

of the Court, which states that the salary of the Registrar shall be decided by the Council upon the proposal of the Court. Some delegates and the Chairman of the Supervisory Commission, while recognizing with the Committee of Thirteen that this provision is not open to objection, maintained that it does not invalidate the sovereign right of the Assembly on budgetary matters. This right had, moreover, been recognised and respected by the Council. The Fourth Committee confirmed the above interpretation. At the meeting during which this question was taken up, the Registrar of the Court spontaneously renounced the amount entered in the supplementary budget for 1932, thus allowing the credit to be cancelled.

Moved by the same spirit of economy, the Committee postponed until next year its examination of the salaries of counsellors, the new scale of salaries applicable to the Chiefs of Section, and also the question of septennial leave for officials of the first division.

FIFTH COMMITTEE

(Social and Humanitarian Questions)

Penal Administration

The Council requested the Eleventh Assembly to consider in what way the League might co-operate with the International Prison Commission (Berne) and other interested organisations in their examination of the international aspects of prison administration. It was decided to ask Governments for their observations on a set of standard minimum rules for the treatment of prisoners drawn up by the Berne Commission. Certain organs of the League and certain international organisations were also consulted.

During the discussion in the Fifth Committee of the Twelfth Assembly, certain delegates suggested that the question of penal administration should be studied from the point of view of the progressive unification of penal law and international co-operation for the prevention and suppression of crime. It was also proposed that the Commission for the Protection and Welfare of Children and Young People should be asked to study the whole matter. Other delegates, among them the Canadian, pointed out that the only question before the Fifth Committee was prison administration, and that the consultation which had taken place showed that further study by experts on this question would be necessary before any useful action could be taken.

It was finally decided to consult a number of international organisations, and then to ask the States Members whether they desired the League's assistance in regard to the larger questions mentioned above. The standard minimum rules are to be reconsidered by the Berne Commission in the light of the observations made on them, and the Governments will then be asked whether the League should set up a special committee to study the question of the treatment of prisoners, or should co-operate with the Berne Commission.

Child Welfare

The Fifth Committee took note with satisfaction of the preliminary work done on the principal questions recently studied by the Child Welfare Committee: the return to their homes of minors who are in a foreign country against the will of their parents or guardians, assistance to foreign minors, and the recognition and enforcement of maintenance orders abroad. A draft convention on the first question has been prepared and submitted to the Governments, to be used as a model for agreements that may be concluded. It was recognised that the second and third questions exceeded the competence of the Child