

may be summarized as follows: The Commission is a body of the League of Nations seeking to draw closer bonds of solidarity between the European States. It submits its reports to the Assembly every year. It has as its Secretary the Secretary-General of the League. The Commission can have recourse to the technical organs of the League. The extra-European States Members of the League have the right, if they so desire, to take part in the meetings in order to submit their observations. The Commission can further invite to share in its work the Governments of States which are not Members of the League.

To allay the criticisms advanced by several delegations against the Commission's methods of work, and particularly, against the number of committees and sub-committees it had set up, the Sixth Committee considered that the Commission for European Union not only could, but, as a general rule and apart from certain special cases which might arise, should have recourse to the technical organs of the League, and thus avoid overlapping.

The Sixth Committee also requested the Commission to refer directly to the League any problems which it might have examined, but which ought to be considered on a more elaborate scale than that involved by the continent of Europe alone.

Pact of Economic Non-Aggression

The proposal which was submitted by the Soviet Government to the European Commission with a view to drawing up a Pact of Economic Non-Aggression is one of the questions which overstep the frontiers of the European continent and should, according to the general rule, be treated by the League itself and by its technical organs. Nevertheless, for special reasons, which all the delegates finally accepted, the Sixth Committee was of opinion that the question of the Pact should be considered by a special committee which the European Commission had decided to appoint subject to the approval of the Assembly.

Since, however, this subject is of a world-wide character, the Sixth Committee proposed that the special committee should be extended to include the following non-European States: the United States of America, Australia, Canada, Chile, China, India, Japan and Uruguay.

Protection of Minorities

The League's work on the protection of minorities since the last Assembly was discussed by the Sixth Committee. The German representative gave a general analysis of the application of the system during the past year, and indicated the direction in which he desired it to develop. In his view, it would be advisable that minority committees of five Members of the Council should be constituted more frequently, that the committees should ask the petitioners more often for information and that means should be found for ensuring that the petitioners would be in a position to take note of the contents of the observations sent by the Governments concerned on the subject of their petitions, though that would not necessarily imply any recognition of their status as parties in a procedure in which both sides were to be heard. The speaker emphasized the importance of securing the publicity of the result of the examination of questions by minorities committees in the largest possible number of cases. He pointed out, in particular, that under the present system it was impossible to know in which cases the non-publication of these results was due to the fact that the committees did nothing in the matter, and in which cases the initiative of the committees did not meet with the approval of the Government concerned.

Speaking on behalf of Czechoslovakia, Greece, Poland, Roumania and Yugoslavia, the Roumanian delegate pointed out that these States had had an opportunity in 1930 to state their point of view on the question. They had