INTERATIONAL OPIUM COMMISSION

= Subhral

Minutes of the Seventh Session: 15th Feby./09.

The President called the House to order at 10-30 A.M. and announced the names of the Delegates chosen to serve on the Committees, the formation of which was resolved by the House at the last sitting.

The It. Hon. Sir Cecil Clementi Smith read a reply to a question put to the British Delegation at the previous sitting by Dr Hamilton Wright concerning the imports and exports of Morphine into the United Kingdom. Dr Hamilton Wright said that his query had evidently been misunderstood. What he wanted to know was the final destination of <u>net</u> imports of Mor-United Kingdom. He would put the question in writing.

A report on the production and use of Opium in Italy was next read by Signor Faraone. He stated that there were no special laws affecting Opium, but strict regulations were in force for controlling the trade and sale of all remedies containing poison, any infraction thereof entailing heavy penalties.

The Chair then declared a discussion on the Netherlands Report to be in order.

The following questions were put by the German Delegation:-

- 1. Which class of the population in Netherlands-India is mainly consuming Opium? Natives or Chinese?
- 2. What is the average dose of Opium taken for daily consumption? The answers were:-
- 1. Among the Chinese population Opium consumers may be found in all parts of the Archipelago; but among the native

population some races are entirely free from the fascinations of the drug, e.g. the Sundanese in the western part of Java, the proper Malay inhabitants of Sumatra and of some surrounding islands, and the native tribes of Borneo and of North Celebes. Generally speaking, the Chinese, being more well to do, consume individually a greater quantity of Opium than the natives. As, however, the latter are 66 times more numerous in the whole of the Colony than the former.

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