
The steps taken by the Health Organisation in response to the request of the Greek Government for its assistance in the sanitary reorganisation of Greece were summarised in the general report to the Assembly (document A.6.1929, page 101).

The Council, during its June session, adopted the following resolution:

"The Council:

"Notes with satisfaction that the plan for the sanitary reorganisation of Greece, framed by the Health Committee at the request of the Greek Government and in conformity with the Council resolution of December 13th, 1928, has been adopted by that Government;

"Approves the manner in which the delegation of the Health Committee has acquitted itself of its task;

"Invites the Health Committee, in conformity with the Council resolution of December 1928 and in accordance with the desire expressed by the Prime Minister of the Greek Republic on April 19th, 1929, to offer all its technical assistance, with a view to the subsequent development of the plan which has now been agreed upon, on the lines laid down in that plan."

The Rapporteur, submitting this resolution, said he was sure that the Council would desire to express to the delegation of the Health Committee and the experts who had assisted in this work its deep appreciation of the highly creditable manner in which they had fulfilled their task. The representative of Greece, present at the meeting of the Council, cordially associated himself with the congratulations addressed to the Health Committee. He assured the Council that the work in Greece had aroused general admiration and that the Greek Government attached the highest importance to what had been done. The scheme proposed for its acceptance had been approved; bills had been drafted and would shortly be submitted to Parliament. The Prime Minister of Greece had himself assumed the direction of the Ministry of Health, thus showing the importance which he attached to the task of reorganisation.

B. INFANT MORTALITY: APPLICATION OF SPECIFIC METHODS OF IMMUNISATION AGAINST SCARLET FEVER AND DIPHTHERIA.

The Medical Director was authorised by the Health Committee, in October 1928, to ask certain experts to study and submit a report on the results obtained in certain countries of Europe and in America on the application of methods of specific immunisation against scarlet fever and diphtheria. Professor Debre, of Paris, was asked to undertake the report on scarlet fever, and Professor Gorter, of Leyden, the report on diphtheria.

Both experts made a study tour in Europe and prepared preliminary memoranda recording their impressions. Among the many interesting facts that have emerged from the enquiry the most striking feature, in regard to which agreement was universal, was the urgent need for a technical discussion and an exchange of material between the various research workers and clinicians in the different countries visited.

The Chairman of the Health Committee and the Medical Director were accordingly authorised by the Health Committee to obtain expert advice, and a consultation with experts was duly held in Paris on July 4th, 5th and 6th, 1929. The experts were invited not to discuss the problems which they were asked to consider, but to prepare a plan of future work of investigation. It was agreed that the method to be followed should be that of comparative experiments in selected districts, where the conditions of environment were comparable, using the same material, method and system of appraising results.

The experiments in regard to immunisation against diphtheria will be conducted in Czechoslovakia, Denmark, England, France, Germany, Hungary, the Netherlands, Poland, Roumania and the Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes.

The experiments in immunisation against scarlet fever will be conducted in Czechoslovakia, France, Germany, Hungary, the Netherlands, Poland, Roumania and the Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes. The enquiries will cover some 30,000 cases.

It is considered that these experiments will be extremely useful in estimating the value of immunisation against these diseases, which constitute one of the important causes of mortality among children.

C. COLLECTIVE STUDY TOUR: INTERCHANGE FOR THE STUDY OF PROBLEMS OF RURAL HYGIENE IN DENMARK AND THE NETHERLANDS.

A preliminary note upon this interchange was given in the general report to the Assembly (document A.6.1929, page 105). Twelve persons belonging to twelve different countries took part in a tour which began on June 3rd, 1929, at Copenhagen, and finished at The Hague on July 9th. The participants visited Copenhagen and the surrounding district, reviewing the central organisation of public health in Denmark, as well as the agricultural and veterinary institutions. They noted the measures applied for the control of milk and cattle. They
subsequently visited the rural districts of Denmark, Zealand, Fünen and the peninsula of Jutland, where they studied the conditions relating to rural hygiene.

The participants arrived at The Hague on June 26th, and thereafter visited Northern Holland, Amsterdam, Southern Holland, Brabant, Limburg and the Province of Drenthe. They reviewed conditions relating to rural housing, water-supplies in rural districts, and the organisation of rural hygiene in general.

The tour concluded with a conference at The Hague from July 6th to 9th, 1929.

D. ESTABLISHMENT OF A PERMANENT SECRETARIAT FOR THE UNIFICATION OF PHARMACOPEÆ.

The Belgian Government addressed to the Secretary-General on June 27th, 1929, a letter concerning the creation of a permanent secretariat for the unification of pharmacopoeæ and the establishment of certain international committees. The action of the Belgian Government was the result of a recommendation made by the second International Conference for the Unification of the Formulæ for Heroic Drugs which met at Brussels in 1925. The Conference had asked the Belgian Government to consult the League of Nations with a view to constituting the permanent Secretariat and the international Committees which the Conference had decided in principle to set up. The proposed Secretariat will be responsible for co-ordinating the work on the unification of pharmacopoeæ in accordance with a definite plan laid down by the Conference, and two international Committees will study respectively the standardisation of methods for the dosage of heroic remedies and the unification of methods of preparing heroic galenic remedies.

The Secretary-General, in a letter dated July 15th, 1929, informed the Belgian Government that the Health Organisation of the League considered that it had a special interest in the question which would, therefore, require to be submitted to the Council of the League of Nations. The Council would probably desire, in accordance with custom, to have the subject examined by the Health Committee before coming to a definite decision.

E. GENERAL PROGRESS.

Further progress has been made with the enquiries and activities summarised in the general report to the Assembly. In particular, the enquiry into syphilis is rapidly advancing. The final results of the enquiry into infant mortality will shortly be published, and other countries, including Denmark and Spain in Europe, and Colombia, Ecuador and Peru in South America, contemplate undertaking an enquiry organised on the same basis and in collaboration with the Health Organisation.

The liaison with South America has been strengthened and extended during a tour made by a representative of the Health Organisation, who had, on August 1st, visited Venezuela, Ecuador, Colombia, Bolivia, Peru, Chile and the Argentine.

11. HUMANITARIAN QUESTIONS.

I. PROTECTION AND WELFARE OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE.

A. TRAFFIC IN WOMEN AND CHILDREN.

The report on the work of the eighth session of the Traffic in Women and Children Committee, held at Geneva from April 19th to 26th, 1929, which was summarised in the general report to the Assembly (document A.6.1929), was submitted to the Council at its meeting on June 11th, 1929.

The British representative, as Rapporteur, in recommending for the Council’s approval the report and resolutions passed by the Committee, directed particular attention to the following points:

Continuation of the Experts’ Enquiry.

The Committee, having endorsed the opinion expressed by the Assembly at its ninth session that enquiries into the international traffic should be pursued in other countries, especially in the East, the Rapporteur understood that, should it be considered by the Council and by the interested States that such enquiry would be of real utility, there was a strong probability that the necessary funds would be made available from the same source as those provided for the previous enquiry.
The Council therefore decided to instruct the Secretary-General to communicate with the Governments concerned in the Near East, Middle East and Far East, whose territories were not visited in the course of the previous enquiry, and ascertain whether they would be prepared to give their consent and co-operation to the action suggested, on the understanding, of course, that the enquiry would relate strictly to the international aspect of the problem.

The Secretary-General will submit, if possible at the December session, a report dealing first with the replies received from the Governments concerned, and, secondly, containing suggestions as to the composition of the Special Body of Experts and the scope of the enquiry.

### System of Licensed Houses.

The Council noted that the Committee was still studying the question of the system of licensed houses, and that interesting statements on this question had been made by the French and other delegates. The Secretary-General was asked to approach Governments and voluntary organisations with a view to obtaining fuller information as to the measures taken to protect public order and health in countries that had abolished the system of licensed houses.

### Persons living on the Earnings of Prostitutes.

The Secretariat has, at the request of the Traffic in Women and Children Committee, prepared a useful report based on information supplied by various Governments as to the laws and penalties relating to the *souteneur*. The Council asked the Secretary-General to draw the attention of Governments to this report and to the importance of ensuring that legislation and its application should be effective in bringing the *souteneur* to justice.

### Age-limit in the Conventions.

As the age-limit (21) fixed by the International Convention of 1921 causes administrative difficulties in detecting cases of international traffic, the Council empowered the Secretary-General to ascertain the views of all Governments on the desirability of omitting the age-limit from the Convention.

### Obscene Publications.

Under Article XVI of the International Convention of 1924 on the subject of obscene publications, it is the duty of the Council to consider the desirability of calling another conference at the end of each period of five years. The Committee, however, considers that no further conference is at present required, and the Council accepted the Committee's advice.

### Composition of the Committee.

The attitude of the Council in regard to this matter was similar to that which it had adopted in respect of the Child Welfare Committee.

This attitude is made clear in the following passage from the report:

"The Committee was of the opinion that the number of assessors should be kept within such limits as are reasonable, having regard to the scope and nature of the Committee's work, and that they should, except in special cases, be selected as representing international organisations which are recognised as acting on behalf of large groups of children and young persons. After a long discussion, the Committee decided to suggest that the Council should be good enough to consult the Committee before any steps are taken in future to add to the number of assessors. It laid down certain desirable conditions in connection with the appointment and re-election of assessors and their term of office, with which I think the Council will agree."

### B. Child Welfare.

The Council, during its June session, considered the report of the Child Welfare Committee on the work of its fifth session. This report was summarised in the general report to the Assembly (document A.6.1929, pages 109 and 110).

The Council approved the report, and instructed the Secretary-General:

"(1) To communicate to all Governments the provisional draft agreement on the return to their homes of children and young people, and the provisional draft Convention on assistance to minors of foreign nationality, with the request that they forward their observations to the Secretariat by December 31st, 1929;"

"(2) To thank such Governments as have replied to the questionnaire on the position of the illegitimate child, and to invite Governments to continue to send information as to any changes in their laws;"

"(3) To send to all Governments, including those which are not Members of the League, the questionnaire concerning the auxiliary services of Juvenile Courts."
II. TRAFFIC IN OPIUM AND OTHER DANGEROUS DRUGS.

1. PERMANENT CENTRAL OPIUM BOARD.


It was noted in the general report to the Assembly that the Council, in March 1929, had asked the Permanent Central Opium Board to submit a report on its organisation and working to be considered by the Council during its June session (document A.6.1929, page 113).

The Council approved this report on June 12th, 1929, noting particularly the passage regarding the independence of the Board and the right which it claimed to communicate direct with Governments. The Board was of opinion that its relationships with the Advisory Committee should be as close as possible. It felt, however, that, until it had acquired some practical experience of its own duties, it could not say what measures might best be taken to ensure this co-operation.

It will be remembered that, in accordance with the suggestions of the Board, and with the views expressed by the Opium Advisory Committee, its Secretariat would form an integral part of the Secretariat of the League of Nations. The Board, however, laid stress on the fact that, in accordance with the Opium Convention, the Secretary of the Central Board must be responsible to it for the performance of his duties, though in all administrative matters concerning promotion, leave and discipline its staff would be governed by the staff regulations of the Secretariat.

The Council, while it was willing to make the necessary arrangements for the organisation and working of the Board, in order that effect might be given to Article 20 of the Convention, realised that the Board was not an organ of the Council, and that, being set up in accordance with the provisions of the Convention, it would itself be judge of the extent of the powers which it derived from that instrument. Attention, however, should perhaps be drawn to the following passage in the report adopted by the Council:

"At the same time, it must be remembered that the Board owes its existence to a Conference called by the League of Nations, that it draws its funds from the League, and that, under Article 20 of the Convention, the Secretary and staff are to be controlled in all administrative matters by the Secretary-General. It is not, therefore, in my opinion, a completely independent organ, except as regards its technical competence, and its staff should form part of the Secretariat of the League."

The Council, in the light of these considerations, decided that the Board should be an integral part of the Secretariat, being convinced that the Secretary-General would ensure its full technical independence in carrying out its duties and would remember that its staff was responsible to the Board for their fulfilment.

The Council further approved the appointment of M. Theodoli as Secretary of the Board. The staff has been attached by the Secretary-General, for administrative purposes, to the Opium Traffic and Social Questions Section of the Secretariat.

(b) Documents of the Permanent Central Opium Board: Question of Secrecy.

The representative of Venezuela on the Council during the discussion of the report of the Central Opium Board drew attention to the following passage:

"The Board thinks that all its documents should be treated like other confidential League of Nations documents, unless the Board gives special instructions to its Secretary that certain documents are to be kept absolutely secret."

He enquired whether these secret documents would be communicated to the members of the Council and the States which had signed the Geneva Convention.

The President of the Central Board said that the Board, in taking this decision, had not had any intention of laying down that certain documents should be kept absolutely secret. It had merely desired to ensure that Article 27 of the Geneva Convention should be effectively carried out. The Central Board under that article is required to take all necessary measures to ensure that estimates, statistics, information and explanations supplied to it shall not be made public in such a manner as to facilitate the operations of speculators or injure the legitimate commerce of any contracting party. The President of the Board pointed out that circumstances might arise in which the Board might wish to safeguard itself in the case of a document which, in its opinion, should be kept specially secret. He submitted that, if the Board were instructed not to keep any documents secret, although it considered it necessary to do so in the efficient discharge of its duties, such instruction would constitute a diminution of the technical independence of the Board.
It was understood, as a result of the discussion which ensued, that the correct procedure would be for the ordinary documents of the Central Board to go into the general archives and be treated by the general services of the Secretariat. The Central Board, however, might decide that a document was of so secret a nature that it should only be communicated to its own secretariat and be kept in a special file.


It was noted in the general report to the Assembly that the Advisory Committee on Traffic in Opium and other Dangerous Drugs asked the Council to send a letter to States Members of the League which had not yet ratified the Geneva Convention, urging that the control of the international trade in opium and drugs and the suppression of the illicit traffic could not operate effectively so long as a large number of States were unwilling to undertake the obligations of the Convention (document A.6.1929, page 110).

The Council, during its March session, authorised the Secretary-General to take the necessary action and the letter was immediately despatched.

The representative of Venezuela, during the discussion of the report of the Central Opium Board, again drew attention to the reluctance of a large number of States to ratify the Convention, and pointed out that an indeterminate delay must still be expected in the coming year. Certain declarations at the last session of the Advisory Committee had made it clear that the repression of the illicit traffic would be illusory so long as a practical system of limitation was not applied throughout the world. He suggested that the Council might take advantage of the delay in ratifying the Convention to make a thorough study of the essential and subsidiary causes of the check which had occurred.

He felt that particular account must be taken of the interests of the consuming countries, only a few of which were represented on the Advisory Committee. An endeavour should be made to discover whether closer and more active relations were not desirable between the Council and its Advisory Committee. The Council might think it advisable to ask the Committee to communicate to the Council its agenda, in accordance with existing provisions, before discussing it, thus making it possible for the Council to follow the work of the Committee more closely and to give it any instructions required.

The representative of Canada on the Council, acting as Rapporteur, expressed the view that the matter might more effectively be raised at the forthcoming session of the Assembly, when all the States would be represented.

3. Smuggling of Narcotics through the Post.

The Advisory Committee, in its report on the work of its twelfth session, suggested that the London Conference of the Universal Postal Union, to be held in 1929, should be asked to examine the possibility of introducing into the Convention a provision authorising the administrations, both in the countries of consignment and in the countries of destination, to subject to Customs supervision correspondence, letters, business papers, and samples which they had reason to suspect contained drugs. The Committee further suggested that the British Government should be invited to lay these recommendations before the Postal Conference.

The Secretary-General drew the attention of the British Government to this suggestion in March 1929.

The British Government has noted that the recommendations of the Advisory Committee on this subject are based on the view that, under the Postal Union Convention, the secrecy of letters is inviolable, and that no letter can be opened in the post unless the Convention be modified to admit of such action. It submits, in a letter to the Secretary-General of May 29th, 1929, that this view is based on a misunderstanding. The Postal Union Convention contains no reference to the inviolability of correspondence in the post, and the secrecy of the post is considered to be a matter for the domestic legislation of the contracting countries. Any country is therefore free to apply its own internal legislation to such matters as the opening of correspondence in the post and its submission to Customs supervision. The British Government took the view that the objects of the Committee would be attained in a more efficient and

--- 45 ---

"Each Government shall state from which country it will purchase its requirements in narcotic drugs for medical and scientific purposes.

"Some members of the Committee who were in favour of the general ideas embodied in this scheme asked that it should be taken as a starting-point for a general discussion at the next session on the limitation of manufacture and possibly the establishment of a Government monopoly.

"The majority of the Committee, while agreeing that the idea of a limitation of the manufacture of narcotic drugs by the means set forth in the scheme was ingenious, did not think that it could be realised in the manner proposed. The Committee did not think it advisable to take any action in regard to the scheme submitted to it. It is waiting to see the results of the application of the Geneva Convention, which has only just come into force and provides a strict system of control."
satisfactory way by agreement between the countries concerned to carry into effect the measures suggested.

Only one of the recommendations of the Advisory Committee is, in the view of the British Government, a matter which can be dealt with in the Postal Union Convention, namely, the recommendation that packages containing drugs shall not, in any case, be delivered to the persons to whom they are addressed, or sent back to the person despatching them. The British Government has given notice to the International Bureau of the Universal Postal Union of an appropriate amendment to Article 41 of the Convention, in order that effect may be given to the proposal of the Advisory Committee.

12.

INTELLECTUAL CO-OPERATION.

The International Committee on Intellectual Co-operation held its eleventh plenary session at Geneva from July 22nd to 26th, 1929, after the annual meetings of its various Sub-Committees (Intellectual Rights, University Relations, Arts and Letters, Science and Bibliography). Between the meetings of the Sub-Committees and the plenary session, a conference of National Committees on Intellectual Co-operation was also held.

Further, sitting as the Governing Body of the Institute with M. Leon Brunschvicg in the Chair (M. Painleve being unable to attend), the plenary Committee examined, on July 29th, 1929, the finance and administration of the Institute and adopted its budget.

I. SUB-COMMITTEE ON INTELLECTUAL RIGHTS.

The Sub-Committee on Intellectual Rights met on July 1st and 2nd, under the chairmanship of M. Casares.

SCIENTIFIC PROPERTY.

The question of scientific property, one of the most important matters with which the Sub-Committee has to deal, is still very far from solution, but progress is being made. The draft International Convention drawn up in 1927 by a Committee of Experts which met in Paris was very carefully examined last year. As a result of observations submitted by M. Serruys on behalf of the Economic Committee, it was recognised that the draft International Convention, if it were to be practicable, must contain an additional clause guaranteeing manufacturers, by a system of insurances, against the new burdens which would be the outcome of the royalties to be paid to scientists and inventors. M. Gallié, General Secretary of the International Confederation of Intellectual Workers, was asked to draft this clause. From enquiries made of insurance companies in France, Great Britain and elsewhere, it appears that the time has come to make a new effort to define as accurately as possible the scope to be covered by insurance and to convene a meeting of experts on the subject. The Sub-Committee adopted a resolution to this effect.

COPYRIGHT.

A second important question is that of copyright. The Sub-Committee considered that the part of the League of Nations was to assist in the efforts made to harmonise the Berne Convention, as revised at Berlin and subsequently at Rome, and the Buenos Aires Convention, as revised at Havana, and to unify the laws and agreements protecting intellectual productions. The Sub-Committee and the plenary Committee propose to collect in one or more publications the results of the enquiries and researches carried out by the Paris Institute for the use of the diplomatic conference which is to meet at Brussels in 1935 to prepare for the revision of the Berne Convention.

II. SUB-COMMITTEE ON UNIVERSITY RELATIONS.

This Sub-Committee sat from July 4th to 6th, under the chairmanship of M. Rocco. Co-ordination in the sphere of university relations is being carried out primarily in the committees which, for some years past, have to some extent become supplementary organs of the Sub-Committee, namely, the Committee of Directors of National University Offices and the Committee of Representatives of Students’ International Associations as well as the Committee of Representatives of Scientific Institutes of International Studies.

COMMITTEE OF DIRECTORS OF NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OFFICES.

This Committee has continued to concern itself with the question of equivalences, and also with a question to the importance of which the plenary Committee called attention as long ago as 1922 — the teaching of modern languages. The Sub-Committee and the plenary Committee have decided to keep in touch with the Congress which the Hungarian Government is proposing to hold at Budapest on this subject, and to give it technical assistance.
COMMITTEE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF STUDENTS' INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATIONS.

The work of this Committee is proceeding at a somewhat slower pace. As its programme has been almost entirely completed, there seems to be no object in holding a meeting next year until fresh questions arise, and, if none do arise, the meeting might be postponed.

COMMITTEE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF SCIENTIFIC INSTITUTES OF INTERNATIONAL STUDIES.

On the other hand, a new Committee — that of the Representatives of Scientific Institutes of International Studies — has been doing valuable work during the last two years. The first meeting was held at Berlin in 1928; this year another session took place in London. An executive committee was appointed to superintend, during the intervals between the sessions, the performance of the work jointly undertaken.

POST-UNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIPS.

The difficult problem of post-university scholarships was considered by the Sub-Committee. The latter hopes that it will be possible, this year, to summon a Committee of Experts, comprising not only representatives of qualified institutions but also a certain number of directors of laboratories and university institutes.

PUBLICATIONS.

The Sub-Committee calls attention to two publications on which the Institute has successfully embarked. The first of these deals with *University Exchanges in Europe*; a revised and enlarged edition in English has recently been issued with the help of a grant from the American National Council on Education; this volume will shortly be reissued in French and German. The second publication is the Annual List of Holiday Courses.

III. SUB-COMMITTEE ON ARTS AND LETTERS.

The Sub-Committee on Arts and Letters sat from July 8th to 12th, under the chairmanship of M. Destree.

INTERNATIONAL MUSEUMS OFFICE.

The Sub-Committee drew attention to the development of the institutions for whose creation it was responsible, and especially the International Museums Office. In its view, this office, the activity of which is constantly increasing, cannot do its work satisfactorily unless it has its own autonomous organisation within the Institute. The International Museums Office has been dealing more particularly with casts, an exhibition of which is now open at Cologne; with the educational rôle of museums; with the establishment of an international centre for information regarding the reproduction of works of art; with a scheme for international lecture tours; and with the publication of *Mousetion*, which is at present perhaps the only review dealing exclusively with museum subjects. The Sub-Committee considers that further efforts are required to increase the circulation of this review.

POPULAR ARTS.

The Sub-Committee noted the success of the International Congress on Popular Arts held at Prague last October, and referred to in the general report to the Assembly (document A.6.1929, page 120). In this connection it should be mentioned that the city of Berne proposes to organise in 1934 an international exhibition of popular art which will serve as a continuation of the Prague Congress and an illustration of its aims.

LETTERS.

In the province of literature, which has scarcely yet been touched, the Sub-Committee has pursued the study of the problem of translation, and has authorised the Institute to continue its negotiations for the resumption of the International Publishers' Congresses.

MUSIC.

The Sub-Committee has resumed consideration of the question of pitch, and has once more expressed the desire that the meeting of experts which it proposed last year should be held.
IV. SUB-COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE AND BIBLIOGRAPHY.

The Sub-Committee sat from July 13th to 16th, under the chairmanship of M. Kriss. It dealt with a large number of special problems, such as the standardisation of linguistic terms, the preservation of printed matter and manuscripts, etc. As was the case last year, however, library co-ordination and the co-ordination of scientific bibliography were the two chief questions on its agenda.

LIBRARY CO-ORDINATION.

As regards the first of these questions, the Sub-Committee recommended that the Committee of Library Experts should again be convened; that the guide to national information services and to formalities for obtaining loans should be published; that a second edition of the *Index Bibliographicus* should be prepared; that the attempt to introduce a common system of abbreviations for titles of periodicals should be continued; that detailed proposals should be made for the exchange of information between important libraries in connection with the purchase of foreign books; and, lastly, that the study of questions connected with international exchanges of publications should be resumed. It also directed the Institute of Intellectual Co-operation to enter into informal negotiations with the Brussels Institute with a view to laying the foundations of practical co-operation, and at the same time it recorded the success of the Congress of the International Federation of Librarians' Associations at Rome.

CO-ORDINATION OF SCIENTIFIC BIBLIOGRAPHY.

In regard to the co-ordination of bibliography, no important advance has been made during the year. As regards the biological sciences, it is already so far advanced as no longer to require the Sub-Committee's attention. For the physical sciences, a Conference of Experts is to meet before the end of the year. In the case of the economic sciences, no agreement has yet been reached. Lastly, in connection with the Romance languages, a scheme of improvement regarding bibliographical methods is now ready and has been accepted by the principal publications of analytical bibliography in this question.

ENQUIRY INTO THE EXTENT OF THE MATERIAL RESOURCES AT THE DISPOSAL OF SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH.

The Sub-Committee has further been occupied with a most important enquiry into the extent of the material resources at the disposal of scientific research. This enquiry has taken the form of the compilation of intellectual statistics on a large scale, and has been undertaken by the Institute. It amounts to a resumption, on a much more scientific basis, of the enquiry into conditions of intellectual life which the Committee undertook as long ago as 1922, but which it was prevented by lack of funds from completing. The work seems to be sufficiently advanced, thanks to the co-operation of Governments, to make it possible shortly to publish the first tables. These will doubtless bring up problems in the investigation of which a beginning can be made in 1930. Special attention will have to be given to that part of the enquiry which concerns the resources available for pure science.

V. MEETING OF REPRESENTATIVES OF NATIONAL COMMITTEES.

The representatives of the National Committees met at Geneva from July 18th to 20th, under the chairmanship of Professor Gilbert Murray. Two other meetings had previously taken place at Paris in 1923 and at Warsaw in 1926, but the meeting at Geneva marked an advance upon its predecessors; first, owing to the fact that the number and importance of the National Committees had increased, as, for example, by the quite recent establishment of the Italian and British Committees; and, secondly, owing to the fact that the contact of these Committees with the International Committee and the International Institute was more regular.

The representatives assembled at Geneva discussed their relations and their method of co-operation with the International Committee and the Institute of Intellectual Co-operation, and with other international institutions. The representatives at the meeting made it clear that the National Committees do not merely maintain fruitful contact with these bodies, but are themselves centres of intellectual relations. They also pointed out that the organisation of the National Committees is now completed, but varies in different countries. In some they are more or less in the nature of official Governmental bodies, while in others they have an independent status.

With regard to the relations of the National Committees with the International Committee and the Institute of Intellectual Co-operation, the representatives made certain recommendations and suggestions. According to the views expressed the work of intellectual co-operation should be simplified. The tasks of the Committee and those of the Institute should be limited to a small number of practical problems of international importance, and should not in any way duplicate the work of existing international scientific organisations. The International Committee, as well as the Institute, should, as far as possible, have no relations except with the qualified National Committees.
Before concluding their work, the representatives of the National Committees asked the Committee on Intellectual Co-operation to consider, in the light of the experience acquired, the practical working and the ultimate object of the whole organisation for intellectual co-operation.

They also put forward a number of suggestions as to the work to be done by each of the National Committees within its own province, and expressed the desire that the Committee on Intellectual Co-operation should decide to summon periodical conferences of National Committees at Geneva.

VI. PLENARY COMMITTEE.

Having re-elected Professor Gilbert Murray Chairman and Mme. Curie-Skłodowska and M. Jules Destée Vice-Chairmen, the Committee surveyed the progress made in the field of intellectual co-operation and noted the work of the International Institute at Paris. Its most important discussions were those bearing on a scheme for reviewing its work and its organisation in the hope of making improvements which will increase the positive results of its activities, especially those of the Institute.

At the opening of the session, the Chairman welcomed his new colleague, M. Mariano Cornejo (Peru), who replaces M. Leopoldo Lugones, resigned.

EDUCATIONAL FILMS.

The plenary Committee heard a statement from one of its members, M. Rocco, President of the Governing Body of the International Educational Cinematographic Institute at Rome, on the steps to be taken to reduce the price of films dealing with education and the Customs duties on them. The Committee also had before it a report by M. de Feo, Director of the International Educational Cinematographic Institute. It adopted his conclusions, more especially as regards the study of the relations between the educational cinema, television and broadcasting.

SUB-COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS FOR THE INSTRUCTION OF YOUTH IN THE EXISTENCE AND AIMS OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS.

The Committee considered reports from the League Information Centres at Geneva and Paris. These centres, established in pursuance of a decision taken by the Assembly at its eighth session, have the duty of keeping in contact with Governments and official and unofficial organisations and of collecting particulars concerning measures taken to instruct youth in the existence and aims of the League, and at the same time to furnish the teaching profession with information concerning the League.

The general report to the Assembly (document A.6.1929, page 119) includes a chapter on the question of the instruction of youth in the aims of the League, which contains details on the three following points: (1) handbooks for teachers; (2) summary of the League’s work for educational reviews; (3) question of the publication of a League of Nations Educational Review.

Having noted that these efforts have been welcomed on all sides, the Committee decided that another meeting of the Sub-Committee of Experts which compiled the booklet entitled How to Make the League of Nations Known should be held next year to consider how its work could be continued.

INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE OF INTELLECTUAL CO-OPERATION.

The Committee examined and discussed a report by M. Julien Luchaire, Director of the International Institute of Intellectual Co-operation, on the Institute’s activities. It also considered the reports submitted to the Sub-Committees on the work of the various sections of the Institute. The Sub-Committees and the plenary Committee outlined the Institute’s programme for 1930. In particular, the Committee instructed the Institute to deal with the question of international interchanges of school-children and to consider, in conjunction with the Secretariat, what inter-Governmental arrangements could be made to promote such exchanges.

Lastly, the Committee had the pleasure of hearing an announcement from M. Cornejo that Peru had decided to make an annual grant to the Institute, thus bringing the number of countries making such grants up to twenty.

REVIEW OF THE WORK AND ORGANISATION OF INTELLECTUAL CO-OPERATION.

The principal resolution adopted by the Committee was that which “requests the Chairman, in consultation with the Secretary-General of the League of Nations and with the Chairman of the Governing Body of the Institute, to appoint a small Committee of not more than five members of the International Committee to study the programme, work and organisation of
the International Committee on Intellectual Co-operation and of the organisations under its authority, and to give opinions on the improvements which might be introduced therein, so as to increase the positive results of their work”.

This Committee would be free to add to its number, after consultation with the Chairman, three other qualified persons who are not members of the Committee, but are already experienced in the problems under consideration.

In its report to the Council, the Committee recalls the fact that it was convened seven years ago on August 1st, 1922, to give its opinions on three questions which had been put to it, namely, how it would be possible to resume and extend international relations between the universities; how it would be possible to resume and extend international relations in the domain of science; how it would be possible to improve the methods of scientific bibliography in the international sphere.

At that time the Committee was only a temporary body. It subsequently became apparent that it would need several years to answer the highly complicated questions which had been put to it, and those which it had put to itself, having been left free by the Council to consider other problems. The Committee could not be satisfied with purely theoretical work, and felt the need of taking practical action. Thus it was that the Committee became the first to request a review in 1923. It felt that it could not carry on its work or achieve any results if it did not possess an executive organ. The French Government met this wish and need halway by offering, in 1924, to found the International Institute of Intellectual Co-operation. The Institute began work in January 1926.

The Committee further observes in its report that it was soon realised how essential the Institute was, and adds that it was also seen that the number of questions to be studied and problems to be solved was continually increasing, and that some choice among these questions and problems was essential. As early as 1927 the idea of a review of the work, method and organisation was expressed during the meetings. In 1928, this idea took concrete shape. Finally, this year the Committee considered that the time had come to go over and review very carefully all that it had done.

All that had been undertaken so far had been done in an empirical manner, as and when problems arose. “It is its duty”, says M. de Reynold, the Committee’s Rapporteur to the Council, “to stop for a moment to survey the path travelled, to consult the map and to draw up a new plan”. This is the more necessary inasmuch as the very idea of intellectual co-operation has, for the last two or three years, been making constant progress throughout the world, and the best friends of intellectual co-operation — those who are members of the bodies responsible for its promotion and those who take an interest in the matter — are the first to ask for such a review to-day. An expression of this feeling may also be found in the Minutes of the last meeting held by the representatives of National Committees at Geneva, but it is quite clear that, while the idea of a review is now sufficiently ripe to demand realisation, this idea comes, in the first instant, from the Committee itself.

The first thing that will be necessary is, on the basis of a list which has already been drawn up by the Institute, to review the work in progress and the projects awaiting completion, whether in the early or distant future, so as to eliminate all that is of immediate interest and all that other bodies are better able to deal with than the League, with the object of concentrating the latter’s efforts on essentials and thus making its work gain in depth rather than in extent.

In the Committee’s opinion, the proposed review will afford a clearer sight of the essential idea of intellectual co-operation. At its session in July 1928, the Committee took up this main general idea, and, in examining the reports of the Sub-Committees, made a point of applying the principle which it had adopted in 1923 — that of arranging the problems in order of importance, so as to leave on one side, temporarily or permanently, those which are of secondary interest or whose solution is not of immediate utility.

REPORT TO THE COUNCIL.

The Committee appointed M. de Reynold to report on its work to the Council. In his report, M. de Reynold analyses the work done at the last session, and lays special emphasis on the proposed general review of this work. His conclusions contain the following passage:

“The operations undertaken by the Committee direct, or at its instigation, have proceeded somewhat more slowly. This is due partly to the difficulties inherent in any undertaking in the international field; partly to the large number of schemes in course of execution (we see once more that the time has now come to reduce their number rather than seek to increase it); and partly to the methods of working, which require reconsideration.

On the other hand, constant progress is being made in regard to liaison and co-ordination. This is perhaps the essential part of our task. In any case, what we do must not be judged from a too purely administrative point of view; it must be remembered that a large public has been reached indirectly, quite apart from official action. Many instances could be given. Certain ideas launched or proposals made by the Committee became the object of public discussion; but the ideas have spread and the proposals have been taken up in other quarters. If it is true, as we said in connection with the Sub-Committee of Experts, that international co-operation is the normal method of conducting world affairs, it is quite certain — more certain with every day that passes — that international
co-operation is the normal method of conducting intellectual affairs, and is a necessity to the intellectual life of our time.

"The work we have begun must be continued in the face of all difficulties, for time is on its side. The moment has certainly come for a general rearrangement; but this must be entered upon in an optimistic and constructive spirit. It must never be forgotten that the field is a vast one, and that seven years of work are but a negligible portion of the time that must pass before what has been begun reaches, if ever it does reach, its conclusion.

13.

INTERNATIONAL RELIEF UNION.

To the list of ratifications given in the general report to the Assembly (document A. 6 1929, page 115) should be added the name of Germany, which deposited its instrument of ratification on July 22nd of the present year.

14.

CONSTRUCTION OF AN ASSEMBLY HALL, OF A NEW BUILDING FOR THE SECRETARIAT, AND OF A LIBRARY.

The Council, during its June session, considered the revised plan for the construction of an Assembly Hall, of a new building for the Secretariat, and of a Library, submitted by the Committee of Five. Particulars as to this plan were given in the general report to the Assembly (document A.6.1929, pages 122 and 123).

The Council adopted the following resolution:

"The Council accepts the views and ratifies the conclusions contained in the report dated June 1st, 1929, in which the Special Committee of five members named in the Assembly resolution of September 25th, 1928, approves the plans drawn up for the new buildings of the League of Nations."

The British representative referred to the question of the acoustics of the Assembly Hall. The President of the Council, acting as Rapporteur, emphasised the importance of the problem, which had already been considered and discussed by the Committee of Five and informed the Council that the Secretariat was making the necessary enquiries in collaboration with the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research in London, whose services had been placed at the disposal of the League by the British Government. It was understood that a member of the Building Committee would go to London with two architects to continue these enquiries in the near future.