

of war, provided the Conference did not forget to organise peace. Instead of depriving both sides of aggressive arms, France wished merely to deprive the aggressor of them and give them to an international authority, which must assist the weaker party. They must support the Covenant in order to make the League more powerful as a peace instrument.

M. Litvinoff said he was totally opposed to all attempts to restrict the task of the Conference to limitation of arms, and only the word "reduction" should be used in the Convention. The lower level of armaments in 1914 had not prevented war, and a substantial reduction was essential. He proposed that States should be classified in three groups, small, medium and the Great Powers, for the proportional and progressive reduction of all categories of arms. He wished to alter the wording of Article 1 and insert "effect a substantial reduction . . ." in place of "limit and as far as possible reduce."

Lithuania.

April 11th.—Petition against the Government filed at the Permanent Court. (*See Permanent Court of International Justice.*)

New Zealand.

April 2nd.—The Government despatched a cable to the Government of the Irish Free State stating that it sincerely hoped that the latter "do not feel themselves obliged to pursue any course that may jeopardise the Free State's continued association with the British Commonwealth, which New Zealand values very highly and feels that the Statute of Westminster affords every guarantee of equality for the partners of the British Commonwealth."

Permanent Court of International Justice.

April 11th.—A petition from the Governments of Great Britain, France, Italy and Japan was filed at the Registry of the Court initiating proceedings against the Lithuanian Government under Article 17 of the League Covenant, in connection with the Memel dispute.

Poland.

April 2nd.—Communication to British Government re Danube Scheme. (*See Great Britain.*)

April 3rd.—It was learned that the provisional Trade Agreement with Germany, signed on March 26th, provided that Polish goods would continue to enter Germany on the same conditions as in 1931, with certain exceptions. The German super-tariff would be applied only to goods which were included in special import prohibitions. Poland granted to Germany quotas of goods prohibited on December 31st, 1931, on the understanding that they would be subject to the normal Customs duty.

Reparations.

April 11th.—The Board of the B.I.S., at its monthly meeting, decided to renew for three months, the credits granted to the National Banks of Austria, Hungary and Yugoslavia. (The credits were due to expire on April 16th, 18th and 28th respectively.) It also decided to increase the Bank's available capital by the issue of a further 26,400 shares. (These had already been authorised when the Bank was founded, but had not been issued. Their issue made up the total of 500 million Swiss francs.)