

The main resolution in full ran as follows:—

RESOLUTION No. V.

The Assembly,

Noting the progress achieved in the technical sphere by the Preparatory Disarmament Commission and by the Committee of the Council towards enabling the Council to be rapidly convened and to take decisions in case of emergency;

Being anxious to bring about the political conditions calculated to assure the success of the work of disarmament;

Being convinced that the principal condition of this success is that every State should be sure of not having to provide unaided for its security by means of its own armaments and should be able to rely also on the organized collective action of the League of Nations;

Affirming that such action should aim *chiefly* at forestalling or arresting any resort to war and *if need be* at effectively protecting any State victim of an aggression;

Being convinced that the burdens which may thereby be imposed on the different States will be the more readily accepted by them in proportion as

(a) They are shared in practice by a greater number of States;

(b) The individual obligations of States have been more clearly defined and limited:

1. Recommends the progressive extension of arbitration by means of special or collective agreements, including agreements between States members and non-members of the League of Nations, so as to extend to all countries the mutual confidence essential to the complete success of the Conference on the Limitation and Reduction of Armaments;

2. Recalls its resolution of September 24, 1926, which reads as follows:—

“Being desirous that the investigations, in regard to which the Assembly itself took the initiative in its resolution of September 25, 1925, should be brought to a successful conclusion as soon as possible, it requests the Council to call upon the Preparatory Commission to take steps to hasten the completion of the technical work and thus be able to draw up, at the beginning of next year, the program for a Conference on the Limitation and Reduction of Armaments corresponding to existing conditions in regard to regional and general security, and it asks the Council to convene this Conference before the eighth ordinary session of the Assembly, unless material difficulties render this impossible.”

Accordingly requests the Council to urge the Preparatory Commission to hasten the completion of its technical work and to convene the Conference on the Limitation and Reduction of Armaments immediately this work has been completed;

3. Requests the Council to give the Preparatory Commission, whose task will not be confined to the preparation of an initial conference on the limitation and reduction of armaments, and whose work must continue until the final goal has been achieved, the necessary instructions for the creation without delay of a committee consisting of representatives of all the States which have seats on the Commission and are members of the League of Nations, other States represented on the Commission being invited to sit on it if they so desire.

This committee would be placed at the Commission's disposal and its duty would be to consider, on the lines indicated by the Commission, the measures capable of giving all States the guarantees of arbitration and security necessary to enable them to fix the level of their armaments at the lowest possible figures in an international disarmament agreement.

The Assembly considers that these measures should be sought:

In action by the League of Nations with a view to promoting, generalizing, and coordinating special or collective agreements on arbitration and security;

In the systematic preparation of the machinery to be employed by the organs of the League of Nations with a view to enabling the members of the League to perform their obligations under the various articles of the Covenant;

In agreements which the States members of the League may conclude among themselves, irrespective of their obligations under the Covenant, with a view to making their commitments proportionate to the degree of solidarity of a geographical or other nature existing between them and other States;

And, further, in an invitation from the Council to the several States to inform it of the measures which they would be prepared to take, irrespective of their obligations under the Covenant, to support the Council's decisions or recommendations in the event of a conflict breaking out in a given region, each State indicating that, in a particular case, either all its forces, or a certain part of its military, naval or air forces, could forthwith intervene in the conflict to support the Council's decisions or recommendations.

It remains to be seen how far the Preparatory Commission and its Security Sub-committee can develop this modified and more flexible version of the doctrine of the linking of disarmament with security and arbitration into a practical and acceptable working plan.