

of convention was unanimously reported to the Assembly, by which it was unanimously adopted and submitted for signature. In accordance with instructions the Canadian delegation appended its signatures along with some thirty others before the Assembly closed. The convention goes into force for each country upon ratification.

The preceding is a mere outline of some achievements along the lines of the principal activities of the League, and most inadequate in information as to its whole work. To serve that purpose your delegation would advise the study of the full reports as published by the League and easily available. (Documents A. 6 and A. 6 (a) 1926).

The principal work of the Assembly in the legal and constitutional field had to do with the composition of the Council. Owing to the situation brought about by the result of the Extraordinary Session of the Assembly in March, 1926, the Council set up a Special Committee to study the question and report its findings. This Committee held a series of meetings in May, which resulted in the adoption of draft rules for the election by the Assembly of non-permanent members whose number was to be increased from six to nine, to be elected for three years, and not eligible for re-election for three years after the expiry of their office. A permanent seat was to be accorded to Germany only on the principle that permanent seats were for the present best limited to great powers.

This left the contentions of Spain, Brazil, and other claimants unsatisfied. A second meeting of the Committee, on the request of the Spanish representative, was held at Geneva, August 30th to September 3rd, at which the draft rules of the May session, the question of permanent seats, and certain amendments submitted by the French Government to the draft rules, were discussed. A sub-committee of nine members was appointed to submit a final draft, whose conclusions were adopted on September 1st by a unanimous vote, the Spanish representative abstaining from voting.

The Council on September 4 approved the report of the Committee, unanimously recommended Germany for a permanent seat on the Council on her entry into the League, and commended the report to the favourable consideration of the Assembly.

On September 8, M. Motta, rapporteur of the General Committee of the Assembly, proposed that the Assembly, without previous reference to a committee, should take a decision on the resolution of the Council as a whole and recommended unanimous approval of both sections of the report. The Assembly approved the report by a unanimous vote of the 48 states represented. The proposals for the method of election to and tenure of the non-permanent seats were referred to the First Committee, whose report was adopted by the Assembly on September 15, and is as follows:—

ARTICLE I

The Assembly shall each year, in the course of its ordinary session, elect three non-permanent Members of the Council. They shall be elected for a term commencing immediately on their election and ending on the day of the elections held three years later by the Assembly.

Should a non-permanent Member cease to belong to the Council before its term of office expires, its seat shall be filled by a by-election held separately at the session following the occurrence of the vacancy. The term of office of the Member so elected shall end at the date at which the term of office of the Member whose place it takes would have expired.

ARTICLE II

A retiring Member may not be re-elected during the period between the expiration of its term of office and the third election in ordinary session held thereafter unless the Assembly, either on the expiration of the Member's term of office or in the course of the said period of three years, shall, by a majority of two-thirds of the votes cast, previously have decided that such Member is re-eligible.