

ments to the Agreement of 1937, as amended by the Protocol of 1938, all Governments which are parties to those instruments should be invited either to sign the present Protocol or to accede thereto; that Governments which are signatories to the Agreement of 1937 and Protocol of 1938 but have not become parties thereto by ratification should be invited to ratify those instruments and to sign the annexed Protocol or to accede thereto; and that copies of this Final Act and the Annex thereto should be communicated to all such Governments which are not represented at the present Conference and to any other interested Governments."

- (ii) "That the Governments parties or signatories to the 1937 Agreement take such measures as may be appropriate to facilitate the exchange of scientific and other data on whales and whaling. The Conference likewise recommends the interchange of experts on whale biology and collaboration among those Governments on research and scientific studies pertaining to whales."
- (iii) "That the regulations of the several Governments should provide that (1) the official measurements as required in Article 16 of the 1937 Agreement shall be taken by the inspector when the whale is at rest on deck or platform in accordance with the definition of 'length' in Article 18 of that Agreement, and (2) the other data required by Article 16 shall be verified by the inspector at the time of tally."

The Conference considered a proposal by the Delegation of the United States of America that the contracting Governments should prohibit the sale, loan or delivery of vessels, equipment or supplies designed especially for whaling operations, or known to be intended for such operations, to any Government or the national of any Government not a party or a signatory to the whaling Agreement of 1937. The Conference, however, was unable, owing to uncertainty as to the necessary legislative powers in the various countries, to include these provisions in the Protocol, but recognising the vital necessity for this prohibition adopted the following resolution:—

- (iv) "That the various Governments should take all practicable steps to prohibit the sale, loan or delivery of vessels, equipment or supplies designed especially for whaling operations, or known to be intended for such operations, to any Government or the nationals of any Government not a party or signatory to the whaling Agreement of 1937."

The Conference also gave consideration to urgent representations by the Norwegian and United Kingdom representatives that as, owing to unforeseen circumstances, certain factory ships would be unable to reach the whaling grounds by the 24th November, 1945, they should be permitted to operate with a full complement of catchers for a continuous period of four months from the date in which they were able to commence operations.

The Conference recognised the vital importance of acquiring all the oil possible during the 1945/46 season, and considered that it would be highly detrimental to world oil supplies if the limited number of expeditions were unable to fish for the full four months owing to circumstances not only beyond their control, but due primarily to the aftermath of the war.

While unable to include any provision on this subject in the Protocol on account of the difficulty of obtaining the necessary ratifications in time for this provision to be effective, the Conference adopted the following further resolution:

- (v) "That every effort should be made to overcome the legal difficulties and obtain special authority for the required extension of the 1945/46 season in the case of the particular factory ships which cannot reach the grounds by the opening date."