

"Taking note of the statements made in the Third Committee with regard to the principles on which, in the opinion of various delegations, the final work of the Preparatory Commission should be based;

"Noting that the solution of the disarmament problem can be attained only through mutual concessions by Governments in regard to the proposals they prefer;

"Urging in accordance with its resolution of 1928, 'the necessity of accomplishing the first step towards the reduction and limitation of armaments with as little delay as possible';

"Confidently hopes that the Preparatory Commission will shortly be able to resume the work interrupted at its last session, with a view to framing a preliminary draft Convention as soon as possible for the reduction and limitation of land, naval and air armaments;

"Decides that the Minutes of the plenary meetings of the Assembly and of the Third Committee shall be communicated to the Preparatory Commission for any necessary action".

M. Politis, in presenting his resolution, said that he had followed the debates which had centred round Lord Cecil's suggestions with the keenest interest, and the fact that he had not intervened in the discussion was due to a desire to remain impartial. He thought that the majority of the Committee did not seem disposed to accept the British suggestions for a variety of reasons which were not all reasons of substance, but in some cases reasons of method, expediency and even courtesy towards certain Powers not represented on the Committee but having taken part in the proceedings of the Preparatory Commission. On the other hand, a large number of Delegations had stated that they shared Lord Cecil's views. Among the statements made some came from Delegations which were not represented on the Preparatory Commission, and for this reason they were of particular importance. It was interesting for the Preparatory Commission to know not only the opinions of the Governments represented thereon, but also of all the others. This was how the situation appeared to him at the end of the debate, and a vote placing on record the difference of opinion would have given quite an inaccurate idea of this debate. M. Politis then went on to explain his resolution paragraph by paragraph, concluding that he was convinced that the Committee would find that the work it had done was faithfully reflected therein. It was worded in such a way that all the matters discussed, including the Inter-Parliamentary Union draft scheme for disarmament, might be referred to the Preparatory Commission, thus giving satisfaction to all those who had taken part in the debate.

Lord Cecil in replying to M. Politis noted that it had been brought out very clearly in the debates that with respect to three of the items in his resolution the result had been already obtained. It had been conceded quite definitely both by the Chairman of the Preparatory Commission and by all the speakers that points (a), (b) and (d) were still open before the Preparatory Commission; it was therefore unnecessary to press the resolution regarding those three points. With reference to point (c) it was not so obvious that the matter was still open before the Preparatory Commission, but he was not quite sure about this: however, there were statements made by the Chairman of the Preparatory Commission which rather encouraged his belief that even this point might be raised before the Preparatory Commission, and he thought that M. Politis' resolution might further help. He was grateful to M. Politis for suggesting a solution to a very difficult problem. In that resolution M. Politis had not only pointed out that the Assembly should take note of the statements which he (Lord Cecil) and others had made in the course of the debate, but had said quite specifically that, in his judgment, they should be allowed to repeat their views in the Preparatory Commission. Unless the provision of every expert was at fault, war would become more and more a war of machinery and less a war of men, and, if a convention were produced as regards limitation of armaments from which the limitation of machines and material was excluded, he was very much afraid that it would be of little value. Unless material was