

summoning of an international conference on transport statistics, the Advisory and Technical Committee for Communications and Transit would take the necessary steps with a view to the convening of such a Conference by the Council.

The Canadian delegate on the Second Committee took advantage of the discussion on Communications and Transit to urge the Secretariat of the League to do something to remove the handicap upon sending telegraphic communications from Geneva to overseas countries. He pointed out the inequality which existed between the tariffs in force for press cablegrams sent from Geneva and those sent from France. The cable companies charged 36 centimes a word across the Atlantic for telegrams emanating from Switzerland, as compared with only 26 centimes for messages originating in France. On a message from Switzerland there was first of all a Swiss terminal charge of 6 centimes a word, then a transit charge through France of 7.5 centimes, and finally a transit charge from France across the Atlantic of 36 centimes, thus making a total of 49.5, almost double the charge on messages from France. The charges on messages from Geneva *via* London aggregated the same total. He suggested that the Communications and Transit Organization should try to improve the situation in view of the loss caused to press associations, on the other side of the Atlantic and more particularly in Canada, and the desirability of facilitating the communication of news from the League of Nations.

M. de Tessen, delegate of France, supported the Canadian delegate and said he hoped that results would be obtained which would prove satisfactory to everyone.

M. Schmidt (Estonia), Rapporteur, observed that the question of rates was one that was familiar to the Communications and Transit Organization and that the latter could be trusted to renew its efforts to reach a satisfactory result.

The Second Committee adopted M. Schmidt's general report with slight amendments and forwarded to the Fourth Committee a resolution expressing the hope "that the Fourth Committee may find it possible to vote, so far as the present situation permits, the funds necessary for the continuance of the activity of the Communications and Transit Organization as required by the task entrusted to the latter, lest the work that it has so fruitfully accomplished in past years be endangered."

Work of the Health Organization

The work of the Health Organization was reviewed by the Second Committee upon the report of Dr. Winter (Czechoslovakia). The Rapporteur observed that the Organization had passed through three stages. In the first stage of its existence the Organization had been obliged to select from among the problems with which National Health Departments are faced those which can be solved along international lines. The second stage was a stage of technical studies—research into leprosy, immunization against diphtheria, etc.—intended to lead to general conclusions based on the experience of the various countries. The third stage had now been reached, that of action.

The current activity of the Organization included: the scheme of sanitary re-organization prepared by the Greek Government in co-operation with the Health Organization which had led to the creation of the Athens Health Centre; in Bolivia, a study of the health conditions undertaken at the request of that country; the work of the Permanent Commission on Biological Standardization; the work to be envisaged as a result of the South African Government's request regarding a solution for the health problems confronting Central and South Africa (yellow fever), and the co-ordination of the campaign against epidemics in China.