

The Ethiopian representative referred to Articles 2 and 5 of the Treaty of 1928. The Ethiopian Government, taking note of the declaration that the Italian Government was prepared to follow the procedure under Article 5, expressed its desire that that proposal should be immediately put into effect. It proposed that an early date should be fixed by which the two Governments should communicate to each other the names of their arbitrators.

The representative of Italy rejected this suggestion, for which no provision was made in the Conventions in force between the two parties. Adding that this was not the time to refrain from applying the undertakings that had been signed, he signified his Government's intention to put into operation as speedily as possible the procedure provided for in Article 5 of the treaty.

To the United Kingdom representative's suggestion that the arbitrators should be appointed and the terms of reference fixed before the Council's ordinary session in May, the Italian representative replied by repeating his statement.

After this exchange of views, the Council decided that the question should remain on the agenda of its ordinary session in May.

18. Difficulties arose with regard to the application of the procedure of conciliation and arbitration. The Ethiopian Government desired to choose the two arbitrators which it was called upon to appoint from among the nationals of third Powers. The Italian Government invited the Ethiopian Government to appoint arbitrators of Ethiopian nationality. Moreover, Ethiopia drew attention to "the mobilisation of several classes" in Italy and the despatch of "numerous troops and a large quantity of war material" to Eritrea and Somaliland on the pretext that the Emperor of Ethiopia had "ordered a general mobilisation."

Ordinary Session of the Council, May 20th

19. When the Council met in ordinary session on May 20th, it received a telegram from the Emperor of Ethiopia denouncing the Italian preparations on the frontiers of the Empire, which he reported to have begun before September 1934. He also stated that a fresh difficulty had arisen as regards arbitration, Italy objecting to the arbitrators' dealing with the interpretation of the Italo-Ethiopian Treaty of 1908. The Emperor asked the Council to stop the military measures taken by Italy, and to apply Article 15 of the Covenant if the latter should not agree that, in giving a decision on the incidents which had occurred since November 23rd, 1934, the arbitrators could interpret the Treaty of 1908. An *aide-mémoire* by the Ethiopian delegation, dated May 22nd, accompanied by numerous annexes, further outlined the development of the situation since November 1934 from the Ethiopian point of view.

Council Resolutions of May 25th

20. At its meeting on May 25th, the Council adopted a resolution with the object of ensuring a settlement of the dispute by the procedure of conciliation and arbitration within a time-limit of three months. It