

LEAGUE OF NATIONS

Communicated
to the Council.

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DERNIÈRE COPIE

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INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF ARCHITECTS

UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE LEAGUE.

Proposal of the United Kingdom Government.

The Secretary-General has the honour to circulate to the Council the attached communication from the United Kingdom Government.

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MEMORANDUM AND DRAFT RESOLUTION TO BE
SUBMITTED TO THE COUNCIL.

The need for reform and revision of the existing regulations for international competitions in architecture was first discussed at the International Congress of Architects at the Hague in 1927. A resolution was passed, of which the two main points were (1) that a standard form of conditions, based on those accepted by architects in Europe and America, should be drawn up and (2) that these conditions (or the existing regulations) should be strictly observed by the jury in making their award.

The question was carried a stage further at the general meetings of the Franco-British Union of Architects held at Manchester in 1928 and at Strasbourg in 1929, when it was decided that the matter could best be adjusted by some form of co-operation with the League of Nations, and the Comité Permanent International des Architectes.

The Union in 1931 drew up a resolution which proposed that a permanent panel of five architects - selected from a list prepared by the Comité Permanent International des Architectes - should be appointed by the League as an advisory body in respect of any proposed architectural competitions of an international character. Such matters as the appointment of the jury, the programme and conditions and similar technical questions would fall within its competence. This panel would also draw up a set of model conditions for international competitions, based on those accepted by the architectural societies represented on the Comité Permanent International des Architectes.

This resolution was adopted by the Comité Permanent International des Architectes, and a copy was sent to the

secretaries

Secretaries of each national section and to the Secretary General of the League of Nations.

His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom, having been approached by the British national section, considers that the proposal of the Comité Permanent International des Architectes, is worthy of consideration by the Council. They are of opinion, nevertheless, that in order that the Council may decide whether the proposal should be adopted, it is desirable to obtain the views of the International Organisation for Intellectual Co-operation as the competent organ of the League of Nations.

His Majesty's Government therefore have the honour to propose the adoption of the following resolution:

"The Council

"in order to regularise the organisation of international architectural competitions, and in order to avoid the complaints to which numerous competitions of this kind have given rise:

"invites the Secretary-General to submit to the International Organisation for Intellectual Co-operation for their consideration the proposal to establish, under the auspices of the League of Nations, a Technical Commission composed of five architects whose task will be to examine the programmes of international architectural competitions, fostering the sound organisation of these competitions and of settling every difficulty or complaint concerning them:

"requests the Secretary-General to furnish the Council with a Report which will allow it to decide upon the desirability of proceeding to the realisation of this proposal at its next session."