

assessed at the rate of 35 units becomes liable for a contribution of 1,123,035.02 francs. It was decided, however, in accordance with the practice of the past few years, to refund to States Members a part of the surplus for the financial year 1929, and also to make repayments from the Building Fund to those States which, by the prompt payment of their share of the expenditure of the League up to the end of 1925, had contributed to the formation of the capital set apart for the construction of the new buildings. In consequence of these decisions, sums of 28,249.23 and 31,917.80 gold francs respectively will be deducted from the above amount, and the net contribution of Canada for 1931 will therefore be 1,062,867.99 gold francs or approximately \$205,000.

During the examination of the budget, certain delegates pointed out that the 1931 budget showed an increase of 6 per cent on the budget of 1930 and that, if all the proposals of the Committee of Thirteen had been adopted, the increase would have amounted to more than 13 per cent. They stated that, in view of the general crisis, they could only vote for increased credits for really indispensable objects.

The Director of the International Labour Office acquainted the Fourth Committee, for the information of the Assembly, with the reasons which in the opinion of a majority of the Governing Body made it necessary shortly to enlarge the present office accommodation.

The Fourth Committee was interested to learn from the Secretary-General that the work of construction on the League Buildings had already begun, that the first main tenders would probably be allotted during November and that the work would then be continued without interruption. It fixed at 23,633,150 francs the credit for the construction of the Assembly hall and building of the Secretariat.

The Fourth Committee recommended that the International Organization for Refugees should draw up and submit to the Twelfth Assembly a systematic plan for the winding-up of the Refugee Organization at date not later than December 31, 1939.

The Assembly adopted the report of the Fourth Committee on the budget, which was submitted by the Honourable Philippe Roy.

FIFTH COMMITTEE

(Social and Humanitarian Questions)

Penal Administration

The Council requested the Assembly to consider this question and decide how the League could co-operate with the International Prison Commission (Berne) and other interested organizations in the study of modern standards of penal administration.

The Fifth Committee had before it a set of standard rules prepared by the International Prison Commission to indicate the minimum conditions that should be observed in the treatment of prisoners. In view of the fact that certain international organizations and certain Advisory Committees of the League, as well as the International Labour Office, are also being consulted, the Fifth Committee did not discuss the substance of the question, but recommended that the standard rules should be submitted to all Governments for their observations.

The question will be further considered at the next Assembly, in the light of the observations made by the Governments and the organizations consulted.

Child Welfare.

Most of the speakers on this question referred to the work done by the Legal Sub-Committee of the Child Welfare Committee in preparing preliminary draft conventions on assistance to foreign minors and the return to their homes