

in times of emergency coming under the control of the League. The Committee considered also the third proposal made by the Swiss Government, but felt that the terms of reference of the Assembly and of the Council were such that the Committee was not at liberty to examine in detail a scheme which did not provide, at least in times of emergency, for the complete independence of the wireless station.

Lord Cecil thought that the League ought to have a wireless station, and he personally had no doubt that the station should be under the complete control of the League in times of crisis. If the majority agreed with him, this would rule out the third solution suggested by M. Motta. Lord Cecil submitted a resolution in which the Assembly instructed "the Secretary-General to take the necessary steps for the provision, as early as possible of a radio-telegraphic station, comprising in any case a post with a world-wide radius so far as this may be technically possible."

M. Cassin (France) agreed that the first thing to be ensured was the independence of the League of Nations regarded as an international community: it was entitled to establish independent communications with the most remote countries. This principle which was laid down in 1926 could not be abandoned.

M. Sato (Japan) expressed satisfaction that most of the speakers desired to establish a long range station: he belonged to a country whose communications with the League were much inferior to those of the countries of Europe. The first solution did not appear acceptable as it was too expensive: the second, on the other hand, seemed reasonable, and the Japanese Government might perhaps accept it, but he was rather in favour of re-examining and re-discussing the third solution.

M. Villegas (Chile), supporting the British proposal, suggested that the different Governments might undertake immediately to give the proposed wireless station the preference for their communications to and from Geneva.

M. Cobian (Spain) raised the delicate question of who would decide, under plan (b), when there existed a state of emergency. In order to pass from the normal period to the period of crisis during which the wireless station would come under the League's control, somebody would have to make a grave pronouncement. Who? At what moment would it be made? Going further, he asked if it was not immediately before the crisis that it would be most necessary for the station to be at the League's disposal? He rather favoured the first plan, unless a solution were found to the problem he had just raised touching the period of emergency.

M. Motta, realizing that solution (c) was unpopular, reminded the Committee that the Swiss Government had, in the first place, proposed solution (b), which seemed to have received the support of nearly all Delegations and was, in effect, embodied in Lord Cecil's proposal. The benefit to the League under scheme (c), proposed by the Swiss Government, was that, once the station had been constructed, the only annual expenditure in which the League would have been involved would amount to about 23,000 francs, a trifling figure compared with the 450,000 francs of plan (a) and the 200,000 francs of plan (b). Be that as it may, M. Motta noted that solution (b) met with almost unanimous approval.

Following the general discussion, a joint sub-committee of members of the Third Committee and the Fourth Committee (Budget and Financial Questions) was appointed, and met on the 17th September. The mixed sub-committee unanimously decided to recommend the adoption of the second solution. In