

to be taken to prevent limitation from resulting in an increase in the price of narcotics which would lead to the establishment of new factories in countries where narcotics are not now manufactured. The Council will then decide on the convening of a Conference for the limitation of manufacture.

SIXTH COMMITTEE

(POLITICAL QUESTIONS)

Mandates

During the discussion of this item, several questions of principle were raised: that of the conception of sovereignty as regards mandated territories, that of the temporary or permanent character of the mandates, and that of the maintenance of the mandated territories as separate units.

On the question of where sovereignty resides in the case of mandated territories, opinions differed widely. The Delegate of China expressed the view that sovereignty rested temporarily with the League of Nations, while the Delegates of Great Britain and New Zealand stated that, as the bestowal of the mandates was vested in the Allied and Associated Powers, the mandates could not be alienated except by the agreement of all these Powers. From the statements of the South African Delegate, it seems evident that his Government still holds the view that sovereignty is absolutely vested in the mandatory Power. A decision to this effect has been given by the South African Court of Appeal.

As regards the duration of mandates, the Delegates of certain States which are not mandatory Powers emphasized the temporary character of the mandates, while Delegates of mandatory Powers drew attention to the danger of creating unrest in the mandated territories by general statements of this nature. The Italian Delegate considered that a mandate would cease when the mandated peoples had reached a stage of civilization at which they were fit to govern themselves. This eventuality, which might be near at hand for certain "A" mandates, lay in the dim and distant future for populations subject to "B" and "C" mandates. The word "mandate" of itself and within the meaning of civil law implied this transitory character. Moreover, Article 22 of the Covenant spoke of "tutelage," and under the civil code tutelage came to an end when the ward attained his majority. The French Delegate replied that the idea of colonial mandates could not be considered to emanate directly from ordinary civil law; it was rather an embodiment of Anglo-Saxon thought which had assumed concrete form in the three types of mandates. It was true that tutelage ceased when the object of it attained his majority, and this was stipulated in the articles dealing with "A" mandates, but nothing was said in respect to "B" and "C" mandates.

It was in connection with the administrative, customs and fiscal union between Tanganyika, Kenya and Uganda proposed in the Hilton Young Report that the Italian Delegate raised the question of the duration of the mandates. He said that, while Article 10 of the mandates appeared to authorize such a scheme, it also contained a very important and explicit reservation to the effect that no measure should be taken contrary to the rules of the mandate. The precedent of the incorporation of the Cameroons in the colony of Nigeria had been cited. It was, however, quite a different matter when a relatively small territory like that of the Cameroons was incorporated, and when it was proposed to incorporate an enormous territory like Tanganyika. The British Delegate explained that the Hilton Young Report had not yet been given detailed consideration by the Government; any decision taken would be reported to the Mandates Commission which would thus have an opportunity of making observations on it.