

Referring to that part of the report which dealt with the communication received from the United Kingdom regarding the pollution of navigable waters by oil, Dr. Riddell informed the Committee that the Canadian Government had given a good deal of attention to the question, and would whole-heartedly support every effort which might be made to avoid further pollution of coastal waters.

It may also be noted that this year, for the first time, the Second Committee had before it a special report on the working of the wireless station of the League of Nations. This special report, which will in future be published annually, made it possible to appraise the importance of the services rendered by the station during the first two years of its activities.

### *Health Questions*

The work of the Health Organization was reviewed by the Second Committee upon the report of Dr. Riddell, who commended the Organization for the balance which it had maintained between its more permanent activities arising out of treaty obligations and the undertaking of certain essential tasks, such as that of the Epidemiological Service and of the technical commissions, and those which were undertaken to meet pressing current needs. While urging concentration of effort on the activities of the first category during the present difficult period, he recognized that the temporary or occasional activities had been very wisely chosen since they dealt with matters of widespread interest and urgent need. In this connection, he mentioned the collaboration in health matters with the Governments of various countries, such as assistance in the reorganization of sanitary services in Greece and China, and the study of factors influencing health, such as pellagra in Roumania and public nutrition problems in Chile.

A large number of delegates took part in the discussion. The delegates of France and Poland emphasized the close relationship between health and public economy. In this connection, the representatives of Italy and Mexico urged the importance of large scale public works to combat unemployment, insisting that public works in the field of hygiene should be given priority.

The delegate of Hungary considered that enquiries should be made into the possibilities of extending the consumption of wheat to under-nourished populations.

The delegate of India recalled the proposal made by his Government in 1932 to organize a rural hygiene conference for Far-Eastern countries, and expressed the hope that the conference would be convened at a not-too-distant date.

The representative of the Union of South Africa proposed that a Pan-African health conference should be held in Capetown in the autumn of 1935 with the following agenda: sanitary and medical services in rural districts; the health of natives and the organization of medical services for natives; protective measures against the introduction of yellow fever; prophylactic measures against plague, eruptive fevers and other diseases.

The Second Committee approved the Rapporteur's conclusions and requested the Council to communicate to the Health Organization the suggestions of a technical order in his report.

### *Co-operation of the Press in the Organization of Peace*

The question of the co-operation of the Press in the organization of peace, which has been discussed by the Third and Sixth Committees at previous sessions of the Assembly, was this year referred to the Second Committee.

The Committee considered the results of the Second Conference of Government Press Bureaux and Press Representatives, held in Madrid in November, 1933, to examine whether concrete proposals could be made with regard to