

It was for the Plenary and the Executive Committees to determine as a matter of policy with what groups the I.G.C. should work. The Polish representative spoke rather obscurely but apparently in favour of protection for refugees who were at present in countries where their home governments could not look after them, whether for economic reasons or for lack of consular representation. He added that Poland favoured the voluntary return of persons who wished to return to Poland, but reserved to herself the decision as to who those persons should be.

11. The U.S.A. representative suggested that in its proper zeal not to discourage financial help from voluntary societies, the I.G.C. might be expecting too much from such societies.

3rd SESSION

12. The third session on Wednesday morning was devoted to the Budgets. The only significant statement on the Administrative Budget was on the part of Poland, whose delegate asked that Poland be relieved of the need of contributing for 1946 or, if this was not possible, that her quota be lowered. The Director hoped this point would not be pressed, pointing out that as few of the expenses of the Committee as possible were included in the Administrative Budget, in order to avoid hardship to any State. The Polish quota, by the way, is £1,760. It is understood that Poland will write to the Executive Committee asking for exemption.

13. The Administrative Budget was accepted on the proposal of the U.S.A. and Brazil. The U.K. remarked that its approval was without prejudice to the whole question of the future handling of the refugee question.

14. Next came the Operational Budget. It is not necessary to repeat the figures given in the agenda paper. The Director said the expenditures in 1945 might be £1,000,000 or might be £1,100,000. He pointed out the necessity for contributions for 1945 and 1946 being paid, regardless of the future of the Committee, as the Budgets must go forward whoever sponsored them. It will be noted that this point is incorporated in the final resolutions at the last session. This was at the urgent solicitation of the U.S.A. delegate, who pointed out that the U.S. Congress would observe carefully what contributions had been made by other countries.

15. Still under the Operational Budget, the French delegate said that the figure of 70,000,000 francs subscribed by France for 1945 would be at least equalled for 1946. It was understood that this money would be spent on the refugees now in France, but it was, of course, in addition to the amount spent on French persons returned from other countries. Norway would contribute £5,000 for 1945. Switzerland and Belgium hoped soon to be able to announce their contribution for 1945, and the Director said that other States were giving consideration to the question.

16. The New Zealand delegate raised some particular questions on the Budget, including one concerning the large salaries paid to representatives. The Director replied that the most suitable officers were secured, and the salaries had regard to local costs of living and to previous remuneration of the persons