

## 4. ALLOCATION OF EXPENSES.\*

The Committee on Allocation of Expenses informed the Assembly that, after a careful examination of the question and an investigation into the method of allocating the expenses of the League according to a new method, it was unable for the moment to submit a revised scale. The Committee came to the conclusion that although the existing scale might involve an injustice to one State or another, it could not, on the basis of technical evidence alone, suggest modifications. An alteration made in the scale to-day in favour of any particular country might no longer be warranted when the scale was put into force.

Various delegations, notably the Chinese delegation, asked that their contribution to the League might be adjusted more in accordance with their capacity to pay. The United Kingdom Government, on the other hand, proposed that all the permanent Members of the Council should be assessed on the same basis as the highest contributor in that group, i.e., the United Kingdom.

The Assembly decided that the United Kingdom proposal, together with all proposals submitted by Governments on the method of assessment should, if communicated in good time, be placed on the agenda for next year.

The Assembly, on the proposal of the Allocation Committee, decided that the contribution of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics should be fixed at 79 units for one year only and the contribution of Afghanistan at one unit. It also decided that twenty units should be distributed for the year 1935 by the Allocation Committee in reduction of the contribution of those States which, in its opinion, have the strongest claims to relief. Subject to the foregoing, the present scale will remain in force for the year 1935.

The Assembly instructed the Allocation Committee to consider forthwith the request put forward by the Chinese representative and to submit concrete proposals on the subject to the Sixteenth Assembly.

## 5. STAFF PENSIONS FUND.†

The Assembly approved the report of the

Administrative Board of the Staff Pensions Fund. It considered that it was preferable that the Fund should earn less than 4½ per cent. on which the original actuarial calculations had been made, rather than run risks which might endanger its stability.

## 6. MISCELLANEOUS APPOINTMENTS.

On the proposal of the Fourth Committee, the Assembly appointed Lord Meston of Agra and M. C. J. Hambro as members of the Supervisory Commission for the period ending December 31st, 1937.

Mr. Francis T. Cremins was appointed substitute member of the Administrative Board of the Staff Pensions Fund.

On September 19th the Council renewed for a period of three years, as from 1935, the terms of office of M. Montagna and M. Van Ryckevorsel, respectively judge and deputy judge of the Administrative Tribunal of the League of Nations.

## 7. DECLARATION OF LOYALTY TO THE LEAGUE BY THE SECRETARY-GENERAL AND HIGH OFFICIALS.

On September 8th the Secretary-General of the League, M. Avenol; the Deputy-Secretary-General in charge of Internal Administration, M. P. de Azcarate; the Under Secretary-General, Director of the Political Section, Mr. F. P. Walters; the Director of the Minorities Section, Mr. H. Rosting; and the Director of the Information Section, M. A. Pelt, made before the Council a declaration of loyalty to the League of Nations in conformity with the Staff Regulations.‡

The declaration is as follows:—

"I solemnly undertake to exercise in all loyalty, discretion and conscience the functions that have been entrusted to me [as Secretary-General] of the League of Nations, to discharge my functions and to regulate my conduct with the interests of the League alone in view and not to seek or receive instructions from any Government or other authority external.

"For the Secretary-General: to the League of Nations.

"For the other officials: to the Secretariat of the League of Nations."

## XIII.—FORTHCOMING LEAGUE MEETINGS.

October 15th.—Committee of the Assembly on the Dispute between Bolivia and Paraguay, Geneva.

\* See Assembly resolution: Annex, page 240.

† See paragraph 3 of Assembly resolution on financial questions: Annex, page 239.

October 15th.—Preliminary Meeting of Experts for the study of draft Conventions on veterinary questions, Geneva.

October 18th.—Mixed Committee for the Study

‡ See Monthly Summary, Vol. XII., No. 10, page 317.

of Compensation and Clearing Agreements, Paris.

October 18th.—Permanent Central Opium Board, Geneva.

October 18th.—Committee on Allocation of Expenses, Paris.

October 29th.—Permanent Mandates Commission, Geneva.

October 31st.—Governing Body of the Nansen International Office for Refugees, Geneva.

November 12th.—Sub-Committee on Seizures of the Opium Advisory Committee, Geneva.

November 14th.—Supervisory Commission, Geneva.

November 15th.—Advisory Committee on the Traffic in Opium and other Dangerous Drugs, Geneva.

November 19th.—Committee to study the question of the Pollution of the Sea by Oil, Geneva.

November (?).—Eighty-third (Extraordinary) Session of the Council, Geneva.

November (?).—Extraordinary Session of the Assembly, Geneva.

December 7th.—Executive Committee of the Intellectual Co-operation Organisation, Paris.

## THE PERMANENT COURT OF INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE.

## 1. THIRTY-THIRD SESSION OF THE COURT.

October 22nd next was fixed for the opening of the Court's thirty-third session.

The Oscar Chinn case appears on the Session list (see para. 2 below).

## 2. THE OSCAR CHINN CASE (FLUVIAL TRANSPORT ON THE WATERWAYS OF THE BELGIAN CONGO) (BELGIUM—UNITED KINGDOM).\*

By orders, made respectively on May 2nd and July 14th, 1934, the acting President of the Court had fixed, and subsequently extended, the time-limits allowed to the parties for the submission of the documents of the written proceedings.

The Case of the Government of the United Kingdom, the Counter-Case of the Belgian Government, the Reply of the Government of the United Kingdom and the Rejoinder of the Belgian Government were duly filed within the time-limits thus fixed.

The last of these documents was filed on September 24th, 1934, and the case is therefore ready for hearing, as from that date.

The parties to the Convention for the revision of the General Act of Berlin, of February 26th, 1885, and of the General Act and the Declaration of Brussels of July 2nd, 1890, which was signed at St. Germain-en-Laye on September 10th, 1919, other than the States concerned in the case, were specially notified, in accordance with Article 63 of the Statute and Article 60 of the Rules of the Court, of the filing of the Special Agreement.

October 23rd was fixed for the opening of the oral pleadings in this case.

\* See Monthly Summary, 1934, Vol. XIV., No. 4, page 97.

## 3. APPOINTMENT OF AN UMPIRE.

The Imperial Government of Persia and Ceskomoravska-Kolben-Danek Company, whose registered office is at Prague-Karlin, had requested the President of the Court to proceed to the designation of an umpire in a dispute that had arisen between them.

The President having accepted this duty, his choice fell on Sir John Fischer Williams, K.C., K.C.B., formerly British legal adviser to the Reparation Commission.

## 4. OPTIONAL CLAUSE.

The Governments of Greece and of Abyssinia have renewed their acceptance of the Optional Clause appended to the Statute, concerning the recognition of the compulsory jurisdiction of the Court.

The undertaking of Greece, which was due to expire on September 12th, 1934, was renewed on that date in the following terms:

"On behalf of the Hellenic Government subject to ratification, I recognise as compulsory *ipso facto* and without special agreement, in relation to any other Member of the League of Nations or State accepting the same obligation, that is to say, on condition of reciprocity, and for a further period of five years as from September 12th, 1934, the jurisdiction of the Permanent Court of International Justice, for the classes of disputes mentioned in Article 36, paragraph 2, of the Statute of the Court, with the exception of:

"(a) disputes relating to the territorial status of Greece, including disputes relating to its rights of sovereignty over its ports and lines of communication;

"(b) disputes relating directly or indirectly to the application of treaties or conventions accepted by Greece and providing for another procedure.

"This acceptance is effective as from the date of signature of the present declaration."