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At the Sixth Plenary Meeting on Monday, the 14th January, the general debate on the Report of the Preparatory Commission was opened with the speech of Mr. Byrnes. During the week most of the delegations took the opportunity to make a formal statement, usually in general terms. I do not think it is necessary to summarize the discussion, though I might point out that Mr. St. Laurent made a brief speech which seemed to be well-received and which you have undoubtedly already read. Mr. St. Laurent commenced his remarks in French, later changing to English, and the stressing of the bilingual nature of our country was appreciated by the delegates. Mr. Paul-Boncour thanked Mr. St. Laurent for speaking in French but seemed to think that it was merely a gesture towards France. I am enclosing a copy of Mr. St. Laurent's speech.

On Monday, the 21st January, the Committee stage of the Assembly commenced, though Committees 5 and 6 had already made a beginning the previous week. The Committees continued their work during the following two weeks, from time to time presenting recommendations on various matters to Plenary Sessions for approval.