

27th to the 30th August, 1928. On each of these occasions an attempt was made to draft a single text which might serve as a basis for an international convention.

Unfortunately the Special Commission has been unable so far to reach an agreement.

The principal divergencies have centered round the following points: whether aircraft should be included in the convention and, if so, should the inclusion extend to civil as well as military aircraft; whether component parts of arms, in addition to the completed article, should come under the convention; whether the figures published concerning the manufacture of arms and ammunition and implements of war should be in terms of value only, or in terms of weight and number also; and finally, whether State and Private Manufacture should be subjected to the same degree of publicity.

In considering the above problems left over from the Special Commission's last session it will be seen that a great deal remains to be done before unanimity can be reached.

The Special Commission in its report stated in part that "After attempting to reconcile the different points of view, it could do no more than place on record the continued existence of fundamental divergencies....", which made it impossible for it to draft the single text which the Assembly desired.

Under the circumstances the Third Committee recommended that an appeal be made to the various Governments to examine carefully the differences of view and that another meeting of the Special Commission be called before the next Council session. Effect has been given to this recommendation, and, on the 23rd December 1928, the Special Commission will meet again in an endeavour, which it is hoped will be successful this time, to draft a single text for a convention on the Private Manufacture and Publicity of the Manufacture of Arms and Ammunition and of Implements of War.

FOURTH COMMITTEE

(BUDGET AND FINANCIAL QUESTIONS)

League Buildings

Plans for the construction of an Assembly Hall, a new building for the Secretariat, and a new Library, which have up to the present been delayed, seem now to be on the road to realization.

It will be recalled that the League had acquired three sites on Lake Geneva, but was unable to make arrangements to purchase a fourth property which was necessary to give sufficient ground for all the buildings. A solution was found by effecting an exchange with the authorities of the City of Geneva, the city conferring on the League the "droit d'usage" of a portion of the Ariana Park in exchange for similar rights of occupation in the three lakeside properties now in the possession of the League. Thus the League buildings will not be on the lake front, and the plans which envisaged buildings on the shore will have to be altered to suit the new site. The former League property will be a public park which will form a continuation of the Parc Mon Repos, so that the new buildings, while not on the water's edge, will have an unobstructed view of the lake.

As soon as the legal formalities connected with the transfer of the land have been completed, the Committee of Five is to give final approval to revised plans adapted to the new site, such approval to be submitted later to the Council for ratification. The amount to be spent on the new buildings may be increased to approximately 19,500,000 francs, so that it seems assured that very few more Assemblies will be held in the ill-ventilated and cramped quarters at present in use.