevalence of the smuggling of opium into their territories, mainly as a result of the recrudescence of the growth of the opium poppy in China, had become a serious obstacle to the effective enforcement of the measures of control which had already been adopted.

7. The Powers concerned accordingly felt that circumstances beyond their control rendered it impossible for them to undertake to bring about the complete suppression of opium-smoking in their Far-Eastern territories within any fixed period of time. By a Protocol appended to the Agreement adopted by the First Conference, the Powers undertook, however, to suppress the consumption of prepared opium in these territories within a period of fifteen years from the date, as determined by a League of Nations commission, when the smuggling of opium from the producing countries ceases to be a serious obstacle to the enforcement of restrictive measures.

8. At the same time, a Protocol was appended to the Convention concluded at the Second Conference, by which the signatory States agreed to "take such measures as may be required to prevent completely, within five years from the present date, the smuggling of opium from constituting a serious obstacle to the effective suppression of the use of prepared opium in those territories where such use is temporarily authorised".

9. So far, however, from the situation adumbrated in this Protocol having been realised, the situation in regard to the smuggling of opium in the Far East has materially deteriorated. At the present time, there are no signs that the situation is likely to improve. Consequently, the prospects of the undertaking in the First Conference Protocol coming into effective operation have receded indefinitely.

10. The amount of opium smuggled into the British dependencies in the Far East has greatly increased in spite of the increased efforts on the part of the preventive staff to combat it, and has seriously embarrassed the Governments of those territories. His Majesty's Government in Great Britain also understand, from information received from the Government of India, that there is a considerable amount of Chinese opium smuggled into Burma.

11. In Malaya, the Governments have been faced by an increase in the consumption of Government prepared opium, as a result of the general improvement of trade which has taken place in the past few years, which has naturally been attended by an increase in the purchasing power of the individual and also by a great increase in the numbers of Chinese attracted to the country. This increase in consumption has been the occasion of great concern to His Majesty's Government in Great Britain, who have given the most careful consideration to the problem. The measures arising out of the agreement of 1925 are being steadily pursued, but His Majesty's Government have been forced to the conclusion that, so long as the smuggling of such large quantities of illicit opium into the country continues, no further measures beyond those already in hand can be devised which would be likely to lead to an effective diminution in consumption.

12. In Hong-Kong, the situation is even more serious. In October last, the Governor reported that, in his view, the situation could only again be brought under control by a radical modification of the policy hitherto followed in the Colony of selling Government opium at a very high price (as a deterrent to purchasers) and strictly enforcing the laws prohibiting the possession of any but Government opium. The Colony is inundated with smuggled opium, which can be bought at a fraction of the price of Government opium, and wholesale prosecutions and convictions have failed to stem the tide. The gaols of the Colony are crowded to overflowing, the native police and preventive staff are open to the most serious temptations, and the good government of the Colony is seriously endangered by the flagrant breaches of the anti-opium laws.

13. In the view of the Governor, the only effective method of regaining control of the situation was by drastically reducing the price of Government opium with a view to driving the smugglers off the market. To this end, as an experiment, new brands of Government opium were placed

on sale at much reduced prices. These were designed to compete with those of definite brands of smuggled opium after making due allowance for the risks attendant on the possession of illicit opium. The immediate effect of this measure was that the sales of Government opium increased from 500 to 2,000 taels a day. These figures afford some indication of the extent to which the use of cheap illicit opium had become prevalent.

14. The stocks of opium held by the Government and the restricted supplies of Indian opium which the Government could expect to receive were, however, inadequate to meet this increased demand, and the Governor applied to His Majesty's Government for permission to supplement his supplies by buying Persian opium in order that the experiment might have a fair trial. This request was most carefully considered by His Majesty's Government, who were deeply concerned at the embarrassments under which the Colonial Government were labouring. While, however, they were in entire sympathy with the desire of the Governor that as great a proportion as possible of the sale of opium should be under Government control (which is in strict accordance with the spirit of the Geneva Opium Agreement, 1925), and while they see no reason to doubt the view of the Governor that the increased sales of Government opium did not imply any increase in total consumption, His Majesty's Government did not feel that these considerations alone, unaccompanied by any certainty that the experiment would, in fact, lead to a reduction in the total amount of opium smoked in the Colony, were sufficient to justify their sanctioning the importation of Persian opium for the purpose of continuing the experiment.

15. In the meantime, the smuggling of immense quantities of illicit opium into the Colony continues to give grounds for the most serious concern. His Majesty's Government in Great Britain have accordingly thought it desirable that the difficulties which confront the Governments of the British dependencies in the Far East in regard to the execution of their obligations under Chapter II of the Hague Convention, and for which they have not been able to find a solution, should be brought to the notice of the Council of the League of Nations.

16. In accordance with Article 12 of the Geneva Opium Agreement 1925, a further conference of the Powers concerned is to take place not later than in 1929. Being, as indicated in this memorandum, acutely aware of the difficulties created by the continued, and indeed the increasing, prevalence of the smuggling of opium not only into their dependencies, but also into the Far Eastern territories of other Powers, His Majesty's Government fear that the next conference will be confronted by an exceedingly difficult, and in many respects invidious, task. They also have in mind the acute controversies and widespread misapprehensions which arose in connection with the conferences held in the winter of 1924-25.

17. His Majesty's Government feel that it would be of great assistance to the next conference if its deliberations could be based on a comprehensive review of the facts of the situation in the Far East, prepared by a body of able and impartial persons, whose report would also be accepted as authoritative by the world at large. His Majesty's Government feel, moreover, that such an investigation would be most helpful to them in their endeavours to carry out their international obligations in the difficult circumstances described in this memorandum. They accordingly propose that the Council of the League of Nations should send a small commission, so constituted, to the Far East to study the problems on the spot.

Appendix.

The following tables give some indication of the extent of the illicit opium traffic in the British territories in the Far East.

I. Seizures of Opium: Hong-Kong.

(A.) TOTAL SEIZURES.

(Note. — 1 tael (or tahl) = 1 $\frac{1}{3}$ ounce.)

	Number	Taels		Number	Taels
1918	352	72,000	1923	1,868	300,567
1919	387	49,967	1924	2,691	62,163
1920	547	132,258	1925	2,880	62,982
1921	1,865	167,536	1926	2,331	60,208
1922	1,386	75,503	1927	2,261	48,921

(B.) DETAILS OF SEIZURES.

Year	Raw Opium				Prepared Opium				Totals			
	Chinese		Other		Chinese		Other		Chinese		Other	
	Number	Quantity	Number	Quantity	Number	Quantity	Number	Quantity	Number	Quantity	Number	Quantity
		Taels.		Taels.		Taels.		Taels.		Taels.		Taels.
1918	—	—	66	40,277	—	—	286	31,723	—	—	352	72,000
1919	2	1,558	61	19,178	44	6,088	280	23,143	46	7,646	341	42,321
1920	31	8,828	38	13,441	247	100,911	231	9,078	278	109,739	269	22,519
1921	272	102,960	16	31,404	365	22,537	1,212	10,635	637	125,497	1,228	42,039
1922	145	15,347	34	41,967	572	4,040	635	14,149	717	19,387	669	56,116
1923	240	38,146	28	246,067	962	8,362	638	7,992	1,202	46,508	666	254,059
1924	232	19,018	8	10,013	1,623	21,406	828	11,726	1,855	40,424	836	21,739
1925	189	15,548	18	1,023	1,888	35,679	785	10,732	2,077	51,227	803	11,755
1926	177	15,086	10	5,526	1,680	28,302	464	11,294	1,857	43,388	474	16,820
1927	174	20,745	5	3,718	1,989	20,307	93	4,151	2,163	41,052	98	7,869

II. *Consumption of Opium: Hong-Kong.*

	Prepared Opium Sold Tael	Per head Tael		Prepared Opium Sold Tael	Per head Tael
1918	639,684	1.10	1923	384,124	0.38
1919	457,968	0.76	1924	351,560	0.35
1920	294,376	0.46	1925	233,495	0.23
1921	262,805	0.39	1926	195,224	0.195
1922	370,332	0.52	1927	292,830	0.30

Price of Government opium has remained at 14.50 dollars per tael since 1918, except during the period October 3rd, 1927, to December 31st, 1927, during which three different brands of Government opium were sold experimentally at 15 dollars, 8.33 dollars and 6.66 dollars per tael. (At present rates of exchange, 1 dollar = 2s. approximately.)

III. *Offences under Opium Ordinance: Hong-Kong.*

	Number of Cases	Persons convicted		Number of Cases	Persons convicted
1918	307	411	1923	2,775	3,510
1919	314	686	1924	5,019	6,167
1920	452	875	1925	4,407	5,835
1921	2,147	3,040	1926	4,644	6,428
1922	1,879	2,396	1927	5,114	6,726

IV. *Seizures of Opium: Straits Settlements.*

	Raw. Tael.	Prepared. Tael.	Total. Tael.
1918	52,811	15,028	67,839
1919	15,219	8,419	23,638
1920	12,154	5,087	17,241
1921	4,462	6,723	11,185
1922	5,398	3,732	9,130
1923	6,887	29,438	36,325
1924	12,613	90,539	103,152
1925	36,656	275,089	311,745
1926	18,602	170,014	188,616
1927	6,200	183,115	189,315

Notes.

1. Seizures are occasionally made in the Malay States, but they are negligible in quantity.
2. Although exact figures are not available, all but a very small percentage of the opium seized is of Chinese origin.

V. *Opium Offences in Burma.*

Cases of smuggling and illicit possession, in which the opium was probably Chinese:

	Number of persons convicted.	Total amount of Opium seized. Equivalent, in tael	
		Seers.	(approx.)
1920-21	962	1,284	31,700
1921-22	1,021	1,127	27,800
1922-23	1,028	1,052	26,000
1923-24	1,087	1,677	41,400
1924-25	1,007	2,441	60,250
1925-26	1,075	3,020	74,550
1926-27	1,221	2,580	63,700

2. The general expenses arising out of the working of the Commission shall be divided in the same way.

Article 18.

1. The task of the Conciliation Commission shall be to elucidate the questions in dispute, to collect with that object all necessary information by means of enquiry or otherwise, and to endeavour to bring the parties to an agreement. It may, after the case has been examined, inform the parties of the terms of settlement which seem suitable to it, and lay down the period within which they are to make their decision.

2. At the close of its proceedings, the Commission shall draw up a procès-verbal stating, as the case may be, either that the parties have come to an agreement, and, if need arises, the terms of the agreement, or that it has been impossible to effect a settlement. No mention shall be made in the procès-verbal of whether the Commission's decisions were taken by a majority vote.

3. The proceedings of the Commission must, unless the parties otherwise agree, be terminated within six months from the day on which the Commission shall have been notified of the dispute.

Article 19.

The Commission's procès-verbal shall be communicated without delay to the parties. The parties shall decide whether it shall be published.

Article 20.

1. In all cases, and particularly if the question on which the parties differ arises out of acts already committed or on the point of being committed, the Conciliation Commission, when given cognisance of the dispute, may recommend to the parties the adoption of such provisional measures as it may consider desirable.

2. The parties to the dispute undertake to abstain from all measures likely to react prejudicially upon the arrangements proposed by the Conciliation Commission, and in general to abstain from any sort of action whatsoever which may aggravate or extend the dispute.

Article 21.

1. The present Convention shall be applicable as between the High Contracting Parties, even though a third Power has an interest in the dispute.

2. The parties may agree to invite such third Power to intervene.

Article 1.

Article 22.

Disputes relating to the interpretation or application of the present Convention, including those concerning the classification of disputes (. . . .²) shall be submitted to the Permanent Court of International Justice.

Article 23.

The present Convention, which is in conformity with the Covenant of the League of Nations, shall not be interpreted as restricting the duty of the League to take, at any time and notwithstanding any conciliation or arbitration procedure, whatever action may be deemed wise and effectual to safeguard the peace of the world.

Article 24.

1. The present Convention shall be ratified and the exchange of ratifications shall take place at

It shall be registered at the Secretariat of the League of Nations.

2. The Convention shall be concluded for a period of five years dating from the exchange of ratifications.

3. If it has not been denounced at least six months before the expiration of this period, it shall remain in force for further successive periods of five years.

¹ States desiring to introduce reservations might insert here two articles based on Articles 23 and 24 of General Convention C, printed below:

Article 23.

1. In acceding to the present Convention, any country may make its acceptance conditional upon the reservations exhaustively enumerated in the following paragraph. These reservations must be indicated at the time of accession.

2. These reservations may be such as to exclude from the obligations laid down in the present Convention:

(a) Disputes arising out of facts prior to the accession;

(b) Disputes concerning questions which by international law are solely within the domestic jurisdiction of States;

(c) Disputes concerning questions which affect the principles of the Constitution of the State;

(d) Disputes concerning particular clearly specified subject-matters, such as territorial status.

3. If one of the parties to the dispute has made a reservation, the other parties may enforce the same reservation in regard to that party.

Article 24.

Whenever, as a result of these reservations, the conciliation procedure is impossible, or when, in spite of this procedure, the parties have been unable to agree, the dispute remains subject to be dealt with in accordance with the provisions of Article 15 or Article 17 of the Covenant of the League of Nations, as the case may be.

² If the Convention contains reservations, it would be convenient to add "and the scope of reservations".

Extract from the Minutes of the Council, August 31st, 1928.

TRAFFIC IN OPIUM AND OTHER DANGEROUS DRUGS : CONTROL OF OPIUM-SMOKING
IN THE FAR EAST : PROPOSAL BY THE GOVERNMENT OF GREAT BRITAIN FOR A
COMMISSION OF ENQUIRY.

The PRESIDENT noted that the Portuguese representative, who had been invited to be present at the examination of this question, was absent¹.

The following letter from the Siamese Government was read:

" I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of to-day's date inviting me to attend the meeting of the Council at which will be discussed the proposal of the British Government for a Commission of Enquiry into the Control of Opium-Smoking in the Far East.

" I had hoped to be well enough to attend this meeting but unfortunately my hopes were not realised, the journey from Paris having over-fatigued me. I therefore very much regret that I shall not be able to attend this meeting and shall be much obliged if you will be good enough to express my regret to the President and Members of the Council.

" I am in a position to inform you that His Majesty's Government fully supports the proposal of the British Government, to which has been made known the view of my Government. Needless to say, His Majesty's Government will be very glad to extend its hospitality to any Commission of Enquiry sent out by the League and will give every facility for the carrying out of its work in Siam.

(Signed) CHAROON."

Mr. Mackenzie KING reminded members of the Council that they had before them a memorandum respecting the control of opium-smoking in the Far East communicated by the British Government (document C.386.1928.XI).

This memorandum gave the necessary information with regard to the general nature of the proposal, but the Rapporteur thought that the representative of His Majesty's Government of Great Britain would desire to discuss the proposal of his Government.

After hearing the views of his colleagues on this matter, Mr. Mackenzie King would be glad, if necessary, to move a resolution. Since this was a matter which would affect the budget of the League, he assumed that the Council would wish to refer it to the Assembly for its consideration.

Lord CUSHENDUN desired first to acknowledge, on behalf of the British Government, the courtesy of the letter which had just been read from the Government of Siam, and to tender its thanks for the support which the Siamese Government had promised to the proposal.

He did not think it necessary to go into the details of the history of the matter which had given rise to the British Government's proposal. The Council was well aware that, under the Hague Convention of 1912, the British and other Governments were pledged to take measures for the gradual and effective suppression of the manufacture of, internal trade in and use of prepared opium. From time to time, since that year, efforts had been made to carry out this undertaking, but, in the circumstances existing in the Far East, which were known to all the world — unhappy circumstances in many respects — very great difficulties had been experienced by His Majesty's Government, especially in Hong-Kong, in effecting the gradual suppression of this traffic. In Hong-Kong, in fact, which was close to a country like China, where conditions were disturbed and where enormous quantities of opium could be produced, it had proved impossible to prevent illicit traffic. Those who had followed events in another part of the world, and who had seen the enormous efforts which had had to be made by the United States to prevent illicit traffic in alcohol, would appreciate how infinitely more difficult it was for the Government of a small colony like Hong-Kong to prevent illicit traffic in a commodity like opium, which was so much more easily smuggled than alcohol.

It was in view of these circumstances that His Majesty's Government thought that it would be desirable for the League of Nations to appoint a Commission to go to the Far East to examine the conditions independently and impartially, and to report as to the facts and the difficulties of carrying out this undertaking. The Commission would no doubt offer advice as to how those difficulties could be overcome.

He would add that there were two considerations which should be mentioned. The first was that, if the League of Nations accepted — as he had every confidence that it would — the British Government's proposal, it would be a proof of the great usefulness of the machinery of the League to all nations when they found themselves confronted by such a difficulty as that just mentioned. Secondly, Lord Cushendun hoped it would be taken as a proof of the extreme confidence which the British Government reposed in the League that it should be willing to hand over, as it were, to a completely impartial and disinterested body like the League of Nations the examination of and report upon a matter which touched very vast commercial and material interests in Great Britain and the British Empire.

Such action showed, he hoped, that the efforts which the British Government had made hitherto unsuccessfully to stop this illicit traffic had been entirely sincere; otherwise it would be laying itself open to an exposure by the examination of the matter by an impartial body. It showed

¹ The absence of the representative of Portugal, who was invited to be present, was due to a misunderstanding as to his address.

that the British Government was quite confident that any report that might be made on what had taken place since 1912 would be of assistance to it in carrying out its international undertakings, and it would at the same time establish the complete *bona fides* of that Government's efforts. For that reason, he hoped very much that the proposal put forward would be acceptable to the Council, and he therefore seconded the proposal of his colleague, the Prime Minister of Canada, that the matter should be referred to the Assembly for action.

M. ADATCI said that he had followed closely the clear statement of the representative of the British Empire, with whom he was in agreement on all points. He wished, however, to explain his Government's position in this matter.

Some time ago, the Japanese Government had very carefully examined the British Government's proposal. After close scrutiny, it had notified the British Government that it was in favour of the proposal, and that it was prepared to receive this Commission in those parts of its territory concerned. The Japanese Government would receive it with all the honour due to a Commission of the League.

Moreover, the Japanese Government considered that it was its duty to do all in its power to contribute to the success of this splendid undertaking. The more complete the Commission's enquiry, the more successful would be the work. In view of this legitimate preoccupation, the Japanese Government would propose to the Council that the Commission's enquiry should cover all the territories in which it might be made with advantage. The Japanese Government would therefore be most happy if all Far Eastern countries and India were to give a favourable reception to the Commission's useful enterprise. It was the keen desire of his Government, which was anxious for the success of this pre-eminently humanitarian work, that other countries, including China and India, should willingly give as favourable support as his own.

M. Adatci said that it was his earnest hope that the Japanese Government's proposal would be favourably received by the Council. He would add that, of course, he entirely agreed with the Prime Minister of Canada that this question should be examined from all points of view if a satisfactory solution were to be found. It was for the Assembly and its Committees to study the proposal in detail.

M. PAUL-BONCOUR said that his Government had already informed the British Government that it highly appreciated the desire shown by the latter that the League should be asked to set up the necessary instrument for the fulfilment of its international obligations. If, therefore, a decision were taken in conformity with the desire expressed by the British Government, France would do all in her power to ensure that in Indo-China the Commission would be afforded every facility for its investigations, together with the assistance of the local authorities. As, however, the Japanese representative had said, and as the French Government had already intimated to the British Government, M. Paul-Boncour thought that, for the fulfilment of the task that had been so clearly defined by Lord Cushendun, the enquiry should extend to all opium-producing countries without exception, and not only to the signatories of the 1925 Agreement.

Lord Cushendun had drawn special attention to the importance of the production of opium in that immense country, China—to cite only a single example—as regards the question under consideration; obviously, any enquiry which did not include that country would be futile. As, however, there could be no question of deciding on an enquiry without the consent of the Governments concerned, the French Government thought that the points to be laid before the Assembly for its appreciation should include the opinion of the Governments of the opium-producing countries, which were, like all the other countries, to form the subject of an enquiry with which the French Government wholeheartedly associated itself, subject to the above reservation.

M. BEELAERTS VAN BLOKLAND said that the Netherlands Government had considered the British Government's proposal with great interest. The interest of the Netherlands Government was increased by the fact that in its colonies it had to combat difficulties similar to those encountered by the British Government in its colonial administration.

For this reason the Netherlands Government was quite prepared, if the proposal were adopted, to invite the Commission which would be set up to visit all those parts of the Netherlands colonial territories which might be concerned. M. Beelaerts van Blokland wished merely to add that, in his Government's view, the enquiry could only produce fully satisfactory results if it extended to all countries in the Far East. The French representative had referred to the producing countries. M. Beelaerts van Blokland suggested that the enquiry should extend not only to the producing countries but also to those countries which were the victims of the opium scourge, and to those countries which were attempting by a system of total prohibition to eradicate the evil from their territory. He thought that, in order to have a good idea of the different systems and of what could be done to ensure the success of this campaign, it was altogether desirable that the Commission's enquiry should extend to the whole of the Far East.

M. WANG-KING-KY said that China recognised that the British Government's proposal for an enquiry arose from humanitarian considerations. China always welcomed with joy anything that might help to free humanity from the great scourge of opium. He must, however, state that, since he had not yet received any instructions from his Government with regard to its support of the proposed enquiry, he could not himself give a final reply to the Council.

He would add that it was the deeply felt desire of the Chinese Government that, as a point of principle, the enquiry should cover not only all Far Eastern countries but the whole world, and not only producing States but also States manufacturing products derived from opium. His

personal view was that it would be necessary to contemplate a far more extensive system for suppressing this terrible scourge than the one now under consideration.

In conclusion, M. Wang-King-Ky said that he would reserve his reply until he had received a telegram from his Government.

Mr. Mackenzie KING, referring to the observations of the Chinese representative to the effect that he had not yet received word from his Government, hoped that, by the time the matter was before the Assembly, M. Wang-King-Ky would have received a favourable answer, since the views expressed by China would no doubt have their influence upon other countries.

He proposed that the Council should adopt the following resolution:

“The Council decides to refer to the Assembly for its consideration the proposal of the representative of His Majesty's Government in Great Britain respecting the control of opium-smoking in the Far East.”

The PRESIDENT proposed that the Council should adopt the resolution proposed by the Canadian representative, and that the Minutes of the present meeting should be transmitted to the Assembly.

The Council adopted the draft resolution and the proposal of the President.
