

considering that by such codification the flagrant injustices and numerous uncertainties which characterize International Law in its present state would be eliminated and that a stable and generally accepted basis would then be created for the solution of international disputes in the supreme interest of peace,

in view of the recommendation made to the Council of the League of Nations by the Committee of Experts for the Progressive Codification of International Law, to the effect that the codification of a first series of subject-matters which, in the opinion of the experts and according to the declarations of a considerable number of Governments, are to be regarded as ready for such a codification, should be taken in hand,

the XXIVth Inter-Parliamentary Conference warmly supports the recommendation, and records the wish that a first Conference on Public International Law be summoned as soon as possible and that all States, whether members or not of the League, be invited to participate in it, with a view to giving practical and tangible effect to the highly important work of the Committee of Experts.

*B.* In view of the very satisfactory progress made in the work pursued up till now by the Committee of Experts of the League of Nations, the Conference recommends that the Committee of Experts, functioning as a Permanent Committee, as is the case with other bodies within the League, shall be invited to pursue and push forward its studies with a view to preparing fresh preliminary draft conventions on other chapters of Public International Law the codification of which appears desirable and feasible.

It insists on the importance of a thorough and conscientious preparation of the work of the Conferences on Public International Law, and recommends in particular that the present and future work of the Committee also embrace the question of the unification of certain principles of International Penal Law, and be carefully studied in every quarter concerning itself with the development of International Law, and that it be, if necessary, co-ordinated with the work of other competent institutions, and especially with that of the Pan-American Union.

*C.* The Conference recalls the Resolution voted by the XXIIIrd Conference held at Washington and Ottawa in 1925 recommending the drafting of a general synthetic plan of Codification of Public International Law,

and requests the Committee for Juridical Questions of the Union to submit the draft of such a plan to the next Inter-Parliamentary Conference.

The draft shall regard war solely as a crime against International Law (with the exception, however, of the right of legitimate defence which justifies a resort to arms), and must consequently include, in addition to positive Law, rules intended to secure the Law of Peace (Friendly arrangements, mediation, conciliation, arbitration, resort to international jurisdiction), as well as rules relating to the ultimate execution of decisions reached.

Hon. Mr. Belcourt laid stress upon the importance of the Canadian Group joining the others in giving serious consideration to the above mentioned matters. He pointed out that these resolutions were printed in a volume which could be available and distributed. Necessary steps will be taken by the secretary, in order to secure copies for the members of the Canadian Group.

The Union is closely allied to the League of Nations with which it works in co-operation. All the independent countries in the world which have joined the League of Nations belong to the Union.