

Regulation of Whaling

territories named in such declaration six months after its receipt by the secretary-general of the League of Nations.

4. The secretary-general of the League of Nations shall communicate to all the members of the League of Nations and the non-member states all declarations and notices received in virtue of this Article and the dates of their receipt.

Article 21

The present convention shall be registered by the secretary-general of the League of Nations as soon as it has entered into force.

In faith whereof the above-mentioned plenipotentiaries have signed the present convention.

Done at Geneva, on the twenty-fourth day of September one thousand nine hundred and thirty-one, in a single copy which shall be kept in the archives of the secretariat of the League of Nations and of which certified true copies shall be delivered to all the members of the League of Nations and to the non-member states.

Albania
Lec Kurti

Germany

Dr. Hans Hermann Völckers

United States of America

Hugh R. Wilson

Belgium
Hymans

Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and all parts of the British Empire which are not separate members of the League of the

Nations

Cecil

Canada

H. Guthrie

Commonwealth of Australia

James R. Collins

New Zealand

Thomas M. Wilford

Union of South Africa

C. T. te Water

India

B. L. Mitter

Columbia

A. J. Restrepo

Denmark

William Borberg

With reservation, until further notice, as regards Greenland

Spain

A. Lerroux

Finland

Evald Gyllenbögel

France

Louis Rollin

Greece

R. Raphaël

Italy

Augusto Rosso

Mexico

S. Martinez de Alva

Norway

Birger Braadland

The Netherlands

For the kingdom in Europe and the

Netherlands Indies

Beelaerts van Blockland

[Mr. Bennett.]

Poland
Auguste Zaleski

Roumania

C. Antoniad

Switzerland

Motta

Czechoslovakia

Zd. Fierlinger

Turkey

Cemal Hüsnü

Yugoslavia

Dr. V. Marinkovitch

And that this house do approve of the same.

He said: The international convention with respect to whaling is the natural result of the adoption of means in connection with the destruction of the whale which would lead to their extinction. It is known to all hon. members that in various provinces of confederation we have had to adopt means to prevent certain methods being used in the destruction of game and fish. Whales, which are of course in the high seas, have been destroyed in the north Atlantic ocean to a point where there are only few remaining. In the Antarctic, where they are numerous, it was found necessary to take restrictive and prohibitory measures to ensure the continuance of the whale. It may sound very strange, but the fact is that in the year 1930 the whaling fleets of the world destroyed 40,201 whales in the Antarctic ocean. When I say to this house that not half of that number were killed in the entire ten-year period between 1920 and 1930 hon. members will have some appreciation of the extent of the slaughter. In this process of destruction 232 whale-catching boats were engaged with 6 shore stations and 41 floating factories.

These floating factories follow the ships that destroy the whales. They are largely destroyed, as is known, with harpoons and bombs, and the fat is rendered in these floating refineries with the result that very great havoc has been made through the destruction of the whales. Great Britain and Norway largely control the whaling industry but it was realized, of course, that action merely by one national could not accomplish any good purpose for the simple and obvious reason that the whales are found on the high seas and if other nations were not prohibited from carrying on operations the ships of other nationals would take advantage of the fact and the destruction would continue. Therefore an effort has been made to bring about an international understanding or convention, and after an inquiry had been made by a committee of the League of Nations this convention which is now before the house was adopted.

I may say that the convention, which was opened for signature on the twenty-fourth day