TRAFFIC IN OPIUM AND OTHER DANGEROUS DRUGS.

ANNUAL REPORTS BY GOVERNMENTS FOR 1944.

CYPRUS

Communicated by the Government of the United Kingdom.

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).

A. GENERAL

I. Laws and Publications.

No laws or subsidiary legislation were enacted or promulgated during the year 1944 on the question of opium and other dangerous drugs.

II. Administration.

1. (a) None.

(b) There is no special administrative body to apply the provisions of Article 15 of the Convention of 1931. This, at present, is being controlled by the Medical Department.

(c) None.

2. There are no new developments regarding addiction in this country. Drug addiction is confined to the richer class of citizens and no great increase in addicts has been noticed.

III. Control of International Trade.

1. The system of certificates for the control of imports of dangerous drugs worked satisfactorily during the past year and no difficulties arose with any country in this connection.

2. There has been no change in the authorities responsible for issuing import certificates.

3. None.

4. Cyprus is not an exporting country.

5. No cases of forged or falsified import certificates or export authorisations have come to the knowledge
of the Customs Department during the year.

6. No difficulties have arisen with regard to transit, trans-shipment and diversion, or with regard to free ports, free zones and bonded warehouses.

7. No import of dangerous drugs is being carried out with countries which have not adopted the system of import certificates.

8. None.

IV. **International Co-operation.**

1. No international treaty or agreement has been concluded by the Government of Cyprus during the year 1944.

V. **Illicit Traffic.**

2. There have been no changes.

3. During the year 1944 two cases were dealt with by the Police.

In the one, one person was prosecuted for being in possession of 5 okes and 100 drams (6 kg. 760 gr.) of raw opium and 37½ drams (116 grammes) of Indian hemp. The case was withdrawn for insufficient evidence. In the other, four persons were prosecuted for being in possession of 10 okes and 250 drams (13 kg. 675 gr.) of raw opium and 2 okes (2 kg. 580 gr.) of Indian hemp. All the accused were fined £40 each.

5. There have been no confiscations of opium or dangerous drugs during 1944 except the quantities of raw opium and Indian hemp mentioned in paragraph 3 above.

B. **RAW MATERIALS.**

IX. **Indian Hemp.**

1. Yes. No use is made of it.

2. (a) In 1944 approximately 115 hectares were grown for fibre and seed production.

Indian hemp is not produced from such crops and used in the country licitly or illicitly.

C. **MANUFACTURED DRUGS.**

X. **Internal Control of Manufactured Drugs.**

1. This does not apply to Cyprus as no dangerous drugs are manufactured in this Colony.

4. **Trade and Distribution.**

(a) Classes of persons to whom permits or authorisation for the use or possession of dangerous drugs have been granted are as follows :-
Registered chemists and druggists (pharmacists).
Registered medical practitioners (doctors).
Registered dentists.
Veterinary officers.

There are no wholesale pharmaceutical firms in Cyprus which manufacture preparations for the wholesale trade.

(b) Supervision over persons engaged in the sale and dispensing of dangerous drugs is exercised as follows:

The work of supervision is carried out by the Inspectors of Pharmacies appointed by the Governor on the recommendation of the Director of Medical Services. These are selected from the Compounders-in-Charge of District Hospitals. Routine inspection is carried out once or twice a year, or whenever an application is received for import of dangerous drugs, to verify how far importation is justified. The Director of Medical Services, the Compounder-in-Charge of Medical Stores, the Compounders seconded for duty in the Medical Stores, the District Medical Officers, Nicosia-Kyrenia, Limassol, Famagusta, and Larnaca and the Medical Officers-in-Charge, Paphos and Kyrenia, are also approved Inspectors of dangerous drugs and in this capacity carry out surprise inspections.

The method of inspection adopted is to check the special registers kept for this purpose, in order to verify the accuracy of receipts and issues. The Inspectors have power to recommend the rejection or grant of an application to the Director of Medical Services, to whom such applications are made for the import and possession of dangerous drugs.