

## ARTICLE 22

The Procurator-General shall supervise prisons and penitentiaries in which foreigners are detained. He shall, in addition, have free access at all times to any other place wherein a foreigner may be detained.

He shall notify the Minister of Justice of all irregularities of which he becomes aware, and shall make to him any other communications called for in the exercise of the supervision for which he is responsible.

## ARTICLE 23.

The "Ministère public" shall intervene in all matters involving questions of personal status or nationality. It may furthermore intervene in matters concerning minors or persons under an incapacity, and also in all other cases specified in the Code of Civil Procedure.

It shall further be empowered to order and to have carried out any measures which it may consider proper to safeguard the interests of minors or of persons under an incapacity.

## ARTICLE 24.

The parquet shall supervise the administration of judicial funds and also the special deposit and consignment fund.

It shall also supervise the clerks of the court and the bailiffs, who shall be under the exclusive control of the Presidents of the Court and Tribunals.

III.—*Competence.*

## ARTICLE 25.

For the purposes of determining the competence of the Mixed Tribunals, the word "foreigners" shall be taken to mean nationals of the High Contracting Parties to the Montreux Convention concerning the Abolition of Capitulations in Egypt, together with nationals of any other State that may be specified by decree.

No Egyptian national may avail himself of the protection of a foreign Power.

Nationals of Syria and the Lebanon and also those of Palestine and Trans-Jordan shall come within the competence of the National jurisdiction as regards both civil and criminal matters.

Foreign nationals (citizens, subjects and protected persons) belonging to religions, confessions or sects for which there exist Egyptian Tribunals dealing with matters of personal status, shall continue to have their cases heard by the said Tribunals in such matters under the same conditions as in the past.

The nationals specified above shall, moreover, have the right to opt between the Mixed jurisdiction and the National jurisdiction in civil and commercial matters. When one of the said nationals is summoned in respect of either of the said matters before a National Tribunal, in a case in connection with which he has not previously accepted the competence of the National jurisdiction, he shall, if he wishes to challenge the competence of the Tribunal before which the case is brought, do so by registered letter or by service of a writ, or at the latest at the first hearing, failing which the Tribunal shall be competent.

(A) *Competence in Civil and Commercial Matters.*

## ARTICLE 26.

The Mixed Tribunals shall take cognisance of all civil and commercial suits between foreigners or between foreigners and parties subject to the jurisdiction of the National Courts.