

Dr. Messler asked the Netherlands Delegation whether a report on Opium in the Netherlands itself would be laid on the table. Mr De Jongh replying said that, as far as he was aware, no report on the Netherlands would be presented; but he might say that he had never heard of poppy growing in that country. However, he would endeavour to obtain more positive information if desired.

A discussion then ensued as to whether the scope of enquiry was intended originally to include other than Far Eastern countries. The Chief Commissioners for France and Portugal respectively stated that they understood that the investigations of the Commission would apply only to the Far East. Dr Hamilton Wright declared that the United States Govt. had suggested the study of all phases of the Opium question in each country represented on the Commission, and especially that such investigation should be carried out before the meeting of the International Commission, in order to facilitate the preliminary work of the Commission.

The Chair ended what promised to develop into a lengthy debate by suggesting that each country represented might at least obtain such information regarding the conditions at home as would enlighten the Commission, and enable it to carry the work before them to a successful issue.

The House then adjourned until Thursday the 18th February, when the order of the day will be:-

1. The presentation of a Report on Canada (if ready)
2. Continuation of the discussion on the Chinese Report.
3. Discussion on the Reports on Great Britain and her Possessions.

-----ooOoo-----