

The net contribution of Canada for 1932 is 1,143,353.80 gold francs or 220,613.94 gold dollars (as compared with 1,062,867.99 gold francs or approximately 205,000 gold dollars in 1931).

Construction of the New Buildings

The question of the new League buildings was considered by the Fourth Committee, which noted that the estimates were steadily on the increase. In 1927, the Assembly agreed that the sum to be expended should be approximately 19,500,000 francs. In 1930, the total estimates for the Assembly Hall, the Secretariat buildings, and external work amounted to 23,633,150 francs, with a margin of 759,553 francs for unforeseen expenditure. The cost of the new library buildings, which is to be met out of the Rockefeller grant, was estimated at 4,250,000 francs. In 1931, the estimates showed a new increase of 2,771,845 francs for the Assembly Hall and the Secretariat, the estimate for the Library remaining unchanged. The revised estimates included no margin for unforeseen expenditure, and contemplated certain economies which were impracticable. When the architects were invited to submit a revised calculation they furnished a new estimate of 29,925,494 francs.

Seriously concerned at these increasing estimates, the Fourth Committee declared that it was resolved in principle to keep within the estimates adopted in 1930, and recommended to the Assembly that the Supervisory Commission should be instructed to submit to the Council as soon as possible a program complying under the best possible conditions with the decisions taken, without excluding the possibility of reconsidering the contract concluded with the architects.

Allocation of Expenses

In 1928 the Committee on Allocation of Expenses was instructed by the Council to submit to the 1932 Assembly a revised scale of contributions of States Members. In view of the present economic situation, however, the Committee came to the conclusion at the beginning of 1931 that it would be extremely difficult to draw up a new scale with permanent scientific value. It therefore considered that the question should be deferred until 1934.

In the Fourth Committee delegates of several States emphasized the disadvantages which would result for their countries from an adjournment. Agreement was, however, reached on the proposal of the Committee on Allocation.

Re-organisation of the Secretariat

In 1930, the Assembly appointed a Committee of thirteen members to consider such questions as the possible abolition of the posts of Under-Secretary-General; the salaries and conditions of engagement of the Secretary-General, the Directors, the Treasurer and the Chiefs of Section. The Committee of Thirteen submitted a report, the main conclusions of which were adopted by the Fourth Committee.

As regards the first point, it was agreed that the existing organization of the higher staff should be retained for the present, and that, in three years' time at latest, the Council and the Assembly should consider the question afresh.

The Fourth Committee also adopted the suggestions of the Committee of Thirteen with regard to the term of office of the Secretary-General (which should not exceed ten years), and the Under-Secretaries-General (which should not exceed seven years), the entertainment allowances granted these officials, and the salaries of directors. It decided to give the Treasurer the rank of Director, it being understood that he would receive no increase in salary for 1932.

As regards the Registrar of the Permanent Court of International Justice, some discussion took place on the application of Article 32 of the Statute