

Assumption by United Nations of Certain League Functions

The General Assembly of the United Nations had decided to assume, on the dissolution of the League, certain of the functions and powers belonging to the League under international agreements. In this connection the Assembly had before it documents relating to the powers and duties attributed to the League by treaties and a list of conventions which conferred powers on the organs of the League. They also had to consider certain activities of a non-political nature hitherto performed by the League which the United Nations had decided to assume.

In accordance with the view that the task of the Assembly of the League at its twenty-first session was to make the necessary provision to assist the United Nations in the assumption of these functions and activities, it was agreed that the transfer should be arranged in such a way that there should be no break or interruption in these functions and activities. While the officials of the League had been given notice terminating their employment on July 31st, the Assembly decided that if functions and activities in which they were engaged were not assumed by the United Nations on that date, the necessary number would be re-engaged temporarily until the completion of the work of liquidation and transfer.

The System of Mandates

The Assembly had before them a resolution presented by the delegate of China expressing satisfaction at the way in which the organs of the League, and in particular, the Mandates Commission, had performed their functions with respect to the mandate system. The resolution took note of the expressed intention of the members of the League now administering mandates to continue to administer them for the well-being and development of the peoples concerned, in accordance with the obligations contained in the respective mandates, until other arrangements might be completed with the United Nations. This resolution was passed unanimously, but the delegate of Egypt abstained from voting and reserved his Government's position in view of Egypt's interest in the future of Palestine.

International Assistance to Refugees

The discussion of the transfer to the United Nations of the work of the League for the assistance of refugees was introduced in Committee by a statement from the High Commissioner for Refugees, Sir Herbert Emerson, on the work of his office. The Committee noted with satisfaction that the Special Committee on Refugees established by the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations was at that moment sitting in London to examine the