

5. The Assembly appoints for the period ending on December 31st, 1937, as regular members of the Supervisory Commission: Lord Meston of Agra and M. C. J. Hambro.
6. The Assembly appoints for the period ending on December 31st, 1936, as substitute member so the Administrative Board of the Staff Pensions Fund: Mr. Francis T. Cremins.
7. The Assembly adopts the present report of the Fourth Committee.

2. CONTRIBUTIONS IN ARREARS.

The Assembly:

Adopts the report of the Fourth Committee on the question of contributions in arrears, together with the Annex;

Decides to appoint a special committee, which would sit at intervals from now until the next ordinary session of the Assembly and which would have full power, subject to ratification by the next Assembly, to negotiate and conclude arrangements with States for the equitable settlement of the amount of their debt in respect of arrears outstanding at the end of 1932. This special Committee, which is also entrusted with the study of the questions referred to it by the Fourth Committee, will be composed of the following members:

Count Carton de Wiart (Belgium);

M. Štefan Osusky (Czechoslovakia);

Sir F. Phillips (United Kingdom);

M. Castillo Najera (Mexico);

M. C. J. Hambro (Norway);

Decides that the Argentine Republic, which, prior to the year 1933, stood in a special relationship to the League, should no longer be regarded as being in arrear for the four years 1929 to 1932.

3. ALLOCATION OF THE EXPENSES OF THE LEAGUE.

I.

In view of the material impossibility of referring the question of the contributions of Afghanistan and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to the Allocation Committee for a detailed study:

The Assembly decides to fix the contributions of these two States for 1935 only, and without prejudice to any decision that may be reached next year, as follows:

Afghanistan 1 unit.

Union of Soviet Socialist Republics 79 units.

II.

The Assembly decides that:

- Twenty units shall be distributed for the year 1935 by the Allocation Committee in reduction of the contribution of those States which, in its opinion, have the strongest claims to relief;
- The Allocation Committee, in carrying out this task, may establish contact with the special Committee on Arrears of Contributions,* with a view to obtaining any additional information required;
- Subject to the foregoing, the present scale shall remain in force for the year 1935.

III.

The Assembly,

Having noted the United Kingdom proposal † made during the discussion of the Report of the Allocation Committee and the observations to which it gave rise,

Requests the Governments of States Members of the League to study the question;

And decides that this proposal, and all proposals made by Governments which are communicated in good time, concerning the method of contribution of Members of the League, shall be placed on the agenda of the sixteenth Assembly.

IV.

The Assembly decides that the Allocation Committee, in agreement with the special Committee on Arrears of Contributions,* shall consider forthwith the request put forward by the Chinese Representative on the Fourth Committee of the Assembly and submit concrete proposals concerning it to the Sixteenth Assembly.

* See page 229.

† The United Kingdom proposal was as follows:

His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom, for reasons developed at length by the United Kingdom delegate, proposes as a measure for dealing with the present difficulties of the League that a fixed number of units (105) should be allocated to the four States with permanent seats on the Council.

His Majesty's Government has calculated that a prospective balance of some 37 units would become available as a result of this proposal. It has therefore suggested that this balance should be used for the relief of States not permanently represented on the Council, especially those suffering most severely from the present economic stress.

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CONTENTS

| | PAGE |
|---|------|
| The Union of Socialist Soviet Republics, Afghanistan and Ecuador New Members of the International Labour Organisation | 41 |
| The Sixty-eighth Session of the Governing Body of the International Labour Office | 41 |
| Mr. G. de Michelis, Chairman of the Governing Body of the International Labour Office | 46 |
| The Visit of Mr. Harold Butler to the United States and Mexico | 46 |
| The Committee on Agricultural Work | 46 |

NEW MEMBERS OF THE ORGANISATION

Within the last few days three States hitherto outside the League of Nations and the International Labour Organisation have become Members.

On 18 September, during the Fifteenth Session of the Assembly of the League of Nations, the Union of Socialist Soviet Republics was admitted to membership.

On 27 September, the Kingdom of Afghanistan was admitted by the Assembly.

On 28 September, the Republic of Ecuador notified the Secretariat of the League that it had decided to ratify the Treaty of Versailles (to which it was a signatory but which it had not ratified) in respect of those parts which embody the Covenant of the League and the Constitution of the International Labour Organisation.

The total membership of the International Labour Organisation is thus brought to 62 States.

THE SIXTY-EIGHTH SESSION OF THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE INTERNATIONAL LABOUR OFFICE

The Sixty-eighth Session of the Governing Body of the International Labour Organisation was held at Geneva on 26, 27 and 28 September, 1934. In many respects this was a Session of exceptional importance.

To begin with, it was the first Session of the Governing Body since its enlargement (thirty-two members instead of twenty-four) by application of the new provisions of Article 393 of the Treaty of Peace. The discussions have thus become of more direct interest to the additional countries represented.

Further, during this Session the Governing Body recorded the entry into the Organisation of two great industrial countries—the United States of America and the Union of Socialist Soviet Republics—the former having joined the Organisation directly on 20 August, 1934, and the latter having become a member of the Organisation in consequence of its admission to the League of Nations.

These events will no doubt figure in the history of the Organisation as of capital importance.

During the Session the Governing Body took various important decisions.

The resolution it adopted on the question of the forty-hour week means that this question has been placed on the Agenda of the 1935 Session of the International Labour Conference. It is proposed that a Convention should be adopted at that Session which would not only approve the principle of the reduction of hours of work in all economic activities, but would in addition apply this principle at once to a certain number of specified industries, its gradual application to other industries being left to subsequent Sessions of the Conference for decision.

The Governing Body further decided to open the procedure for the partial revision of the 1931 Convention limiting the working day of underground workers in coal mines to seven and three-quarter hours. This decision, which is intended to facilitate ratification of the Convention, will make it possible to consider amendments on the various practical points to which different Governments have drawn attention on account of the technical difficulties they involve, and also—as requested by the workers' group—on the actual number of hours fixed by the Convention, with a view to the possibility of a further reduction.

The discussion on Mr. Maurette's report on his mission to Japan gave rise to a very instructive exchange of views on a problem which is exciting public opinion throughout the world.

Finally, it should be noted that at the beginning of the Session the Governing Body elected its officers. In accordance with the Standing Orders it elected a new Chairman for one year. It chose Mr. de Michelis, Italian Government representative,