

Uruguayan Government in organizing a conference on different methods for the serological diagnosis of syphilis; (9) the Brazilian Government in the creation of an international leprosy research centre at Rio de Janeiro; (10) the Chinese Government in the organization of a central field health station at Nanking, the constitution of a national hospital, also at Nanking, the re-organization of the health services and of the quarantine services, and a program of teaching.

The Second Committee noted with interest the results of comparative studies of immunization against diphtheria and scarlet-fever undertaken in several countries; of the progress made by the Permanent Commission on Standardization, which achieved particularly important results both from the scientific point of view and for the testing of the innumerable preparations on the market; of the studies made by the Malaria Commission, which have led to the definition of a standard product of the total alkaloids of cinchona, approximately as efficacious as quinine.

Reviewing the results of the European Rural Hygiene Conference, the Second Committee expressed the hope that the work undertaken in this field would be extended, so that the rural population of all countries might benefit by it in the near future.

Spontaneous unanimity was displayed in the discussion regarding China, whose people have been the victims of an appalling flood. A resolution described the danger of the spread of epidemics and loss of life in the Yangtse Valley as a humanitarian problem of the first magnitude and a matter of international concern, recalled the assistance rendered in similar circumstances by the Health Organization in Poland and Greece, invited all States to respond, as far as lay in their power, to any request for measures of relief in co-operation with the League, and requested the Council to take the necessary steps to render such co-operation effective.

#### THIRD COMMITTEE

#### (Reduction of Armaments)

#### *Armaments Truce*

In the course of the general debate in the plenary sessions of the Assembly five ex-neutral States had submitted a draft resolution inviting the Council to urge the Governments convened to the Disarmament Conference to abstain, pending its result, from increasing the present level of their armaments.

The Third Committee, to which the draft resolution was referred, proposed that Governments not represented in the Assembly, but invited to the Conference, should take part in the discussion. Accordingly, the President of the Assembly invited the following States to be represented: Afghanistan, Argentine, Brazil, Costa Rica, Egypt, Ecuador, Salvador, Turkey, the Union of Socialist Soviet Republics, and the United States of America.

The following States accepted the invitation: Costa Rica, Egypt, the United States of America, Turkey, and Brazil, the last named being represented by an observer. The Government of the Soviet Union stated that, in view of the short notice, it was unable to send a delegate, but explained that it would be disposed to associate itself with a scheme for an armaments truce, provided it were adopted in a form obligatory for all countries and covering all classes of armaments.

The idea of an armaments truce met with general assent, but opinion was divided as to methods of giving practical application to the principle.