

LEAGUE OF NATIONS.

Communicated to the  
Council and the Members  
of the League.

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(Issued in English only).

Geneva, April 13th, 1946.

TRAFFIC IN OPIUM AND OTHER DANGEROUS DRUGS.

ANNUAL REPORTS BY GOVERNMENTS FOR 1944.

BRAZIL.

Note by the Acting Secretary-General.

In accordance with Article 21 of the Convention of 1931 for limiting the Manufacture and regulating the Distribution of Narcotic Drugs, the Acting Secretary-General has the honour to communicate the above-mentioned report to the parties to the Convention. The report is also communicated to other States and to the Advisory Committee on Traffic in Opium and other Dangerous Drugs.

(For the form of annual reports, see document O.C.1600).

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BRAZIL.

REPORT ON TRAFFIC IN OPIUM AND OTHER DANGEROUS DRUGS.

1944

GENERAL INFORMATION.

I. Laws and publications - In 1944 the Instructions of the States of Bahia, Sergipe, Rio de Janeiro, Pará and Alagoas regarding the use and sale of narcotics were ratified. These instructions, as was explained in last year's report, are purely regional and aim at facilitating the application of the basic-law, Decree-law number 891, of November the 25th, 1938.

II. Administration - The control of the use and sale of drugs remains in charge of the specialized Sections of the "Departamento Nacional de Saúde" (National Health Department) in the Capital of the Republic and of the local Health Departments in the various States.

The National Committee for Narcotic Drugs Control acts as a deliberative and consultative organ, exercising jurisdiction over all Brazilian territory through State Committees, which, with rare exceptions, have held regular sessions.

The National Committee held, in 1944, 24 ordinary sessions and 11 extraordinary sessions.

III. Control of International Trade - The lack of transportation, due to circumstances arising from the war, was a serious set-back to the international drug trade. Brazil has been suffering from the lack of certain substances and has been obliged to forbid the re-exportation of narcotics to some American countries interested in the products of Brazilian laboratories.

The authorities were also obliged to permit the prorogation of the period of validity of import permits due to the fact that frequently the merchandise could not reach Brazilian

ports on time, because of delay in the delivery by the exporters or of the difficulty in obtaining shipping-space on ships or planes.

In spite of these set-backs, the certificate system has worked perfectly.

IV. Illicit traffic - In 1944, only a few sellers of marijuana were arrested in the Northern States. Even though local police authorities keep a sharp surveillance, so as to avoid the use of this plant, addicts and sellers are often arrested, as it is native to numerous regions and its culture is easy in every part of the country. The plantations which are located are systematically destroyed.

Besides the cases of illicit trade in marijuana, none others were registered in 1944.

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#### RAW MATERIALS.

Brazil is not a producer of raw materials as far as narcotics are concerned, with the exception of the 'cannabis sativa' (marihuana). This herb in native state can be found in certain regions and in small clandestine plantations in the North of the country, but it never has been exploited industrially.

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#### MANUFACTURED DRUGS.

Quite a few laboratories employ narcotics in the preparation of certain products.

The technical direction of these laboratories is always in <sup>the</sup> hands of reliable individuals of responsibility and they are under <sup>the</sup> strict surveillance of health authorities.

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