Traffic in Cocaine.

The Committee noted that eighteen Governments had replied to the request to furnish information with regard to the manufacture of cocaine and that twelve countries had sent in an estimate of their requirements.

Exchange of Information with Regard to the Seizures of Drugs.

The Committee attached the utmost importance to the exchange of information between Governments regarding the seizures of drugs made in connection with the suppression of the traffic.

It therefore adopted a resolution recommending not only that information on seizures should be communicated by the immediately interested Governments to each other but also that all important seizures should be communicated to the Secretariat of the League in order that the fullest international publicity might be secured with the consent of the Governments concerned.

World Production of Opium.

The Committee reviewed the general situation with regard to the world production of opium and noted the lack of any accurate or detailed information for most of the producing countries.

It understood that the investigations which the Chinese Government undertook to make were in progress but that no reports had yet been received. The Committee reached the conclusion that, from the most recent information in its possession, the situation in China was worse than it had been last year. The Chinese representative, however, assured the Committee that the Government of China would never, in any circumstances, legalise the production of opium in China and that the present recrudescence was due to the temporary lack of control by the Central Government in certain provinces.

Discrepancies in Statistical Returns and the Position of Bonded Warehouses.

The Committee examined the replies of the British, Japanese and United States Governments on the discrepancies between British and American returns of exports of drugs to Japan and the Japanese statistics of imports of drugs from those countries.

The British representative proposed that some arrangement should be concluded between Governments for the preparation on a uniform basis of their statistics of the import and export of drugs.

During the discussion on the question, the Japanese representative informed the Committee that the former practice in his country of waiting until narcotics landed in bond were withdrawn from bond before they were regarded as imports had been discarded.

The Committee appointed a Sub-Committee, which prepared a report on the possibility of establishing a system whereby uniformity in statistics could be obtained. It was decided to request the Council to transmit a statement prepared for the Sub-Committee by the Secretariat to all Governments for their observations, together with a note prepared by the British representative on the position of bonded warehouses in relation to the traffic.

Exemptions to Preparations not covered by the Terms of the Convention.

The Siamese representative on the Committee raised the question as to what exemptions should be granted by a State to preparations which did not come within the terms of the Convention because they contained less than the percentage of morphia or cocaine prescribed by the Convention.

The Committee decided to request the Council to ask Governments whether any difficulties had been experienced in regard to this question, and, if so, that the information relative thereto should be communicated to the Secretariat.

Increase in Penalties.

The Committee took note of the resolution proposed by the French representative on the Council regarding increased penalties and submitted by the Council to the Committee for its opinion.

During the discussion, the French representative on the Committee drew its attention to the advisability of instituting the penalty of imprisonment and, if possible, of deportation (*interdiction de séjour*).

The British representative drew attention to the increased penalties adopted in Great Britain under the Dangerous Drugs Act of 1923.

The Committee adopted a resolution to the effect that it considered the infliction of severe penalties to be one of the best means of preventing the spread of the illicit traffic, and recommended the increase of penalties in certain countries and the adoption of the penalty of imprisonment and, if possible, of deportation (*interdiction de séjour*). It also recommended a very strict application of the penalties and the introduction of clauses providing for the punishment of infractions committed in foreign countries.
II. TRAFFIC IN WOMEN AND CHILDREN.

WORK OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

The Resolutions of the Assembly.

The third Assembly, on September 20th, 1922, adopted the Report of the Advisory Committee on the Traffic in Women and Children.

The Fifth Committee of the Assembly, in presenting this report for approval, drew particular attention to some of the principal matters dealt with in the report and commented on these matters in the following terms:

The Convention of 1921.

1. It is very satisfactory to find that the new Convention which was opened for signature during the second Assembly has been signed by so large a number of States—no less than 33. But the Advisory Committee points out that there are still a good many States, including some Members of the League represented on the Advisory Committee, which have not yet taken the necessary action, and it recommends that these States should be urged to do so as soon as possible. Of the States which signed the Convention, only ten have yet taken the necessary steps to ratify it, but many delegates, including those from Greece, Cuba, Japan, Italy, Roumania, Switzerland, China, Portugal, Poland, Sweden, Chile, and the Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes, informed the Fifth Committee that their Governments hoped to be able to ratify the Convention before long. It is very important that all States which have signed the Convention should proceed to present their ratifications at the earliest possible moment.

The Appointment of Central Authorities.

2. The carrying-out of the administrative measures prescribed by the Conventions depends to a large extent on the appointment of central authorities. Most of the States which are parties to the Convention have already appointed such authorities, but some States have not yet done so, and the Advisory Committee recommends that the Council should urge them to do so. A complete list of central authorities will be kept by the Secretariat and circulated to all States from time to time.

3. The Committee has drawn up a valuable scheme for the co-ordination of international work in connection with the traffic. Under this scheme, the Secretariat of the League will keep closely in touch with the central authorities appointed by States, as well as with the voluntary organisations, in order that there may be a free exchange of information, and that complaints and reports may be forwarded without delay to the proper quarter for investigation and action.

Employment of Women in Theatrical Engagements Abroad.

4. The question of affording greater protection to women who accept engagements abroad to perform in theatres, music-halls, etc., came before the Committee and was considered in connection with the question of emigration. The Committee makes some important recommendations on these subjects which it is understood will be brought to the notice of the Governments by the Council. Other matters are to be made the subject of further investigation by the International Labour Conference.

Annual Reports.

5. In accordance with one of the recommendations of the International Conference of last year, each Government will be asked to furnish an annual report of the measures taken to deal with the traffic in women and children. A form of annual report was drawn up by the Committee.

Employment of Foreign Women in Licensed Houses.

The Assembly also passed the following resolution concerning the employment of foreign women in licensed houses:

"That, in view of the fact that the system of State regulation which exists in certain countries is thought in many quarters to encourage the traffic in women, the Advisory Committee should be asked by the Council to consider whether, pending the abolition of the system, it could be agreed that no foreign woman should be employed or carry on her profession as a prostitute in any licensed house, and that the recommendations of the Advisory Committee on the subject should be included in its next report to the Council."
The Council, on October 2nd, 1922, instructed the Secretary-General to invite the Advisory Committee to consider the resolution of the Assembly on the employment of women in licensed houses and hoped that the Committee would meet at an early date.

The Advisory Committee on the Traffic in Women and Children met from March 22nd to 27th, 1923, and its report was presented to the Council on April 19th, 1923.

The Committee discussed this draft report in public and decided to ask the Council’s opinion as to whether its meetings should in future be held in public. The Council subsequently ruled that the Committee had the right to decide the question of holding its meetings in public in its discretion.

Annual Reports.

The Committee decided to ask the Council to instruct the Secretariat to prepare a summary of the annual reports of the Governments on the measures taken to deal with the traffic. It was understood that this summary would be circulated to the Members of the League and to the Advisory Committee.

Laws and Regulations.

The Committee also decided that a digest of the laws and regulations relating to the traffic in women and children should be prepared by the Secretariat and distributed to all the Governments and to the Advisory Committee and that information regarding new laws and regulations should be distributed annually.

Signature and Ratification of the Convention of 1921.

The Committee noted that Denmark, Finland, Panama and twenty British colonies had adhered to the Convention of 1921 as a result of the letter sent in August 1922 to all Governments requesting those which were not already parties to the Convention to take the necessary action without delay. The Committee further noted that Bulgaria and Greece were taking steps to sign and ratify the Convention. The following Members of the League were at present outside the Convention: Argentíne, Bolivia, Bulgaria, France, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Liberia, Luxemburg, Nicaragua, Paraguay, Peru, Salvador, Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes, Spain, Uruguay and Venezuela. The following States had signed but not yet ratified it: Albania, Brazil, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Estonia, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Lithuania, Netherlands, Persia, Poland and Danzig, Portugal, Roumania, Switzerland and Sweden. In the course of the discussions of the Committee, it was pointed out that of the nine Governments officially represented on the Committee, three had not adhered to the Convention and four had not yet ratified.

The representatives of Italy, Poland, France, Roumania, Uruguay and Japan informed the Committee of the steps that their Governments were taking to sign or to ratify the Convention.

Employment of Women in Theatrical Engagements Abroad.

The Committee suggested in 1922 that protection might be given to women seeking employment abroad in theatres and music-halls, etc., either by requiring a special licence or by precautions taken in consultation with professional associations before passports were granted. The Committee made no addition to these recommendations but thought that each country should adopt the method best suited to its special circumstances. Before considering this question afresh, the Committee decided to await the observations of the Governments on the recommendations contained in its first report.

Emigration and Immigration.

The Committee recommended that information on the following matters should be collected in collaboration with the International Labour Office: (a) arrangements for the protection of immigrants and transmigrants before departure; (b) regulations providing for their protection during the voyage; (c) measures taken to accommodate and find employment for them on arrival; (d) treatment of undesirables.

The Committee thought that the voluntary associations should also be asked to supply such information as they could furnish on these points.

Reports of Voluntary Organisations.

The Committee further noted the reports of the voluntary organisations presented on behalf of the International Bureau, the International Women’s Organisations, l’Association catholique internationale des œuvres de protection de la jeune fille, Fédération des unions nationales des

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1 Since the second session of the Advisory Committee, Cuba and Greece have ratified the Convention.
Employment of Foreign Women in Licensed Houses.

It became apparent during the discussions on the Assembly resolution concerning the employment of foreign women in licensed houses that various members of the Committee viewed the matter from different angles. The majority considered that the existence of licensed houses was a direct incentive to the traffic in women and laid stress on the words contained in the resolution “pending the abolition of the system.” They thought that the appropriate remedy was the abandonment of the system of licensed houses but accepted the Assembly resolution as an intermediate step. Other members thought that by agreeing to a resolution of this kind they would appear to be acquiescing in a system which they opposed and thereby countenancing State regulation and licensed houses. Others agreed with the principle of the resolution but considered that in itself the prohibition, even if effect could be given to it, would be illusory, or that the object could best be obtained by the application of legislation concerning immigration. A minority of the Committee objected altogether to the resolution.

Further, the question was raised as to whether it was within the competence of the Committee to deal with a resolution concerning State regulation in any form. It was argued that the international conference which had met in Paris in 1902 had been careful to exclude this topic from its discussions, and that it did not seem to be covered by Article 23 of the Covenant, which defined the mandate of the Committee. In answer to this objection, it was pointed out that the Advisory Committee had been specifically instructed by the Council, on the recommendation of the Assembly, to give advice on this particular question, and that the question of competence had therefore been settled.

A resolution was finally passed by the Committee by four votes (Denmark, Italy, Japan, and Poland) to two (France and Uruguay), with two abstentions (Roumania and the United States). The Chairman (British representative), who did not possess a vote, expressed himself in favour of the resolution; the Spanish delegate was absent when the vote was taken but had spoken against the resolution. The resolution read as follows:

“The Advisory Committee, having, at the request of the third Assembly of the League, examined the question of the employment of foreign women in licensed houses, recommends that, pending the abolition of the system of State regulation, no foreign woman should be employed or carry on her profession as a prostitute in any licensed house.”

The Committee adopted two further resolutions arising out of this question: (1) that the Governments of those States which possessed a system of regulation should be asked for a full report on its working and results and that those States which had abandoned the system should be asked to report on the reasons which had led them to take this course; (2) that women, as well as men, should be employed among the police engaged in dealing with prostitution.

Proposed Enquiry by Experts.

The delegate of the United States submitted to the Committee a proposal that an investigation should be undertaken by the League to ascertain the extent of the traffic in women in different countries and the effectiveness of the measures hitherto taken to suppress it. The Committee concurred in this proposal and recommended that the Council should appoint an expert, or experts, to conduct an enquiry on the spot in collaboration with the Governments concerned.

Action taken by the Council in 1923.

The Council examined the report and the recommendations of the Advisory Committee on April 19th, 1923.

It approved the recommendations that the Secretariat should be instructed to prepare a summary of the annual reports received from the Governments; that the Governments should be invited to furnish a full statement of the laws and regulations in force in their respective countries; that the Secretariat should have a digest of these laws and regulations prepared and distributed to the Members of the League; that the attention of the Governments should be drawn to the desirability of adhering to, or ratifying, the Convention of 1921 without delay; and that information should be obtained in collaboration with the International Labour Office on emigration questions relating to women and children.

Employment of Foreign Women in Licensed Houses.

The Council then considered the resolution of the Advisory Committee with regard to the employment of foreign women in licensed houses, noting that there had been some divergence
of opinion on this subject in the Advisory Committee. After some discussion, it decided to communicate to the Members of the League the report of the Advisory Committee, together with the minutes of the Committee concerning the employment of foreign women in licensed houses and the minutes of the Council dealing with the same subject.

The Council (recognizing the connection which might exist between the system of licensed houses and the traffic in women) decided to ask those States Members of the League which had recently abandoned a system of State licensed houses to communicate the reasons which led them to take such a decision, in so far as those reasons concerned the traffic in women and children, and, further, to ask those States in which a system of licensed houses existed whether such a system in its practical operation appeared to facilitate or hinder the traffic in women and children.

Proposed Enquiry by Experts.

Further, the Council decided to appoint experts to undertake the enquiry recommended by the Advisory Committee into the conditions under which the traffic is carried on, with the consent and collaboration of the Governments of the countries concerned. These experts were to draw up a questionnaire to be forwarded to the interested Governments. The experts would have authority to make an enquiry on the spot, with the agreement of the interested Governments, and to examine the replies to the questionnaire and the reports on the results of the enquiry, from which they would be enabled to form their conclusions.

The Council also decided to communicate the Advisory Committee’s recommendation concerning the employment of women police to all the Governments for their information.

III. DEPORTED WOMEN AND CHILDREN IN TURKEY AND NEIGHBOURING COUNTRIES.

The third Assembly, on September 28th, 1922, adopted the following resolutions:

"I. The Assembly approves the conclusions of the report presented by Dr. Kennedy, Chairman of the Commission of Enquiry on Deported Women and Children, and is of the opinion that the League of Nations should continue its work in this direction.

"II. The Assembly requests the Council to urge the Governments responsible for any territories, either under mandate or under Allied control, where members of the Commission for the Reclamation of Women and Children are working, to instruct their officials in these territories to give strong support and assistance to the Commission and its members.

"III. A further sum of £1,500 shall be allocated to the funds of the Commission in order that the valuable work at present being undertaken by the Commission in Aleppo may be continued."

On October 2nd, 1922, the Council noted the resolutions of the Assembly and urgently recommended them to the attention of the responsible Governments.

On January 30th, 1923, the Council noted a letter from Dr. Kennedy, Chairman of the Commission of Enquiry, which stated that, owing to the threatening situation in Constantinople, it had been necessary to evacuate the orphanages of the Lord Mayor of London’s Armenian Relief Committee, and that he had been advised by the British High Commissioner that the British staff of the Commission of Enquiry should leave Constantinople. It was later found possible to resume this work in the form of the provision by the Commission of temporary accommodation for deported women and children, not accompanied by adult male relatives, who are in process of being evacuated from Turkey.

IV. OBSCENE PUBLICATIONS.

The Assembly, on September 28th, 1922, adopted the following resolutions:

"I. To ask the Council of the League, in accordance with Article 24 of the Covenant, to authorize the Secretariat to assist Members of the League and any other States which are parties to the international movement for the suppression of obscene publications in all measures which may be necessary for this purpose.

"II. To ask the Council to draw the attention of all States to the International Agreement of 1910; those States which have signed or acceded to it should be asked to give full effect to its provisions, and those States which are not yet parties to it should be urged to accede to it at an early date.

"III. To invite the Council to communicate the draft Convention of 1920, with a questionnaire, to every State with the request that it should forward its comments
thereon to the Secretariat of the League of Nations. The Secretariat will co-ordinate the replies received and submit them as a whole to the French Government, requesting it, on behalf of the Council, in view of the initiative taken by that Government in 1910, to convene a new conference under the auspices of the League, to be held at Geneva about the time of the fourth Assembly and to be composed of plenipotentiaries empowered to draw up the text of a new convention and to sign such a convention."

On October 20th, 1922, the Council noted the resolutions adopted by the Assembly and instructed the Secretary-General to take the necessary action.

On March 24th, 1923, the Advisory Committee on the Traffic in Women and Children discussed a suggestion of the International Bureau to the effect that the question of obscene publications might eventually be entrusted to the Advisory Committee on the Traffic in Women and Children. The Committee decided, in view of the intended conference, not to mention the subject in its report to the Council.

Up to the present, sixteen replies from Governments to the questionnaire have been received by the Secretariat. These have been summarised, and a copy of the summary has been sent to the French Government with an invitation to call the conference in accordance with the terms of the above resolution.

12.

MEASURES TO HELP REFUGEES.

I. RUSSIAN REFUGEES.

Resolutions of the Assembly.

The Assembly, on September 28th, 1922, voted resolutions to the effect that, in adopting Dr. Nansen's report on the work of the preceding year, it desired to express its entire satisfaction with the way in which he had discharged his duties. Further, since the work of the High Commissioner was not yet finished, the Assembly decided to invite the Council to request Governments to support and assist the High Commissioner, especially as regarded the development of the means of general and professional education and the securing of employment for the refugees.

The Council was also invited to draw the attention of all States Members of the League to the importance of the system of identity certificates drawn up by the Conference on that subject, held at Geneva in July 1922, and to request those Governments which had not yet given a favourable reply to consider whether they could not bring the system into force without delay.

The Assembly also requested the Council to provide by international co-operation for the maintenance of the Russian refugees who were incapable of providing for their own livelihood in the States where they were congregated.

Action taken by the High Commissioner in 1922 and 1923.

On October 2nd, 1922, the Council noted and confirmed the resolutions of the Assembly.

On February 2nd, 1923, Dr. Nansen laid a report before the Council.

Despite very serious obstacles, his delegates in the various countries had been able to make substantial progress. He had been continually faced with financial difficulties but had been ably assisted in his financial administration by Colonel Proctor, who had assumed responsibility for the administration, among other funds, of the £150,000 placed at the disposal of the League by the British Government.

Colonel Corfe had rendered valuable services in Greece.

Identity Certificates and Visas.

Nineteen Governments had adopted the identity certificate drawn up by the Conference on Identity Certificates for issue to Russian refugees in their territories, and had recognised similar certificates issued by other Governments.
The 19 Governments were as follows: Albania, Austria, Bolivia, Bulgaria, Finland, France, Germany, Great Britain, Greece, Guatemala, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxemburg, Norway, Holland, Roumania, Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes, Switzerland.

Further, the Governments of Czechoslovakia, Siam and South Africa had agreed to adopt the system in principle. The Governments of Belgium, Canada and Estonia had informed the High Commissioner that they were not prepared to issue the certificates, but it was hoped to obtain the adhesion of the Governments of China, Denmark, Hungary, Japan, Persia, Poland and Sweden.

The adoption of the system of identity certificates has been of inestimable value to Russian refugees as it freed them from their disabilities as “Staatenlöse” and enabled them to travel more or less freely to destinations where it was possible for them to obtain employment or to join their friends. It has also been of considerable value to Governments, which could by this means ascertain with great accuracy the number of Russian refugees in their territories and facilitate their departure elsewhere.

The Work in Constantinople.

The office for Russian refugees in Constantinople had become the largest refugee institution in Constantinople. Weekly meetings of the representatives of all the important local relief organisations were convened by the Delegate of the High Commissioner in order to confer on the various problems which arose. The office had the confidence of the Allied High Commissioners, the various embassies and legations and of the refugees themselves.

On an average, 1,000 refugees asked the office for assistance every week. It had already evacuated 17,000 refugees to four countries at an approximate cost of £2 10s. per head. It had completed the evacuation of 1,000 invalids and their families and made special arrangements with Russian and Bulgarian organisations in Bulgaria for their maintenance and future welfare, and it had, in addition, transferred to Bulgaria a thousand able-bodied workmen, where they had been provided with employment in the Pernik mines.

During the summer of 1922, the American Relief Administration generously undertook to feed the remaining 10,000 necessitous Russian refugees in Constantinople on condition that the League made arrangements for their evacuation within a specified period. A sum of £30,000 was necessary for these evacuation arrangements and an appeal for this amount was made to the Members of the League. About one-half of the sum required was eventually subscribed by the Members of the League and the remainder by the American Red Cross, by means of whose further local co-operation the Constantinople office had been enabled to make such progress that, as a result of an arrangement with the Bulgarian Government, 5,000 of these refugees were evacuated to Bulgaria; the remainder have been evacuated to other countries, so that the responsibility of the League regarding these refugees has now ceased.

The Constantinople office had afforded considerable assistance in securing visas and in the part payment of transport expenses for individual refugees who had found work in other countries. An average of 230 individual departures per week to 44 countries had been secured. The Constantinople office had, in addition, secured the evacuation of some hundreds of Russian Jewish refugees to Palestine, the United States and other countries, thanks to the collaboration of the Jewish Colonisation Association.

The High Commissioner, on his arrival at Constantinople in October 1922, was informed by Hamid Bey, the representative of the Angora Government, that, by virtue of the terms of the treaty existing between his Government and the Soviets, all Russian refugees in Constantinople would have to be evacuated before the Turks occupied the city. This would have meant the evacuation of 15,000 self-supporting refugees. A state of panic ensued on the publication of this information, and some hundreds of refugees made urgent preparations to leave Constantinople. The Government of the Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes was asked to receive another 5,000 refugees, and the High Commissioner offered a contribution of £10,000 towards their maintenance. The Serbian-Serb-Croat-Slovene Government, however, did not wish to receive these refugees unless guarantees for their permanent maintenance were given. This the High Commissioner was unable to do through lack of funds. He was finally successful in obtaining an assurance from the Soviet Government that it had no intention of requesting the Angora Government to insist on the evacuation of the refugees and he hoped that the Angora Government would not insist on the departure of the remaining refugees in Constantinople.

The legal status of the Russian refugees in Constantinople after the occupation of the city by the Angora Government caused considerable anxiety. The High Commissioner had thought it best to afford these refugees protection by means of identity certificates similar to those adopted by other Governments. He proposed that the certificates should be prepared by the Constantinople office and issued by the High Commissioners of the three Allied Powers. The British, French and Italian Governments had signified their approval of this procedure, and the French Government had generously agreed to issue visas to 1,400 refugees to enable them to enter France. The sympathy of the Turkish Government was being solicited in this connection, and it was hoped to secure its recognition of the identity certificate system.

1 Denmark and Poland have recently adopted the system.

A negative reply was received from China, but further representations have been made. Information has been received unofficially that Hungary is prepared to adopt the system.

Mexico has also declared unofficially her willingness to recognise the certificates issued by other Governments.
The Work in Bulgaria.

Without the co-operation of the Bulgarian Government, the successful solution of the Constantinople problem would have been almost impossible. The Bulgarian Government had received or consented to receive 1,000 invalids, 1,000 workmen and their families, 600 children, 5,000 refugees remaining from those fed by the American Relief Administration and many hundreds of individual refugees. Some 75 per cent. of the 10,000 refugees at one time constituting the Constantinople problem had been provided with homes in Bulgaria. The 600 refugee children in Bulgaria had been maintained by the Bulgarian Government until August 1922, and subsequently by the High Commissioner, who required £3,750 a year for their maintenance and education.

The office of the High Commissioner at Sofia worked in close co-operation with the existing Russian refugee relief organisations in Bulgaria.

The Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes.

The Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes sheltered about 55,000 refugees, who constituted a heavy charge on its national exchequer. It afforded free transport on its railways to such refugees as desired to leave the country, and it issued identity certificates to the refugees on its territory. It had also given instructions to its representative in Constantinople to issue some hundreds of individual visas for self-supporting refugees.

The Refugees in France.

The French Government had given free visas to 1,400 Russian refugees in Constantinople. It had transferred to France 3,000 refugees from Corsica and Tunis and placed them in productive employment. Some hundreds of refugee orphans from Constantinople had been placed in French families and an additional 1,000 orphans from Poland and the Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes had been given permission to enter France. A central co-ordination committee of the representatives of the various Russian organisations in France had been formed by the High Commissioner's delegate.

The Refugees in Greece.

Up to the autumn of 1922, 5,000 Russian refugees in Greece were maintaining themselves by productive employment, and some had been supported by the Greek Government. The enormous influx of Greek refugees, however, had naturally caused the Greek Government to withdraw its subsidy, though it had maintained its grant to 400 Russian refugee invalids in Salonika. It had also issued identity certificates and afforded free transport in Greece to all Russian refugees desiring to leave the country.

The Russian refugee office at Athens had evacuated 500 refugees to European countries and 800 refugees who desired to return to Russia.

Dr. Nansen, in his report, asked the Council to appeal urgently to the Governments for assistance for the 4,000 refugees remaining in Greece. The hospital for invalid Russian refugees in Salonika had received a gift of £200 from the "All-British Appeal Committee", and the New Zealand Government had promised provisionally £100 a year for three years for the education of Russian refugee students in Greece.

The Refugees in Other Countries.

The Russian refugee problem was especially grave in Germany, Poland and other countries bordering on Russia. In Germany there were stated to be no fewer than 600,000 refugees and in Poland 300,000. The High Commissioner maintained delegates in these countries working in close co-operation with the Governments and with the existing Russian organisations.

Refugees taken over from the British Government.

In May 1922 the High Commissioner relieved the British Government of responsibility for 4,600 Russian refugees in Egypt, Cyprus, Touzla and the Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes in consideration of a payment of £150,000. Arrangements had been made whereby the Serbo-Russian State Commission assumed responsibility against a capital grant for 1,500 of these refugees in the Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes. The majority of the refugees from Egypt, Cyprus and Touzla were evacuated to Bulgaria. The Bulgarian Government had allowed the refugees to move freely in Bulgaria, thus considerably facilitating the problem of finding them employment. Very little sickness was to be found among these refugees, which was largely due to the work of a mixed medical board, consisting of a British army doctor, a Russian Red
Cross doctor, and a Russian doctor attached to the High Commissariat. By the end of the year such substantial progress had been made with the liquidation of these refugees that only a few difficult categories remained a charge on the High Commissioner.

Repatriation and Reconstruction.

The High Commissioner had continued his negotiations with the Soviet authorities and had obtained important concessions from the Soviet Government on behalf of such refugees as sought his assistance in connection with their repatriation. There was evidence of a strong feeling among certain categories of the refugees in favour of repatriation. Some thousands of refugees had returned to Russia in 1922 entirely on their own initiative and at their own risk. Many of them had returned without any permission from the Soviet authorities. The High Commissioner's representative in Russia reported that these refugees had received uniformly favourable treatment.

International Co-operation for the Maintenance of Refugees.

Several Governments, notably the Government of the Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenses, had pointed out that those Members of the League offering hospitality to Russian refugees had undertaken a considerable burden and had urged that this burden should be shared by other Members. The High Commissioner asked the Council to consider what means could be taken to give effect to this proposal. The Council noted the report and congratulated the High Commissioner on the courage and tenacity which had enabled him to overcome the great difficulties with which he was faced in dealing with the problem.

II. REFUGEES FROM ASIA MINOR.

Action by the Assembly in 1922.

On September 19th, 1922, the Assembly adopted a resolution accepting Dr. Nansen's offer to place the services of his Russian Refugee Organisation at the disposal of the League for the administration of any relief afforded to refugees from Asia Minor, on the understanding that the work for Russian refugees would not be hindered. The Assembly further invited the Council to place a sum at the disposal of Dr. Nansen taken from the item "Unforeseen expenditure" in the Budget and sufficient to enable the necessary administrative measures to be taken until adequate arrangements from other sources could be made. On September 25th the Assembly passed a further resolution to the effect that, recognising the extreme urgency of bringing effective aid to the refugees in the Near East, Members should be asked to inform their Governments of the situation and recommend an immediate and adequate financial contribution to Dr. Nansen's organisation.

Action by the Council in 1922.

On September 19th, 1922, the Council considered the first resolution adopted by the Assembly and placed at the disposal of Dr. Nansen a sum of 100,000 Swiss francs taken from the item "Unforeseen expenditure" of the Budget for 1922.

Action taken by the High Commissioner in 1922 concerning the Exchange of Populations.

On October 2nd, 1922, Dr. Nansen left for Constantinople, having telegraphed to Mustapha Kemal Pasha, with the object of entering into direct relations with the Turkish Government at Angora. In the course of several interviews with Hamid Bey, the Diplomatic Representative at Constantinople of the Turkish Grand National Assembly, Dr. Nansen pointed out the various questions with which he desired to deal, particularly the question of an exchange of populations between Greece and Turkey. On October 15th the High Commissioners of France, Great Britain, Italy and Japan resident in Constantinople formally invited Dr. Nansen to take all possible steps to endeavour to reach an agreement regarding an exchange of populations between the Greek and Turkish Governments as soon as possible, independently of the Peace negotiations. Dr. Nansen was further informed by the Greek Government that it was very desirous that he should arrange such an agreement. On October 23rd, Dr. Nansen received a telegram from Mustapha Kemal Pasha stating that the proposed exchange was acceptable in principle but that it would have to be considered by the Government at Angora. At Dr. Nansen's request, the Greek Government furnished him with a document giving him full powers to negotiate the desired agreement. On October 30th he was informed by Refet Pasha, Governor of Thrace, newly arrived from Angora, that the President...
of the Council of Ministers at Angora agreed in principle with the exchange of populations, excluding Western Thrace, and empowered Hamid Bey to conduct the necessary negotiations with the High Commissioner of the League. On October 31st Dr. Nansen conferred with Hamid Bey, who informed him that the Angora Government only permitted him to negotiate on the basis of a total and enforced exchange of populations, from which the population of Constantinople would not be excepted. Dr. Nansen said that he could not limit the discussion in the manner proposed by Hamid Bey and suggested that the Turkish Representative should ask his Government for further instructions, while he, on the other hand, would ask the Greek Government whether it would accept total and enforced exchange of populations, including the population of Constantinople, as a basis of discussion. Hamid Bey preferred not to consider any points of detail concerning the exchange while awaiting the decision of his Government. On November 2nd, Hamid Bey having to depart suddenly to attend the Peace Conference at Lausanne, Dr. Nansen addressed a memorandum to the Government at Angora setting forth his sincere desire to obtain a solution of the question and asking the Government to inform him whether it was prepared to negotiate without delay, and independently of the Peace negotiations, an agreement for the exchange of populations on the basis of a voluntary emigration of the racial minorities in Turkey and Greece, including the civilians detained in Asia Minor. He further enquired if it were prepared to appoint delegates with full powers to conclude with Greek representatives and under his auspices an agreement which would be submitted immediately for ratification by the two Governments. The Greek Government informed Dr. Nansen that it could not agree to a total and enforced exchange of populations, including that of Constantinople. Dr. Nansen kept the High Commissioners of the Allied Powers informed of the progress of these negotiations and explained that, in his opinion, it would not be possible to negotiate an agreement on the lines suggested by the representative of the Angora Government, even if the Greek Government had accepted the proposal. Dr. Nansen received no reply to his memorandum of November 2nd to the Angora Government. He subsequently attended the Peace Conference at Lausanne and proposed to the representatives of the invited Powers that negotiations should be renewed. Lord Curzon, the President of the First Committee of the Conference, asked Dr. Nansen to make a statement on the subject. Dr. Nansen complied and urged that if an exchange of populations was to be effected, it should be effected in time for at least a considerable portion of the exchanged populations to be enabled to cultivate the land of their new farms during the coming spring. The question was referred by the First Committee of the Conference to a Sub-Committee presided over by Signor Montagna. Dr. Nansen attended the meeting of the Sub-Committee and submitted a further statement on the situation suggesting in what way the wishes of the two parties might be harmonised but emphasised that a compulsory treaty of exchange could only be satisfactorily carried through if both the Turkish and Greek Governments acted with absolute loyalty and good faith.

**Action taken by the High Commissioner regarding the Refugees in Greece and Asia Minor.**

Dr. Nansen visited Constantinople and Athens in the months of October and November 1922 with the object of ascertaining the general situation with regard to refugees in Asia Minor. He further made a tour of inspection through Western Thrace, where many of those refugees had found refuge. The problem which faced him was complicated by the fact that the numbers of refugees were increased by the population of Eastern Thrace which began to leave their homes immediately after the conclusion of the Mudania armistice. The numbers of refugees of Greek and Armenian origin scattered throughout Greece and Western Thrace amounted to about 900,000, including 300,000 from Eastern Thrace. The refugees from Eastern Thrace had been able to bring away with them portions of their movable possessions, including their cattle, wagons, clothing, and, in some cases, their agricultural implements. The abundant harvest, however, which had just been reaped, was left behind. The refugees from Asia Minor had, on the other hand, left their homes in such haste that they had no other possessions than the light summer clothing which they were wearing at the time of their departure.

In addition to these refugees the population of those areas of Asia Minor in which the military operations of August and September 1922 had been carried out was in great distress. In order to assist them, the High Commissioner co-operated with the Turkish Red Crescent and despatched to Smyrna 200 tons of flour, bought with the funds placed at his disposal by the Assembly. He further provided transport for a number of Turkish refugees in Constantinople to enable them to reach their homes in Asia Minor in time to carry out the autumn sowing of their fields. In addition, a representative of the Epidemic Commission aided the Turkish Red Crescent with medical supplies, especially vaccine and serum.

The Greek Government made great efforts to distribute the refugees throughout Greece in such a way as to enable them to be absorbed by the local population. As a temporary measure of relief the High Commissioner acquired a considerable quantity of flour, which was despatched to the island of Chios and other places where it was distributed by his representatives. The American Red Cross, under Dr. Ross Hill, brought help in the form of food and other direct relief. The High Commissioner established a Central Committee in Athens for co-ordinating the work of relief being carried out by the various charitable organisations concerned with the problem. The American Relief Organisations, within a few weeks of the arrival of the refugees in Greece, transferred sufficient machinery and equipment to take over the feeding of nearly one million people, and the High Commissioner launched an urgent appeal for assistance to all Members of the League to enable him to acquire the sum of £50,000 promised by the British Government when a similar
sum had been contributed by other Members of the League. The High Commissioner also appealed for clothing and blankets.

A representative of the Epidemic Commission of the League of Nations arrived in Greece with some 100,000 doses of vaccine for the inoculation of the refugees, as the danger of serious epidemics was very grave.

By the middle of January 1923, not less than 30,000 of the refugees had perished from cold and exposure, despite the great efforts which the Greek Government had made to house them. No serious outbreak of epidemics had occurred. The High Commissioner authorised his Deputy Commissioner, Colonel Procter, to organise a series of feeding camps in Western Thrace. These camps were first set up in Dedeagatch but were subsequently removed to other points in the interior. By these means 10,000 refugees were fed daily. The Greek Government placed at the disposal of Colonel Procter vacant land for cultivation. Numbers of the refugees were housed on this land in tents given to the High Commissioner by the Belgian Government. Building materials were also supplied by the Greek Government, from which villages were constructed.

Attached to the feeding camps was a hospital of 120 beds organised in conjunction with Lady Rumbold's Constantinople Fund for Refugees.

Dr. Nansen's representatives were further able to give a certain measure of assistance to the Anglo-American Committee working in Salonika.

The High Commissioner's appeal for clothing and blankets met with generous response in many countries, notably in Great Britain, where the heads of the Ex-Service-Women's Organisation, the All-British Fund and other organisations despatched more than 70 crates of clothing a day to Athens. Up to the end of January, about 1,400 crates had been received.

The funds contributed by the British Government to the High Commissioner amounted, by the end of 1922, to £19,208, but he was informed by the British Government that it was unable to keep open after January 1st, 1923, its offer to double all contributions from other Members of the League received by the High Commissioner up to £50,000. The High Commissioner accordingly appealed once more for funds to those Members of the League which had not so far contributed.

Action taken by the Council in 1923.

On February 2nd, 1923, the Council examined a report submitted by Dr. Nansen containing the foregoing information, and adopted the following resolution:

"The Council, having heard the report of Dr. Nansen dated January 26th, 1923, decides to set aside from the item 'Unforeseen expenses' (item 29 of the budget for 1923) the sum of 50,000 Swiss francs, in order to enable Dr. Nansen to liquidate the various administrative engagements which he has assumed notably in connection with the Epidemic Commission."

On April 23rd the Council heard a further report from Dr. Nansen on the situation. The report gave details of the plan adopted by Colonel Procter definitely to establish the refugees as self-supporting members of the community within as limited a period of time as possible. The guiding principle of this plan was to cease the distribution of indiscriminate charity, which tended to cause degeneration among the refugees, and to encourage them to work for themselves.

Village settlements in Western Thrace were to be established for about 10,000 refugees, who were to be fed and generally cared for until their crops could be reaped, about the end of July 1923. Skilled and general workers were to be established in the occupations for which their previous life and training fitted them, such as farming, charcoal-burning, brick-making, carpet-and blanket-weaving, lace-making, fishing, etc. A hospital was to be established to ensure a proper standard of health among the refugees.

As a result of this plan, an area of land between Gumuldjina and Porto Lagos, consisting of 100,000 Greek acres, was allocated by the Greek Government for the purposes of colonisation. This land was virgin soil of the best quality with a plentiful water supply, and was in close proximity to the railway line from Dedeagatch to Xanthi. A central hospital was established in the middle of the area, and the sites for the villages were marked out. The land was subdivided among the settlers, the boundaries of each settlement being clearly defined by a council elected by the villagers and presided over by a Government official, and the use of several mechanical ploughs was secured.

By the middle of February, eight agricultural villages were in course of construction and the villagers were already clearing the land of scrub preparatory to ploughing it, and by the end of April 13 villages had been built and the ploughing and sowing were well advanced.

To deal with work of this kind, a labour bureau was established at Gumuldjina in offices placed at the disposal of the High Commissioner by the local bishop. The local charcoal-burning industry was placed under the control of the High Commissariat, and became self-supporting by April, many families being employed in this work. Brick-making was in progress. A laundry industry was established, and lace-making and embroidery provided employment for about 40% of the women. Carpet-manufacture was begun, and a small factory has been set up. The Governor-General has in all cases co-operated very closely with the High Commissariat in the general direction of the work.

The report pointed out that the reconstruction work, successful though it was, was on a very small scale if the size of the whole problem was taken into consideration. The result obtained
showed, however, that some 11,000 refugees will become self-supporting by July 1923 at an approximate cost to the League of Nations of £1 per head.

Anatolian Refugees in Constantinople.

Dr. Nansen received a telegram from the Near East Relief to the effect that 30,000 Anatolian refugees were in the greatest state of destitution in Constantinople and asking for co-operation. Owing to a gift of £1,000 by the All-British Appeal and of clothing to that value, Dr. Nansen's representatives in Constantinople have been able to afford some measure of relief to these refugees. The Greek Government expressed itself willing to receive these refugees after disinfection, subject to arrangements being made for their maintenance in Greece.

Greek Loan.

On February 2nd, 1923, M. Politis, representative of Greece, laid before the Council a request from the Greek Government that the League should assist it to obtain an international loan of £10,000,000 sterling, which should be used solely for the permanent settlement of the refugees. The Council decided to refer the matter to the Financial Committee for examination and report. On April 23rd, 1923, Dr. Nansen strongly urged the Council to decide on the question of the loan with the least possible delay in view of the fact that the American Relief Organisations would cease work at the end of June and thus leave many thousands of refugees faced with the prospect of immediate starvation. He pointed out that the Greek Government afforded means of redeeming the loan in ten years, and that the American Relief Organisations were understood to be willing to consider proposals for co-operation with a view to the final solution of the problem.

The Council, in congratulating Dr. Nansen on the success of his efforts, adopted the following resolution:

"The Council, having heard Dr. Nansen's statement as to the position of the refugee problem in Greece;

"Understanding that the Greek Government is now engaged in collecting the essential information which the Financial Committee requires in order to examine, in accordance with the authorisation already given by the Council, the practicability of the flotation of a loan on the basis of securities which Greece could offer:

"Now requests the High Commissariat, in consultation with the Greek Government, to consider whether, if a loan should prove practicable, it would be possible to replace the temporary relief measures that, except in a part of Western Thrace, have hitherto alone been undertaken, by a general plan enabling refugees in other parts of Greece to be settled on the land or otherwise established on a self-supporting basis, and, if so, to prepare a scheme for the purpose;

"And hereby appoints a Sub-Committee, consisting of the British, French and Italian members of the Council, with authority to invite the Greek Government to add a fourth member, to receive the reports from the Financial Committee and from the High Commissariat, and to advise the Council at its next session whether the League itself can properly and usefully accept any responsibility or take any action."

The Council further granted Dr. Nansen 50,000 francs from the item "Unforeseen expenses" in order to meet the necessary administrative charges in connection with the work of relief. It was understood that this sum should form the first charge on the proposed loan to the Greek Government.

Government Contributions to Near East Relief Fund.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Japan</td>
<td>10,000 yen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Switzerland</td>
<td>15,000 Sw. frs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brazil</td>
<td>£1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canada</td>
<td>£135,120 Sw. frs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Denmark</td>
<td>£1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Zealand</td>
<td>£1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sweden</td>
<td>£2,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Norway</td>
<td>£19,208</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spain</td>
<td>20,000 Belgian francs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Luxemburg</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
By Article 24 of the Covenant, all international bureaux established by general treaties are placed under the direction of the League if the parties to such treaties consent. The Council has on several occasions been asked to consider in what way the League's direction over international bureaux should be exercised in accordance with Article 24.

I. PUBLICATIONS RELATING TO INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS.

The Secretariat of the League prepares and publishes a Quarterly Bulletin of Information on the Work of International Organisations, the first number of which was issued in October 1922. The Bulletin is a record of the meetings and general activities of the various existing international institutions. The Secretariat, by means of the Bulletin, keeps itself in constant touch with the different public and private international organisations, acts as a central information office in making their activities known to each other and gives them a certain amount of publicity.

The “Handbook of International Organisations” published in 1922 and containing succinct information as to the number, objects, history and general activities of some 352 international organisations, whether established by private initiative or created by general treaties, has been revised in order to bring the information up to date.

II. INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE OF COMMERCE.

In September 1922, the Council received a request from the International Institute of Commerce to be placed under the direction of the League. This body had in 1921 submitted a previous request to the effect that it might be considered as the official organ of commercial documentation of the League. It now desired merely to be placed under the direction of the League, as had been done with other associations.

The Council referred the application for examination to the Economic Committee of the League. The Economic Committee, during its seventh session in January 1923, suggested that it should be authorised by the Council to enlist the co-operation of the Institute of Commerce, as and when occasion might arise, on subjects with regard to which it might be able and willing to assist.

The Council, on January 30th, 1923, approved the proposals of the Economic Committee and requested it to examine the practical questions for which, by reason of its technical competence, the Institute might usefully be asked to give its assistance.

III. INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE.

At its meeting on January 30th, 1923, the Council considered a request from the International Committee on Agriculture to be placed under the direction of the League.

Sixteen countries are represented on the Committee, which was founded in 1889 and has its seat in Paris. Its object is the study of agriculture and rural economy, and it has held eleven international congresses and published a number of valuable reports on different aspects of agriculture. The Committee was not established by a general treaty and therefore does not necessarily come under the provisions of Article 24 of the Covenant.

The Council therefore decided to request the Economic Committee of the League to examine the advisability of placing the International Committee on Agriculture under the direction of the League and to submit a report at a subsequent session of the Council.

IV. INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE PROMOTION OF CHILD WELFARE.

The International Association for the Promotion of Child Welfare was established at Brussels in 1921 in accordance with a decision of the two International Congresses on Child Welfare held in 1913 and 1921. Some ten States are members of the Association, of which eight have agreed
to an international convention. The Association falls under the category of international bureaux known as "semi-public". In June 1922, it applied to be taken under the direction of the League, and this application was considered by the Council at its meeting in September 1922.

Before coming to a final decision, the Council decided to ask for further information regarding the constitution and work of the Association, and particularly whether it were possible for it to modify the constitution of its governing body — an international committee selected in July 1922 during the first ordinary session of the Association. On this Committee the majority of the members is not composed of representatives of adherent Governments but includes delegates of voluntary organisations and even private individuals.

In February 1923 the President of the Association, M. Carton de Wiart, informed the Secretary-General that the members of the international committee were not disposed to make the changes suggested by the Council, and requested that the matter be again placed before the Council. The Council reconsidered the matter on April 17th, 1923, but decided that, as various Governments seemed to take somewhat different views, the question should again be adjourned to a subsequent session in the hope of reaching a satisfactory solution.

V. INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR AIR NAVIGATION.

The International Commission for Air Navigation was constituted on July 11th, 1922, under Article 35 of the Convention relating to the Regulation of Aerial Navigation dated Paris, October 13th, 1919. According to this article, "there shall be instituted, under the name of the International Commission for Air Navigation, a permanent international commission placed under the direction of the League of Nations."

Ten States have ratified the Convention, which is now in force, and the Commission accordingly comes automatically under the direction of the League. The Commission, from the nature of its work, is in close touch with the Organisation for Communications and Transit of the League.

14.

WORK OF THE COMMITTEE ON INTELLECTUAL CO-OPERATION.

PERSONNEL OF THE COMMITTEE.

The Assembly, in a resolution adopted on September 28th, 1922, expressed the hope that the Committee on Intellectual Co-operation would continue its work with the help of the most competent men of all countries to the extent allowed by the credits voted by the Assembly.

The Committee, acting in the spirit of this resolution, has made a practice of consulting experts and of appointing correspondents in various countries not represented on the Committee itself.

M. Einstein having retired from the Committee, M. H. A. Lorentz, Professor of Physics at the University of Leyden, has been appointed in his place.

ENQUIRY INTO THE POSITION WITH REGARD TO INTELLECTUAL WORK.

The Assembly, on September 28th, 1922, adopted the following resolution:

"The Assembly notes with satisfaction the resolutions by which the Council has authorised the Committee on Intellectual Co-operation to undertake an enquiry into the position with regard to intellectual work, and to appoint three sub-committees to investigate questions of bibliography, questions of inter-university co-operation, and questions of intellectual proprietary rights."

It was decided, in conformity with a resolution adopted by the Council on September 13th, 1922, that this enquiry should be undertaken by means of general questionnaires addressed to the Governments and of special questionnaires addressed to the universities, learned societies, professional associations, and certain experts in the various countries.
The questionnaire to be addressed to the Governments was approved by the Council on January 30th, 1923. The Committee asked for information concerning the State administrative organisations taking part in the direction of intellectual life in the various countries, the laws, decrees, or circulars, and the official statistical data relating to higher education, the principal scientific, literary and artistic institutions in the various countries, the international conventions relating to intellectual work and to education, and the intellectual relations of the various countries with their neighbours.

It will not be possible to terminate this enquiry before the meeting of the fourth Assembly. Numerous replies have, however, already been received, and a considerable number of these replies have come from the United States of America. The results of the enquiry will be published as soon as sufficient material has been received by the Committee.

The Work of the Sub-Committees.

The three sub-committees appointed under the Assembly resolution — the Sub-Committee on Bibliography, the Sub-Committee on Inter-University Co-operation, and the Sub-Committee on Intellectual Proprietary Rights — met for the first time at Paris in December 1922. Two sub-committees — the Sub-Committees on Bibliography and on Inter-University Co-operation — met at Brussels in March 1923 for a second session. At each session, a large number of experts were consulted.

The Sub-Committee on Bibliography has devoted special attention to the questions of analytical bibliography as an effective and rapid method of exchanging scientific information. On the proposal of Madame Curie, it adopted a number of recommendations on this subject, which have been forwarded to the competent learned bodies and bibliographical institutions. It also examined the question of bibliography limited to the titles of books, and recommended that the alphabetical index of the International Institute of Bibliography at Brussels should be used as a basis for all future work in this field.

The Sub-Committee considered a proposal for the constitution of one or more international libraries to be constituted by means of a compulsory international deposit of books. On examination, there were seen to be difficulties in the way of realising such a scheme at the present moment. The Sub-Committee therefore drafted a plan for the co-ordination of existing libraries in the various countries, notably by the preparation of collective national catalogues and the encouragement of exchanges between libraries or groups of libraries.

The Sub-Committee further studied plans for various bibliographical publications and referred these plans to the meeting of the plenary committee. It has, however, already undertaken the preparatory work for the most urgent of these publications, namely, an index bibliographicus, giving all the information available on existing bibliographical institutions and periodicals.

The Sub-Committee on Inter-University Relations has come to the conclusion that the convening of an international university congress is not at present possible. It has, however, adopted recommendations for the exchange of professors for a more extended instruction in modern languages, literature and civilisation, and for the institution of university courses on contemporary nations.

It has studied the question of an exchange of students and of the equivalent recognition of studies and degrees, as well as international holiday courses, and is preparing definite recommendations on these questions.

The Sub-Committee regards as specially urgent the foundation of an international bureau of university information. This bureau would act as a regular connection between the national bureaux in the countries where they exist and would satisfy the requirements of the countries in which national university bureaux have not yet been established.

The Sub-Committee on Intellectual Property came to the conclusion that it was possible to develop the protection of intellectual property as at present assured and to extend it to scientific property. It instructed one of its members, M. Ruffini, to prepare a report on the subject. It is hoped that the principles defined in this report may be applied in the various countries and that they may eventually form the basis of an international convention. Some concrete cases are examined in a second report by M. de Torres Quevedo.

Conventions relating to the International Exchange of Publications.

The Assembly, on September 28th, 1922, adopted the following resolution:

"The Assembly decides to send an appeal to all countries which have not yet accepted the Conventions relating to the international exchange of publications, signed at Brussels on March 15th, 1886, asking them to give their adhesion thereto."

The Council, in accordance with this resolution, instructed its President, at a meeting held on October 4th, 1922, to address an appeal to all the countries which had not yet accepted the Conventions. The appeal was despatched on November 20th, 1922. Several Governments (Germany, Finland and Lithuania) have informed the Council that they will give the matter favourable consideration. Roumania has declared herself ready to adhere to the Convention. It appears, however, from replies which have been received from several other Governments, in particular, the Government of the British Empire, that the Conventions of 1886 do not entirely...
correspond with the practical needs of the moment and that it accordingly seemed advisable to
study the possibility of improving them. These improvements would meet the wishes of the
majority of the States to avoid an undue considerable expenditure.

The Sub-Committee on Bibliography has studied this question in detail and has consulted
the Director of the Service belge des échanges, which, from the outset has in practice played an
important part in the organisation of these exchanges. It decided to obtain information from
the directors of the various national services as to the conditions of their work and as to the
reforms which appeared to them desirable. This enquiry may serve as a basis for a conference
of the directors of the national bureaux.

CONDITIONS OF INTELLECTUAL LIFE IN COUNTRIES WHERE IT IS ESPECIALLY ENDANGERED.

The Assembly, on September 28th, 1922, adopted the following resolutions:

“(a) The Assembly has noted with much interest the detailed investigations carried
out by the Committee on Intellectual Co-operation regarding the conditions of intel-
lectual life in countries where its continuance is especially endangered. The Assembly
invites the Council to follow up this important question within the limits proposed by
the Committee on Intellectual Co-operation.

“(b) The Assembly invites the Council to stimulate an intellectual co-operation
based upon international solidarity, in order to procure scientific books and documents
for the universities and schools of those countries which, as a result of war, have been
deprived of them and which have not sufficient resources to acquire them.”

The Council considered the questions raised by these resolutions at a meeting held on October
4th, 1922. It drew a distinction between the position in Austria, which was particularly diffi-
cult and which called for immediate and effective assistance, and that of the other countries
of Central and Eastern Europe. It instructed the Committee on Intellectual Co-operation to
choose an Austrian correspondent, and it asked the Committee to address an appeal on behalf
of Austria to the institutions and learned societies of all countries.

The Committee chose for its Austrian correspondent Professor Dopsch, of the University
of Vienna. Professor Dopsch is forwarding to the Committee periodical and detailed reports
on his activity and is preparing a general review on the position of intellectual life in Austria.

The appeal on behalf of Austria was issued on November 4th, 1922. Some 1,000 copies
were printed and despatched.

The Committee has received numerous replies to this appeal from various countries, including
Belgium, France, Great Britain, Greece, India, Italy, Japan, Spain, Sweden and the United States.
The replies indicate that a considerable number of institutions are making a serious effort to come
to the assistance of Austria, particularly by the despatch of scientific publications.

The Council, in considering the position of the other countries where intellectual life was
especially endangered, asked the Committee to present detailed proposals as to the most effec-
tive means of ascertaining their requirements and of informing those which might be prepared
to assist.

The Committee, in accordance with these instructions, submitted a definite plan which was
approved by the Council on January 30th, 1923. The Committee has since taken steps to put this
plan into effect. It has invited institutions in the various countries to serve as intermediary
between the Committee and the intellectuals of the various countries. These institutions have
consented to assist the Committee in its enquiry and to inform it of the most urgent requirements
of scientific bodies and of intellectual workers in general. Local institutions are assisting the
Committee in Albania, Austria, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Estonia, Finland, Greece, Hungary,
Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Roumania and the Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes. In
the majority of cases the local institutions have formed national committees on intellectual co-
operation which are in regular communication with the Committee of the League of Nations.
The Committee has also transmitted requests coming from the Free City of Danzig and has collected
information on the situation of intellectual workers in Germany.

The correspondence with these institutions shows that in a majority of the above countries
intellectual life has been immensely stimulated since the war, but that it is impeded not only by
material difficulties but by the difficulty of keeping intellectually in touch with other countries.
These countries find themselves deprived of the scientific and literary publications of other coun-
tries owing to the unfavourable exchange. Their intellectual workers feel it urgently necessary to
complete their professional education abroad, and this again is practically impossible owing to the
crisis in the exchanges. There is a corresponding difficulty in publishing the results of scientific work
which is done in these countries. Information as to their requirements has been forwarded by the
Secretary of the Committee on Intellectual Co-operation to the institutions which, in the western
countries, are dealing with intellectual exchanges and intellectual assistance for countries less
fortunately situated. In special cases the Committee has addressed a direct appeal to the scientific
institutions producing the publications required. In some cases these appeals have resulted im-
mediately in the despatch of scientific publications to the countries in need of them.