

smoking in the Far East, and drew the attention of the other signatories (India, Japan, and Siam) to the importance of their ratifying the Agreement as soon as possible, so that it may come into force.

The Canadian representative on this Committee, M. Désy, drew attention to the exposed position of Canada as regards the illicit traffic in narcotics and to the measures taken by the Government with a view to its suppression. Now that imports and exports were being supervised and manufacture limited, he hoped that it would be found possible to limit the production of the raw materials of these narcotic drugs, which endanger the physical and moral well-being of mankind. The Canadian Government would support the efforts of the League in this direction, as it had done in the past.

SIXTH COMMITTEE (Political Questions)

Protection of Minorities

The question of minorities dominated the proceedings in the Sixth Committee. The Committee did not confine itself to the discussion of the operation of the Minorities Treaties at present in force for certain countries but dealt also with more general issues, such as the obligations devolving upon any State as a result of the Assembly resolution of 1922, or of the right of all citizens to equality in law.

Opening the debate, Herr von Keller, the representative of Germany, said that the hope entertained during the war that the reorganization of Europe would take into account the question of nationality had been disappointed in 1919 by the frontiers which had been established by the Treaties of Peace. But the solidarity of peoples bound by ties of blood, language, and culture, he was convinced, led them now to wish more than ever to be recognized as an entity. In view of this attachment to the "Volkstum," a particular nation had a natural right to consider that all its members, even those separated by frontiers, constituted a moral unity. For that reason, Germany could not agree that Germans abroad should be denationalized and assimilated. At the same time, Germany, consistent with herself, had no intention of trying to germanize other peoples. As far as the Jews were concerned, they gave rise to a special problem which should not be confused with that of minorities and which must be specially handled. The Jews in Germany were not a minority, and did not regard themselves as such.

In reply to Herr von Keller's argument, Mr. Ormsby-Gore, speaking on behalf of Great Britain, said he could but reject the idea of enforcing racial homogeneity, as well as the pseudo-right and duty of a State to concern itself with the citizens of the same race belonging to another State. This "Aryan" doctrine, he went on, could not apply to the British Empire. In the Empire, it had always been a cardinal principle that no persons should be debarred from holding any post under the Crown or in any profession, in the words of Queen Victoria, "by reason of race, colour or creed."

Passing to the question of Jews, Mr. Ormsby-Gore said that he would not have referred to it had not the German delegate queried whether they ought to regard them as a minority in any country. The Jews, he continued, had their racial identity, and they formed everywhere a minority which deserved the same treatment as all other minorities in all countries. What Herr Hitler had written regarding the Jews in Germany had made the English people uneasy, and he personally thought that the League ought to reaffirm solemnly the resolution passed by the Third Assembly in 1922, at a time when Germany was not yet a State Member of the League of Nations.