

kingdom of the Hedjaz, is as close to that kingdom as practical considerations permit. The neighbourhood of Maan in Transjordan is indicated by the commission as probably suitable for this purpose. It is considered that separate quarantine stations which are established on the frontiers traversed by the railway, for example, at Deraa on the Syrian-Transjordanian frontier, or on the frontier between Syria and Turkey, should be worked in co-ordination with the primary railway quarantine station to the south. In other words, the commission considers that in-coming and out-going pilgrims by the railway route should be examined and dealt with medically on their entrance to or on their departure from the Hedjaz Kingdom, as the case may be, in a similar way to pilgrims coming by sea via the quarantine station of Kameran on the south or that of El Tor on the north.

The commission does not recommend that reliance should be placed in the present circumstances on sanitary measures taken within the Hedjaz Kingdom itself or at Jeddah or other ports of the Hedjaz.

The Near East Commission recognises further that the administrative authorities of the main quarantine stations concerned with the pilgrimage (e.g., El Tor, Kameran and the future railway quarantine station) should co-ordinate their action, and for this purpose should each be represented on a co-ordinating sanitary committee.

On consideration of the large number of nationalities which are properly interested in the protective measures taken, the commission recognises that this committee should be made responsible to the League of Nations, in the sense that it should report to the Council of the League and deal with matters submitted to it for opinion or advice either by the Council or Health Committee of the League, or by individual countries interested in the pilgrimage. It should be understood that the commission, in making these recommendations, does not exclude the provision of other quarantine stations for dealing with pilgrims in countries more remote from Arabia.

V.—*Draft Clauses giving effect to the above Proposals.*

The Near East Commission, in an annex of its report, sets out a series of draft articles which might be incorporated in the revised International Sanitary Convention, so as to give effect to the above recommendations.

These draft articles, together with other recommendations of the Near East Commission, have just been considered by the Permanent Committee of the Office international d'Hygiène publique at its session in Paris last October. The committee of the Office international d'Hygiène publique was then engaged, in accordance with its statutes, in preparing for the Powers interested expert proposals for the modifications needed in the International Sanitary Convention of 1912, in order to take account of recent developments of medical knowledge and existing administrative conditions.

The committee of the Office international d'Hygiène publique considered that until the immediate future of administration in the Near East has been settled, it might be undesirable to propose to the Powers detailed articles to be embodied in the next convention which relate to countries in the Near East. The committee, however, discussed fully the recommendations which had been made by the Near East Commission of the League of Nations, and from the expert point of view approved these recommendations on their broad lines. The following resolutions were adopted by the committee of the Office international d'Hygiène publique on the 27th October :—

1. *Measures in the Straits and in the Black Sea Ports.*

Special measures should be prescribed by an international sanitary authority for arrivals from the Black Sea, analogous to those contemplated in Part II of the International Sanitary Convention.

2. *Measures for Pilgrims travelling by the Hedjaz Railway.*

Sanitary stations should be established on the main lines of railway used by pilgrims, and particularly on the Hedjaz Railway at a point as near as possible to the Holy Places.

3. *Sanitary Co-ordination for the Pilgrimage.*

A co-ordinating body of an international character should be formed, with the duty of co-ordinating the work of the several sanitary authorities executing the measures prescribed in Part III of the International Sanitary Convention.

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