

LEAGUE OF NATIONS.

Communicated to Council.

C.772.1925.

Geneva, December 7th 1925.

ARBITRATION, SECURITY AND REDUCTION OF ARMAMENTS.

Report by M. Benes.

(Adopted by the Council)

The Council will remember that it was decided at the meeting of September 26th 1925, to consider separately certain questions which had come within the province of the First Committee of the Sixth Assembly, particularly those arising out of the Preamble of the Spanish Resolution (A.133.1925.IX) and the resolution adopted on September 25th 1925 on the proposal of the First Committee (A.136.1925.V) concerning the pacific settlement of International disputes.

The Council decided to adjourn until the present session consideration of these questions.

The resolution adopted on the proposal of the First Committee runs as follows:

"The Assembly,

"In view of the importance of making a thorough study of the views which have been expressed in the Assembly and the Council on the subject of the pacific settlement of international disputes;

"Convinced that such study will contribute to the development of a system of pacific settlement of international disputes;

"Requests the Council to submit to careful examination the proposals, declarations and suggestions made at the Assembly and the Council with a view to pacific settlement of international disputes, and to report to the seventh Assembly upon the progress which can be made in this matter".

Paragraphs 4, 5 and 6 of the Spanish Resolution, which was adopted on the report of the First and Third Committees run as follows:

"The Assembly,

.....

"Regards favourably the effort made by certain nations to attain those objects by concluding arbitration conventions and treaties of mutual security conceived in the spirit of the Covenant of the League of Nations and in harmony with the principles of the Protocol (Arbitration, Security, Disarmament);

"Records the fact that such agreements need not be restricted to a limited area but may be applied to the whole world;

"Recommends that, after these conventions and treaties have been deposited with the League of Nations, the Council should examine them in order to report to the seventh Assembly on the progress in general security brought about by such agreements";

It may perhaps be desirable for the Council to adjourn until March consideration of the exact form in which it desires to report to the Assembly. At that moment more elements for a general survey of the matter may be available.

I should, however, think it would be advisable to invite the Secretary-General now to prepare the necessary information for the Council, and with this purpose in view, I therefore propose the following resolution:

"The Council,

"Taking into consideration the Resolutions adopted by the Assembly on September 25th 1925, concerning Arbitration, Security and the Reduction of Armaments (A.133.1925.IX. and A.136.1925.V) and the report adopted by the Council on 26th September 1925 (C.573 (1) 1925. IX).

"Invites the Secretary-General to prepare in due time before the next ordinary meeting of the Council (1) a complete expose of all the proposals, declarations and suggestions made at the Sixth Assembly and at the Council with a view to the pacific settlement of international disputes; (2) a systematic survey of the arbitration conventions and the treaties of mutual security which have been deposited with the League of Nations,

"In order to enable the Council to prepare a report for submission to the seventh Assembly on the progress which has been achieved and can be made in these matters".