University Offices whenever questions of common interest are placed on the agenda. The Sub-Committee also emphasises its interest in the publication by the Institute of a pamphlet containing certain information of international interest to students.

**Conference of Representatives of Institutes for the Scientific Study of International Relations.**

The Committee met this year for the third time. It avoided asking the Institute to undertake work which would perhaps be beyond its means and made a special effort to establish regular relations between the institutions represented. Among the common tasks which fall to these bodies may be mentioned the question of an international vocabulary of terms used in the political sciences, which has already been undertaken with success. The Sub-Committee further thought it desirable to notify the competent authorities of the various countries of the steps taken by certain universities with a view to developing international studies.

**Post-University Scholarships.**

The Committee of Experts contemplated last year met under the chairmanship of Mme Curie. The Sub-Committee considered the method which might be adopted in order to give a larger publicity to the recommendations adopted at this meeting, and proposed to send them to the various Governments, to the National Committees and to the large associations which allocate international scholarships. Further, it seemed useful to collect in a single publication all the information upon international scholarships available in all countries.

**Conference of Directors of Higher Education.**

In view of the almost universally favourable replies received from the Directors of Higher Education who have been consulted, the Sub-Committee contemplates carrying out in the near future a plan for a Conference of Directors of Higher Education. This scheme will be undertaken in stages, beginning with a preparatory meeting of the Directors of Higher Education from a very limited number of countries. The Directors will attend as experts and will establish the agenda of the future Conference and decide as to the countries which should be represented. The final end in view is a really international Conference, which will be devoted to enquiries into university relations.

**VI. Plenary Committee.**

The International Committee on Intellectual Co-operation again elected as its Chairman Professor Gilbert Murray, and as its Vice-Chairmen Mme. Curie and M. Jules Destée. The Chairman welcomed one new member of the Committee, M. Titulesco (Roumania), and regretted the absence at this session of the other new member of the Committee appointed by the Council, M. Wu Shi Fee (China).

The members of the Committee of Enquiry who were not members of the Committee, namely, Sir Frank Heath and Dr. Krüss (M. Roland-Marcel, Chairman of the Committee of Enquiry, being prevented from attending) were also present during the session.

**International Educational Cinematographic Institute.**

One of the members of the Committee, M. Rocco, Chairman of the Governing Body of the International Educational Cinematographic Institute at Rome, summarised the work done by the Institute since 1929. He drew particular attention to the draft International Convention for the Abolition of Customs Duties on Educational Films. This draft, after having been again submitted officially to the Economic Committee on June 5th, had been communicated on July 14th to all the Governments with a request that they should submit their views as to the convening of a Diplomatic Conference.

The Committee also considered a report from M. de Feo, Director of the Institute at Rome, which showed a continuous growth, in various countries and divers fields, of the activity and influence of the Institute. This activity has been usefully supported by the monthly publication in five languages of the *International Review of the Educational Cinematography* and various other publications. Various agreements have been concluded which are likely to encourage the development of the Institute, and to decrease its financial liabilities.

**Work of the Sub-Committees, including the Sub-Committee of Experts for the Instruction of Youth in the Aims of the League of Nations.**

The Committee noted the reports and draft reports and resolutions submitted to it by the Sub-Committees and by the Sub-Committee of Experts for the Instruction of Youth in the Aims of the League of Nations. The discussions upon the report of the Committee of Enquiry necessarily influenced the decisions of the plenary Committee on the resolutions of the Sub-Committees. Of these resolutions, some were set aside, others definitely approved, others finally referred for a fresh examination to the Executive Committee and Directors' Committee, the establishment of which is one of the reforms proposed by the Committee of Enquiry and accepted by the plenary Committee.
INTERNATIONAL INTERCHANGE OF YOUNG STUDENTS.

The International Institute of Intellectual Co-operation has submitted to the plenary Committee a report on the interchange of young students in secondary schools, in conformity with the resolution of the ninth Assembly. It was impossible that the report submitted this year should be anything but of a preparatory nature with a view to the accomplishment of the more important study which the subject deserves.

WORK OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON INTELLECTUAL WORKERS CONSTITUTED BY THE INTERNATIONAL LABOUR OFFICE.

The Committee considered the report of its representatives on the Advisory Committee on Intellectual Workers constituted by the International Labour Office, together with a report of the International Labour Office and a statement by its representative on the work of this Committee. It appeared from these reports that the collaboration between the two bodies was proceeding satisfactorily.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF ENQUIRY.

The discussions of the Committee naturally turned largely upon the report of the Committee of Enquiry. The full text of this report is annexed to the report submitted by M. de Reynold, Rapporteur of the plenary Committee to the Council. M. de Reynold indicates the passages in the report of the Committee of Enquiry which the Committee on Intellectual Co-operation endorses, together with the passages which it has amended or rejected, and the interpretation which it places upon these passages.

It is to be remembered that the Chairman of the plenary Committee established the programme of the Committee of Enquiry by asking it to consider six questions corresponding with the six chapters of the report submitted by the Committee of Enquiry. The six following titles accordingly constitute the framework of the report of the Committee of Enquiry:

I. General Discussion.
II. Definition of International Intellectual Co-operation within the framework of the League of Nations.
III. What should be the programme and methods of work of the organisation of International Co-operation of the League of Nations?
IV. In what order could this programme be best and most usefully carried out?
V. Having regard to the proposed definition and programme, how should the Committee on Intellectual Co-operation be constituted so as to fulfil the task entrusted to it by the Council of the League of Nations?
VI. The International Institute of Intellectual Co-operation as a technical organ of the Committee: its rôle, its organisation, its methods of work, its relations with the International Committee on Intellectual Co-operation, with the Governing Body and with the Secretariat of the League at Geneva.

The Committee of Enquiry worked according to the deductive method — that is to say, it first endeavoured to define intellectual co-operation. From this very general definition it deduced what the field of action should be; it then laid down a programme and finally sketched a plan of work to be undertaken during a period which may be fixed approximately at four years. M. de Reynold, in his report to the Council, emphasised that the principle which guided the Committee of Enquiry was that the work must henceforth be intensive rather than comprehensive, and that consequently the various problems must be taken up, not all at the same time, but each in turn, according as they are most important and urgent. M. de Reynold added that this did not mean in any way a restriction of the programme or a decrease of activity, but, on the contrary, a better likelihood of achieving concrete results. The Committee of Enquiry thought that greater efficiency would be obtained by simplification and by a co-ordination of all the parts constituting intellectual co-operation as a whole. The reforms proposed by the Committee of Enquiry consist in a more rational composition of the Committee itself, so that there may be a more equitable representation of the larger schools of thought; in suppressing the Sub-Committees which, though necessary at the outset, themselves tend at the present moment, after having done fruitful work, to become in effect Committees of Experts; in forming an Executive Committee and a Directors’ Committee which will follow and more closely supervise the development of intellectual co-operation; in rendering relations with the National Committees more regular and more intimate; and, finally, in reorganising the executive instrument of the Committee, namely, the Institute in Paris, not with a view to decreasing its importance, but in order to bring it into harmony with this general reorganisation.

It is to be noted, in reference to the Sub-Committees, that the Committee feels it essential to maintain, in the form of a permanent Committee, the present Sub-Committee on Arts and Letters, in which the general ideas whereby intellectual co-operation needs to be supported are discussed. In the absence of such ideas, a purely technical work would run the risk, in the long run, of becoming sterile. The Committee, at the close of its discussions, after having noted the resignation of M. Julien Luchaire, Director of the Institute, and the approaching departure of M. Oprescu, Secretary of the Committee on International Co-operation, decided to appoint them as members of the future permanent Committee on Arts and Letters.

In concluding his report to the Council, M. de Reynold made the following statement:

“The Committee unanimously trusts that the Assembly and the Council will think fit to accept its proposals, inasmuch as it is unanimously convinced that the very future...
of intellectual co-operation depends on their acceptance. The reforms and programme of work set forth in this report and in the annexes thereto are the fruit of years of experience and of lengthy study, followed by their exhaustive discussion. The time has come to step forth after this period of waiting and to enter upon a phase of existence when the proposed measures shall be applied so far as possible in their integrity.”

VII. GOVERNING BODY OF THE INSTITUTE IN PARIS.

The Governing Body examined the financial and administrative management and voted the budget of the Institute. It also discussed the report submitted to it by M. Vivaldi on the audited accounts of the Institute for 1929.

RESIGNATION OF M. JULIEN LUCHAIRE AND APPOINTMENT OF M. HENRI BONNET.

The Governing Body noted with regret the final decision of M. Julien Luchaire to resign from the Directorship of the Institute, and appointed him as Honorary Director as from January 1st, 1931, asking him to continue to fulfil his duties as Director up to that date. The Governing Body then dealt with the appointment of the future Director and unanimously selected M. Henri Bonnet for the post.

11.


A. PROCEDURE.

The Assembly, during its session in September 1928, instructed the competent officials of the autonomous organisations of the League, after examining the existing situation and the improvements which might be made, to consider what steps — in particular, amendments to the Staff Regulations — could be taken to ensure, in the future as in the past, the best possible administrative results. The conclusions of this enquiry were to be submitted to the Supervisory Commission, and a report on the question to be communicated to the Assembly at its next ordinary session.

The Secretary-General, immediately after the Assembly of 1928, appointed a Committee of five officials to furnish the Supervisory Commission with all the necessary information. This Committee received communications from members of the Secretariat and examined the suggestions of a Committee appointed by the staff. The Secretary-General, on the basis of the material thus collected, submitted a report to the Supervisory Commission on June 4th, 1929.

The Supervisory Commission was impressed by the complicated character of the problem and the important financial consequences involved. It was reluctant to forward to the Assembly recommendations which had not been adequately examined and accordingly proposed to submit its conclusions to the Assembly at its eleventh session (1930).

The Assembly, during its session in 1929, again considered the question. Two resolutions were laid before the Fourth Committee embodying rather different views of the procedure to be followed in the light of previous events. Certain delegates thought it desirable that the Fourth Committee should at once adopt a number of guiding principles to govern the enquiry still to be completed. This view was expressed in a resolution submitted by the British delegation, in which particular emphasis was laid upon the desirability of permanence for members of the staff, opportunities of promotion and an adequate system of pensions. Other delegates thought that those responsible for the enquiry should be left the fullest possible freedom of action. This view was embodied in a resolution submitted by the Italian delegation, which was drafted in more general terms. The Assembly noted the two draft resolutions and decided to appoint a Committee of Enquiry consisting of thirteen members. The Committee was instructed to prepare a report on the organisation of the three autonomous institutions in adequate time for its consideration by the Governments before the next session of the Assembly.

The Committee of Thirteen held two sessions from January 28th to February 7th and from June 16th to 29th, 1930. Its members emphasised at the outset that they were sitting in a personal capacity and that the decisions of the Committee did not in any way bind their Governments. The Committee examined a large mass of material supplied by the Secretary-
General, by the Director of the International Labour Office and the Registrar of the Permanent Court of International Justice. It also considered observations of the staff and examined reports from three actuaries of different nationalities upon a pensions scheme. The report of the Committee was distributed to the Council and the members of the League on July 16th, 1930.

B. RESULTS OF THE ENQUIRY.

1. GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

The Committee of Enquiry did not feel called upon to produce an entirely new scheme of organisation, but took for its guidance the work of previous enquiries made by Committees of the League or the Secretariat. It recognised the great value of the results achieved and the progress made in administrative organisation in the course of the previous ten years and confined itself to recommending such modifications as might meet the criticisms and the desires which had been expressed during the recent discussions in the Assembly. It laid down as guiding principles that the administrative bodies responsible for the work of the League must remain strictly international in character, be provided with an efficient staff and be organised in accordance with the customary administrative regulations adapted to the needs of an international organisation.

The Committee has endeavoured, in the interests of the States Members of the League, to make provision for the widest possible contact between the Secretariat and the different countries and to ensure that nationals of the various States may as far as possible be found in every grade. It at the same time recommends provisions designed to assure to the staff satisfactory working conditions and guarantees of security and justice.

The Committee, in discussing the general obligations of the staff, emphasises that its duties are not national but international, and that by accepting appointment the members pledge themselves to regulate their conduct with the interests of the League alone in view. They should not seek or receive instructions from any Government or other authority external to their organisation.

2. DURATION OF ENGAGEMENTS.

The Committee, while appreciating the importance of permanence and security for the officials of the League, considers that the nature of their duties makes it impossible to give to all of them without exception a guarantee of permanent employment. The custom has been hitherto to offer officials contracts which are renewable every seven years. This system has caused a certain uneasiness among the staff, who feel that they have no assured career and that their future prospects are inadequate. The Committee was unanimous in feeling that purely temporary engagements as a general rule were incompatible with the creation of a competent staff with sound and reliable traditions. The Committee was equally unanimous in realising that any complete and unrestricted application of the principle of permanency would lead to unfortunate consequences, frequently making it impossible to engage persons of proved experience, depriving the staff of a means of contact with public opinion in the various countries and interfering with the successive changes of staff which enable all systems of civilisation to be represented.

Two conflicting views, however, were expressed with regard to the precise application of the principle. The Committee unanimously decided that it should not apply to the directing officers of the Secretariat; it was equally unanimously that it should undoubtedly apply to staff of the second and third divisions and to the documentary services. There was disagreement, however, as to whether the principle should or should not apply to officials of the first division (excluding those belonging to the documentary services), a minority being opposed to its application to this category of officials, except in the form of contracts renewable every seven years. The majority, however, was of opinion that officials of the first division should receive permanent engagements offering them a long career with consequent security and opportunities of promotion.

Thus, all officials of the Secretariat, with the exception of the principal officers, would, under the recommendations of the majority of the Committee, receive contracts which would only be terminated by an age-limit, by resignation or dismissal. The Secretary-General, however, would have power to make temporary appointments, and he would use this discretion, for example, in the appointment of technical experts, persons with special political or other qualifications, or persons engaged for urgent or exceptional work. The Committee decided to retain the present age-limit of 60 years and approved the existing arrangement whereby a report is made at the end of each period of seven years on every permanent member of the Secretariat by the chief of the department concerned. The Secretary-General would, under this system, retain discretion to terminate the appointment of an official whose capacity and efficiency were obviously inadequate.

1 See below under 9 for a summary of the views of the minority.
3. Principal Officers of the Secretariat.

The Committee, in dealing with the problem of the higher direction of the Secretariat, emphasises that nothing must be done to impair the efficiency and impartiality of the administration, which could not fail to be compromised by any arrangement which involved its members in the pursuit of national aspirations or policy. It also emphasises that special regard must be had to the principle of international equality among the States Members of the League and that any arrangement that would exclude the nationals of certain States from the higher posts would be difficult to defend. It further considers that every official in the Secretariat should have an opportunity of obtaining the highest posts in the administration, not excluding that of the Secretary-General.

The majority of the Committee accordingly recommends that the Assembly should create five new posts of Under-Secretaries-General in order that nationals of Powers other than those at present represented among the principal officers may have an opportunity of admission. The five additional Under-Secretaries-General would be chosen from among nationals of States not permanently represented on the Council.

The principal officers of the Secretariat under the scheme recommended by the majority of the Committee would consist of a Secretary-General, a Deputy Secretary-General, eight Under-Secretaries-General and six Directors. Each of the Under-Secretaries-General and Directors would be responsible for a section of the Secretariat. The normal term of office of the Secretary-General would be ten years and for the other principal officers the term of office would be seven years. The appointment of the Secretary-General would be subject to prolongation by the Council with the approval of the Assembly. The appointments of the Deputy Secretary-General and Under-Secretaries-General would be renewable in exceptional cases. The appointment of the Directors would be renewable.

4. The Staff Divisions.

The first division, in addition to the principal officers of the Secretariat, would consist of officials responsible for preparing material for the deliberations of the various organisations of the League and for executing their decisions, together with certain officials assimilated to their category. The Committee lays down the principle that the various nationalities should be fairly represented in the first division and that preference should be given in filling vacant posts, provided that qualifications are equal, to candidates who already belong to the League Secretariat, the International Labour Office or the Registry of the Permanent Court.

The first division would be divided into three categories, namely (a) chiefs of section, (b) members of section, (c) members of the documentary services and officials assimilated thereto. The Committee has fixed a scale of salaries for all three categories.

The second division would consist of officials responsible for strictly secretarial and routine administrative duties. It would be divided into four categories, with more equality than hitherto as between the international and local staff.

The third division would consist of officials engaged in purely or chiefly manual work.

5. Safeguards and Application of the Staff Regulations.

The Committee carefully considered the question of the guarantees which should be accorded to officials in the application of the Staff Regulations. It approved the arrangements already in existence but suggested certain modifications and additions.

Under the recommendations of the Committee, the administration would be assisted by a Committee of Appointments and Promotion in the selection and promotion of staff; a Regrading Committee, to advise on the creation and classification of individual posts or the regrading of existing posts; an Advisory Committee on Disciplinary and Analogous Questions (Comité contentieux) to enquire into cases of alleged misconduct, wilful failure, negligence, inefficiency, or complaints of unfair treatment; an Administrative Committee to advise as to the general application of the Staff Regulations, and a Staff Committee to ensure contact between the staff and the higher administration. The Administrative Tribunal appointed by the Council to decide upon complaints alleging the non-observance of the terms of appointment of officials, would, of course, be maintained.

6. Pensions Scheme.

The Committee considers that the introduction of a pensions scheme is a matter of capital importance. The system which it proposes would apply to all local and international officials of the three international organisations appointed for life, appointed for at least seven years, or now serving and having served uninterruptedly on temporary contracts for seven years. The maximum pension, equivalent to one-half of the average annual salary of the official during the last three years of his service, would be granted to officials who had attained the age of 60 years and had served for 25 years.
7. ADAPTATION OF THE PROPOSED MEASURES TO THE INTERNATIONAL LABOUR OFFICE AND THE REGISTRY OF THE PERMANENT COURT OF INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE.

The Committee first recorded its recommendations in regard to the Organisation of the Secretariat of the League of Nations. It then discussed with the Director of the International Labour Office and the Registrar of the Permanent Court of International Justice how far these arrangements could be applied to the staff of the other two organisations.

(a) International Labour Office.

It did not seem to the Committee that there would be any advantage in altering the present structure of the Labour Office, which appeared to be justified by necessity and experience. It regarded the posts of Director and Deputy Director of the Labour Office as analogous to those of the Secretary-General and the Deputy Secretary-General. These posts would therefore be subject to appointment for ten and seven years respectively. The Chiefs of Division at the Labour Office are comparable with the Directors of the Secretariat and would henceforth be governed by the same rules. The same regulations in respect of the duration and termination of contracts, salaries and recruiting, age-limits, leave and pensions would also apply. The Committee approved the arrangements at present existing within the Labour Office governing the application of the Staff Regulations, including the custom of the Director to consult a Committee of the Staff Union, to which about ninety per cent of the staff belongs.

(b) The Registry of the Permanent Court of International Justice.

The Registrar of the Permanent Court of International Justice agreed that the proposals of the Committee in regard to the Secretariat might be adapted in their main features to the services of the Permanent Court, but the Committee recognised that the competent authorities must be allowed the utmost latitude as to the manner of their application. The Registry of the Court differs from the other two organisations, in that it consists of a very small number of officials and can only be regarded as in the first phase of its development. The Committee recommends that regulations of a very general character should be drafted for the staff of the Registry on the basis of those at present in force, regard being paid in the fullest possible measure to the principles adopted for the Secretariat. The principle applicable to the higher officials of the Registry would be that of permanence, the Registrar and Deputy Registrar being re-eligible every seven years, while other officials of the Registry would receive seven-year contracts, automatically renewable for further periods of seven years until the attainment of the age-limit. The post of Registrar would be regarded as equivalent to that of an Under-Secretary-General.

8. FINANCIAL CONSEQUENCES.

The Committee, to enable the Governments and the Assembly to form an idea of the financial consequences of the proposals put forward in its report, submits estimates of the expenditure involved. The approximate totals would be as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Year 1931</th>
<th>Maximum cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(a) Secretariat of the League of Nations</td>
<td>419,000</td>
<td>678,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(b) International Labour Office</td>
<td>143,000</td>
<td>509,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(c) Permanent Court of International Justice</td>
<td>14,000</td>
<td>43,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(d) Pensions system for the three institutions</td>
<td>843,000</td>
<td>843,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,419,000</strong></td>
<td><strong>2,073,000</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

9. THE VIEWS OF THE MINORITY.

(a) Principle of Permanency.

A minority of the Committee, consisting of Count Bernstorff, M. Gallavresi, M. Parra-Pérez and M. Urrutia, was, as already indicated, unable to agree to the views of the majority as to the precise application of the principle of permanency to officials of the first division of the staff. They admitted that the system of permanent contracts had certain advantages, in that it gave officials a strong feeling of security and was, generally speaking, undoubtedly in the interests of efficient administration. On the other hand, they feared that it involved a risk of creating a bureaucracy which might easily develop a spirit of routine unfavourable to the progress of new ideas in a young institution. They felt that this consideration applied with special force to the officials of the first division who were responsible for the intellectual work in connection with the executive and preparatory duties of the Secretariat. They emphasised that such officials, in addition to being first class from the purely administrative point of view, should also be acquainted with public opinion in their own countries, and emphasised that the Secretariat should be regarded as a kind of clearing house for the various currents of thought and ideas prevailing in the world. They accordingly recommended that the same rule should apply to officials of the first division as were adopted for similar reasons in respect of the higher staff, namely, that these officials should receive contracts for seven years renewable for periods of the same duration.

(b) The Principal Officers of the Secretariat.

Two members of the Committee, namely, Count Bernstorff and M. Gallavresi, presented minority proposals in regard to the principal officers of the Secretariat.
They pointed out that the direction of the Secretariat had acquired greater importance in the course of the last few years, and that duties of the Secretariat had assumed a more important character than those defined in the Noblemaire report of 1921. The political character of the work of the Secretariat has become accentuated, and decisions involving questions of interpretation or judgment have frequently to be taken.

It is expected that the work will already be in progress when the Assembly meets. As, however, this contract represents a considerable sum, the preparation of tenders and their subsequent verification and other formalities will probably occupy from two and a-half to three months. It was therefore decided by the Building Committee, set up in accordance with the Assembly resolution of 1924, that the present system under which the Secretary-General and the Deputy Secretary-General are alone responsible for the general direction of the Secretariat no longer meets the needs of the present situation, and they suggest that there might be instituted a system of joint control by a limited number of higher officials. It is proposed that the Under-Secretaries-General should form a governing body, with the Secretary-General in the chair, on a footing of equality between one another, and that this Board should discuss in plenary session all general questions and all the more important matters affecting the various Sections of the Secretariat. It will consider the action to be taken in carrying out the decisions of the Council and the Assembly, would ensure liaison with States Members of the League, determine the agendas of the Assembly, Council and Committees, authorise officials to proceed on missions and examine their reports.

They propose alternatively that the Secretary-General should remain solely responsible, but that he should be assisted in his duties by a Committee consisting of the Under-Secretaries-General, which would keep itself informed of all political questions and questions of principle and give the Secretary-General its opinion on such matters. The majority of the Committee were unable to accept these suggestions. Under the present arrangement, which is approved by the majority, the Secretary-General or his Deputy is in the position of a managing director and is alone responsible for the decisions which he may take. He has always attached special value to personal communication with the higher officials of the Secretariat, and, in forming his opinions on any problem, has invariably consulted the various heads of the various Sections, directly maintaining constant intercourse with these officials by means of weekly meetings. This system appeared to the majority of the Committee to be better than the institution of a formal advisory body within the Secretariat.

Count Bernstorff and M. Gallavresi were also opposed to increasing the number of Under-Secretaries-General, and were not prepared to go further than suggest that the Legal Adviser should henceforth be included among them. They urged that the States which are not permanently represented on the Council should realise that the holding of the post of Under-Secretary-General by a national of a country with a permanent seat on the Council is not a constitutional rule or privilege, but has proved useful in practice for the reason that nationals of countries with general interests are, by their capacity to serve as liaison agents, specially qualified to discharge the duties of Under-Secretary-General. They specifically propose that the post of Deputy Secretary-General should either be abolished or, if retained, should be held by the Under-Secretaries-General in turn, and that the five Under-Secretaries-General appointed under their scheme should each be entrusted with the supervision of several Sections of the Secretariat.

Finally, one member of the Committee, M. Hambro, although he voted with the majority on all questions of principle, entered a statement to the effect that he would have preferred to abolish the posts of Under-Secretary-General altogether, but refrained from raising the question owing to the political difficulties attaching at the present time to their suppression.

M. Hambro, moreover, was unable to vote for all the increases in salary and extra expenditure entailed by the majority proposals. He declared that, only if the Fourth Committee of the Assembly should reject the pensions scheme, of which he himself was a convinced supporter, would he be able to vote for certain of the majority proposals.

12.

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

The final plans of the new buildings, together with the detailed estimates, were presented by the architects at the end of June and have been submitted to a preliminary examination by the Building Committee, set up in accordance with the Assembly resolution of 1924. They have now to be considered by the Committee of Five, which was empowered by the Assembly resolution of September 23rd, 1929, to decide three points mentioned at the end of that Committee's report to the Assembly in 1929 (document A.58.1929).

It is expected that invitations to tender for the first main constructional contract will be issued before the Assembly meets. As, however, this contract represents a considerable sum, the preparation of tenders and their subsequent verification and other formalities will probably occupy from two and a-half to three months. It was therefore decided by the Building Committee at its last session to take advantage of this period to undertake the enclosure of the working area, as well other preparatory work, including the levelling of the site and the construction of roads. This contract will be allotted to a local firm and it is expected that the work will already be in progress when the Assembly meets.
ASSEMBLY ARRANGEMENTS FOR 1930.

REPORT OF A SPECIAL COMMITTEE APPOINTED BY THE ASSEMBLY ON SEPTEMBER 23rd, 1929

At the tenth ordinary session of the Assembly, the General Committee considered certain suggestions submitted by the British delegation for the improvement of the material arrangements for sessions of the Assembly, and the conduct of Assembly debates. It invited a Committee of five members to consider these suggestions and, on the report of that Committee, it adopted on September 23rd, 1929, the following resolution:

"The Assembly,
(a) Fixes the opening of the next ordinary session of the Assembly for September 10th, 1930;
(b) Authorises the Committee of Five to continue its work in the interval between the present and the next session of the Assembly and submit a report to the next session of the Assembly;
(c) Inserts the sum of 6,000 francs in the appropriate Chapter of the Budget for this purpose."

The questions referred to the Committee of Five may be summarised as follows:

1. The fixing of a later date than that now laid down for the opening of the future sessions of the Assembly;
2. The possibility of securing a better hall for the period which must elapse before the new Assembly Hall can be completed, or alternatively, if a suitable hall could not be found, of improving the Salle de la Réformation;
3. A re-arrangement of seats and a revision of the regulations concerning admission to the floor of the Assembly Hall and to other parts of the Hall;
4. The improvement of the organisation of attendants and messengers;
5. The maintenance of better order in the public galleries;
6. The possibility of adopting a system of simultaneous telephonic translation, and other methods of simplifying procedure and reducing the time spent upon formalities;
7. The method of election of the President of the Assembly.

The Committee of Five called for reports from the Secretariat on these questions, which it considered at a meeting held on May 3rd, 1930. It decided, on examining these reports, that it was desirable for the Assembly to meet in future in the Bâtiment Electoral, beginning with the session of the present year. The initial expenditure involved was estimated at 163,250 francs, of which only 85,000 francs was available in the Budget. The Secretary-General accordingly consulted the Supervisory Commission on the financial consequences of the proposal of the Committee of Five, and the Supervisory Commission suggested that the Council should be asked to authorise a transfer in the Budget for 1930 of 100,000 francs from the item of "Unforeseen Expenditure Subject to a Special Vote of the Council". The Council approved this suggestion at its meeting of May 15th, 1930. It was noted that the extra expenditure in subsequent years would be about 20,000 francs annually.

The Committee of Five further recommended that the Assembly should in future years be convened on the second Monday in September. It also made certain suggestions in regard to the placing of seats, the revision of rules of admission and the maintenance of order and other material arrangements. It suggested that, in order to save the time of the Assembly, the opening speech of the President of the Council should be omitted or shortened; that Rapporteurs should abandon the practice of reading reports to the Assembly which had already been printed and distributed; and that, wherever possible and desirable, written translations of set speeches should be circulated to the delegates in advance.

Finally, it emphasised that the Assembly, in appointing its President, should not regard that office as an honour to be conferred for political reasons, but as a post which should, in the general interests of the Assembly, be filled by the person most qualified by experience to secure a rapid and efficient despatch of business. It recommends that the Assembly should entrust the selection of suitable candidates for the presidency to a small Committee of not more than five persons, composed of former Presidents of the Assembly.