LEAGUE OF NATIONS.

Communicated to the
Council and the
Members of the League.

C.157.M.95.1936.VII.

Geneva, April 12th, 1936.

DISPUTE BETWEEN ETHIOPIA AND ITALY.

Communication from the Italian Government.

Translation from Italian.

Rome, April 11th, 1936.

To the Secretary-General.

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your telegram of the 9th instant, containing the appeal of the Committee of Thirteen to the Royal Italian Government and to the Ethiopian Government.*   The Royal Government notes that the denunciation of the Abyssinian atrocities which it sent, together with confirmatory documents, as early as December 17th, 1935, and later by its notes dated December 31st, 1935, and January 18th, February 28th and March 9th, 1936, will be fully investigated by the competent bodies.   The observance of the laws of war has been and is the constant rule of the Italian army, and the Royal Government desires by the present communication to give a full assurance on that point.   The observance of these laws must be bilateral.   The Italian military authorities cannot do otherwise than punish every inhuman atrocity committed by its adversary in contempt of every principle of law and morality.

SUVICH.

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* This appeal was as follows:

"The Committee of Thirteen, having taken note of the communications sent by the Ethiopian and Italian Governments to the Secretary-General in regard to various cases of failure to observe the international agreements relating to the conduct of warfare, and voicing the emotion felt in this matter by public opinion, addresses an urgent appeal to both belligerents to take all measures necessary to prevent any failure to observe the said Conventions or the principles of international law.

The Committee hopes to receive from the Powers to which it is making this appeal assurances calculated to allay the public feeling it has thus voiced."