

Health Organization.—The Health Organization of the League has developed as an answer to the obligation "to take steps in matters of international concern for the prevention and control of disease" recognized in Article 23 of the Covenant of the League of Nations. It consists of an Advisory Council, the Health Committee, and the Health Section of the Secretariat. The Health Committee of sixteen members appointed by the Council acts as an advisory organ of the Council and Assembly on all health matters and its work is subject to the approval of these bodies on the same basis as that of the other League technical organizations. Its work falls into three stages: first, the study and collection of information; secondly, the formulation of general policies from the data collected; and, thirdly, the preparation of concerted international action in health questions.

The world-wide service of epidemiological intelligence and the collation and comparison of public health statistics illustrate the first stage; the inquiries into the causes of malaria and infant mortality represent the second stage; and the work of the Permanent Standardization Committee, which is devising and maintaining uniform international standards for the preparation and measurement of serological and biological products, is an example of the third phase of the work.

In addition to general inquiries into the incidence of and remedial and preventive measures for tuberculosis, cancer, leprosy, malaria and sleeping sickness, the Health Organization has given technical advice and assistance in the reconstruction of the public health services in China, Bolivia, Greece and Bulgaria.

Social and Humanitarian Work.—The work of the League in the field of social and humanitarian questions has been varied and considerable: efforts have been directed, on the one hand, to the suppression of old abuses such as the traffic in women and children and the traffic in opium; to mitigating the sufferings which war had left in its train, such as those caused by typhus epidemics, and to improving the unhappy lot of prisoners of war, of Russian refugees, Armenians, Greeks and Turks, whom conflicts or political upheavals had scattered far from their homes.

Among these tasks some, such as the traffic in women and children and the traffic in opium, have been expressly committed to the League by the Covenant. Others, like the repatriation of prisoners of war or the refugee question, have been taken up by the League either in general accordance with the spirit of the Covenant, or in response to the indication of public opinion. For the purpose of these tasks, the League has created permanent organizations, such as the Opium Committee and the Committee on the Traffic in Women and Children, or provisional organizations such as the High Commissariats for Prisoners of War and for Refugees.

Permanent Court of International Justice.—The Permanent Court of International Justice was established by the Protocol of Dec. 16, 1920, in accordance with Article 14 of the Covenant of the League of Nations. It is composed of a body of fifteen judges elected by the Assembly and Council of the League of Nations for a term of nine years, and sits at the Hague. The Court is competent to hear and determine any dispute of an international character which the parties thereto submit to it; it may also give an advisory opinion upon