

The Committee again expressed its confidence in the mandatory Powers, the Mandates Commission and the Council. It congratulated them on the results obtained and expressed the hope that the spirit of co-operation would render possible further progress.

The negative conclusions recently arrived at by the Mandates Commission with regard to the proposal for a closer union between the mandated territories of Tanganyika and the neighbouring British possessions of Kenya and Uganda were commented on by several delegations, who paid a tribute to the care and impartiality with which the Mandates Commission examined this important problem with the loyal assistance of the Government of the United Kingdom. The British representative admitted that his Government saw possibilities of more effective co-operation between the territories in question particularly in respect of postal and telegraphic communications, but he added that this did not involve organic superstructure and that the question of closer political union between these territories was not now under consideration.

Reference was also made in the course of the Committee's discussions to the question of the conditions governing the purchase of material and supplies for public works in A and B mandated territories—one of the main aspects of the principle of economic equality—which the Mandates Commission studied with a view to facilitating in the future its task of supervising the application of the relevant rules.

The Committee further noted that the question of the demarcation of the frontier between Syria and Iraq, which it had considered last year, had been definitely settled and that the frontier was now fixed. As to the future independence of Syria, the representative of France said that he hoped the day would come when Paris would hand back its mandate in Syria to the League of Nations, but that moderation was perhaps more important than precipitation when the diverse elements which make up the population in Syria were considered.

Several delegations emphasized the importance of the development of the Jewish National Home in Palestine, in view of the number of Jews who were leaving Germany and seeking a permanent establishment. The British representative, however, doubted whether the Committee ought to go into the question of Jewish emigrants from Germany to Palestine, since this question was being dealt with by a friendly arrangement between British and German authorities in Berlin. It was also important, he said, that the increasingly improving relations between Jews and non-Jews in Palestine should not be disturbed.

The Sixth Committee considered that the League of Nations should renew its expression of confidence in the mandatory Power for Palestine, which is called upon to reconcile the obligations undertaken by it in connection with the establishment of the Jewish National Home with the rights of the native population on the one hand and the capacity of absorption of the territory on the other.

The Committee also expressed the hope that the native populations of mandated territories would suffer as little as possible from the consequences of the economic depression.

NANSEN REFUGEE OFFICE

The Sixth Committee noted the report of the Nansen International Refugee Office concerning the assistance extended during the past year to thousands of Russian, Armenian, Assyrian and Turkish refugees.

The Committee requested the Office, among other things, to continue its study of the question of the possibility of the transfer to Erivan of further groups of Armenian refugees. Moreover, in view of the growing difficulty of settling certain classes of refugees in Europe, the Committee appealed to coun-