

for assistance to Finland. The second part deals with the situation arising from the refusal of the Soviet Government to participate in the League proceedings. The text of the resolution is as follows:

"The Assembly

I

Whereas, by the aggression which it has committed against Finland, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics has failed to observe not only its special political agreements with Finland but also Article 12 of the Covenant of the League of Nations and the Pact of Paris;

And whereas, immediately before committing that aggression, it denounced, without legal justification, the Treaty of Non-aggression which it had concluded with Finland in 1932, and which was to remain in force until the end of 1945:

Solemnly condemns the action taken by the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics against the State of Finland;

Urgently appeals to every Member of the League to provide Finland with such material and humanitarian assistance as may be in its power and to refrain from any action which might weaken Finland's power of resistance;

Authorizes the Secretary-General to lend the aid of his technical services in the organization of the aforesaid assistance to Finland;

And likewise authorizes the Secretary-General, in virtue of the Assembly resolution of October 4, 1937, to consult non-member States with a view to possible co-operation.

II

Whereas, notwithstanding an invitation extended to it on two occasions, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics has refused to be present at the examination of its dispute with Finland before the Council and the Assembly;

And whereas, by thus refusing to recognize the duty of the Council and the Assembly as regards the execution of Article 15 of the Covenant, it has failed to observe one of the League's most essential covenants for the safeguarding of peace and the security of nations;

And whereas it has vainly attempted to justify its refusal on the ground of the relations which it has established with an alleged Government which is neither *de jure* nor *de facto* the Government recognized by the people of Finland in accordance with the free working of their institutions;

And whereas the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics has not merely violated a covenant of the League, but has by its own action placed itself outside the Covenant;

And whereas the Council is competent under Article 16 of the Covenant to consider what consequences should follow from this situation:

Recommends the Council to pronounce upon the question."

Demand for the Exclusion from the League of the U.S.S.R.

Before the Special Committee had presented its report to the Assembly, several Governments had taken the position that the Soviet Union should be excluded from the League of Nations under Paragraph 4 of Article 16 of the Covenant. This paragraph states that any Member which has violated any covenant of the League "may be declared to be no longer a Member" by the unanimous vote of the Council. Throughout the proceedings no suggestion was