

In consequence of this, the total budget of the league organizations has been greatly reduced and a larger proportion of the total has had to be met by Canada. Since conditions prevented a meeting of the league assembly during 1940, the budget for 1941 was prepared by the supervisory commission of the league which met in Portugal last September. This committee was appointed by the assembly to supervise the administration of the league. Special powers were given to the supervisory commission at the last assembly because of the difficulty of holding international meetings in war time.

The vote includes the Canadian contribution to all the international organizations of the league. Nearly one-third of it will go towards the expenses of the international labour office, which at the invitation of the Canadian government has temporarily transferred its operations from Geneva to Montreal. Slightly over one-third will go towards meeting the expenses of the league secretariat. At present a very small staff, under the acting secretary general, Mr. Lester, remains in Geneva. A group of financial and economic experts, under Mr. Loveday, has moved with the approval of the Canadian government from Geneva to Princeton, New Jersey, where they are carrying on their valuable activities at the institute of advanced studies. The total strength of the secretariat in Geneva, Princeton and elsewhere has been reduced to 100 of all ranks in 1941 from 688 in 1939. A small proportion of the Canadian contribution, about one-twentieth, goes to the permanent court of international justice which normally sits at The Hague. The court has not been able, for obvious reasons, to act during the last year, and the sum provided for it in the league budget represents the irreducible minimum to maintain it in existence. Virtually all the remainder of the league budget, nearly one-third of the total, is devoted to the contractual obligations of the league pension fund and to meeting a deficit incurred in 1939.

The number of states listed as members of the League of Nations is 48, of which three will cease to be members during 1941. Several states, however, which are not members of the league are active members of the international labour organization, including the United States, Brazil, Chile and Venezuela.