

On this last point the Rapporteur recalled that, following on the appeal issued by the Assembly in September, 1931, that the public in all countries should give practical demonstration of its sympathy towards the flood victims in China (numbering some 23,000,000), the Health Organization had been asked by the Council to co-ordinate the international campaign against epidemics and to forward to States Members a request from the Chinese Government for medical staff and sanitary material. Several Governments had generously responded to this appeal and sent to China sera, pharmaceutical products, field laboratories, medical staff and food. Other Governments had offered to supply vaccines but the representatives of the Health Organization in China had intimated that the Chinese laboratories were in a position to prepare this material.

Delegates of Eastern countries paid special tribute to the effective work accomplished by the Eastern Bureau—the outpost of the Health Organization at Singapore—in the campaign against epidemic diseases. The delegate of India, supported by the delegate of China, expressed the hope that, as soon as financial possibilities permitted, the Health Organization would convene in the East a conference on rural hygiene similar to the European Conference which was held in 1931. He emphasized the fact that such a conference would be an excellent means of making known in the East the beneficent influence of the League of Nations. The Second Committee therefore proposed that the Assembly should invite the Health Committee to consider the feasibility of convening such a conference and to present a report on the subject at the next Assembly.

The Hungarian Government proposed to the 1930 Assembly that the study of international reciprocity in the care of the sick should be included in its program of work. It considered that a multilateral convention should be drawn up in virtue of which the sick of foreign nationality would be treated by the contracting States on an equal footing with their own nationals. The Health Committee this year submitted a report on the proposal. The committee found that it would be inadvisable for the moment to contemplate a multilateral convention. It pointed out, however, the possibility of other solutions, and drew attention to the existence of the committee set up by the Council on May 20, 1931, to study in all its aspects the question of assistance to indigent foreigners. It suggested that this committee might be asked to consider possible solutions of the problem raised by the Hungarian Government.

The Second Committee decided to propose that the Assembly should accept these recommendations and should ask the Council to refer the further study of the question to the committee set up in 1931. Assistance to indigent foreigners necessarily entails, if it is to be comprehensive, medical assistance in case of sickness, and hence the question comes within the purview of that committee.

Regarding the report of the Reporting Committee on Maternal Welfare and the Hygiene of Infants and Children of Pre-School Age, observations were made by several delegations on certain points susceptible of interpretations which are contrary to the legislation of several countries as well as to the religious beliefs and moral principles of a large part of their population. In the circumstances, the Second Committee considered that the best procedure would be for the Assembly to invite the Health Committee to consider afresh the above-mentioned report in the light of the observations made, and to request the committee to present a report to the Council at its next session.

It will be remembered that the French Government has offered to create in Paris an International School of Advanced Health Studies under the auspices of the Health Organization. The Chamber of Deputies has already ratified this proposal, and the Second Committee noted with special appreciation the statement of the French delegation that the Senate would adopt the Bill not later than the beginning of November; thus the opening of the school might take place in the near future. It will constitute for the Health Organization a par-