III. HEALTH ORGANISATION.

The Council of the League of Nations, during its forty-fifth session in June 1927, approved the recommendations contained in the report of the short extraordinary session of the Health Committee which was held in Paris in the preceding April. These recommendations included the text of the agreements concluded between the Permanent Committee of the Office international d’hygiène publique and the Health Organisation of the League, the texts of which were reproduced in the main report to the eighth ordinary session of the Assembly (document A. 13. 1927).

Dr. T. Madsen, President of the Health Committee, accompanied by the Director of the Health Section of the Secretariat, undertook a tour in Argentine, Brazil and Uruguay which lasted from May 13th to July 23rd, 1927. They attended a Conference at Montevideo, reference to which is made in the section of the present report relating to the Commission of Health Experts on Infant Welfare, and they took the opportunity of discussing with the health administrations of the three countries such of their respective health problems as have an international bearing. A report, addressed to the Council by the President of the Health Committee, describes the results of the tour and makes suggestions for closer co-operation between the various health administrations and the Health Organisation of the League.

BUREAU OF EPIDEMIOLOGICAL INTELLIGENCE AT SINGAPORE.

As stated in the general report to the Assembly, all administrations participating in the work of the Singapore Bureau have been asked whether they desire to use the Bureau for the discharge of certain obligations imposed by the International Sanitary Convention of 1926. Up to the present replies have been received from the following administrations: Australia, French Somaliland, Hong-Kong, Iraq, Macao, Madagascar, Mozambique, New Zealand, North Borneo, Philippine Islands, South Africa, Straits Settlements, Tanganyika.

All the above administrations, with the exception of New Zealand, have expressed their readiness to transmit, through the Singapore Bureau, to the Office international d’hygiène publique, the notifications and information demanded by Articles 1, 2, 3, 6, 9, 12, 14, 16, 21, 28, 50 and 57 of the International Sanitary Convention.

The Health Department of New Zealand desires to consult the Ministry of Health in London before coming to a decision.

WORK OF THE COMMISSIONS.

Malaria Commission.

The second general report of the Malaria Commission (document C.H./Malaria/73) has recently been published (July 1927). It deals with the principles and methods of anti-malarial measures in Europe. It summarises the results of the investigations carried out by the Commission during a series of tours in all the countries in Europe, as well as Palestine and Syria, in which malaria is an important cause of sickness. In writing the report, the Commission was largely influenced by a desire to assist those countries in which the cost of public health measures is an important consideration. The conclusions arrived at should be of service to the public health administrations of all European countries which are concerned with the problem of malaria control.

Two members of the Malaria Commission have recently completed a tour in the United States of America, where anti-malarial activities were studied; their report is now in course of preparation.

Malaria Courses. — Special courses in malaria, organised for the benefit of Government health officers engaged in anti-malarial work, have been held in the Public Health Institute of the Faculty of Medicine in Paris and at the Institute of Maritime and Tropical Medicine, Hamburg. The course at Hamburg was held from May 9th to June 13th, the number of participants being twenty-three. The course in Paris commenced on June 7th and concluded on July 12th; there were forty participants.

On the conclusion of these laboratory courses, participants were given the opportunity of studying and taking part in practical anti-malarial work in the field in selected districts of Italy, Spain and the Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes.

Commission of Health Experts on Infant Welfare.

The investigations described in the general report are being continued. A meeting of the experts engaged in the enquiry was held at Leyden from May 30th to June 1st, 1927, when results and methods were discussed and compared, and note taken of the progress of the investigations. In addition, meetings of the national experts and investigators have been held in Berlin, London, Oslo, Utrecht and Vienna.

An important Conference of South American Experts on Child Welfare was held in Montevideo from June 7th to 11th, under the honorary presidency of Dr. Luis Morquio, President of the Ministry of Industry of Uruguay, Dr. Madsen, President of the Health Committee,
presiding over the Conference. The Director of the Health Section of the Secretariat of the League of Nations was also present.

A special report regarding the work of this Conference will be presented to the Council by the President of the Health Committee.

**International Sleeping-Sickness Commission.**

The work of this Commission was terminated in June 1927, when the members met at Entebbe and discussed their final reports. They agreed on a series of recommendations relating to international co-operation in carrying out measures against the disease. These reports and recommendations have not yet been received.

**INTERCHANGES OF PUBLIC HEALTH PERSONNEL.**

*Interchange in Germany.*

The organisation of the interchange of medical officers which commences in Germany on September 19th next has been completed. There will be thirty participants. The tour will begin in Berlin at the "Reichsgesundheitsamt", where a study will be made of the general organisation of the German sanitary administration. The subsequent tour will last seven weeks, during which many sanitary and health problems in different cities will receive attention. At the end of each week, the participants will meet in conference to enable an exchange of views and impressions to take place. Most of the sanitary administrations invited have nominated the heads of their departments to take part in this tour. A final conference of the participants will be held in Geneva from November 1st to 3rd, 1927.

**II.**

**PROTECTION OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN IN THE NEAR EAST.**

I. **Work in Aleppo.**

The Assembly, at its seventh ordinary session, decided that the mission for the rescue of women and children entrusted to Miss Jeppe by the League of Nations should be prolonged for one year more under the high authority of the Power which holds a mandate in Syria under the League of Nations. Miss Jeppe was requested to submit to the next ordinary session of the Assembly a final report on all the results of her mission. The following is a brief summary of the report in question.

Miss Jeppe states that the work of the Commission has met with much sympathy and encouragement and has therefore made successful progress with the whole-hearted support of the French Government. It is further stated that the Commission has met with no difficulty or resistance from any special element of the native population.

The number of rescued last year (325) exceeded that of former years, the largest achievement of any previous year being 300.

(a) **Areas explored.**

It is stated that, as far as Syrian territory is concerned, practically all the deported women and children who have been detained against their will will have been offered an opportunity to return to their own people before the Commission finally closes its stations in December 1927. Those who remain consist probably of women who have formed ties of a permanent nature.

(b) **Character of the Work carried out.**

The Commission was originally constituted as a commission of enquiry. The actual rescue work began in March 1922. During the following five years 1,600 people have been rescued; 1,400 have entered the Reception House of the Commission and figure on its list. In addition, many rescues have been effected in collaboration with the relatives of the people in question, and the direct expenses have been paid by the latter, or else the rescued have joined their relatives before they reached the house of the Commission. The number of these cases is estimated to be at least 200.
(c) Cost of the Work.

Turkish gold pounds

The contributions of the League of Nations to the work of the
Aleppo Branch have amounted to 9,926.36
The contributions from other sources to 14,029.06
Total 23,955.32
Still in hand in cash and stock 3,770.00

Used for the rescue, maintenance and education of 1,600 persons 20,185.32
or a little over £18,000 sterling, which gives an average of £11 5s. per head.

The average cost of the rescue (including office expenses, the maintenance of stations, travelling expenses and care of persons who for various reasons live outside the house) has been £5 sterling per head. The maintenance of the Rescue Home (including board, clothing, medical care, education and settling on the land of some of the bigger boys) has amounted to £6 5s. per head.

(d) Methods of Rescue.

When the rescue work was started in 1922, it was fully realised that a great number of the deported women and children had finally settled down in their new surroundings, but it was also known that many of them were retained by force or had remained where they were because they believed that their people were all dead and that they had no place to which to go. The aim of the Commission was to rescue as many of these as was possible. In order to do this the Rescue Home was created, destined to become for these people a haven where they could find protection and a home where they could be cared for until they were able to get into touch with their relatives or be able to take care of themselves. Several stations were also established, the chief task of which was to spread among those living in remote villages or among the Bedouin tribes the news of the existence of the Rescue Home and, in case of need, to give assistance to those who wished to get there. The stations were also placed close to the French military centres, and, as soon as the people reached them, they were under the protection of the French authorities who also guarded them on the road by giving them a special "laissez-passer".

The rescue, however, always required an effort on the part of the rescued, who had to decide for themselves whether they would leave the surroundings in which they were living. The responsibility rested with them.

(e) Age and Sex of the Rescued.

In order to give a clear idea of the whole rescue work, statistics were prepared on May 31st, 1927, classifying the people according to their sex and according to their age at the time of the deportations. It was found that:

1. 13 per cent of the rescued were girls or young women who in 1915 were over 11 years of age;
2. 17 per cent were girls who in 1915 were between 6 and 11 years of age;
3. 37 per cent were boys who in 1915 were between 6 and 12 years of age;
4. 15 per cent were boys who in 1915 were between 4 and 6 years of age;
5. The rest were little children in 1915.

(f) Education and Settlement of the Rescued.

The Commission is happy to be able to report that 75 per cent of the rescued have succeeded in getting into touch with their relatives; 400 have become self-supporting — they have been helped to learn a trade or else to find suitable work. Many of them have also come in contact with their own relatives and so are counted under both headings. A good number are now supporting their mothers or other poor relatives.

For 30 children, the Commission has found supporters who were willing to give them a thorough education, and 45 children have been placed under the care of various institutions. There are still 110 persons in the Home in Aleppo, and 45 boys are being trained as peasants in the village home. Therefore, the League of Nations is asked to leave in Miss Jeppe's possession, until the work is definitely brought to an end, the funds, furniture or stock of any kind which she has acquired in connection with her work for the protection of women and children.

2. Work in Constantinople.

The Assembly, at its seventh ordinary session, did not find it possible to continue for another year the grant from the League for the work carried out under the direction of Miss Mills, but offered her the loan of the equipment of the Neutral House. This decision was communicated to Miss Mills in a letter from the Secretary-General dated October 18th, 1926.
In reply to his letter, Miss Mills informed the Secretary-General that she accepted with pleasure the offer of the loan of the equipment of the Neutral House for another year. The American Women's Hospitals, as well as other friends who are interested in the work at Constantinople, are continuing their financial support. Miss Mills has asked the Secretary-General to convey to the Assembly her thanks for the opportunity which has been given to her for carrying out the work for the protection of women and children over a period of four years.

12. ARMENIAN REFUGEE SETTLEMENT SCHEME.

During its seventh ordinary session, the Assembly, at its meeting on September 25th, 1926, adopted, inter alia, the following resolution:

"The Assembly:

(3) Requests the Council to consider the possibility, after due enquiry, of setting up a small committee, under the chairmanship of a member appointed by the Council, and consisting partly of representatives of private organisations interested in the promotion of this scheme, to investigate the possibility of obtaining the sum required and of using it for the purposes of the scheme in the Republic of Armenia;

(4) Decides that a sum of 15,000 francs be allowed subject to the conditions already set forth, in order to provide for the printing and distribution of literature regarding the proposed financial operation, and to permit Dr. Nansen — or his representative — to lay his proposals before possible contributors in Europe and America."

The Council, at a meeting held on September 16th of the same year, stated that it was prepared, if money were forthcoming, for the promotion of the scheme, from private organisations or individuals or otherwise, subject to certain conditions and "if requested by the parties interested, to nominate a suitable person or persons to supervise the due expenditure of the money within the conditions of the scheme".

These resolutions of the Council and of the Assembly were adopted after consideration of a report by the special Commission appointed by the Council on September 26th, 1925, and of the Financial Committee's report. These two reports concluded that the issue of a public loan, with ordinary guarantees, to finance the scheme could not be contemplated. It was not found possible to suggest to the Council that it should be associated with a loan under the same form as had been adopted in other cases where the League had accepted responsibility (Austria Hungary, Greece, Bulgaria, etc.). If, however, money could be provided privately, either as a loan or as a gift, the Council might be willing, if requested by the parties interested, to nominate a suitable person or persons to supervise the due expenditure of the money within the conditions of the scheme.

Under these conditions, and in conformity with the fourth resolution adopted by the Assembly, Dr. Nansen undertook to make enquiries in the United States and elsewhere, and to ascertain whether it was possible to obtain money privately with a view to meeting the first expenses which the promotion of the scheme would involve.

The question was included in the agenda of the session of the Council held in March 1927 but was adjourned. It was eventually examined by the Council at its meetings held on June 16th and 17th, 1927. Dr. Nansen was present during the discussion and stated that, the enquiry into the possibility of raising privately a sufficient sum having led to negative results, he had proposed to the Armenian Government that it should take over the irrigation of its own country and raise the necessary funds for this purpose. It was calculated that the work would cost between £600,000 and £900,000. If the Armenian Government could do this, Dr. Nansen promised to do his utmost to raise the money necessary to transport the Armenian refugees and settle them on the land so irrigated. This would involve an expenditure of £500,000. The Armenian Government had stated that, while agreeing in principle, Dr. Nansen's proposal involved a new scheme which it would be necessary to consider in detail, and that it would give a definite reply at a later date. Dr. Nansen informed the Council that he had received promises from the Armenians in Europe and America to the effect that they would raise part of the money necessary to settle the refugees. These promises would cover about one-third of the necessary amount, and the question arose whether it would be possible for the Members of the League to raise the rest of the money.
After hearing Dr. Nansen’s statement and the observations of the German and British representatives and of the Rapporteur, the Chilian representative, the Council decided:

“1. That the Minutes of this meeting of the Council, and any further documents which Dr. Nansen may think it desirable to circulate, should be sent to all Governments in order that the present position with regard to the settlement of Armenian refugees may be made quite clear, and that the question should be placed on the agenda of the next session of the Council;

“2. That the Members of the Council should invite their Governments to examine with sympathy the proposals put forward by Dr. Nansen, subject to satisfactory undertakings by the Armenian Government as to the necessary irrigation work in connection with the settlement scheme.”

In conformity with this decision, the question has been placed on the agenda of the Council session to be held in September 1927.

The entire scheme in full technical detail, together with the relevant official documents up to September 1926, has been issued in the form of a League of Nations publication in a volume numbered C.699.M.264.1926. IV, which has been transmitted to all Governments.

WORK OF THE COMMITTEE ON INTELLECTUAL CO-OPERATION.

The International Committee on Intellectual Co-operation held its ninth plenary session at Geneva from July 20th to 26th, 1927.

This session was preceded — on July 4th and onwards — by meetings of the Sub-Committees and of the Sub-Committee of Experts for the Instruction of Youth in the Existence and Aims of the League of Nations. A summary of the work done will be found below, together with indications of the main questions dealt with and the results obtained. These results are largely due to the effective instrument possessed by the Committee in the International Institute of Intellectual Co-operation. The Sections of the Institute carried out nearly all the preparatory work for the Sub-Committees.

I. INSTRUCTION OF YOUTH IN THE EXISTENCE AND AIMS OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS.

The Sub-Committee of Experts for the Instruction of Children and Youth in the Existence and Aims of the League of Nations held a number of meetings between July 4th and July 6th. The Sub-Committee considers that the preparatory work it undertook is now at an end, and a complete programme has been mapped out, which it is now proposed to carry into execution. This scheme has been reviewed in a report by M. Jules Destée which it is unnecessary to summarise here.

The first part of the scheme, which relates to the place which information about the League and about international co-operation should enjoy in the regular education courses from primary school to university, is, in the main, the same as that which was submitted to the Assembly last year. The recommendations have been somewhat rearranged and perfected. In addition, the report deals with the general question of the development of the international spirit and makes three proposals of a practical nature: first, the Sub-Committee suggests that there should be formed simultaneously at the Secretariat and at the Institute a League of Nations educational information centre; secondly, that there should be appointed each year, in agreement with the respective Governments and for the most important world languages, of lecturers who would remain at the disposal of the teaching staff and of any persons who might apply to them for assistance or advice; finally, it proposes that the Sub-Committee itself should be authorised to meet every two or three years to take note of the results obtained.

II. SUB-COMMITTEE ON UNIVERSITY RELATIONS.

The Sub-Committee on University Relations met on July 7th and 8th. It first considered the report submitted by the Institute on the activities of its University Relations Section and decided to remodel the Bulletin published by the Institute, so as to give it a more interesting character and to include original articles on international university life. It next passed to the proposal for international handbooks worked out in February 1927 by a Committee of Experts. The value to all students of such aids to work, especially when planned on identical lines, cannot be over-estimated. The information it is proposed to supply relates to intellectual organisations, savants, men of letters, and artists, and it would be published according to countries but on a common plan, so as to facilitate its use. The Sub-Committee then directed
its attention to the question of intellectual "self-help"—for instance, the purchase of scientific publications at reduced prices and methods by which scientific works published in a little-known language might be made accessible to all readers.

The work of the University Sub-Committee has been facilitated by two meetings which have been held yearly since 1926. The first of these brings together every spring at Geneva the delegates of the International Students' Associations. This meeting, which took place on April 11th and 12th, showed that the individual associations have a very clear idea of their particular aims and are consequently desirous of maintaining their independence, but that common needs impose on each the necessity of continuous co-operation with all the others. Naturally, this collaboration must be confined to limited, definite and practical objects, such as the international students' card, the problem of unemployment among intellectual workers or the proposed international sanatorium. All this, however, requires a common centre of co-ordination and information. Accordingly, the international associations were agreed in regarding their annual Conference as their common centre and in accepting the Institute, that is to say, the University Relations Section, as the executive and technical organ of that centre.

The second annual meeting is that of the Directors of National University Offices. This met in Paris on June 2nd and 3rd. Ten Offices were represented, the German Office for the first time. The object of this Conference is to co-ordinate as far as possible the work of the National Offices, to found new Offices in countries where they do not yet exist and to study problems of interchange.

The Sub-Committee also resumed the study of Mme. Curie's proposal relating to international post-graduate scholarships and work in laboratories. This scheme had already occupied the attention of the Sub-Committee the previous year; it is to be submitted to a Committee of Experts, who will consider the methods of putting it into practice.

III. Sub-Committee on Bibliography.

The Sub-Committee on Bibliography met on July 11th, 12th and 13th. It again dealt with the co-ordination of bibliography, a problem of very great importance for scientific progress which the Committee on Intellectual Co-operation had taken up as long ago as 1922. The method consists in appealing to specialists in every branch where such co-ordination is desirable. In that of Greek and Roman Antiquity, no agreement has been reached at present, and a basis of agreement is still being sought; in that of the Economic Sciences, on the other hand, the work is well advanced and the Sub-Committee hopes to overcome the financial obstacles in the way. In that of the Biological Sciences, where the number of bibliographical reviews to be co-ordinated is greater than in the case of the economic sciences and where the publications in question have had to be grouped in eight classes corresponding to the main divisions of these sciences, only preliminary work has so far been carried out.

The co-ordination of the national information bureaux established in connection with certain libraries has gone much further. It was proposed to establish in the Institute a special service of librarians, to form a connecting link between the National Information Services, and to encourage the establishment of such services in countries where they do not at present exist. This new organisation would enable scholars and scientists to find rapidly the publications they require but cannot procure in their local libraries, by putting them in touch with institutions where they can be found. The task of drawing up the necessary scheme would be given to the librarians themselves, so that, as far as possible, the exchange would be carried out by the libraries direct. In this way the work of the Institute would be made easier. Among other questions dealt with by the Sub-Committee mention may be made of the following: inks and papers in official documents, unification of anatomical nomenclature and the format of periodicals. New proposals have been submitted to it regarding the publication of the annual tables of constants and mathematical quantities. The Sub-Committee has taken a keen interest in the continuation of this work, by which M. Charles Marie has rendered a great service to physicists and chemists. Finally, the Sub-Committee heard a report by the Chief of the Scientific Relations Section in the Historical and Social Science Division, on the question of a linguistic bibliography.

IV. Sub-Committee for Intellectual Rights.

The Sub-Committee for Intellectual Rights met on July 14th and 15th. It again took up the problem of scientific property on the basis of an enquiry by the Legal Service of the Institute directed to Governments, scientists and manufacturers. It considered that the preparatory period, which had already lasted for three years, could now be regarded as an end, and that the time had come to frame a preliminary draft international convention amending Senator Ruffini's plan in the light of the results obtained by the enquiry. This draft would be prepared by the Legal Service of the Institute and submitted to a Committee of Experts who would also be furnished with all the information so far collected. In this way, by taking into account past experience and future possibilities, there will be no very great difficulty in finding at any rate intermediate solutions which will permit of the settlement, by successive steps, of this important problem which the Committee on Intellectual Co-operation has dealt with from the outset, and which it does not intend to abandon.
Finally, we may add that this Committee of Experts will also examine a very interesting proposal by M. Casares to limit the sphere in which proprietary rights would be applied to scientists in respect of the commercial exploitation of their discoveries. Another question is that of copyright and its extensions. This subject was discussed very fully in view of the near approach of the Rome Conference for the Revision of the Convention on Literary and Artistic Property. The Institute has been invited to take part in this Congress.

Moreover, the Sub-Committees for Intellectual Rights and for Arts and Letters are conjoinedly agreed as to the desirability of abolishing the right of reservation by States, and of limiting the duration of copyright to a period of fifty years after the death of the author.

V. SUB-COMMITTEE FOR ARTS AND LETTERS.

The Sub-Committee for Arts and Letters, which met from July 16th to 19th, is in a position to submit certain definite projects, three at least of which are of great importance.

The first is the International Museums Office. This Office is no longer merely a project; it has now reached the stage of organisation and even of achievement. Its first undertaking — an agreement between the three great chalcographical institutions of Madrid, Paris and Rome — has met with complete success. This agreement led to the holding of exhibitions in the three capitals in the course of the past few months. They were so successful that other cities — Brussels, Geneva, Liège, Mulhouse and Saragossa and cities in the United States of America — have asked to hold the exhibition in their turn, and the Belgian Government has decided to found a national chalcographical institution. Unfortunately, both the funds and the staff of the Office, which has its headquarters at the Institute at Paris and is placed under the direction of the head of the Artistic Relations Section, are still obviously inadequate. Nevertheless, the Office will continue to study all questions relating to museums and the part played by museums in education, to publish all bibliographical information, to prepare an agreement relating to the exchange of casts on the same lines as that for engravings, etc. This will necessitate a number of important meetings of experts next year.

The publications of the Section represent a further achievement. They include the Bulletin of the Museums Office, called Moussion, a pamphlet entitled "La coopération intellectuelle et les Beaux-Arts", and, finally, a special brochure containing a list of the principal collections of photographs of works of art, with exhaustive notes.

Another undertaking of wide scope is that of the International Congress of Popular Arts. The object of this Congress is both scientific and social. It is to create systematically a science of popular arts which will serve to reveal the common property of mankind in such matters, to compile a list of the popular arts still existing and to indicate the methods by which they can be made to live and bear fruit in our modern industrialised world. This Congress will meet at Prague in October 1928. This proposed Congress has given rise to further initiative. For example, it seems that the possible organisation of exhibitions on popular arts would be a necessary, adjunct to the theoretical work of the Congress, beginning with a general exhibition in 1931 or 1932 which the City of Berne has offered to organise.

This action, which is designed to encourage the popular arts, would appear to merit the attention of the Council and the Assembly.

With regard to letters, a problem that has occupied the Sub-Committee since its creation is that of translation. During the winter, it has been studied by a Committee of Experts, and the Sub-Committee has accordingly decided on a method of work. It desires that there should be formed in every country national groups of translators and that these groups should subsequently be federated. There would thus be formed an International Translation Committee, with which the Institute would maintain regular contact and to which it might even offer hospitality.

In addition to these three main questions, the Sub-Committee has dealt with the question of copyright on the same lines as the Sub-Committee for Intellectual Rights and in co-operation with it. It decided to place on its agenda the protection of the beauties of nature and the countryside, especially the question of national parks. Acting on a report submitted by M. Baud-Bovy and M. Ganz, it has laid down the provisional lines of an International Arts Yearbook.

VI. PLENARY COMMITTEE.

The Plenary Committee has had to fulfil a double task — as Committee on Intellectual Co-operation and as Governing Body of the Institute. As Governing Body of the Institute, it heard and discussed a report submitted by M. de Reynold on behalf of the Committee of Directors, and two other reports submitted by M. Luchaire, Director of the Institute. M. Luchaire's first report indicated an improvement in the financial position of the Institute thanks to grants from the Governments of Austria, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Italy, Monaco, Poland and Switzerland. The Governing Body adds that there is no doubt that this example will be followed and that, indeed, this is essential if the Institute is to have the means of continuing and accomplishing its task. On no other conditions would it be in a position to carry on its work and to fulfil the hopes placed in it.

The Committee on Intellectual Co-operation has examined with the closest attention a second report by M. Luchaire in which he sets out at length the actual work of the Institute. The Committee wishes to express its appreciation of the extent of this work and the zeal displayed.
by the Director, the Deputy Director, the Chiefs of Sections and Services and all the members of the staff.

In most cases, the Committee had only to confirm the provisional decisions taken and to record the results obtained by the Sub-Committees and Committees of Experts. In certain directions, as in that of cinematography, it has advised caution, because it acts on the principle of not undertaking too many schemes at once; of not doing work which others can do as well, or perhaps better; of avoiding overlapping — and still more, competition — and finally of doing a little thoroughly rather than a great deal superficially.

The Committee felt also that the time was ripe for a general revision of its organisation and its activities, that is to say, of the whole field of intellectual co-operation. These are questions with which it will have to deal later, but, as an immediate step, it recognised the necessity for appointing to the sub-committees a small number of new collaborators, so as to give better representation to both national and technical elements.

It desires the system of substitutes to be used as seldom as possible, and only in cases of strict necessity.

It also expressed a wish that representatives of the National Committees should meet periodically, even if only at fairly long intervals. It has, moreover, decided to establish direct relations with only one National Committee in each country. This Committee, however, has full liberty to organise itself as it wishes, and to group at will its national intellectual forces.

The Committee gave long consideration to the project submitted to it by the Deputy-Director of the Institute for an international Who's Who. This project had already been submitted to a Committee of experts. The Committee, however, again altered it on the following lines: the portion reserved in this yearbook for the intellectual world, the term being used in its widest sense, should be considerably enlarged; the co-operation, and consequently the responsibility, of the Committee would only extend to this portion. The project thus amended will again come before the Committee of Directors of the Institute, who will have full powers to approve it, alter it or refuse it as they wish. While stressing the necessity for proceeding with caution, the Committee emphasised the great importance of this undertaking.

The Committee appointed two correspondents, one a Greek and the other a national of the Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes. It nominated M. Einstein and M. Destée to represent it, with power to vote, on the Advisory Committee of Intellectual Workers which the International Labour Office has decided to take over; that is, it fully approved the latter's proposals and looks to the happiest results from this co-operation.

The Committee nominated its Chairman, M. Lorentz, or failing the Chairman, its Vice-Chairman, Professor Gilbert Murray, to be at the disposal of the Assembly in September.

Lastly, it examined certain questions submitted to it direct, such as the obstacles in the way of the international diffusion of books, statistics relating to the intellectual world, etc.

---

14.

CONFERENCE FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN INTERNATIONAL RELIEF UNION.

The Conference for the Establishment of an International Union for the Relief of Populations stricken by Disaster, summoned in virtue of the Council resolution of December 10th, 1926, met at Geneva from July 4th to 12th, 1927, when it framed a Convention, Statutes and Final Act.

Invitations were issued both to States Members of the League and to Afghanistan, Egypt, Ecuador, Hedjaz, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Mexico, Monaco, San Marino, Sudan, Turkey, the Union of the Socialist Soviet Republics and the United States of America.

The International Committee of the Red Cross and the League of Red Cross Societies were invited to send official representatives in an advisory capacity. Several members of the Preparatory Committee of the Conference were invited to attend as experts.

The President, who was appointed by the Council, was M. Kuelz, member of the Reichstag and former Minister.

* * *

The Conference was attended by delegations for the following countries: Abyssinia, Afghanistan, Austria, Belgium, Bolivia, Bulgaria, China, Colombia, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Danzig, Denmark, Ecuador, Egypt, Finland, France, Germany, Great Britain, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, India, Irish Free State, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Monaco, Netherlands, New
Zealand, Nicaragua, Poland, Portugal, Roumania, Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes, the Republic of San Marino, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Uruguay and Venezuela.

The Military Sovereign Order of the Knights of Malta sent an observer.

I. PREPARATORY WORK.

Twenty-one Governments approved the fundamental principles of the scheme and, in 1924, the fifth ordinary session of the Assembly requested the Council to appoint a Preparatory Committee to study whether it was technologically feasible.

Under the chairmanship of Senator Ciraolo, the Committee, including in particular representatives of the International Red Cross Organisations, held several meetings in 1925, in the course of which it drew up a draft Statute which it submitted to the Council and to the Assembly during its sixth ordinary session in 1925. The revised scheme came again before the Council in December 1925, and was submitted for formal examination to the different Governments, which were asked to communicate their views on the subject before July 1st, 1926.

The majority of the Governments consulted having expressed their general approval of the constitution of the Union and their willingness to accept, in their general lines, the proposed Statutes, the Council decided to summon a Conference in 1927 for the conclusion of the necessary agreement with a view to the definite foundation of the Union.

II. ANALYSIS OF THE CONVENTION AND STATUTES.

The Convention.

The Union is constituted between States. This fact introduces in the constitution of the Union a principle of official international solidarity and mutual aid in case of disaster, even though the idea of insurance has been completely abandoned.

Each State Member of the Union undertakes to contribute to the establishment of an initial fund a sum equal to 700 Swiss francs for each unit in its quota of the League budget. The other resources of the Union will be purely voluntary in character. The Union will nevertheless always have some funds at its disposal, particularly the initial fund, which must be regularly reconstituted with the aid of funds of all kinds placed at its disposal. It can therefore — and this is one of the practical advantages aimed at by the authors of the scheme — send first aid immediately without waiting for the result of appeals to the public in case of disasters. In present conditions, it is precisely this prompt despatch of first aid which is lacking at a time when it would be most useful, namely, the period immediately following the disaster.

In addition to rendering first aid, the object of the Union is to co-ordinate the efforts of relief organisations in the event of any disaster, and, in a general way, to encourage the study of preventive measures against disasters, and to induce all peoples to render mutual international assistance.

Although the Union has been constituted between States, it contemplates an extremely close co-operation with non-official organisations, in particular, with the Red Cross Societies. States which desire to do so may be represented in the Union by their national Red Cross Society.

Moreover, as becomes evident from the analysis of the Statutes, both in the organisation of the central and permanent services of the Union and in the sending of assistance to various countries, the constitution and working of the Union presuppose free co-operation with the national Red Cross Societies and with institutions or bodies constituting a moral and legal bond between the national Red Cross Societies, and with any other official or non-official organisation able to undertake similar activities with regard to populations stricken by disaster, working if possible in collaboration with the Red Cross.

The International Relief Union will operate for the benefit of all stricken peoples whatever their nationality or their race, and irrespective of any social, political or religious distinction. Its activities will nevertheless be limited to disasters occurring in the territories of members of the Union, or to disasters of such a nature as to affect those territories.

The Union will have its seat in the city in which the League is established, that is, Geneva. It will be able to sue or be sued, and to acquire, with or without consideration, and to possess property of any kind, subject to the law of the country concerned.

In addition to the initial fund, the resources of the Union will consist in voluntary grants that may be made by Governments, of private contributions, and of donations of all kinds.

The financial responsibility of States members of the Union will be confined to the obligation to contribute to the initial fund. In their territories and so far as is possible under the local law, the Contracting Parties will undertake to accord to the Union and to organisations acting in its name, the most extensive immunities, facilities and exemptions for their establishments, for the movements of their staffs and supplies, for relief operations and for the publicity of appeals. The Convention provides for the settlement by negotiation or by arbitral or judicial procedure (in the latter case through the Permanent Court of International Justice) of any differences which may arise between States regarding the interpretation and application of the Convention.

The Convention is open for signature until April 30th, 1928. From May 1st of the same year it will be open for accessions. It will come into force only when ratified or acceded to
by twelve Members of the League of Nations or non-Member States of which the combined contributions amount to 600 shares (that is, 600 times 700 Swiss francs).

Any Member of the Union may withdraw from the Union by giving one year's notice in writing to the Secretary-General of the League.

The Conference, in adopting the Convention, took note of statements by representatives of the International Committee of the Red Cross and the League of Red Cross Societies, approving the Convention and expressing their readiness to discharge the tasks they might be called upon to perform in pursuance of its terms.

On this occasion, M. Werner adhered on behalf of the International Committee of the Red Cross to the work of the Conference. The International Committee, he said, welcomed the creation of a new bond of union between nations.

Mr. Kittredge, recalled that the Board of Governors of the League of Red Cross Societies had fully approved the declaration made by Colonel Bicknell before the Preparatory Committee, to the effect that the League of Red Cross Societies could be counted upon to assume its share of the burdens of the Secretariat of the International Relief Union including the necessary expenses therein involved, if it were called upon to do so. He further stated that the League of Red Cross Societies was prepared, in conformity with Article 14 of the Statute of the International Relief Union, to provide at its own expense such part of the permanent and central services of the International Relief Union as the Executive Committee of the Union might see fit to confide to it when the Union was definitely constituted. In this connection, the American Red Cross, if the Government of the United States adhered to the Convention, would automatically assume the functions that would be delegated to it by its Government. In that event, the American Red Cross wished to make clear that it would act as an integral part of the machinery of the Union. If, however, the Government of the United States did not become immediately a signatory of the Convention, the American Red Cross still desired that, in international relief action, it should collaborate as closely as possible with the services of the Union. It had already examined this possibility and was prepared to state that it would endeavour, in whatever relief action it undertook, to co-operate through the machinery of the Union.

III. STATUTES.

The International Relief Union will be directed by a General Council, which will appoint an Executive Committee.

General Council.

The General Council of the Union, which will serve as the deliberative and constitutional body, will be competent to deal with all the affairs of the Union and will be composed of delegates of all the Members of the Union, there being one delegate for each Member. Each member may be represented by its national Red Cross Society or by an appropriate national organisation. The Secretary-General of the League may attend or be represented at all the meetings of the General Council and the Executive Committee.

The General Council will meet every two years at the seat of the Union. For its meetings, a quorum of the delegates of half the Members of the Union is necessary; its decisions will be taken by a majority vote.

Executive Committee.

The Executive Committee will be composed of seven members appointed by the General Council for two years. It will also include, in a consultative capacity, two representatives of the international organisations of the Red Cross.

It will meet at least once a year at the seat of the Union, administer the funds of the Union and of the Union in its dealings with the League, with Governments, and with the organisations provided for in the Convention. In case of disaster, it will have the power to act on behalf of the Union and to organise relief. It will prepare an annual report on its work, which will be communicated to the Members of the Union and to the Council and Assembly of the League of Nations.

The Executive Committee will be assisted by experts whom it will appoint for one or more countries or for geographical zones including several countries, as it may decide in agreement with the Members concerned. The experts, who must reside in the zone for which they are named, will be summoned when their collaboration is demanded. In case of disaster, they automatically become the official advisers of the Executive Committee for the organisation of relief. Such relief will be organised in each zone on behalf of the Union, by the organisations provided for in the Convention.

Funds of the Union.

The general and permanent expenses of the Union will be defrayed in the first place by the International Red Cross organisations so far as their means permit. Should these means prove insufficient, the Union may draw on the income from its initial relief fund and from its reserve. A levy of one per cent on all sums put at the disposal of the Union allows it in case of need to supplement its resources. The funds of the Union will be audited by the League of Nations, it being understood that the League assumes no responsibility thereby.
IV. FINAL ACT.

The Final Act of the Convention contains resolutions interpreting certain articles of the Statute and Convention in regard to points of detail.

V. SIGNATURES.

The Convention, which is open for signature up to April 30th, 1928, has been signed by thirteen States: Belgium, Bulgaria, Colombia, Cuba, Danzig, Ecuador, Germany, Guatemala, Italy, Monaco, Poland, Spain and Uruguay.

ARCHITECTURAL COMPETITION FOR THE ERECTION OF A LEAGUE OF NATIONS BUILDING AT GENEVA.

The special session of the Assembly of the League of Nations on March 13th, 1926, passed the following resolution:

"The Assembly,

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

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

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

The competition for the selection of a plan and an architect to construct the buildings was declared open on July 25th, 1926. The closing date of the competition was fixed at January 25th, 1927. The final date for the receipt of plans at Geneva was March 31st, 1927.

Three hundred and seventy-seven designs were received within the prescribed time limit, and the Jury of Architects assembled on March 25th, 1927, in order to begin the work of judging the plans submitted.

After a session lasting nearly six weeks, the Jury presented on May 5th, 1927, at a public meeting held at the Secretariat of the League of Nations, the following report:

"The appeal made by the League of Nations to the architects of all its Member States to employ their talents in an extremely important architectural undertaking received an extensive response.

"Three hundred and seventy-seven architects took part in the competition and submitted thousands of drawings expressing their ideas in a practical and artistic form worthy of the object in view. Although these ideas did not achieve perfection, the plans contained a wealth of valuable and original suggestions.

"The Jury desires to thank all the architects for the keen interest and great amount of work which they have devoted to their plans.

"The Jury's duties were clearly defined in the programme and rules for the competition and nearly six weeks were occupied in carrying them out. The Jury endeavoured in the first place to justify the confidence of the competitors by carefully checking the packages received, verifying their contents and supervising the placing of the plans.

"The Jury was most anxious to judge the designs in strict accordance with the programme and rules and first of all satisfied itself that the material conditions of the programme and rules had been complied with. It then proceeded to study the plans and to examine their architectural and artistic qualities from the point of view of site, facilities for movement inside the building and traffic outside, arrangement and form of the building, construction, and harmonious and logical architectural development.
The Jury was confronted with an extraordinary wealth of ideas, but was reluctantly compelled to realise that its work was made difficult by the fact that a considerable proportion of the competitors had not adhered strictly enough to the material conditions required by the programme and rules. With regard to the carrying-out of the programme, the fact that the designs show fundamental differences in their conception of the scheme is explained by the evolutionary phase through which contemporary architecture is now passing.

Having jointly and severally studied the plans with care and at great length and formed an opinion as to their material and artistic value, the Jury unanimously decided that the results of the competition did not justify it in recommending any one of the plans for execution.

The Jury unanimously decided to distribute the sum of 165,000 Swiss francs, placed at its disposal, as follows:

- Nine prizes of 12,000 francs each;
- Nine honourable mentions, Class I: 3,800 francs each;
- Nine honourable mentions, Class II: 2,500 francs each. ¹

16.

CONFERENCE OF PRESS EXPERTS

The Conference of Press Experts convened by the Council sat from August 24th to August 29th.

It included 63 delegates, 20 assessors, and 35 experts belonging to 38 countries, Members or non-Members of the League of Nations, representing not only the various opinions prevailing in the world, but the various classes concerned with the Press: owners of newspapers, representatives of news agencies, journalists and directors of Press bureaux.

The Conference examined in succession questions concerning telegraphic and telephonic rates, the coding of telegrams, the improvement of communications, the protection of news, the despatch of newspapers and professional facilities for journalists.

The Conference adopted resolutions on all these points, which have been communicated to the Council (documents C. 442. 1927, C. 443. 1927, and C. 445. 1927) and to the Assembly of the League of Nations (document A. 43. 1927).

¹ For the list of prizes and honourable mentions, see Official Journal, June 1927, page 729.