

examples): by creating a medium of information guaranteeing an impartial documentation and public discussion; by the official recognition of the parliamentary opposition through the remuneration of its leader (Canadian system); by the institution of the legislative referendum and of the popular initiative (Swiss and German systems); by the institution of "public hearings" before parliamentary committees (Massachusetts system);

5. The desirability of lightening the task of Parliament by conferring certain powers either on local organizations or on autonomous national authorities (as for instance the British "Trade Boards") acting alongside of the Parliament;

6. The improvement of parliamentary technique and procedure in order to avoid delay in the taking of decisions and to insure the better drafting of laws (institution of permanent parliamentary committees corresponding roughly to the Government departments; institution of a general permanent legislative committee (Yugoslav system); limitation of the right of amendment at Parliamentary readings.

III

The Conference believes that the Inter-Parliamentary Bureau is particularly fitted to serve as the connecting link between the Groups and, if necessary, between the Parliaments, for the exchange of information which the above study will necessitate.

It expresses the wish that a second debate on the foregoing problems be instituted at a later Conference, based on the discussions within the Groups.

Those who took part in this debate were, in the following order: Herr Doctor Wirth; Mr. Andrew J. Montague, delegate from the American Group; followed by myself; Carl Lindhagen, Sweden; M. de Lukacs, Hungary; M. Munch, Denmark; M. Pierre Renaudel, France; Herr Heller, Czecho-Slovakia; Herr Hallin, President of Sweden group; Herr Doctor Lakatos; M. Aimé Berthod, France; Stanislas Thugutt, Poland; Markram Ebeid, Egypt; P. J. Little, Ireland; the Secretary General; M. Paul Bastid, France; Herr Franz Odehnal, Austria; Arrigo Solmi, Italy; Frédéric de Rabours, Switzerland; Madame Irene Kosmowska, Poland.

M. Pierre Renaudel submitted the following amendment:

(Translation) That the first paragraph of the proposed resolution be amended to read as follows:

... "By calling upon all citizens to take part in public life by exercising their franchise and putting into practice the principles of democratic freedom, it guarantees a control over the action of the Government and contributes to the political education of the nations."

I proposed, as an addition to the report submitted by Doctor Wirth, the following:

(Translation) The necessity of instructing the youth attending primary schools in the elements of government, constitutions, parliaments, popular assemblies, electoral franchise, the duties of citizens towards their country, in

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order to teach these pupils the means of completing, by experience, observation and study, their training for the discharge of their civic duties. With this object in view, the preparation for the use of primary school teachers of a political outline or syllabus on the elements of representative government, with directions on the most suitable method and means of imparting this special instruction. It would be necessary also to require teachers to prove themselves sufficiently qualified to give these lessons in government.

This syllabus would be translated into the language of each country belonging to the Union, and transmitted to the president of each national group, who would, in turn, submit it for approval to his Government in order that it might be printed and distributed to the teachers in all primary schools.

The assembly decided to send the whole matter back to the Committee for further consideration.

The next subject of discussion was "Migratory Problems," in which the following took part: Latvia, Her Noijs Maizels; Germany, Herr Robert Schmidt; France, M. Gracien Candace; Herr Doctor Slavko Secérov, Serbia; Herr Carl Lindhagen, Sweden.

On "Declaration of the Rights and Duties of States," the discussion was led by M. La Fontaine, Belgium, rapporteur of the Committee which dealt with this subject, and the following gentlemen took part in the debate: Herr Doctor Schueckling, Germany; Mr. de Berzeviczy, Hungary; Herr Vassileff, Bulgaria; Mr. Vespasien V. Pella, Rumania; Herr Koczor, Czecho-Slovakia; Mr. Eamon de Valera, Ireland; Herr Doctor D. R. Wotawa, Austria; Herr Doctor Van Embden, Netherlands; Carl Lindhagen, Sweden; Herr Lucki, Poland; Pierre Renaudel, France; Holger Anderson, Denmark; Mr. Roy G. Fitzgerald, U.S.A.; Heemskerck, Netherlands; Doctor Gralinski, Poland; M. Brunet, France; Herr Wilhelm Heile, Germany; Frau Christine Teusch, Germany; M. Nogaro, France; Herr Doctor Karl Tinzl, Italy; M. LaFontaine, Belgium.

It would, I believe, be interesting to analyze the question of the Rights and Duties of States, so ably dealt with by the Vice-President of the Belgian Senate, but time will not permit me to do so at this stage.

I shall certainly not inflict upon you the reading of the speech, among many others, which I delivered on Parliamentary Evolution. It will be found reproduced in full in the report of the 25th Conference of the Interparliamentary Union at Berlin last summer (1928), now in the hands of all the members of the Canadian Group. May I, however, be permitted to make a brief reference to it, and at the same time earnestly invite my honourable colleagues in this House to express now, or at a later date, their views