

REPORT OF THE CANADIAN DELEGATES TO THE TWENTY-FIRST ASSEMBLY OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS

OTTAWA, May 15, 1946.

TO HIS EXCELLENCY

THE GOVERNOR GENERAL IN COUNCIL:

The undersigned delegates, appointed to represent Canada at the Twenty-first and final Session of the Assembly of the League of Nations, have the honour to report that the Assembly met in Geneva from the 8th to the 18th April, 1946. The Twentieth Session of the Assembly had taken place in Geneva in December, 1939, and there was thus a gap of over six years during which no session of the Assembly could be held. The purpose of the Twenty-first Session, which was fully achieved, was to make provision for the dissolution of the League of Nations following the establishment of the United Nations. The General Assembly of the United Nations, at its first session in London early this year, had already approved the assumption by the United Nations of certain functions and activities carried out by the League, and also the transfer to the United Nations of the material assets of the League.

Since the Twentieth Session of the Assembly had not been formally terminated in 1939, the first action taken on April 8 was for the President of the Twentieth Session, Mr. C. J. Hambro of Norway, to declare that session closed. Mr. Hambro then announced that the Twenty-first Session had begun, and he was unanimously appointed President of the Twenty-first Session on the nomination of the last President of the Council, Mr. Costa du Rels of Bolivia.

Mr. Hambro spoke briefly to the Assembly, pointing out that the Assembly had a practical task to perform. He expressed the hope that the Assembly would find it possible to act in complete unity. It was, he said, a solemn occasion because the Assembly would be asked to declare that this, the Twenty-first Assembly of the League, was to be its last. "We shall try," Mr. Hambro said, "to accomplish our task with despatch and dignity".

Forty States Members of the League had received from the Secretary-General the notice of convocation of the Assembly, and of these thirty-four were represented by accredited delegates. Colombia accredited a representative as an observer, and later in the