

had never hitherto shown an example of six countries, equal among themselves, having autonomous political institutions, and through their respective Governments advising one and the same King, in whose name they speak and act both at home and abroad.

"Within the last five years, the League of Nations has made great progress; none can deny it. The most sceptical have been forced to admit that it has achieved results of far-reaching benefit for mankind.

"Every year my distinguished predecessors have reviewed the work already accomplished, and have surveyed the ground still to be covered. At the close of the last session, M. Motta, the honoured President of the Assembly, gave an account of the 'sublime endeavour to substitute the moral force of right for the material force of arms.'

"It was in order to bring about the reign of justice that the Scheme for Mutual Assistance and the Protocol for the Pacific Settlement of International Disputes were conceived and studied. It was in order to establish peace through justice that the study of the problem of arbitration, security and disarmament was undertaken. It is in order to bring about the triumph of the ideal of brotherhood, moderation and goodwill that we are once more met in this hospitable Helvetic Republic.

"Is it not an excellent and most reassuring sight to see delegates coming regularly every year from the four corners of the earth? Does it not show that both our minds and our hearts are being directed into new channels?

"I am convinced that the enlightened collaboration of statesmen and of legal and technical experts, gathered together in this atmosphere of devotion to the well-being of humanity, will contribute effectively to the establishment of peace founded on justice.

"We shall doubtless experience hesitations, difficulties, misunderstandings. But these difficulties, these disappointments, which are inevitable in any work of reconstruction, will only stimulate our zeal and increase our energy. The endeavours and the experiences of the past give us faith in the successful issue of our future deliberations."

The Agenda Committee was then appointed and the work distributed among the six committees, each composed of one representative from each State.

Delegates of Italy, Netherlands, Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes, Portugal, Norway, Salvador were elected Chairmen of the Committees, and delegates of Japan, France, Venezuela, British Empire, Persia, Roumania were elected Vice-Presidents of the Assembly.

The Bureau of the Assembly consists of: the president, the six Vice-Presidents, the six Chairmen of the Committees and, this year, of the Chairman of the Agenda Committee.

The Canadian representatives on the committees were: Mr. Hewitt Bostock, Speaker of the Canadian Senate, on the First and Third Committees; Mr. Philippe Roy, General Commissioner of Canada in France, on the Second and Fourth Committees; Dr. W. A. Riddell, Canadian Advisory Officer at the League of Nations on the Fifth and Sixth Committees. Mr. Jean Désy, Counsellor, served as substitute on the First and Sixth Committees.

The work of the committees was distributed as follows:—

First Committee.—Constitutional and Legal Questions:

Amendment to Article 16 of the Covenant; Establishment of a Conciliation Commission attached to the Permanent Court of International Justice; Pacific settlement of international disputes; Replies of the Special Committees of Jurists; Optional clause of the Statute of the Permanent Court of International Justice.

Second Committee.—Technical Organizations:

Financial reconstruction of Austria and of Hungary; Communications and transit; Health organizations; Intellectual co-operation; Instruction in universities and schools regarding the aims of the League; Education of the youth of all countries in the ideals of world peace; General Economic Conference.

Third Committee.—Reduction of Armaments:

Statistical information on the trade in arms and ammunition and in implements of war; Manufacture of arms and ammunition and of implements of war; Year-Book of General and Statistical Information on Military, Naval and Air Armaments.