

cial and Economic Committee was also reviewed in detail. A proposal from the French Government to provide quarters and endowment in Paris for an Institute to carry on the work of the Committee on Intellectual Co-operation was accepted, though with opposition from delegates who considered this step, however generous, would lessen the international character of the work. An offer from the Italian Government to establish an Institute for International Private Law at Rome, under control of the League, was also endorsed.

The Third Committee (Armaments), besides dealing at length with the later sections of the Protocol, recommended, and the Assembly provided, for the holding of a Conference, in which the United States had expressed its willingness to take part, for the control of the international traffic in arms and munitions. Provision was made for continuing the publication of the very useful statistical information on this question collected by the Secretariat. The Temporary Mixed Commission was instructed to prepare a draft convention on the difficult subject of control of private manufacture of arms and munitions.

The Fourth Committee (Budget) examined as usual into the reports of the financial operations of the League in 1923, and approved the budget for 1925. The reports showed a gratifying improvement in the League's finances, both as to the regularity of payments by the Member States and the checking of expenditure. The detailed survey of all budget proposals by a Supervisory Commission, corresponding to national Treasury Board review, was found of distinct benefit. Many proposals for increased credits for worthy objects were considered, but the greater number were refused or reduced. The budget voted for 1925 totalled 22,658,138 gold francs (\$4,372,000) as against 23,328,676 gold francs (\$4,502,000) for 1924. The question of arrears of payment by a few of the smaller states, chiefly in previous years, was discussed at length, and a solution reached in several cases. The provisional basis of allocation of expenses among the Members was continued, with some minor amendments; the ratification this year of an amendment to the constitution makes it possible to consider next year the adoption of a permanent scale to take the place of the original Universal Postal Union scale; the difficulty of equating national wealth, budgets, and other standards, and the complications of foreign exchange, make it a difficult task. Canada's allotment for 1925 will be 35 units out of 935, or \$163,656, a reduction of \$4,697 from 1924. The improved finances of the League made it possible to recommend the erection of a Conference Hall for the Assembly, to take the place of the present very inadequate temporary structure. Architects of all countries belonging to the League will be invited to submit plans.

The Fifth Committee (Social and Humanitarian Questions) covered a wide range. Preparations for the two Conferences on the Traffic in Opium, initiated at the previous Assembly, were reported well under way. Further international action in combatting the traffic in women and children was proposed, and the Declaration of Geneva, or Children's Charter, was endorsed by the Assembly. The situation of the three million Armenian, Greek, and Russian refugees was given much consideration; as repatriation schemes had failed, the problem had now become largely one of finding employment in the countries where the refugees had settled, and for this and other reasons the work carried on so effectively under Dr. Nansen was transferred to the International Labour Office; the hope was expressed that after the coming year no further aid from the League would be required. The work for the protection of women and children in the Near East, at Constantinople and Aleppo, was reviewed, and provision made for an inquiry into an Italian plan for an international federation for mutual assistance in the relief of peoples overcome by disasters.