

XXIV<sup>th</sup> Session

I. C. P. C.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

*Istanbul - 5-9 September 1955*

**T**HE 24th session of the I.C.P.C. General Assembly opened on Monday 5th September 1955 at 9.30 a. m. in the Saleköskü at Istanbul. Under the presidency of Dr. Namik Gedik, Minister of the Interior, the following were present: Mr Elhem Yetkiner,

**THE  
OPENING  
SESSION**

Director General of the Public Security, General Tashin Celebican, Commander-in-Chief of the Gendarmerie, Mr Hicabi Dinc, Attorney General of the Republic, Istanbul, Mr Alaeddin Eris, Chief of the Istanbul Police, Mr Cemal Sancak, Inspector General of the National Security.

The Minister of the Interior held the following speech:

*Honourable delegates,*

*Dear guests,*

*I am very much honoured to welcome the distinguished members of the International Criminal Police Commission in the name of the Turkish Government.*

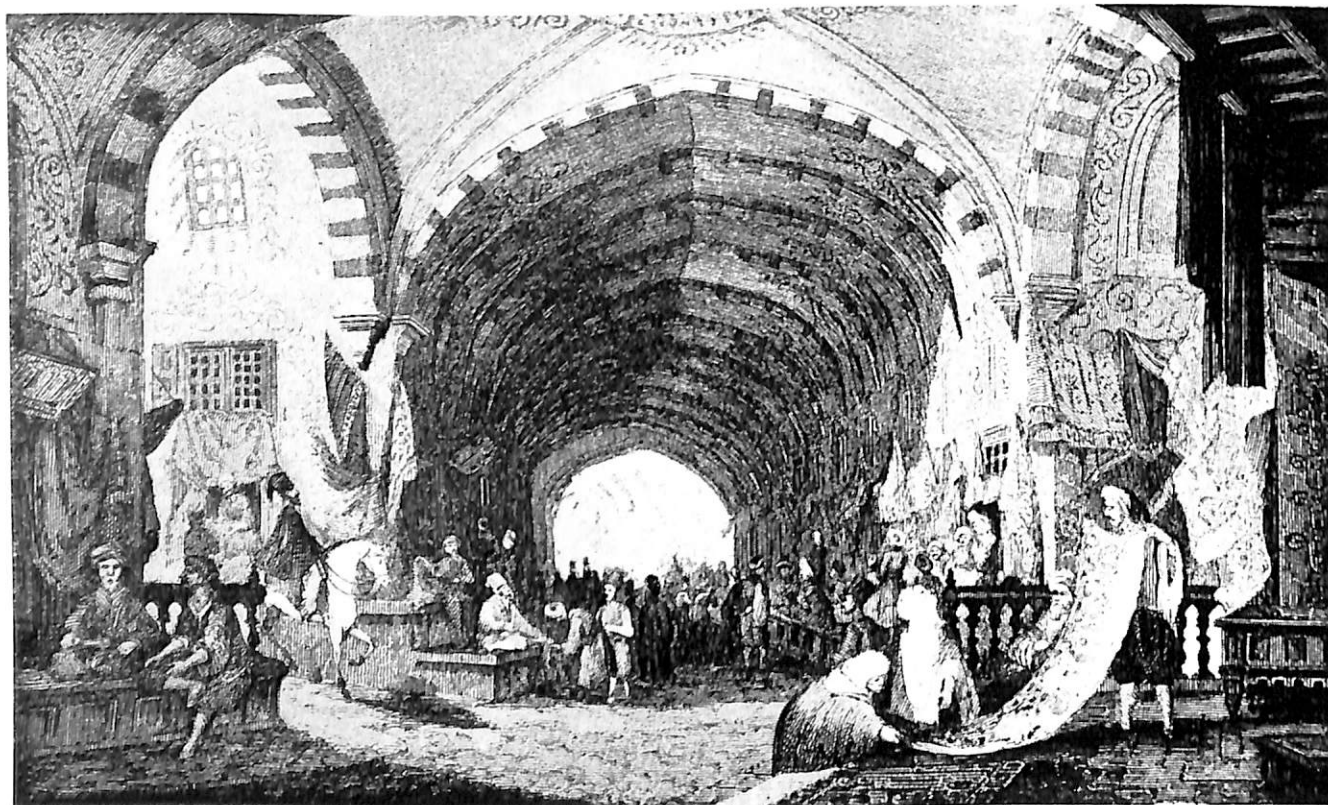
*I would particularly like to express my gratitude and my esteem for the eminent specialists of which your Commission is composed. Their efforts have been made both on the national and international levels in the maintenance of order and the prevention of crime throughout the world. This meeting will enable us all to discover new ways of preventing the dangers which menace society.*

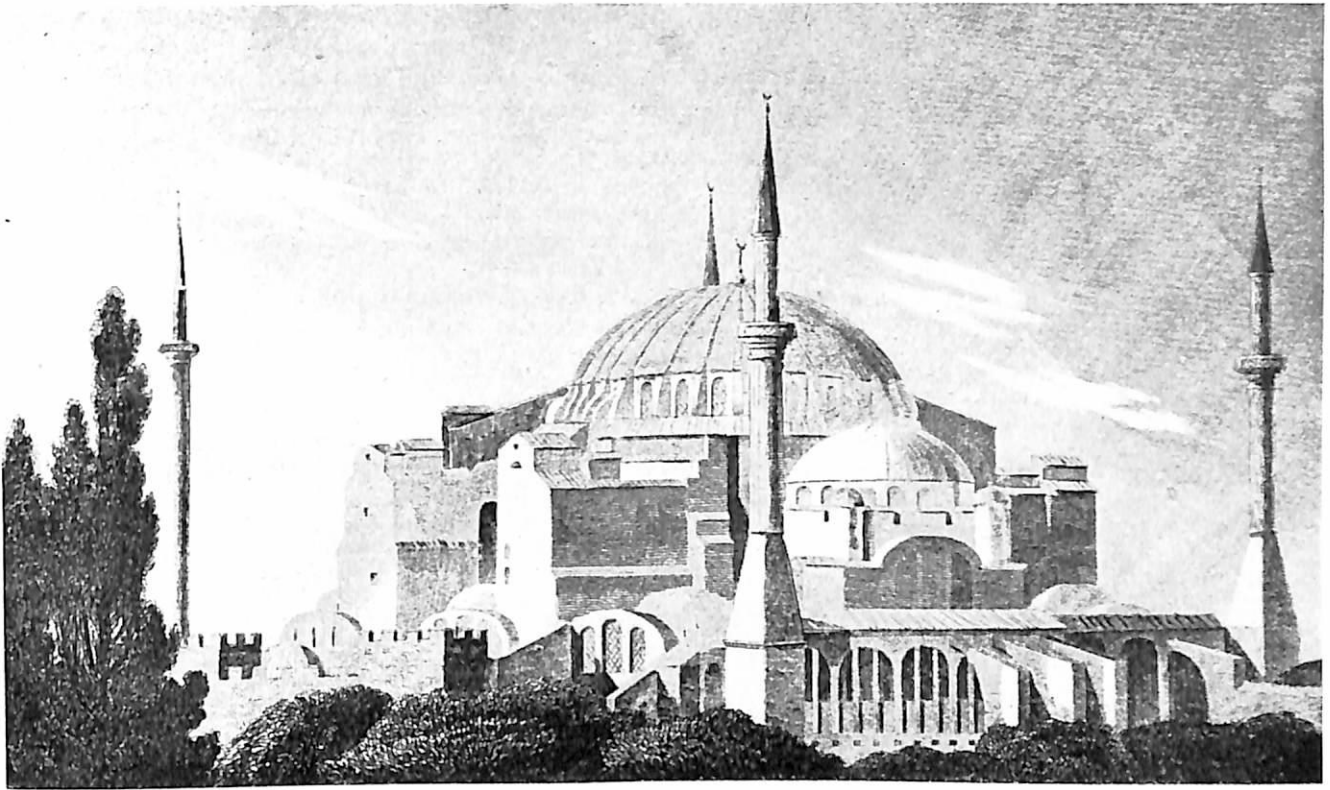
*We note with satisfaction the unshakable spirit of unity in which you tackle the various tasks you have to deal with in States which are governed by such widely differing legal systems. The use of up-to-date methods in the service of humanity is, in fact, one of the subjects for discussion by the Commission.*

*The principles of law appear, at first glance, to be general and abstract ideas. It is the police which makes it possible for society to benefit from them by the protection of honest persons and taking action when peace and order is threatened.*

*Since it is not possible to draw a dividing line between the peace and order in one particular country and those in the world as a whole, the work done by your Commission, composed as it is of such eminent representatives of the different member States, concerns the whole world.*

*The Turkish government's firm will and sincere belief is that all nations should live in peace and friendship. We draw strength and fortitude from the evidence we have before our*





*eyes of the co-operation and harmony developed by the Commission. The fact that the organization's member states have sent to Istanbul such eminent personages is sufficient evidence of the importance of its work.*

*I am sure that the discussions which are about to take place here will be beneficial to the peace and security of both individual countries and the world in general. The fact that the Commission is meeting here in Istanbul affords us great pleasure. I hope with all my heart that our guests from all over the world will have a happy and interesting time here.*

*I have great pleasure to welcome you here in the name of the Turkish Government and to wish you every success in your work.*

The President, Mr. Louwage, replied as follows:

*It was with great pleasure that the delegates of the I.C.P.C. accepted the invitation of the Government of the Turkish Republic to meet in Istanbul.*

*This country at present in the throes of rebirth divided by the Bosphorus, is in both Asia and Europe. Here, better than anywhere else, the government and the people know that the two types of civilization, Western and Eastern, can at any rate understand each other, although they may not be able to fuse. There is an old saying: "Both West and East belong to God. Wherever you look you see His face. He fills the universe with His greatness and His knowledge".*

*The progress made by science during the 19th and 20th centuries has led to a levelling of human knowledge which, we hope, will abolish hate between peoples and stimulate their spirit of understanding. But if progress gives us some reason to hope, it is unfortunately useless to believe that people will cease to violate property and persons. The complex nature of man, his atavism, acquired habits and passions, make it extremely unlikely that crime will ever disappear.*

*Criminals are constantly trying to perfect their technique. Crime is being committed in a more and more scientific way and is characterised by careful organization. Criminals today travel faster and further.*

*It is the task of the I.C.P.C. to keep up with criminal technique and to prevent crime as far as possible. For fifty years criminalistics has constantly evolved. The policeman is no longer what he was a few years ago—an official whose courage and determined zeal were allied with training which was sometimes rather inadequate and who relied on informers to identify criminals.*

*Today his general knowledge must be greater than that of other officials; furthermore, he must know the elements of criminology and criminalistics. In addition, he must be a psychologist, I might even say, a psychoanalyst.*

*That is why the I.C.P.C. has obtained the services of eminent police science technicians and for the same reasons collaborates with all international criminological organizations and helps in the work in this field organized by the United Nations.*

*During the last year the number of member states has increased. Considering results obtained by the I.C.P.C., the efficient means that it puts at the disposal of its member states for fighting against crime, it is incomprehensible why some countries still refuse to join us, so leaving regions where criminals can work or hide.*

*I would ask all delegates present to do their best to get countries who are not members and with whom they are on good terms to join us.*

*It is unfortunate that there are still differences of opinion within our organization. It is important to remember that politics, religion and racial matters should not enter into our ideas, relations or aims.*

*I would like here to pay homage to the memory of Dr. Werner Lüthi, Federal Attorney General of Switzerland and Vice-President of our commission, whose friendship and collaboration were so valuable to us and whose death occurred several weeks after our last meeting in Rome.*

*May I ask this assembly to observe a minute of silence in his memory.*



The President then concluded as follows:

*Your Excellency:*

*I thank you from the bottom of my heart for your kind words at the opening of this session.*

*Your presence at this opening meeting together with that of many Turkish magistrates and high officials does us great honour. In the name of all the delegates I thank you for this sign of your great interest and for your generous hospitality.*

*I greet all those present, particularly those delegates who have not been deterred by a long journey to participate in our work.*

The Romantic period engravings illustrating the first few pages show:— The Sultan Ahmed Mosque, Seraglio Point, the Bazaar, Saint Sophia, the Pavillion of Pearls and the Tower of Galata.



## THE PROGRESS REPORT

Mr Sicot (Secretary General) presented the following progress report to the Assembly:

*Less than one year after our last General Assembly meeting in Rome, thanks to the kind hospitality of the Turkish authorities we meet again this time on the eastern border of Europe and on the very threshold of Asia.*

*What then has happened in these eleven months in our international organization? What have we achieved? Have we started any projects? What new tasks have we before us?*

### NEW MEMBERS

*In the previous progress report I mentioned that several countries would be joining our organization. We have had the pleasure of*

*inscribing Colombia, New Zealand, the United States of Mexico and Uruguay, and I have great pleasure in welcoming the distinguished representatives of these countries.*

*Today, therefore, fifty-one countries from all continents are officially members of our organization and the constant progress made since 1946 should be mentioned, since it is the best proof of our utility.*

*We were especially pleased, when, after the Asian countries, the countries of Latin America joined us. In this part of the world, owing to a common form of language, co-operation should be particularly beneficial.*

*Hardly had these countries joined when others announced that they would do likewise in the near future. We hope that Saudi*

*Arabia, Jordan (1) and Peru will soon become members.*

## **ACTIVITIES AND ACHIEVEMENTS**

*I will now give a summary of what has been done in connection with the international fight against crime. The main activity of the permanent services of the I.C.P.C. is obviously to fight against criminals who operate on an international scale. Several figures relative to the periode between 1st June 1954 and 1st June 1955 will give an idea of the results obtained in this field: The General Secretariat has taken action in various ways (and very often was a decisive factor in achieving results) in 2,682 cases. Relative to these, 2,714 notes of information of varying importance were sent out to the legal and police authorities of member states and 362 descriptive notices were circulated. Of these, 88 were warning notices.*

*During the same period, searches were made for 131 persons on an international scale and 23 were arrested outside the countries requesting their arrest. Again in the same period, we transmitted 331 general radio messages which resulted in the arrest of 60 criminals, and 24 identifications were made by the General Secretariat.*

*In addition to this work in connection with individuals, we produced several documents which seem to have been in general considerably appreciated. In February we circulated a summary concerning diamonds stolen in Africa on which we had been working for some time in response to a number of complaints from government departments and certain private companies. We also produced a summary concerning counterfeit postal orders, trafficking in letters of credit and travellers cheques stolen in several western European countries. We are at the present working on international pickpockets, and their descriptions and photographs are soon to appear in the form of a special booklet.*

*In the field of counterfeiting, the special department in The Hague has continued its methodical work and published the characteristics of 58 new counterfeits in the review "Counterfeits and Forgeries"; the number of*

*subscribers to this review is increasing each year.*

*Regarding the illicit drug traffic, we have summarised 168 cases in the recapitulative tables produced each month and thus made known to all police forces the identities of and parts played by traffickers arrested and identified.*

*All these activities have been made possible by information which is being sent in ever increasing quantities from different countries. We have now records of nearly 100,000 persons in our files.*

*As regards general work, we have extended our activities into various fields. Continuing our work in connection with a suggestion made by the Canadian delegation in 1953, we have published a quantity of information on the powers of intervention of the police of some sixteen different countries. Information of a similar nature relative to the other countries will follow.*

*In accordance with a resolution approved by the General Assembly, we have finished a thorough study of "Police Youth Clubs" whose purpose is to prevent youth from becoming delinquents. Almost all member countries provided us with interesting information on their achievements in this connection. A summary of this information was published for the first time in a number of the International Criminal Police Review which has perhaps been given to you during this session of the Assembly and to which I would like to draw your attention. We consequently are at liberty now to pass on to another question mentioned in one of last year's resolutions: the drawing up of a model programme for the training of officials in the subject of juvenile delinquency, a matter of particular importance.*

*We have drawn up two reports for international congresses we attended (of which we shall speak later), one concerning juvenile delinquency statistics, based on the voluminous report we presented last year—which will also be distributed during the present session, although it was not particularly intended for the General Assembly—and the other is an original work on international recidivism which is to be published later.*

1) Jordan and Saudi Arabia joined last October.

In conformity with another resolution adopted in Rome, the office in The Hague has written an account of different new methods of printing. This will be submitted for examination by the specialists of the College of Technical Advisers and later sent to all those interested.

Finally, in response to a suggestion made by the Air Police subcommittee last year, we held a meeting of airline security officers early last January in Paris. Sir Ronald Howe, who was the chairman, has already spoken of it to the appropriate committee when he gave his general report on the air police.

In addition, we have responded to the requests formulated by different countries and persons. For example, we provided Italy with information on the legislations of different countries concerning the suppression of counterfeiting; the Netherlands was sent details of how fines are directly imposed by the police in cases of road traffic offences; we provided India with information on the arms used by different police forces. We are glad to say that we are being consulted more and more on this type of problem.

In this connection, our greatest help is our international library; today it contains 1,123 volumes and complete collections of 214 periodical reviews from 51 different countries.

On the other hand, I have to admit that the General Secretariat has been unable to carry out two of the recommendations of the General Assembly.

In 1953, in Oslo, a resolution urged that we should regularly publish a list of pornographic publications whose sale has been prohibited in different countries. We did indeed obtain the necessary details with the intention of publishing it twice yearly. However, after consultation with the Executive Committee, we decided not to put the plan into execution since we should have had to publish a veritable book involving a considerable outlay of money for something which was of doubtful value. For example, I can hardly see what interest the Belgians would have in the list of pornographic books whose publication was prohibited in India or Canada. I feel that the General Assembly should modify its previous attitude in this connection.

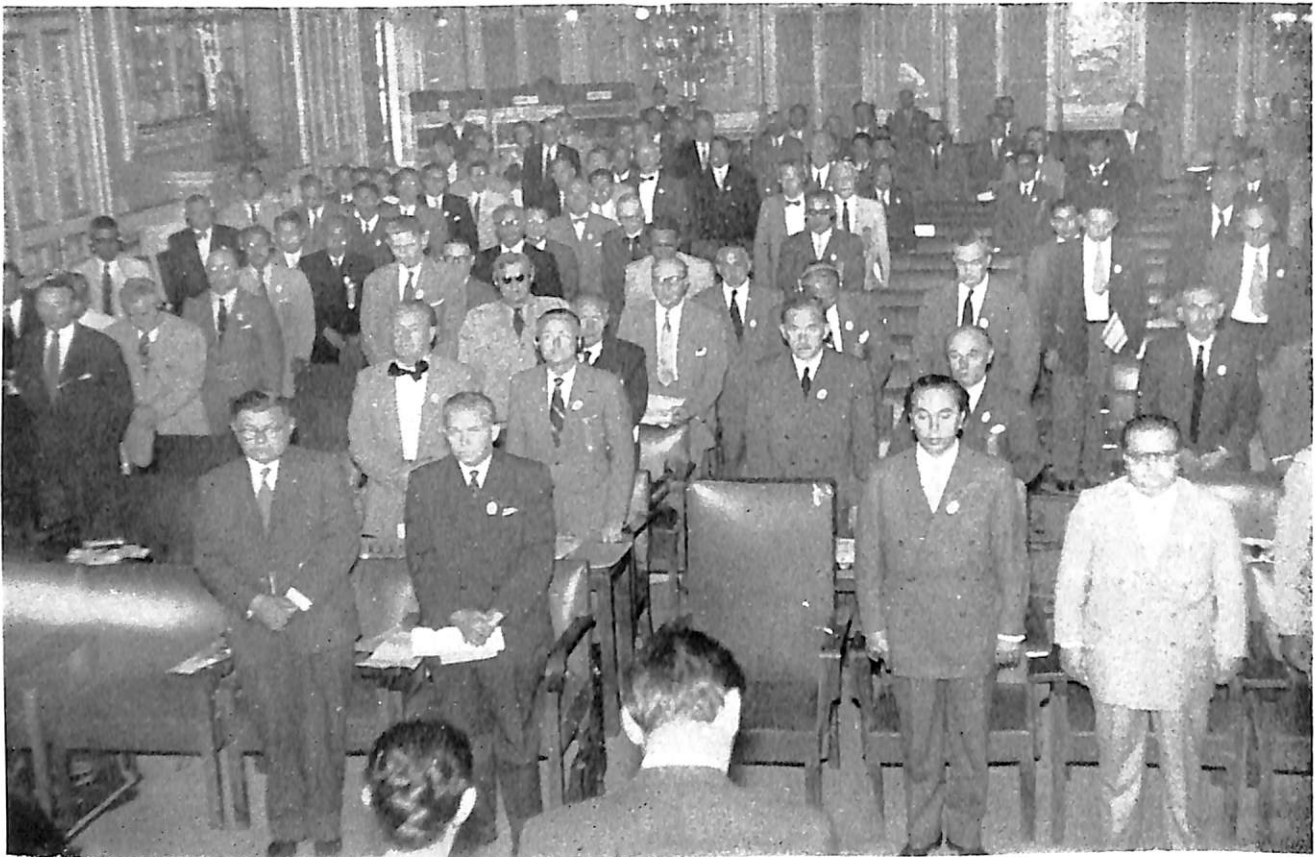
The Assembly also asked us to publish the information we obtained on the international gold traffic and to help in an investigation into it. With regard to the first part of the resolution, we have not obtained enough information to form the basis of a really useful document. With regard to helping in investigations, we have already begun to do this and we shall certainly not neglect this problem to which great importance is attached by a number of countries.

This brings me now to say a few words once more on the production of the first educational film produced by the I.C.P.C., "Counterfeiting and its Suppression"; this film has been very successful. We have sold a fair number of copies: thirty copies have been purchased in all by twenty countries. The accounts connected with its production and sale form a special section of the financial report which has been distributed to you. Several more countries should be able to obtain the film, which is not only good propaganda for the I.C.P.C. but an excellent means of instructing police personnel. Might I ask those who have not as yet ordered their copies to do this as soon as possible. They will certainly not regret having provided their police schools with an excellent means of education and at the same time this will enable us to conclude successfully an operation which we may now say had certain risks. We shall then be able to start on another film concerning a subject which has yet to be chosen.

With regard to the International Criminal Police Review, this is regularly published in four languages.

In the value of its articles and its presentation, we consider that it compares very well with other specialist reviews and constitutes an excellent means of keeping contact with each other and expressing our thoughts.

But an effort should be made to advertise our review. By contacting officials of the police, the magistrature, the bar and the customs, experts and all those who are interested in criminology and criminalistics, it should be possible to considerably increase the number of subscribers. But in order to advertise effectively we shall need the active support of the N.C.B. and I would like to ask



The Assembly observing a minute's silence in memory of Mr. Werner Lütli.

them now to get together the names and addresses of government services and departments and persons whom it would be worth while contacting. These could be in the form of lists, yearbooks and directories.

It should not be forgotten that all subscribers to the review have the twofold advantage of being sent the quarterly list of selected articles and that they may have a reproduction sent to them free, of articles which they may consider of interest. Many subscribers apparently appreciate this service, since in the year following June 1954 we sent 376 articles in the form of microfilms.

I now come to our relations with other international organizations. Among these we of course attach great importance to those we have with the United Nations, in particular with the Narcotics Division and the Section of Social Defence.

Again this year we have been represented by Mr. Népole at the 9th Session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and we were gra-

tified to have this organization once again recommend governments to co-operate with the I.C.P.C. in the struggle against this illicit traffic. Communications with the Narcotics Division which has been transferred to Geneva, will henceforth be facilitated.

Mr. U Ba Maung, Inspector General of the Burmese Police, represented us at a seminary on crime prevention organized by the Social Defence Section and held in Rangoon in October last year.

Several days ago ended the First World Congress for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, organized by the United Nations. The I.C.P.C. had two representatives there who presented a report on juvenile delinquency statistics.

I should mention that the U.N.O. statistics bureau is very interested in our general work on crime statistics and very much encourages us to continue the work we have set ourselves and which we are determined to continue.

But we are also in constant contact with all



international organizations whose activities interest us. For instance, we shall be represented in several days at the congress organized in London by the International Criminology Society which is to study the question of recidivism. We are in a position, I think, to speak with authority on international recidivism, as we are constantly fighting against it.

We have also been in contact with the International Telecommunications Union and the International Frequency Registration Board, with a view to improving the functioning of our radio network.

With regard to public relations, I am glad to welcome here the delegates of those international organizations who accepted our invitation and in particular the United Nations Organization which honoured us by appointing a distinguished personage.

Our work in general continues to arouse plenty of interest in the public. The reporters of the largest newspapers are keen to get to know our organization and to write accounts of our more spectacular cases. An English writer has even written a book which, in spite of some criticism on its form, is very interesting, and the subject of which is Interpol.

In order to improve relations between the police and the public we have given our moral support and our help to an important police art exhibition which was held together with the International Exhibition of Forgeries in Art and History (*faux dans l'art et dans l'histoire*) in Paris from 16th June to 31st July. We had a place of honour there. Our stand displayed maps, pannels and photographs which portrayed the work of the I.C.P.C. and were quite a success. At two public lectures we commented on the origin, activities and results of our organization.

For the carrying out of the work assigned to us for the eleven months following the last meeting of the General Assembly in Rome, we have had more or less the same means at our disposal as in the previous year.

The number of officials and employees working with the I.C.P.C. has not changed. Like last year several officials from different countries worked with us for short periods in the General Secretariat, but, in spite of all that we were able to do, no country other

than France has put officials at our disposal for a prolonged period. Obstacles of a purely formal nature prevented the Indian authorities from realizing their plan to send us a police official and we greatly regret this. The chief of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police informed us that he would carefully examine the suggestions which we had made to him in this connection. We made the same request to General Phao, head of the Siamese police. We hope that other countries will follow their example.

## **THE NEAR FUTURE. I.C.P.C. STATUTES**

Although we may not have made much progress in these matters, we have considerably developed our means of action, which are improving very satisfactorily.

The central transmitting radio station, which was started on two years ago in the neighbourhood of Paris is ready to go into service. The first trials have recently taken place very successfully with Tel-Aviv on one hand and Helsinki on the other.

The first part of our programme for its equipment being thus completed, there remains the difficult problem of frequencies and, in the daily working of the network, there must be stricter application of the I.C.P.C. radiocommunication general regulations. In 1954, the number of messages passing through the Paris central radio station increased to 19,741 and, for the other stations, to 47,256.

Moreover, and in spite of serious last-minute difficulties, we hope soon to find a solution to the vital problem of finding new premises for the General Secretariat. It was impossible to find, even for the distant future, suitable premises for our increasing needs in the buildings of the French Ministry of the Interior, as these are now becoming really insufficient for its own needs and M. Mairey, Director General of the Sûreté Nationale who will be with us to-morrow is well aware of these difficulties. Eventually the Ministry of the Interior stated that it was willing to rent separate premises for the I.C.P.C. After much difficulty and many discussions, we chose a private house with forty rooms which had been used by the Irish Embassy in Paris, some five hundred yards from the Arc de Triomphe de l'Etoile. In principle the building would be hired for a period of nine years

as from 1st October 1955. The I.C.P.C. would have to bear the initial costs of occupation and this outlay would appear to be absolutely essential to the success of the operation. I shall soon give you details of the expenses, which are heavy. If you authorize us to spend such a sum of money and if the French Ministry of Finance eventually agrees to pay the rent of the building, the I.C.P.C. would be able in several weeks to remove to a private house worthy of the great international institution which it has now become.

But a de facto maturity is doubtless not enough for an institution such as ours. We must now seek legal maturity and adopt statutes which will enable us to deal with all our international problems with all the authority necessary for the application of resolutions which are sometimes delicate.

Everybody now admits that the 1946 statutes are out of date. They no longer cover the whole of our activities. They were intended for an organization whose needs were far less than ours are today.

Last winter we drew up revised statutes and submitted them to the Executive Committee.

Without going deeply into the subject, I think I may say now that of all the matters we have been studying since last October, choice of place should be given to this important question, which, I am sure, will receive great consideration by the Assembly.

Finally, we have attempted to carry out the wish expressed last year concerning the material organization of our General Assembly. You yourselves will be able to see the results of the efforts made in close collaboration with our Spanish friends to introduce three working languages. The rational organization of such a meeting has even led us to charter a special aircraft for the transport of certain delegates, members of the secretariat and documents.

If I were unaware of the ability of our president, I should be rather uneasy at the length of our agenda, which contains a large number of reports. The General Assembly would have had to tackle 27 different subjects if we had not, in agreement with the delegations concerned, put off the discussion of several questions.

It seems that our yearly meeting of the Assembly would be well advised to concentrate

The speaker's platform.



its efforts on several definite subjects previously carefully chosen. Why should not the General Assembly itself decide on the agenda to be discussed at its next meeting and the Executive Committee, if necessary, add any urgent questions which come up during the course of the year? Each country could draw up a report on the questions chosen. The result would doubtless be a larger number of documents than at present, but all referring to several definite subjects. Doubtless there would be a greater and more profitable exchange of views. Problems connected with statute reform will probably offer us an excellent opportunity to examine this question.

Does this mean that after having solved all these problems our organization will have nothing more to do than to go forward under its own impetus? Certainly not.

The solution of all these important problems is, of course, not an end in itself. It would simply provide us with greater, better (and more suitable) resources which we should have to use as profitably as possible for the greatest benefit of all our member states.

The presence in our organization of countries situated in regions which differ greatly in their way of life, their social and economic structure and form of administration, will itself provide—and possibly does provide us even now with new problems. We must not fear to deal with them with the necessary wisdom and moderation.

Many countries from all parts of the world have put their confidence in us and the I.C.P.C., free of racial or political prejudices, should be in a position to help them effectively.

On the other hand, member states—and especially those which have recently joined—should realize what hard and sustained work, what understanding and perseverance international co-operation requires. None may derive benefit without themselves contributing their share. The President, and who should know better, has already told you this and I am taking the liberty of repeating it.

It is mainly for member states to take the initiative in using the existing, proven I.C.P.C. machinery.

Clearly the General Secretariat cannot function without the support of all countries. This is particularly true in connection with the fight against crime. The figures I gave you a few moments ago are very modest if one thinks of the whole of international crime and if they are compared with what could be done if all member states actively and assiduously helped us in the various fields.

Doubtless countries which are very distant from the General Secretariat find it difficult to understand that they can really be helped from Paris and provided with information concerning countries much nearer to them. But distance is no obstacle to centralisation and co-ordination as shown by some of our most interesting results.

Perhaps member states who have only recently joined are not very familiar with our methods. For this reason, in the months to come, we shall attempt, by the appropriate means, to inform them of the essentials and possibilities of international police co-operation.

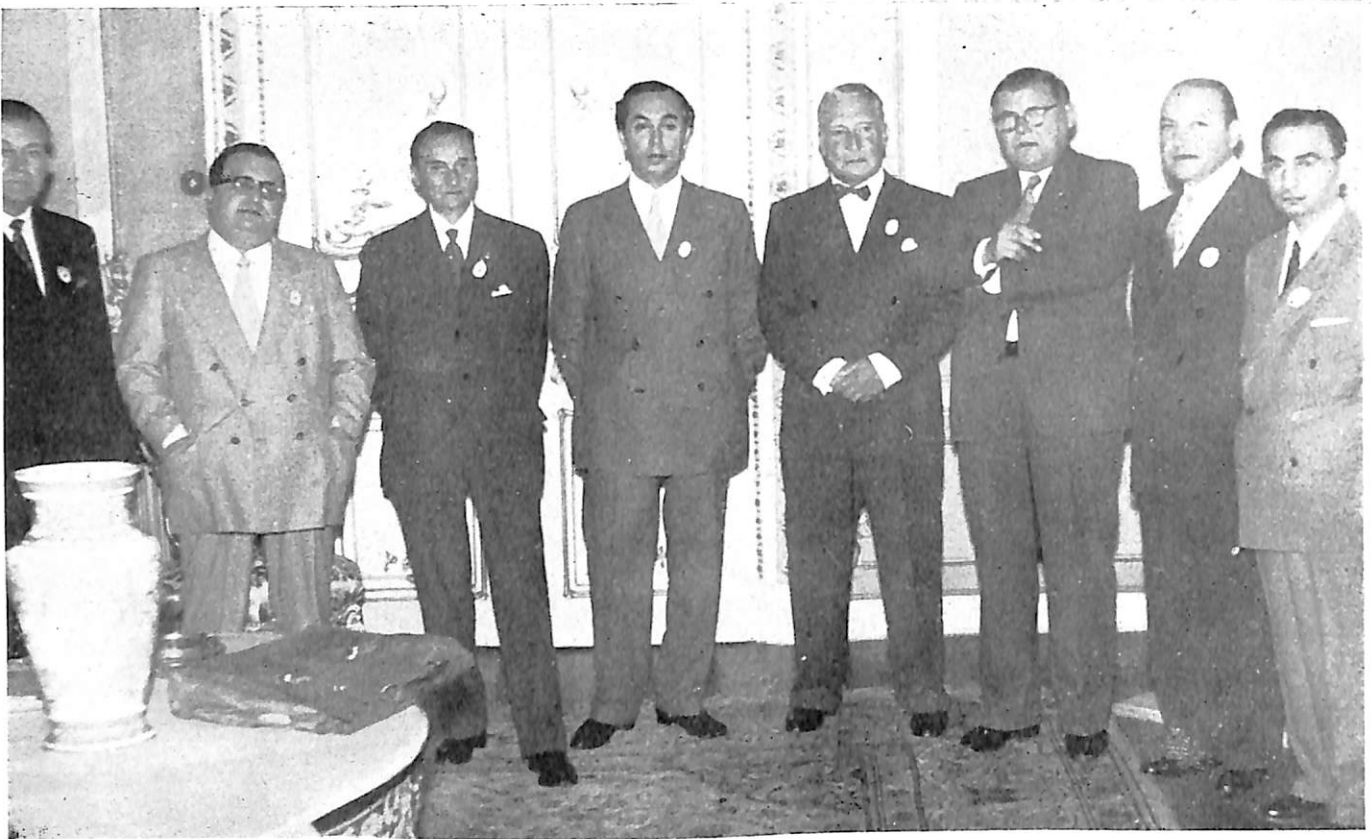
This co-operation was not spontaneous. First of all, it was with difficulty built up in Europe, where, after more than thirty years of effort, it is now fully developed. The other countries of the world gradually took their place in the system and the most distant countries should benefit from this long experience and more quickly attain the same degree of efficiency. This, I repeat, will require from all continued good will which should not be discouraged by the first obstacles or difficulties.

“Learn to be patient, nothing is made in a day, not even a grape or a fig”, as Epictetus said.

Patience is without a doubt the most essential virtue in international matters. It is for the purpose of providing the I.C.P.C. with a more solid foundation that we have striven to strengthen its character by giving it its own premises, the means to communicate more rapidly with other countries and by suggesting that you should consolidate the contract which unites us.

The President, speaking on behalf of the Assembly, expressed his hearty congratulations to the Secretary General on his work.

(Applause)



Dr. Namik Gedik, the Minister of the Interior, with the members of the Executive Committee.

Mr. Mullik (India) wished to make a few remarks.

*The three resolutions approved by the General Assembly at its last session concerning gold traffic, juvenile delinquency and crime statistics resulted in no progress in these several fields. His government was expecting to receive from the General Secretariat letters requesting information on the subject of traffic in gold and diamonds. With regard to statistics, on which the Indian delegation had congratulated the General Secretariat at the last Assembly meeting, these had not been published this year. Similarly the model programme that the Secretariat was to prepare for the use of police schools and other institutions concerned in police training, had not been prepared. This was not a criticism of the Secretariat whose efficiency could not be doubted, but he took the liberty of reminding the Secretary General that members were being both understanding and patient with the Secretariat.*

The Secretary General stated that his remarks were of a general nature and did not

concern any country in particular. Moreover he wished to inform Mr. Mullik that the Secretariat, under very difficult conditions, did a maximum of work. If the delegates could understand what was actually happening, they would appreciate the methods of work used by members of the Secretariat and also the professional and intellectual value of the officials whose activities were considerable. Although the Secretariat did all the work that it was humanly possible to do, some things could not be done.

Mr. Mullik attached particular importance to certain matters and other delegates wished the I.C.P.C. to concentrate, for example, on the suppression of the illicit drug traffic or on the problem of counterfeiting. All these questions were important, but it must be realized what an amount of work they required and that it was impossible to give priority to all of them. The work to be done by the Secretariat in the field of the three resolutions alluded to by Mr. Mullik had only been done partly, but this would be remedied as soon as possible.

In connection with juvenile delinquency, two important works had been completed—statistics on juvenile delinquency and a report on police youth clubs.

Mr. Emerick (United States) mentioned in connection with the gold traffic that the situation was very serious for the United States a year ago but as there is now a market in London, the traffic from the United States presents no interest, this is why gold smuggling is no longer a problem in the United States. The price of gold in London as indicated in the "Times" 21st March 1955 is from \$34.90 to \$35.11 per ounce.

On the other hand illicit traffic in diamonds continued to disturb the United States in spite of the co-operation of producing countries. Uncut diamonds were cut in Belgium from whence they were smuggled to America. Another source of worry for the United States was the smuggling of watches and watch movements from Switzerland into America.

In this connection, Mr Grassberger (Austria) informed the Assembly that in Vienna there existed a gang of watch fakers who put cheap movements into cases resembling those used by well-known English and Swiss firms. It was believed that the headquarters of this gang was in Milan and had existed for a year or two. The discovery of this affair was due to the examination of a consignment of watches which were being smuggled. A branch factory was discovered in Vienna which was equipped with all the necessary implements for faking the dials. The official gold stamp was forged on the gold watches. Mr Grassberger considered that it would be advisable to inform customs officials of this matter and to ask them to examine any smuggled watches and to inform the I.C.P.C. if necessary. Some of these faked watches have already been discovered in Berlin and Greece.

The President then closed the discussions on the Secretary General's progress report.

## THE PROPOSED NEW CONSTITUTION

OVER the last few years, the reform of the I.C.P.C. constitution had come to appear as a real necessity. Our present constitution, modified at the time of the reconstitution of the organization in 1946, is actually based on the one drawn up in 1923, when the organization was formed. It is clear that there has been a considerable change both in the work of the I.C.P.C. and in international matters in general. The volume of the work achieved by the I.C.P.C. has greatly increased as has also its influence. It was therefore necessary to bring our charter up-to-date.

At one of its meetings, the Executive Committee discussed this matter and after many months of work, decided to present to the Assembly a draft offering great possibilities and of modern conception.

We can hardly here go into all the details of a document which comprises no less than fifty-three articles and which is followed by a set of general regulations almost as long.

Let it suffice to say that the draft suggested a change in the name of the Commission, which became "the International Criminal Police Organization". It laid down that the

members of the organization were states and a place was reserved for "associate members". The Executive Committee was slightly increased in size while the post of technical adviser, created in 1949 at the Berne session of the Assembly, was legalized. Another very important aspect of the draft was permanent international co-operation in which the N.C.B. played an important part.

At the very first plenary session this draft gave rise to an animated discussion.

Dr Dosi (Italy), recalled that in 1947 the Italian delegation had suggested the name of Interpol, whose use had become current. The draft substituted the word "Organization" for "Commission"; the expression "Criminal Police" was not very appropriate since it did not give an exact idea of the organization. Why should the organization not be called "Interpol"?

Mr Emerick (United States) proposed the adoption of the draft presented by the Executive Committee but with the addition of the following:

"A member may also apply for *associate membership* for any municipal, provincial or

other police department within the geographical boundaries of its own country where these internal police departments have sole jurisdiction over the enforcement of certain criminal violations within their areas, independently of the member country or have dual jurisdiction with the member country over certain criminal law enforcement".

Mr Mullik (India) thought that the organization should avoid giving itself too wide powers as this might cause serious difficulties. The I.C.P.C. should above all obtain and circulate information on crime in different countries and take the appropriate steps to put an end to such crime.

Any country, whether autonomous or not, should be able to join in its own right and no distinction should be made between countries which, whatever their political status, had to solve the same problems in the field of crime.

With regard to the frequency of the Assembly's meetings, Mr Mullik preferred an annual meeting because it was an occasion for each one to improve relations which might at any time become useful.

The President, the Vice-Presidents and members of the Executive Committee were nominated because of their personal qualities and services rendered (which was quite logical) and an attempt should be made to do this on a wider geographical basis so as to allow the representatives from each part of the world to make their contribution to the common task.

Each country should retain the right to name the body which would serve as central office and which would be the only correspondent with the organization apart from any subsidiary national body which the national bureau might put into contact with it.

Finally, in connection with subscriptions, Mr Mullik preferred the system used by the specialized bodies of the United Nations.

Mr de Castroverde (Cuba) thought, like Dr Dosi, that the name "Interpol" sounded good and could be officially adopted for the organization.

As Mr Mullik had already stated, Mr de Castroverde considered that the composition of the Executive Committee should be founded on a wider geographic basis.

Sir Ronald Howe (Great Britain), Reporter General, read out a document from which it was made clear that Great Britain did not approve of certain of the modifications suggested by the Executive Committee. Why governmentalize the Organization when it already received the support of governments?

The advantages it enjoys under the present system might be lost if it assumed too governmental a character. Representatives speaking in the name of their government on precise instructions might very well introduce into discussions certain political ideas which could only be harmful to the organization. Moreover certain United Nations organizations also dealt with matters similar to those which concerned the I.C.P.C.; it was only by retaining its independence that the I.C.P.C. could continue to play an important part in the international field.

The United Kingdom delegation could therefore not give its support to recommendations tending to modify the essential nature of the organization.

Mr van Ijsendoorn (Netherlands) was on the whole in favour of the project, but he hoped that Surinam and the Netherlands Antilles would be considered as members in their own right. These two territories paid their contributions and their delegations represented central autonomous bureaux of countries which, although not autonomous,

The late Mr. Lüthi, with Mr. Amstein, at the 1949 meeting of the General Assembly in Berne.



had to solve their own crime problems by their own means.

The rights and obligations of "associate members" should be accurately defined and it should be laid down that a request for admission should be approved by a two-thirds majority of the General Assembly. It seemed that one of the members of the Executive Committee could represent an associate member.

Mr Sahar (Israel) recognized the excellence of the work of those who had drawn up the draft constitution. Each government should be allowed to give its opinion on the proposed modifications. The Israeli delegation suggested that the draft constitution should be examined by a committee formed on a rather wide basis.

Mr Vergara (Chile) acknowledged the value of the work done by the Executive Committee and said that his delegation would prefer the I.C.P.C. to assume a regional character. A country like Chile should of course develop closer contacts in matters concerning crime suppression with its immediate neighbours, such as Argentina and Bolivia than with more distant ones such as countries in Europe. It would therefore be a good idea to establish a centre for South America, another for Central and North America, etc.

Mr Amstein (Switzerland) urged the need to provide the organization with a firmer legal basis and congratulated the Executive Committee and the General Secretariat on their initiative. The draft constitution and general regulations proposed met all the requirements and he recommended that they should be adopted, apart from one or two modifications of detail.

Mr Jumsai (Thailand) also considered the draft constitution to be beneficial to an increase in the exchange of information and mutual assistance in the drive against crime. He considered however that information given should not only be that provided by experts but information provided by each country should also be circulated.

Mr Doha (Pakistan) stated that a good constitution was essential to an organization as important as the I.C.P.C. Considering the spirit of co-operation which had prevailed among its members for so many years, it should not be difficult to modify the terms of the draft to the general satisfaction.



The Turkish delegation—in the foreground.

He stressed the need for the I.C.P.C. to retain its technical and specialized character. He added: "If the traditional line is followed, which has been so successful up to now, there will be no need to fear political influences."

Messrs Mojovic (Yugoslavia), Hierro-Martinez (Spain) and Fathi (Egypt) accepted the draft constitution in principle, with several modifications in the form.

Mr de Castroverde (Cuba) proposed that the General Assembly should vote on the principle of the draft submitted by the General Secretariat and leave the details to a sub-committee.

Messrs Sicot and Népole felt that it would be better to reply to the suggestions and objections made and define as clearly as possible the purposes of the projected reform.

M. Sicot first of all pointed out, *as the representative for France*, that this country attached great importance to the improvement of the legal situation of the Organization. It was necessary to adapt the rather out-of-date constitution to present-day requirements. International circumstances had changed and the majority of international organizations had very detailed statutes.

*As Secretary General*, M. Sicot recalled, after giving a short historical summary, that the draft was already a compromise version of a preliminary draft, and was drawn up "in the form of an international convention".

Furthermore, it was suggested that in future, it should be states that were members. Objections had been raised to this and perhaps a compromise solution might be found, laying down that it would not be actually states nor, of course, individuals.

M. Sicot was convinced that there would be

no danger of politics infiltrating into the activities of the organization.

The new constitution laid down categorically that the representatives of states should be police officials and, as far as possible, specialists in criminal police, which had previously not been required.

One of the questions raised had been the name of the organization. The name "Interpol" was already familiar to many, but it did not appear suitable to use this name as an official designation for the organization.

M. Népote, the Assistant Secretary General, recalled that there were at present three main types of international organization: non-governmental, inter-governmental and the specialized bodies of the United Nations. A fourth type, which might be called "international administrative unions", was coming into existence and trying to find a place in international law.

The representative of the United Kingdom was afraid that in becoming "inter-governmental", the organization would assume a political nature. There already existed several technical international bodies, the results of an international convention,—two of these being connected with the United Nations— which abstained from all politics. Moreover, precautions to this effect had been taken in the new statutes and the advice given to governments in composing their delegations was a firm guarantee.

Many other points were raised. It was considered certain, for example, that if the National Central Bureau formula seemed the best, nevertheless, the door remained open for other possibilities. This should make it possible for all countries to co-operate through the organization.

M. Népote considered that even if the organization were to assume a more official character and even if it became inter-governmental, there was no risk of it duplicating the work of other inter-governmental or govern-

mental organizations. If the I.C.P.C. remained a gathering of technicians, there was no risk at all of encroaching on the activities of two United Nations bodies, the Narcotics Division and the Section of Social Defence, as was noted when the United Nations examined the problem.

In concluding the discussions, the President remarked that nobody had been opposed to the whole of the project. On the contrary, everyone agreed that the present constitution should be considerably modified. However, M. Louwage noted some great differences in the points of view expressed and amendments, formally proposed, would have to be considered. In view of the immensity of the problems to be solved, he suggested that a special sub-committee should be formed which, in accordance with the points of view expressed during the discussion, would draw up a new draft which might meet with general approval at the 1956 General Assembly.

The sub-committee having been formed, it immediately started work.

On the suggestion of the chairman of the sub-committee, Mr van der Minne (Netherlands), the Assembly unanimously adopted the following resolution:

The General Assembly,

WHEREAS the I.C.P.C. has for some years played an important rôle in international life,

WHEREAS the statutes at present in force no longer meet present requirements,

CONSIDERS that it is necessary to give a better constitutional basis to the organization.

REQUESTS the sub-committee, which has been specially appointed, together with the Secretary General to determine the new principles in accordance with which the new statutes should be drawn up.

Mr van der Minne added that the sub-committee had the greatest of hope that it would be possible to draw up a universally acceptable draft for the following year.

## THE AIR POLICE

**A**LTHOUGH not dealt with at such length as the previous year, this important problem gave rise to useful exchange of ideas.

The conference of air security officers arranged by the 1954 session of the Assembly took place in January 1955, and was presided



over by Sir Ronald Howe. There was also the I.C.A.O. conference held in Manila in October last.

Naturally, the report presented by Sir Ronald Howe at this year's session of the General Assembly concerned only the former.

He informed the Assembly that nineteen airline companies had been represented at the Paris meeting.

Some of these had their own security departments composed of ex-policemen. By reason of the travel facilities at their disposal and the geographical extent of the services coming within their province, these security officers were in a position to collect valuable information on crimes, offences and international trafficking. These departments were animated by a sincere spirit of collaboration with the true police forces, and it was to be hoped that the reverse was true.

It was moreover to facilitate this co-operation that the I.C.P.C. Secretary General had made generally known the names and positions of the security officers of the companies.

As for companies without security services, they too had declared themselves in favour of mutual co-operation.

From the point of view of the I.C.P.C., it was important that the police forces themselves should regularly send information to our organization. A formula had been adopted for this after the adoption of the following resolution:

"Representatives of the airline companies and the I.C.P.C. meeting in Paris on 24th January 1955;

RECOMMEND to I.A.T.A. again to make representations to their members to report all serious crimes of an international character to the I.C.P.C."

Centralization of information could give interesting results in this field where there was difficulty in localising crimes. Preventive measures were also very important, as experience had shown that the majority of robberies on airfields were committed by opportunist thieves.

It was admitted that every large international aerodrome should be guarded by the police—especially motor cycle patrols, but however strict the supervision, the police should avoid needless controls and hindering



From left to right: Mr. Yumak, Sir Ronald Howe and Mr. Louwage.

the handling, and the public should never be allowed access to where freight was handled or to passenger embarkation and disembarkation points.

Another protective measure was that police should be available to protect aircraft or freight of great value when so requested by air companies, not only on the airfield but also during ground transport, at the expense of the air transport companies. Similar arrangements existed in connection with banks.

During discussions of the sub-committee, Mr Ijsendoorn (Netherlands) stated that he approved of Sir Ronald Howe's report, so long as the resolution passed at the Paris meeting did not imply that security officers could make their own investigations. In Holland, only the police were authorised to do this. This did not mean, however, that they refused to co-operate with agents of airline companies.

Mr Fish (I.A.T.A.) considered that it was very often difficult to determine which police and which country was competent, since crimes were sometimes committed thousands of miles away from the home land of the aircraft. The best thing was for security officers to inform the I.C.P.C. as soon as possible. In fact, the Director General of the I.A.T.A. had requested all I.A.T.A. airlines to co-operate with the I.C.P.C. and to report crimes committed on air routes. Sir Ronald agreed.

Mr Fish then mentioned that one line had lost a consignment of gold and it was discovered that it had been stolen in transit at a certain airport. The security officer immediate-

ly informed the police of the country concerned, with the only result that the customs of this country asked the airline company to pay a duty of £1,000.

Sir Ronald Howe felt nevertheless that it was the duty of security officers, even though they had informed the I.C.P.C., to inform the local police. It was for the Netherlands government to organize co-operation between the Netherlands police and the security officers of the Netherlands airlines.

The matter of facilitations, which was on the Manila conference agenda and had been brought up by Mr Goossen (Netherlands) at the Paris meeting in January, was dealt with in the sub-committee. Sir Ronald Howe made an important statement in this connection.

He wished to draw the attention of the delegates to the Manila conference to the resolutions on facilitation matters already adopted by the I.C.P.C.:

(a) The simplification and standardisation of embarkation and disembarkation cards.

(b) The use of air-crew member certificates instead of passports and visas.

(c) The elimination of the practice of depriving temporary visitors of their passports.

(d) The standardisation of visas.

Sir Ronald Howe pointed out that these resolutions were not only of advantage to airlines and their passengers but to the frontier police and immigration officers as it would facilitate control and make it more efficient while reducing the number of personnel.

Mr Haegerström (I.A.T.A.) deplored the considerable delays due to shortage of personnel on certain aerodromes.

Mr Selinger (Israel) thought that crimes committed on airlines should be reported to

the police at the first airport of call, who should then inform the I.C.P.C. Mr Franssen (Belgium) and Mr Roches (France) agreed. Mr Farid (Lebanon) was opposed to leaving passports in the hands of passengers in transit. Mr Fish considered that in the case of a crime or offence being committed, a preliminary investigation should be made and that it should be reported to the police of the country where it had taken place.

The following resolution was then put to the vote:

The XXIVth session of the I.C.P.C. General Assembly,

In view of the report presented by Sir Ronald Howe,

TAKES NOTE of the importance of the police of the different countries informing the I.C.P.C. General Secretariat of crimes committed during air transport;

RECOMMENDS the police of the member states to adopt, for the prevention of crimes committed during air transport, the preventive measures hereafter:

a) Permanent surveillance of airports by appropriate guarding measures without reducing the responsibility of airline companies with regard to the protection and that this surveillance should not interfere with or delay operations,

b) Protection, in particular at the request of the companies, if it be considered possible, of precious objects during ground transport preceding or following the air transport of these objects,

c) In particular at the request of the companies, if it be considered possible, the guarding of objects placed in the aerodromes, in transit or while awaiting embarkation.

This resolution was unanimously adopted, apart from one abstention.

## BANKING AND CHEQUE FORGERY

**A**LTHOUGH agendas do not differ greatly from year to year, the matters which are the chief preoccupation of the police between meetings of the Assembly naturally assume a similar importance at the following plenary session and consequently relegate other matters to secondary positions. In 1954, the subject was the gold traffic, while in 1955 it was cheque forgery and police work connected with banking. The reason was that the

I.C.P.C. had for twelve months been inundated with crimes connected with banking.

Mr J. W. Kallenborn, Head of the Delegated Office of the Hague, recalled that it was between the two wars that the first serious wave of cheque forgery occurred. He presented a table showing the figures for the worst period (1927-33). Today, this type of fraud had benefitted its perpetrators to the extent of one million dollars.

The fact that forgery had not been prevented by the sensational improvements in printing techniques, engraving and photography showed that "anything that had been made could be copied". He considered that this also showed that for these criminals, "the game was certainly worth the candle". It was clear that if they went to all the care and trouble that they must to make such counterfeits, the profits must be well worth while.

What was certain, was that in the field of actual counterfeiting of money "the mobilisation of all our efforts and the vigilance of the international police" had borne fruit. Consequently, this new danger of cheque forgery would have to be faced, for it was just as serious.

Mr de Castroverde (Cuba) last year expressed his regret that the standardisation of the size of cheques was Utopian and could not be achieved. However, Mr Kallenborn considered that one might try to do for cheques what had been done for banknotes—"to introduce for each country a standard cheque on which banks may print their name". This solution should benefit from the protective measures used in the best made banknotes. In this way bank employees would not be lost amid the welter of shapes, colours and watermarks which existed to-day.

Mr Kallenborn urged that all cases of cheque forgery or counterfeiting should be immediately reported to the I.C.P.C. General Secretariat with full details of the nature of the counterfeit or forgery.

He suggested that the sub-committee on counterfeiting should state without further delay their views on the value of a standard form of cheque for each country. Furthermore, a provisional agenda could be drafted for a conference of the heads of the N.C.B. and representatives of issuing authorities, as was held in 1935 and 1950. Invitations could also be sent to banking associations and even insurance companies, as the principal victims of this type of fraud.

Dr Dosi, Head of the Italian N.C.B., presented a report of a more general nature, on *police control in connection with banking operations*.

He congratulated Messrs de Castroverde and Kallenborn on their work and reminded the Assembly that "banking was becoming

more and more international",—when their original purpose had been to centralize and distribute the nation's savings.

Dr Dosi gave an account of the investigation he had made by sending out questionnaires to the N.C.B. Police work in connection with banking raised a great many problems.

First of all there were the *general safety measures*: steel lined vaults, ultra-modern safes, systems of automatic closing of all exits, etc. In some countries firms producing such things were under police supervision and there were laws to prevent locksmiths working for unknown persons.

The police had to visit the scene of all burglaries such as had taken place recently in Italy (in Naples).

There was no need to change the modern equipment already used in the protection of banks. All systems of protection were vulnerable, even to fire "if not supplemented by a system of uninterrupted surveillance and rounds..." The degree of safety of any arrangement was inversely proportional to the time which burglars—equipped with the most modern equipment—had at their disposal.

How was this *protection* to be effected? First of all by photo-electric cells and alarms. Secondly, by patrols and police permanently stationed outside banks. In addition, all large banks should organize their own system of surveillance, both by day and night, inside and out. The staff should take an oath, be provided with arms and be specialists.

*How would banking staff be trained?*

Dr Dosi mentioned the conditions of engagement of bank employees and the conditions under which they worked. He believed that "a common existence during working hours constituted a reciprocal check... and made any secret, reprehensible, personal act impossible". Some banks even used private detectives when the personal life of an employee was suspect. In addition, the movement of staff from one office to another or from one branch to another helped to prevent breach of trust.

But, considering "the importance and complexity of banking operations and in view of the increase in crime" Dr Dosi considered that it was necessary for the technical training of personnel to be improved and brought

up-to-date. Instruction should be given by teachers of political economy, commercial and financial law and experts in applied criminology who were specially competent in the matter of combating forgery and international crime.

Moreover, the places in which the public transacted business were often frequented by suspect persons. *How were pocket picking and other crimes to be stopped?*

It was relatively easy to prevent pocket picking, by warning the public and by getting porters, etc. to keep their eyes open, or even by engaging private detectives, but the problem of armed robbery was not so easily solved. The *sang froid* of the staff and clients could not always be depended on and the attack was always sudden. The use of firearms might be fatal to those present.

This being the case, Dr Dosi considered that electric bells hidden under the counters, automatic police warning devices, and devices for automatically closing the doors were the best solution.

Another important problem was providing *escorts for the transport of valuables by road and their protection while in the post or in trains.*

Many banks had their own vans and only needed a police escort. When valuables were being sent through the post or by rail, they had the same protection as for registered mail. In some countries, such as Italy, there were special police forces for the railways and mail. But what about air transport? Experience had shown that plain envelopes and bags should be used as they did not attract attention.

Another difficult point was the part which *banking information departments* could and should play in connection with criminals. One knew that their purpose was to use not only all information concerning economic, political and financial trends but also concerning the characters of clients. Many important banks, such as the Bank of Mexico had a police force of their own.

It was in connection with an important case concerning some counterfeit notes discovered in 1941 in Tampico that the legal authorities called in Dr Quiroz Cuarón, delegate from the Banco de Mexico to the General Assembly.

The investigation showed up many of the defects not only of the organization of banks in Mexico, but of all banks throughout the world. His conclusions convinced the Banco de Mexico of the need for a permanent and complete security organization, one which would rationalize the engagement of employees, then their training, obtain information on the character of clients, whether present or prospective, instal safety measures of all kinds and, of course, make the necessary investigations in connection with fraud.

From 1941 to '47, the "Departamento de Investigaciones especiales" directed by Dr Quiroz Cuarón, had to spend most of their time on the important case mentioned above, in which Alfred Donadieu, alias Sampietro, already well known in the United States and France, attained considerable notoriety.

Another, particularly difficult case occurred in 1949, and concerned a series of thefts from the safe deposit of a client of the Banco Internacional y Hipotecario de Mexico. A total of nearly 55,000 pesos, more than \$11,000 and various valuable articles of jewellery had been stolen. The investigation, made together with the police, not only resulted in the arrest of the criminals but provided some very instructive ideas relative to how a banking organization of this kind should work.

But suppose such an organization should discover a man wanted by the police for some ordinary criminal offence, such as fraud, theft or embezzlement. What would it do? Would it keep the matter to itself, merely refusing to do business with such a client, or inform the police? Unfortunately, their understanding of the principle of professional secrecy would generally result in taking the former course and the offender remaining free to commit crimes elsewhere.

Elementary prudence demanded that any bank before accepting a client should make certain of his identity. A proof of identity was generally required when a check was cashed, but with regard to changing money or travellers cheques, very often even this was not required. Now both of these might have been stolen from tourists. Passports were also stolen in order to forge them and they were sold to traffickers. If they bore the same name and first name as those on the stolen travellers cheques, even the most scru-

pulous bank was obliged to honour them. Sometimes, a perfectly honest client was suspected. In such a case, there should have been a special control office able to photograph documents and passports on the spot. Experience had shown that reports might be advantageously exchanged between security officers of well organized establishments and the police.

It was known moreover, that forged gold coins and banknotes, forged bills of lading and bills of exchange of fictitious companies were continually in circulation throughout the world. We also knew what great efforts the I.C.P.C. was making in the drive against such offences.

But even the most experienced cashiers had been known to cash forged cheques and counterfeit notes. How was one to counteract "lack of experience, fatigue, suggestion, over-confidence and even variations in light?"

Not only was special training required but there should have been even closer co-operation between the different N.C.B. and between these and the I.C.P.C. General Secretariat. In addition, there should have been a considerable reduction in the number of forms of cheque and travellers cheque. Mr Dosi hopes, like Mr Kallenborn, that a standard form of cheque for each country would be evolved. It was to be hoped that one day there would be a world federation of credit establishments so that an international, standard cheque would become possible. It was hoped in any case that a new international conference would soon deal with these questions under the auspices of the I.C.P.C.

Mr Dosi then dealt with the question of banking deposits and current accounts which were available not only to honest men but also to criminals. Generally the latter obtained all necessary references. The scourge of cheques without funds is becoming worse every day. The "bearer pass-book" system and certain kinds of current accounts made it possible to draw money incognito and this further complicated matters. In any case, Doctor Dosi considered that when a client withdrew money, he should have to make himself known so that some records of the operation remained in the banks and the police would then be able, if necessary, to intervene with some chance of success.

This brought up the serious problem of *the connection between criminal police operations and banking secrecy*. Doctor Dosi considered it immoral that "banking secrecy should help the banking operations of dishonest persons and especially those of the most dangerous kind—the international criminals".

Of course, magistrates might, except in urgent cases, such as "flagrante delicto", appoint a criminal police officer to check up, make searches and seizures. Now in Italy, with very few exception, banks were exempt from this. Only magistrates themselves had the right to do this. Banks only called them in as a last resort and even then, the police had to depend on the bank's discretion.

This attitude, of course, needed no comment. It also meant that banks had to deal with criminals without knowing it.

Sometimes there were international banking congresses, but no allusion was ever made in their reports to police matters. The purpose of this report was to bring these problems to mind and to recommend both to the police and to banks a better, confident and sincere collaboration.

Dr Dosi concluded by saying that he had not included a resolution in his report, that its purpose was merely to show the importance of co-operation between the police and the banks and to start a "movement".

Mr Kallenborn, in presenting his report to the sub-committee, did not underestimate the difficulties in the way of introducing a standard form of cheque. He considered that it might at least be possible to persuade several banking institutions to bring about this reform. He suggested that the General Secretariat should send out a questionnaire to the heads of the N.C.B. which would give exact ideas on the possibilities of standardizing cheques.

Mr de Castroverde also considered that public opinion throughout the world should be so stimulated as to favour closer collaboration between banking establishments and the police. In Cuba, he said, there were two banking associations, which would facilitate matters.

Mr Christides, on the other hand, wondered if, after all, the adoption of a standard form of cheque was really the best solution. Indeed, the issuing authorities considered that the

best protection was to use a paper of special texture which would be difficult to imitate. Furthermore, the real danger was not so much the counterfeiting but the theft of cheques. As far as he was aware, American Express cheques had not been counterfeited since 1947 or '48. Of course, if the cheques stolen had already been filled in, the thief would have to forge them before cashing them.

Mr Kallenborn reminded the Assembly that in the last year the number of cases of cheque forgery had increased in a most disquieting manner. He considered that the sub-committee on counterfeiting was the most competent body to deal with the many aspects of the question. Last July, Mr Kallenborn had visited the exhibition in London organized by International Printing Machinery and Allied Trades Association. The new electronic machines used for the making of typographic plates were exhibited there and he had had a talk with the inventor of the clichograph, who showed him the latest model which printed in four colours. The plates turned

out by these new machines would be exhibited on panels showing the progress achieved.

In reply to a question put by Mr Christides, he stated that there were not only counterfeit cheques, but also made up cheques in which the name of the bank and everything else was fictitious.

Mr Grassberger considered that it was important to make sure that the publication of new methods did not facilitate the task of criminals, if by chance they managed to get to know them.

Mr Vergara (Chile) stated that not only should special paper be used by the banks and signatures be checked, but that fingerprints should be used in certain cases.

The President pointed out that the banks were very much opposed to the use of fingerprints.

Two separate forms of resolution were presented to the Assembly, the first by Mr Kallenborn:

The General Assembly in session.



*The XXIVth General Assembly, held in Istanbul from 5th-9th September 1955,*

— *Having studied the report entitled "The prevention of cheque forgery", presented by Mr J. W. Kallenborn, and taking into account the discussions of the sub-committee,*

— *Decides that the study of this question should be continued and entrusts the General Secretariat with the drawing up of a questionnaire to be sent to the heads of the N.C.B.,*

— *Recommends that the heads of the N.C.B. support as far as possible the standardizing of cheques in their respective countries.*

and the second by Mr de Castroverde, which took into account Mr Christides' observations:

*The XXIVth General Assembly of the I.C.P.C. meeting in Istanbul from 5th-9th September 1955,*

— *Having studied the report presented by Mr Kallenborn on the "Prevention of cheque forgery",*

— *Requests the General Secretariat to submit a questionnaire on the advisability of gathering the necessary information previous to the adoption of the resolutions recommending the standardizing of cheques to the N.C.B. for study,*

— *Recommends that the N.C.B. approach banks and issuing authorities and offer them their services and available information so as to promote a wider co-operation for the protection of these bodies.*

Supported by Messrs Grassberger (Austria) and Roches (France), the President suggested that the Assembly should not come to any decision regarding these resolutions but ask the sub-committee on counterfeiting to continue their investigation by means of a questionnaire to be sent to members through the General Secretariat. Mr Franssen (Belgium) was entrusted with the task of drawing up the questionnaire.

## THE ILLICIT DRUG TRAFFIC

ON the basis of a large volume of information, whose figures spoke for themselves, the report issued by the General Secretariat gave an account of the work which had been done in 1954 in this important field. We should immediately state, however, that being simply a co-ordinating body, the General Secretariat had not itself made any of these investigations. Its purpose was to co-ordinate the work done by national police forces which fought against international drug traffickers, to compile information both on the traffickers and the traffic itself, to distribute as rapidly as possible, both to I.C.P.C. member states and the other countries interested, information, checked results and identities, to use the information received and to circulate this information after having used it.

The report examined the problem of traffickers—and the traffic—in opium, raw and prepared, cannabis, morphine, diacetylmorphine and other pharmaceutical substances. The figures for each of these concerned the places of seizure, and the quantities seized, the number of seizures and the persons arrested, the origin of the goods and the persons arrested.

Several things were apparent from these statistics.

With regard to the *opium* traffic, Lebanon was often mentioned as one of the centres of supply and the sea appeared to be the chief means of transport. The Chinese were predominant among traffickers (28.7%).

Furthermore, the Indian ports were used for lading local opium for Singapore and the Far East and as ports of transit for Iranian opium. The traffic through Israel to Egypt was increasing. It was confirmed that there were mixed gangs of Jewish and Arab traffickers.

For the first time, opium from Bulgaria had been noticed in Western European traffic.

As compared with 1953, the total quantity of opium seized increased by 247.4% and the total number of seizures by 25.5%. On the other hand, the number of persons arrested decreased by 6.9%. From this it might be deduced that there had been a noticeable increase in the cases of international opium traffic reported to the I.C.P.C.

With regard to *cannabis*, 64.7% of the traffickers in this drug were Arabs.

As was reported at the last meeting of the

Assembly, cannabis cultivation had spread to Europe, and had established itself mainly in France, in response to the demand of Arab labour.

Spanish Morocco appeared to be an important source of supply for French Morocco and the International Zone of Tangiers. Consequently, this drug was extensively cultivated throughout North Africa.

As compared with 1953, the quantity of cannabis seized had decreased by 31.8% and the number of seizures had increased by 2%, while the number of persons arrested had decreased by 7.6%. This indicated a decrease in international traffic reported to the General Secretariat.

New facts also appeared from the *morphine* traffic statistics.

Thailand appeared for the first time as an important supplier of morphine intended for Japan and produced from Chinese opium. Lebanon appeared to be an important illicit supply centre. No report had been received of morphine obtained from the late Wehrmacht medical supplies. A large number of ampoules of the drug had again been embezzled in Italy. On the other hand, there were no reports of morphine traffic in France, which had been on an extensive scale in 1953.

As compared with 1953, the quantities of morphine seizures reported to the General Secretariat had decreased by 73.6%, the number of seizures by 40% and the number of arrests by 49.9%. It therefore appeared that the morphine traffic was on the decrease.

With regard to *diacetylmorphine*, Tunisia appeared to be one of the chief users, the supplies coming from Marseilles. The heroin traffic in France seemed to have decreased.

As compared with 1953, the quantities of diacetylmorphine seizures reported to the General Secretariat had decreased by 7.7%, the number of seizures by 35.6% and arrests by 78.1%.

Finally, traffickers in *cocaine* used Cuba as a base of operations in one important affair.

With regard to the other *pharmaceutical products* included in the list of drugs, sufficient information was not available for any conclusions to be drawn. A considerable increase as compared with 1953 had however been noted, particularly in Italy, where Milan

had been used as a very important centre for the illicit manufacture of pethidine.

Mr Fish (I.A.T.A.) informed the sub-committee on air police that there had been a considerable increase in the amount of drugs smuggled by air. He wondered whether the I.C.P.C. had been informed of all cases.

The Secretary General then gave details of the amount of information circulated over the past year. The number of cases reported by different countries had increased by 32% over last year's figure. With regard to the cases dealt with by different countries on the request of the General Secretariat after cross-checking the information received, these had decreased by 7.3% owing to the fact that information of a purely local character was no longer mentioned. On the other hand, there was an increase of 36.2% in police information sent by the General Secretariat to different countries. (In all, 3,086 notes of information.)

In addition, the General Secretariat drew up 44 complete circulations concerning traffickers, a list of sailors and another list of suspect boats and also twelve monthly recapitulatory tables of the drug traffic. In addition there were four quarterly reports on the drug traffic for the Commission on Narcotic Drugs in New York, the Permanent Central Opium Board in Geneva and the World Health Organization.

The results, which were considerable, could be even better if all I.C.P.C. member states conscientiously applied the resolutions which had been passed. The sending of information to the General Secretariat was no mere formality. It should be considered as the natural consequence of local police action.

M. Népoté recalled the understanding of the work of the I.C.P.C., shown by the United Nations Commission on Narcotic Drugs (1), which had this year recommended that governments should "work in liaison with the I.C.P.C. and use the methods it recommended in this field".

The sub-committee on drugs discussed two draft resolutions.

Mr Siragusa (U.S.A.) hoped that the final draft would stress the importance of the problem itself and the increase in international traffic.

(1) See below p. 331, U.N.O.



M. Sicol considered that it would be difficult to convene the sub-committee on drugs each year three days before the meeting of the Assembly, as Mr Siragusa had suggested. The question of drugs could not be given preference over all other subjects which the I.C.P.C. had to deal with. He also stated that this subject was not equally important to all countries and in some it did not concern the police at all. The most important thing was that all countries, including those in the Middle and Far East, should send all the information they had to the General Secretariat.

Mr Bloch (U.N.O.) stated that any extension of the efforts of the I.C.P.C. in the field of drugs greatly interested the U.N.O.

With regard to the control of the export and distribution of acetic anhydride, advised by Mr Siragusa, Mr Söderman recalled that this had been rejected by the majority of governments, as this substance was too widely used in industry.

Mr Bernard (Italy), stated that the "Guardia di Finanza" were effectively contributing to the suppression of the drug traffic. He assured the Assembly that this force would continue to collaborate faithfully with the I.C.P.C.

Mr Rosales Miranda (Mexico) stated that his country was already applying severe penalties in connection with drug seizures. He submitted to the Assembly a study he had drawn up of "the fight against the production of drugs and the drug traffic in Mexico".

This document included a detailed history of the subject from the beginning of the XXth century (conferences of Shanghai (1909), the Hague (1911, '12 and '14) the work done by the League of Nations, Mexico's ratification of international agreements in 1925) followed by an account of the Mexican laws on the subject from 1929 to '55 (penal code, health code, etc.). The use of drugs was punished by imprisonment—from one to ten years, according to the case—and drug peddling was subject to a penalty of sixteen years penal servitude. The Mexican government was attempting to discover the origin of "Mexican heroin", so called only because of its colour. Mexico did not use heroin and could not possibly produce the amount of "Mexican" heroin consumed abroad.

This report mentioned the drive undertaken in 1947 in the north-west of Mexico against the clandestine cultivation of opium, which was not facilitated by the fact that the cultivators had decided to defend themselves with arms. Officials of the criminal police and the federal narcotics police (of the Ministry of Health) were enlisted; they received the help of the army and air force and were supported by the local police in the states of Sonora, Sinaloa, Chihuahua and Durango.

This expedition, which had been repeated each year since 1947, was ordered to destroy any secret laboratories and proceedings were taken against those who "exported" the drugs to the United States, the middlemen, suppliers, etc. Operations were greatly facilitated by the use of two small aircraft, which localised patches of poppy and marihuana. They were also used for dropping tracts in a psychological campaign intended for peasants of the regions concerned. Many plots of ground which had been used for drug cultivation were made to produce other crops.

In 1953, Mr Miranda managed to bring about the formation of a body for the co-ordination of efforts in the drive against the drug traffic, in which were represented the ministries of the Interior, National Defence, Health and Public Assistance, and Foreign Affairs and also the Public Prosecutor's office. This body has done excellent work, organizing the drive, systematising prevention and carrying out the work of suppression in all the appropriate districts—especially in the ports of Vera Cruz, Tampico and Ensenada.

Mr Franssen wondered whether paragraphs 4 and 5 of the proposed resolution were really indispensable. They recommend: 1) that the sub-committee on narcotics convene one day before the General Assembly meeting, and continue its session for the necessary period during the General Assembly session; 2) that National Central Bureaux of those countries where the illicit traffic is a matter of particular concern include, if possible, in their delegations to these future General Assemblies those officials of their countries being engaged and having specialized experience in narcotics law enforcement.

Mr Franssen considered that naturally the delegates were generally accompanied by the experts they needed and, furthermore, it ap-

peared to him useless to increase the delegations' expenses by convening members of the sub-committee on drugs one day earlier.

The Secretary General himself considered that delegates should not attach undue importance to subjects which concerned themselves particularly. The expenses of each delegation, if the paragraphs in question were adopted, were liable to be considerably increased and it would be an insult to delegates to insist on them bringing along their subordinates in order to better enlighten the Assembly on certain points.

M. Sicol took this opportunity to remark that there should not be so many questions on the agenda at each session. Instead of touching on a score of subjects, delegates might be concentrating on four or five important problems.

Mr Farid (Lebanon) seconded the proposal to delete the two paragraphs in question. In his opinion, the members of a delegation were under the orders of their chief and it was for the latter to choose those who should accompany him. Furthermore, the I.C.P.C. had to deal with other questions just as important as the suppression of the drug traffic.

Mr Siragusa (U.S.A.) also supported the proposal to delete the two paragraphs 4 and 5. This proposal was adopted.

The resolution of the sub-committee in its new form was carried unanimously.

WHEREAS the international illicit drug traffic, particularly by sea and air, continues to be a matter of great concern to the world and appears to be assuming more serious proportions,

WHEREAS the tenth session of the United Nations Commission on Narcotic Drugs expressed its concern that large quantities of acetic anhydride were being exported to countries where it was used in the clandestine manufacture of heroin, and

WHEREAS the United Nations at its last session also noted with interest a policy of imposing stricter penalties on traffickers had been adopted in some countries,

the General Assembly, at its XXIVth session consequently,

1) RECOMMENDS that National Central Bureaux of the I.C.P.C. draw the attention of their governments on the resolutions adopted by the XXIIIrd General Assembly of the I.C.P.C. respecting suggested measures to revoke and/or deny seamen's documents under certain circumstances, and calling upon countries where heroin is known or suspected to be manufactured clandestinely to make an effort to control importation and internal movements of acetic anhydride, also

2) RECOMMENDS that National Central Bureaux draw the attention of their governments to the increasing use of airlines by traffickers travelling as passengers and should request them to draw the attention of their customs services to this illicit traffic, also

3) RECOMMENDS that since higher penalties have generally been found to act as a deterrent to illicit traffic, National Central Bureaux draw the attention of governments to the importance of providing for adequate penalties in this respect, also

4) Strongly REQUESTS all countries to inform regularly and accurately the Secretary General of the I.C.P.C. of all cases of illicit traffic of drugs known to them.

## FINGERPRINTING

At the XXIIInd session of the I.C.P.C. General Assembly in Oslo, Mr Santamaria (Spain) drew the attention of the delegates to "A new method of evaluating the characteristic points of ridge patterns". He suggested that each of these points should be given a certain numerical value, varying from

one to three, according to their frequency. In this way a qualitative aspect was introduced into fingerprint examination in addition to the quantitative one corresponding to the number of points common to two prints. This qualitative aspect was based on the frequency with which a given characteristic point occur-

ed in a large number of prints; it was established by Mr Santamaria from the study of a thousand fingerprints and varied between 543/1000 (ridge endings) and 0.2/1000 (vuelta or return).

The writer also suggested that certain peculiarities in prints, other than characteristic points (rarity of points, scars, unusually numerous pores) should each be given a value of one—like the most common points. He drew two tables, one for the characteristic points and the other for the peculiarities and suggested that identity should only be considered proved if the total number of these values added up to a minimum of ten.

In accordance with a resolution adopted two years ago, the General Secretariat had made investigations into the matter and received information from eighteen member countries: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Cuba, Denmark, Eire, Finland, France, India, Israel, The Netherlands, Peru, Spain, Switzerland, Turkey, the United Kingdom and Venezuela.

These are the conclusions drawn up by Professor Sannié, who, being ill, was unfortunately unable to attend:

Mr Santamaria's basic assumption was generally adopted by all experts and the evaluation of characteristic points gave more or less the same results no matter what system was used. It remained to be seen what effect the adoption of this system would have on the methods in use in different countries.

Was it possible to decide on the identity of prints if a minimum of ten points common to both was obtained, as suggested by Mr Santamaria? Were certain peculiarities like rarity of points or superabundance of pores also to be taken into account?

The majority of experts objected to such rigid rules; for one thing, in many countries courts would have to modify their attitude: very often magistrates did not base their judgment on the number of common points found by the expert but on his opinion.

In some countries, the experts insisted on ten points, in others, twelve or sixteen were required. Consequently there were no general rules and the great majority of specialists

consulted considered that there should not be any.

Professor Sannié was of the opinion that if such a general rule as that proposed by Mr Santamaria were to be universally accepted, a far more thorough statistical study would have to be made from thousands of prints, both complete and fragmentary, taking into account the part of the print in which the characteristic point occurred and the influence of areas without points at all. The rules of probability should then be applied to the facts obtained, calculating the possible sources of error in the determination of each characteristic.

It was moreover not certain that the formula obtained after such a long and arduous undertaking would have more practical value than the classical one, such as suggested by Balthazard. For instance, there was no doubt that the probability of finding an intersection on a print was very remote and that of finding a "vuelta" or "return" even more so, so that such points should have a far greater value than three as proposed by Mr Santamaria. However, no expert would agree that two prints having a return or an intersection and three or four other points in common were identical since this would mean that identity was almost entirely based on the presence of one unusual point. In addition, it should not be forgotten that a characteristic point may be modified by some irregularity in the surface on which the print was found or for some other reason. As such a factor might very well produce an intersection or a return from a simple bifurcation, it was easy to see the danger of basing one's conclusions almost entirely on such a criterion.

In his report Professor Sannié nevertheless praised Mr Santamaria's excellent work and was convinced that it had the merit of drawing attention to a qualitative aspect of fingerprint examination and also it could be used as a basis for works of the same kind but even more extensive in nature.

After Mr Santamaria had defined certain points in the text for the sub-committee on police technique and pointed out in particular that he had never considered forcing the experts to change the methods now in use, taking into account the remarks made by

Messrs Quiroz (Mexico), Kirman (Turkey), Vargas (Venezuela) and Delaney (Australia), the sub-committee, at the suggestion of the chairman Mr Roches, unanimously adopted the following resolution:

The XXIVth session of the I.C.P.C. General Assembly meeting in Istanbul from 5th to 9th September 1955,

CONGRATULATES Mr Santamaría on the outstanding contribution his report makes to police science and technique, in particular in the field of fingerprinting, and

REQUESTS the General Secretariat to ensure the widest possible distribution of the supplementary report made by Mr Santamaría at the end of Professor Sannié's report (1).

## **CODING the VISUAL IDENTIFICATION of the HUMAN BEING**

**A**MONG police matters of international importance, if there is one which may be considered as perennial, it is visual identification. Difficulties arise owing to the fact that even specialists give different interpretations, moreover, there are many problems of terminology to be dealt with even in the various languages used.

Mr Delaney (Australia) was quite conscious of these problems. He insisted on the need to sharpen policemen's sense of observation and the advantage of using "a language understood by all" for circulating descriptions. The report was drawn from a study by Inspector A. J. Baird of the Perth C.I.D.

"The value of such a system would be enhanced even further if in making the communication internationally the descriptive matter could be reduced to a few commonly understood, or readily convertible, symbols whereby the recipient could with ease convert the information into the terms and usage of their own national language."

It was suggested also that if illustrations of actual examples were to be provided with each code reference, even the humblest police officer would by referring to them be able to build up his own mental picture of the particular individual described.

It was desirable that the major and subsidiary headquarters in a country should be

supplied with international code references so as to distribute the information received in the language of the country in question.

The method put forward for consideration was as follows:

1) That the primary visible elements of the human body be catalogued in a standard set of terms.

2) That the terms applied to each element be given a code reference.

3) That personal descriptions of individuals between nations be made in a series of symbols. Any remaining detail of the description, not so provided for, be catered for by the usual plain language descriptive method.

Mr Delaney then gave a few examples with their code references. Should a reference such as for instance "F 13" be quoted either locally or internationally, it indicated to the recipient through his or their appendix that the detail referred to indicated a "round face" or the code reference "M" indicated a receding chin.

The text of such a message would therefore be very short and what was even more important, the coder and decoder would be able to operate in terms peculiar to their own language, without having to use a foreign one.

(1) The supplement to Mr Santamaria's report will shortly be widely distributed.



The President, Mr. Louwage, with some delegates.

Together with the report presented by the Australian delegation was a list of personal descriptive data (for the face and the body) with their code references. Each letter of the alphabet was used to describe the various parts of the body and limbs. With each letter, there was a figure corresponding to the particular aspects of the description: large, small, round, oval, etc.

At the meeting of the sub-committee on police technique presided over by Mr Roches—Professor Sannié who was ill could not take part in the Assembly,—Mr Delaney wished to emphasise that the suggested coding met definite needs.

At the plenary session, Mr Delaney observed that telephone and radio now made it possible to transmit a description very rapidly throughout the world. A codification of the speaking likeness would save even more time and would furthermore stimulate the training of young policemen and sharpen their sense of observation.

The following resolution was put to the vote:

The XXIVth session of the I.C.P.C. General Assembly meeting at Istanbul from 5th to 9th September 1955,

After having studied the report "Coding the visual identification of the human being" presented by the Australian delegation, and the minutes of the sub-committee debates,

**CONSIDERS** that it is necessary to establish a coding which will ensure the quick and certain transmission of the characteristics of the description of the criminal or wanted person,

**HOPES** that the General Secretariat of the I.C.P.C. will first make a careful study of the matter, in which all members of the I.C.P.C. would be invited to take part, and, after having summarised the essential information thus collected, would present to a future General Assembly a scheme for coding which should then be adopted in international transmission.

This resolution was unanimously adopted.

## PREVENTION OF JUVENILE DELINQUENCY

**T**HIS year, this subject on the agenda was dealt with in a report by the President, M. F. E. Louwage.

The principle that the police might have a social rôle being now admitted, especially in regard to youth, the President first of all went into the relations which should exist between *the police, parents and teachers*. M. Louwage stressed the fact that children should above all not be brought up to fear the policeman. In other words, parents and teachers should be taught to recognize that we have to and do exercise not only a suppressive but also a preventive function. The police should avoid playing the "bogeyman". They should arrange meetings with teachers, whose liking for the police was sometimes not very great. The lack of understanding was mutual: the police officer was unaware of the methods and difficulties of the teacher's work, while the latter had a very imperfect idea of the rights, duties and sacrifices inherent in police work, whose preventive aspect he sometimes forgot.

The President proposed that lectures should be given, periodical meetings arranged—as in the Scandinavian countries—and suggested that a competent police officer should give talks at meetings of teachers. A member of the teaching profession should, in return, explain the problems of childhood to groups of policemen.

Teachers might be invited to visit police departments and police officers could familiarize themselves with new methods of teaching. Sports meetings could be organized.

The President then dealt with the question of direct contact between *the police and children*. What was wanted in this case was not lectures, no matter how attractive. Children liked games, especially communal ones. They should have them. The police officer should merely act as a supporter. Games, especially athletic games, had much to recommend them. They took the child off the

streets. Children with dangerous impulses or a taste for violence found games an excellent means of "letting off steam", and those with inferiority complexes gradually acquired confidence.

Of course, police officers who attended such gatherings should avoid making moralizing remarks to the children, though they might take advantage of incidents to point out the dangers of violating the laws of society. Even then, a brief remark was better than a long discourse. Stubborn and "bad" boys should not lightly be refused admittance. Club contacts and activities often cured apparently incurable faults. One should not hesitate to entrust "difficult" boys with responsibilities. Their wild impulses were often the result of frustration.

"Such a youth organization cannot, I admit, either come into being or exist without financial help from the authorities, private societies or subscriptions obtained from the public. I am sure", said M. Louwage, "that the police, by explaining the aims and benefits of such a scheme, would find the necessary means."

There were other methods open to the police if they wished to prepare youth for their civic duties and make good in the eyes of the world. The behaviour of police officers in uniform was an important factor in the matter of prestige. If a policeman witnessed some trivial offence committed in the street by a youngster, it would be quite wrong to "make a case of it". This would entail the needless risk of giving the child a mental shock, which might have serious consequences. It was better to give the child a little paternal advice, drawing his attention to the serious consequences which his action might have both for him and his parents.

If the nature of the offence warranted action being taken by the criminal police, the police should never forget that the mind of the child was not at all similar to that of the adult. He should, furthermore, try to con-

vince the parents that the measures taken were in the best interests of the child.

M. Louwage stated, in plenary session, that

he had nothing to add to this report, which called for no discussion, but which, we should state, aroused great interest.

## THE PSYCHOPATHOLOGICAL STUDY OF DELINQUENTS

PROFESSOR de Echalecú y Canino (Spain) gave a historical summary of this present-day problem from the time when no difference was made between a criminal and a lunatic, mentioning the more human and understanding views of Pinel in 1801, who showed that criminals were in fact sick people, and drawing attention to the works of von Hentig in Germany and Piga y Palaz in Spain. Criminology could exist as a science only owing to the psychopathologist; only he could elucidate offences which seemed unaccountable.

At the beginning of the 19th century, Gall was one of the first to study delinquency from the scientific and psychological points of view. Morel's theories were based on psychology and pathology. He also borrowed the German expression "Ausartung" which defined a constitutional pathological state, with a tendency to progressive degradation.

In England, many doctors (Clarke, Clapham, Thompson, Abercrombie and Maudsley) tried to establish the psychopathological differences between lunatics and criminals. In Spain, Cuví y Soler, a follower of Gall, used, rather unwillingly, the expression "born criminal" which was to become the keystone of criminal anthropology. In 1832, Pritchard described a state of moral disturbance in which the subject committed antisocial acts, was incurably evil-minded yet retained perfect intellectual lucidity—called "moral insanity" by Abercrombie.

Dupré considered that it was this involuntary perversion which was responsible for the existence of habitual criminals who were impervious to intimidation and quite impossible to rehabilitate. They were, in fact, in a

condition which Professor Garçon called the "permanent dangerous state".

There had been many different opinions as to the cause of these perversions. Italian psychiatrists and English psychiatrists and penologists suggested that they might be caused by a psychopathic disturbance affecting moral judgment. On the other hand, German psychiatrists referred to a genotypical deficiency with a lack of basic sentiments and the ability to feel sympathy and respect for others. However, certain cases of non-hereditary encephalitis and certain virus infections showed, when children outlived them, a clinical picture analogous to that of "moral insanity".

Wagner-Jauregg tried to define this juvenile mental derangement in which patients did not realize themselves that they were ill.

These kinds of diseases were carefully studied: the centres affected by the lesions (although this varied frequently) were found. They caused both an organic alteration and a complete change in personality. It was interesting to refer to the works of Rof Carballo, Fulton and Pende. In Rome, the latter studied with di Tullio and Maymone one hundred criminals by means of X-rays. In forty-seven cases, alterations of the mid-brain and of the hypophysis were found. On the other hand, Egas Moniz, showed that mentally deranged persons who had undergone leucotomy acquired a tendency to kleptomania. Professor de Greeff showed that a total and especially criminogenic alteration occurred under the influence of this pathological factor.

In Denmark, Strømgren resuscitated the disease of larval epilepsy which had been completely forgotten, and Sjørbin noted

symptoms of great diagnostic value: besides excessive emotion, a tendency to emotive outbursts, monotonous, scarcely modulated speech, bradyphrenia and tightness of the skin. The author's theory was that ixophrenia was caused by the blocking of certain afferent tracts in the cerebral cortex. It was frequently found in epileptics. Ixophrenic symptoms strengthened criminal tendencies.

According to Kimborg, crimes of violence were mainly committed by ixophrenics whose state was made worse by alcoholism.

Sjørbin also described other mental disturbances under the name of "calarophrenia" (from calaros: spongy, soft), due to slight subcortical lesions blocking some of the afferent tracts in the cerebral cortex.

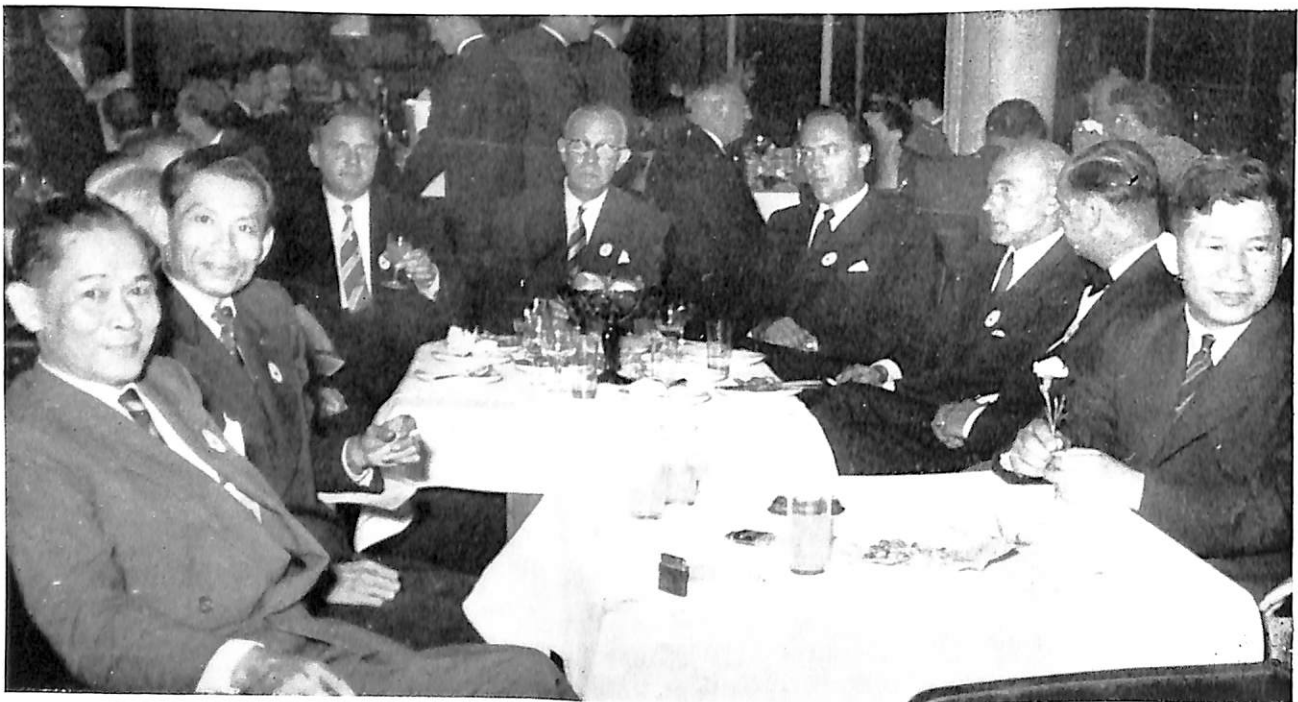
Instead of the cortical overload which was found in ixophrenics there was a "decrease in voltage", bringing loose, incoherent, inconsequent psychological reactions, lack of enthusiasm for work, reduced endurance and discipline, together with lack of ability to adapt themselves. All this tended to decrease their resistance to criminal impulses.

Lhermite and other authors showed that inflammatory and haematogenous lesions, resulting from infectious diseases, such as the various exanthematic fevers or other infections, were usually centred in the small vessels of the fibres above the thalamus. From the thalamus, the thalamocortical fibres passed to various cerebral lobes and it was supposed that between these fibres were other fibres which entered and left the cortex. All these fibres were contained in a very small space so that even very slight lesions could block several at the same time, which explained why ixophrenic and calarophrenic states were sometimes found in the same patient.

"These ideas made it easier to understand the origin of many crimes committed by normal persons and related to the common difficulties encountered in the struggle for existence; in other words, all the crimes considered by many authors as opportunist."

Mr de Echalecú concluded by saying that crime was always of a biosociological nature since it was affected by heredity and environment. Thus, each time we "attempted to

Scandinavian and Asiatic delegations.





study the origin of a criminal act, we should look for the causes which directly or indirectly may have led to this lack of adaptation".

Crime had its origin in a biological unbalance between the cortical and the sub-cortical layers, which explained the automatic and impulsive reactions, the abnormal distribution of affective load, the mistakes in judgment in the neopsychical field and especially in the critical and moral senses.

All these questions were raised during the

recent congress of the International Criminology Society. It was recognized that surgical operations could have a serious effect on a person's mind and body.

The work of the police was not only suppression but prevention, and it was necessary to be familiar with all the means which could be employed to help in prevention.

The President thanked Mr de Echalecú for this report, which was definitely a valuable contribution to the study of delinquent psychology.

## MEDICAL INFORMATION AND STATISTICS

THE reporter, Mr de Castroverde, Head of the National Central Bureau of Cuba, congratulated the General Secretariat on the crime statistics published last year concerning 32 member states (1950 to 1952).

Mr de Castroverde spoke of a problem closely connected with crime statistics: disease in the penal establishments of Cuba. A report had been drawn up by the prison medical board and had been given to the I.C.P.C. The data concerning tuberculosis, mental and nervous diseases and syphilis were interesting.

Professor Licurzi, of the University of Cordoba (Argentina), mentioned at the first Panamerican congress of Forensic Medicine, Odontology and Criminology held in Havana in 1946 that the number of cases of tuberculosis or pre-tuberculosis among serious offenders was "extremely high". A Bulgarian doctor, Vasileff, had already stressed this fact.

"It was interesting to note", said Mr Licurzi, "that in prisons, *tuberculosis was commonest among murderers*". He added: "While it is possible that the toxins of tuberculosis exerted a harmful influence on the mind and nervous system so making murder possible, imprisonment certainly brought out their latent tuberculosis".

The reporter then quoted some figures from the above mentioned report for 1954: 31 cases of tuberculosis of the respiratory system; 304 cases of insomnia; 39 cases of epilepsy; 61 cases of psychosis; 237 cases of nervous diathesis; 50 cases of neurosis; 36 cases of dementia; 111 cases of neuritis and 254 cases of syphilis.

The Panamerican congress of 1946 had attempted to define the psychological or pathological phenomenon by which certain offenders became dangerous criminals; and at the same time irresponsible.

Mr de Castroverde considered that the "anthropological factors inherent in the criminal" (Ferri) were still very important including dental abnormalities already mentioned by the Lombroso school. In an overdeveloped canine, the strangulation of the nerves and blood vessels resulted in chronic stimulation which the individual never perceived.

Now, as any nervous stimulus resulted in an organic reaction, the chronic stimulation in question would, he considered, certainly have an effect whose intensity depended on the organic reaction in accordance with Fechner's law: "If stimulus increases in geometrical progression, then the resulting sensation increases in arithmetical progression".

Luis Silva, who studied this question in Brazil, said that there was no doubt about the connection between the teeth and mental changes. Syphilitic lesions acted as foci of irritation and drove the patient to extremes.

Mr de Castroverde concluded as follows: Not only would figures on disease complete crime statistics, but they would open new fields of study, making it possible to improve the health of prisoners and so contribute "in reducing considerably the amount of crime, the aim of all civilized nations".

However, the President was of the opinion that this suggestion would raise several difficulties as it seemed to be beyond the scope

of criminal police information. It was certain that many countries would refuse to provide the police and the N.C.B. with such information.

The sub-committee on statistics then drew up the following resolution:

"The sub-committee on statistics, after having studied the report (No. 17) presented by Mr. de Castroverde, while appreciating the hard work he had done on this subject, noted however that prison administrations, which could alone provide the information for the purpose proposed by Mr. de Castroverde's report, were independent of the police and that the I.C.P.C. was therefore not competent in the matter."

## CHARACTER CERTIFICATES

**T**HIS report, presented by Mr Sahar (Israel), is of great topical interest in view of the greatly increased tendency to travel, for pleasure, business or migration.

He pointed out that a number of countries had concluded bilateral agreements and, some had abolished visas, in order to facilitate travel. However, the authorities, especially the police, had to find ways of controlling the movements of international criminals. The I.C.P.C. had done great work in this connection by the dissemination of information.

Governments often insisted on immigrants producing character certificates. In fact this was sometimes required of other travellers.

An investigation made by the I.C.P.C. had shown that in only one country was there a law on this matter. In the other countries, only internal instructions and regulations relative to character certificates were in force.

It appeared that the certificate was of comparatively little value unless the country of immigration knew the principles governing its

issue. Thus it would be advisable to decide on definitions which would be acceptable to all members, in particular with regard to the inclusion of old convictions.

He considered the case of a person who had been convicted some years previously but who since then had lived a perfectly honest life. On this basis he was given a certificate of good character and obtained an entry visa into a foreign country. It was pointed out that were the individual to commit some offence in the new country or should the police wish to check up his antecedents for some other reason, such as identification, information would be requested from his home country. Normally, a full record would be given, possibly contradicting the good character he had been given.

Some might say that the issuing country should ignore prescription of offences and provide a full record in every case. Mr Sahar strongly disagreed. The problem of rehabilitation, he felt, was a real one and each ex-convict should be given a chance to rehabi-

litate himself. He therefore proposed that a sub-committee should be appointed to discuss the following suggestions:

a) Certificates should refer to the absence or presence of criminal unprescribed convictions only.

b) In case of mere suspicion, certificates should not be withheld.

c) Issue should be postponed while investigations are actually in progress or a case is pending in court.

d) Convictions for offences where no moral turpitude is involved should be disregarded.

e) Offences committed by juveniles should be ignored after a set time limit.

f) Convictions in the case of adults should not be reported after a set time limit.

g) The wording on the certificate should be uniform.

h) Principles and rules should apply to international usage only.

Mr Sahar had a first draft of the rules which had been proposed in Israel but the final decision would only be made after the matter had been discussed by the Assembly.

At a meeting of the sub-committee of heads of N.C.B., the matter caused considerable controversy.

Mr Selinger (Israel) first of all pointed out

that it was important that whole families should be allowed to start a new life abroad if they wanted, even if one member had been convicted some years previously.

Mr Marc (I.C.P.C.), in connection with a suggestion made by Dr Dosi, stressed the importance of there existing a clear definition of "character certificate" and that a decision be made as to what authority should issue them.

Mr Belot (France) mentioned the difficulties encountered by the French authorities in making out certificates of this kind. A law of 1953 had abolished certificates of *bonnes vie et mœurs* (good conduct). The only thing which could now be done was to make extracts from the criminal records. However, the amnesty law of 6 August 1953 made their application extremely difficult.

Mr van Ijsendoorn stated that a bill to be tabled shortly in the Netherlands laid down that it was for the mayor to make out such certificates. Only sentences passed within a certain period would be mentioned and the applicant could always appeal against the mayor's decision.

The sub-committee considered that the matter should not be submitted in the form of a resolution to the Assembly this year as the subject required further investigation.

## MIGRATION OF CRIMINALS

**T**HIS report by the Australian delegation, on a subject closely connected with the preceding one, deals with a matter which has for long been on the agenda of the I.C.P.C. It should not be forgotten that among members of our organization are some which are overpopulated and others, like Australia and Canada, which are anxious to receive immigrants. For these countries, the risk inherent in receiving immigrants, it was pointed out, was increased by the fact that the second world war had resulted in the emigration to other countries of many thousands of people. In this way Australia had received a number of habitual criminals who had not been long in returning to their old way of life.

For many years, the Australian police had

exchanged information with other police forces relative to travelling and migrating criminals with beneficial results. The Australian National Central Bureau also did this when a criminal or suspected person was leaving or had left Australia.

The Australian delegation very much hoped that N.C.B. would as a regular practice exchange information on the antecedents of would-be immigrants. Their draft resolution read as follows:

"That should it become known that any criminal or suspected person intends to or is about to travel or migrate to another country, prompt advice, together with the criminal history, fingerprints and photograph, if avail-

able, be forwarded to the Secretary General of the International Criminal Police Commission and to the National Central Bureau of the country to which such person is proceeding; all such information to be forwarded by air-mail."

At a meeting of the sub-committee, Mr van Ijendoorn (Netherlands) remarked that the departure of a criminal or suspect to another country very often was not noticed, unless he was one of the listed international criminals.

Mr van Ijendoorn considered that the exchange of information advocated by the Australian delegation should be done by the I.C.P.C., as this information was not meant to help the administrative authorities but to prevent crime.

Mr Belot (France) pointed out that there were many problems of this nature which concerned France and the Netherlands. However, the circulation of information was not possible unless the person in question had committed an offence and besides, there was not much point in it if the fingerprints were not available.

Dr Dosi referred to the discussions of the previous year and to the difficulties experienced by Italy in answering the numerous requests from Belgium.

Mr Franssen recalled that there existed a report on the matter of exchange of information for administrative purposes, but which would not be published until the reformed I.C.P.C. constitution came into force and allowed greater collaboration between the N.C.B. For the moment, it was for the heads of the N.C.B. to come to a decision as to how to deal with requests of this nature; moreover, the "green" circulations sent out by the I.C.P.C. were in themselves one solution. Mr Franssen insisted on the need for all--including the General Secretariat--to reply to requests through the N.C.B.

The question of the migration of criminals having been brought up in plenary session, Mr Louwage took this opportunity to recall that *the exchange of information was of supreme importance* if international criminals who travelled quickly and widely--were to be arrested. He was opposed to any proposal to give a regional or limited character to the

I.C.P.C. or to restrict its work to statistics. Its purpose, is, and must remain, to find and render inoffensive all international criminals throughout the world.

Mr Louwage proposed several amendments to the Australian draft resolution.

Mr Grassberger stated that Austrian law did not allow the police to provide the information referred to in the resolution. There were only two exceptions to this principle: firstly, when foreign police forces requested it and secondly when a person was suspected of having committed a crime and the investigation was still being made.

Mr Franssen (Belgium) also considered that the resolution could not be implemented, since it was beyond the present scope of I.C.P.C. activities. The police could not very well regularly provide information on persons who had committed a serious offence and were going abroad. In any case, they were not informed of the departure of unwanted persons and, if the person really was wanted by the police, their duty was clearly to arrest him.

Moreover, this alinea seemed quite pointless. If, on his arrival in a foreign country, an individual attracted the attention of the police, the latter had only to ask for information from the N.C.B. of the suspect's home country.

Mr Farid (Lebanon) also considered that information could not be given on convictions for crimes which had been pardoned or become subject to prescription.

Mr Söderman (Sweden) pointed out that Scandinavian law did not allow information to be given on any person who was merely suspected of a crime.

Mr Delaney (Australia) replied that there was no desire to prevent an immigrant amending his ways and leading an honest existence. All that was wanted was to obtain the necessary information if an immigrant committed another serious offence.

Professor Burhan Koni (Turkey) suggested that the resolution should be rejected, since he considered it was impossible to give precise suggestions to N.C.B. on such a delicate matter.

Mr Roches (France) feared that this resolution would make the I.C.P.C. open to a suspicion that it did not deserve and Mr Grayson (Canada) agreed.

In view of these objections, the President then put the proposal to reject the resolution to the vote and this was carried by sixteen votes to one with one abstention.

## RADIOCOMMUNICATIONS

ONE fact from this report will suffice to show the importance of the I.C.P.C. radio network: in 1954, some 20,000 messages were transmitted over it.

It recalled that considerable efforts had been made to provide the network with a well equipped central station and the installation of the first series of transmitters would greatly improve the quality of transmission.

Of course, the I.C.P.C. radio station was already functioning, but there still remained a number of problems, such as the vitally important matter of frequencies. The only way to obtain a satisfactory solution was for the countries using the network to come to an agreement. This having been done, stations would have to be made to keep to their allocated frequencies and to observe conscientiously the I.C.P.C. radio communication general regulations.

Interference from other stations would also have to be overcome. All these matters would require the attention and collaboration of experts. The General Secretariat proposed that there should be a conference of technicians in Paris in the spring of 1956. They

would have the opportunity of visiting the new station.

Mr Hermann (France) stressed the importance of this suggestion.

Mr van Ijsendoorn (Netherlands) regretted that the stations would not all be functioning both day and night and that some would even be closed on Sundays. This was detrimental to I.C.P.C. efficiency.

The President put the following motion to the vote:

The I.C.P.C. General Assembly,

NOTING the great importance which should be attached to the proper functioning of international radio communications, and

CONSIDERING the difficulties at present encountered,

REQUESTS the Secretary General to convoke, in the spring of 1956, a conference in Paris of specialists in matters of international police radio communications, and

URGES all states using the Interpol network to reply to the invitation to be sent to them.

The resolution was adopted unanimously, apart from two abstentions.

## AN INTERPOL ALMANAC

IN several countries, the police forces produce a yearly almanac which deals with the organization and work of their different departments.

Mr J. A. Ellis (Netherlands Antilles), in his report, suggested that an international police almanac might be produced for the I.C.P.C. National Central Bureaux and all those authorities interested in its work. It was suggested that it could be published in the I.C.P.C. official languages in a loose-leaf-system.

The almanac, he considered, should contain, among other matters, the history and

constitution of the organization, details of its structure, a list of member states and organizations with which the I.C.P.C. was in constant contact. It should also contain the resolutions concerning the General Secretariat and the N.C.B., models of forms submitted to the N.C.B. by the General Secretariat and *vice versa*, data concerning the Interpol radio network and also, in broad outline, the organization of the police forces of member countries, with the names, postal and telegraphic addresses and telephone numbers of the N.C.B. For each member country there would be a circular letter concerning the powers of

I.C.P.C. member countries in matters of extradition. An index would be included.

It was hoped that the General Secretariat, if the idea were accepted, would compile a specimen copy for approval by the General Assembly.

At a meeting of the sub-committee, Mr Franssen (Belgium) considered that great circumspection would be needed in editing such a work, especially if it were intended for the public.

Mr Mare (I.C.P.C.) stated that the General Secretariat would compile an almanac solely for official use.

Dr Dosi repeated the remarks he had previously made concerning the improper use by journalists, novelists and film producers of the name "Interpol".

The sub-committee, showing great interest in Mr Ellis' suggestion, left the General Secretariat a free hand in its compilation.

## A CODE OF ABBREVIATIONS

WE are now far removed from the time, began Mr Calatayud (Spain) "when the head of a slave would be shaved to write on it in indelible ink a secret message. Once the hair had grown to a reasonable length, the slave would be sent out on his journey and, at the end of it, his hair would be shaved off again and the message read."

For sending messages today, the I.C.P.C. could no longer "use small cylinders of the same length and diameter along one of which a narrow strip of parchment was rolled. The message would then be written along the rod (over the spiral of parchment) and when the parchment was removed, the message would be disconnected and meaningless unless rolled onto another rod of the same dimensions, which would be in the possession of the person for whom the message was intended."

Nevertheless, Mr Calatayud considered, it was desirable to shorten our messages for transmission and avoid them being comprehensible to the persons about whom the messages had been written.

The idea of the abbreviation code at present in use was good. It had been a success in some ways but it had its defects and shortcomings. The simplification was purely theoretical. "Obviously" said Mr Calatayud, "the only reasonable method is for the decoder to read out the text while a typist takes it down. The speed of this does not depend on the decoder, but on the typist. In any case, when

the word "recin" is encountered, "International search is being made" has to be written." Consequently, no time had been saved--on the contrary, time had been lost in consulting the key.

Accordingly, the thing to do was to shorten the present expressions to be coded. This would save time both in coding and decoding. Mr Calatayud went on to show, by means of examples, that the code as it stood offered no guarantee of secrecy. He considered that "at least the name of the wanted man should be enciphered. This might be done by giving a numerical value to each letter as indicated on a grid. In any case, he pointed out, the system used should be changed fairly frequently, as experience had shown that any code could be broken in time."

Mr Calatayud considered therefore that it was desirable that:

1) A committee of delegates or the General Secretariat should revise the abbreviation code and attempt to simplify it by avoiding superfluous words and to publish the result in English, French and Spanish.

2) The names, first names and parents' names of persons wanted or under surveillance should be put in the form of a suitable cipher.

3) At reasonable intervals the I.C.P.C. should change its code of abbreviations and the cipher.

The President asked the Heads of the National Central Bureaux to study this matter, in their sub-committee.

Mr Marc informed the sub-committee that a new edition of the abbreviation code was in course of being prepared by the General Secretariat. He stated that an attempt was being made to shorten as much as possible the telegram to facilitate radio transmission and to make the code words easy to memorise and understand by any person.

With regard to the question of the secrecy of the identity of persons mentioned which Mr Calatayud had raised, it should be studied separately.

The sub-committee suggested that the General Assembly should shelve this question for further study.

Mr Calatayud stressed that he had intended not so much to criticise the present code,

which was useful, but to suggest something even better. The reporter had read in a review recently an article which contained twenty-eight of the code-words used by the I.C.P.C.

In addition, the Spanish delegation considered that after having sent the most urgent information by radio, further details could be sent on by letter. It would be very useful to have a code for the transcription of proper names.

The President urged, nevertheless, that the Assembly should be circumspect. A shortened form of code for rapid communications had been devised some thirty years ago which had in practice been shown to have unsuspected defects and dangers. Twenty-five years ago, a code for the transmission of fingerprint formulae had raised problems so serious that it had had to be abandoned. One should therefore be most wary of using codes too extensively.

## U. N. O.

**T**HE relations between our organization and the United Nations are every year becoming closer, firmer and more fruitful. The gradual determination of what tasks are to be performed and by whom is greatly improving these relations.

These tasks concern problems of a very varied nature as can be seen in the previous pages, for instance drug traffic, crime statistics, juvenile delinquency, crime prevention and the treatment of offenders.

As regarded these last matters, our co-operation was shown by the part the I.C.P.C. took in the first world congress dealing with these two main problems of modern criminology. The I.C.P.C. presented a work on juvenile delinquency.

The delegate of the United Nations to the I.C.P.C. General Assembly, Mr Bloch, a high official of the Department of Economics, stressed these harmonious relations. The

United Nations particularly appreciated the presence of a representative of the I.C.P.C. at the annual sessions of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs. The Economic and Social Council had asked the member governments of the United Nations to transmit directly to the I.C.P.C. all information concerning the illicit drug traffic.

At its last session in New York in May, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs adopted a resolution concerned with two aspects of this problem:

1) The speed of operation of counter-measures and measures to ensure that as much information as possible was furnished by governments about the origin of drugs seized while at the same time assuring the government of the suspected country of origin that statements of geographical origin will not be made without good cause and after consultation with the government concerned.

2) In this same resolution the Narcotics Commission urged governments to make use of the services provided by the I.C.P.C.

Mr Bloch gave details on the United Nations Narcotics Laboratory which dealt specially with the determination of the geographical origin of opium by chemical and physical means. The progress achieved particularly in the examination of physical characteristics, alkaloid analysis and spectrographic analysis of the ash, had justified the establishment of

a regular service. At its last session, the U.N.O. Commission had invited governments both to use the methods in their own laboratories and to send samples to the U.N.O. laboratory for determination.

Mr Bloch finally mentioned the successful contacts between the I.C.P.C. and the statistics department of the United Nations. This department had to deal with some aspects of crime statistics and the work of synthesis achieved by the I.C.P.C. in this field proved very useful.

## FINANCE

THE Secretary General stated that the financial situation on 31st December 1955 would have been very satisfactory if the organization had not had two important matters to settle: firstly there had been the last instalment to be paid on the radio apparatus for the station which had just started working and secondly a sum to be paid in connection with the renting of a building where the French authorities had agreed to install the I.C.P.C., the present premises being too small.

Moreover, the I.C.P.C. would have to take a much larger part than had previously been arranged in the renting of the new premises: upon this depended the success of the operation. The French authorities not being able to grant the aid which had been contemplated, a sum of 200,000 Swiss francs would have to

be paid by the I.C.P.C. if the organization wished to have a suitable building.

The Secretary General said that he could pay this sum out of the running expenses of the organization without increasing the subscription to be paid that year, providing all member states paid their subscriptions for 1956 in the very beginning of the year.

The Secretary General asked the Assembly for authority to pay this sum in the conditions expressed.

The Assembly agreed to this. (21 votes in favour, with two abstentions—India and Norway.)

Messrs Amstein (Switzerland) and von Sydow (Sweden) who had been appointed auditors, after having checked the accounts for the year ending 31st July 1955 approved and accepted them.

At the end of the discussions on the financial report, Mr Mullik, speaking on behalf of the members of the sub-committee for statute reform which had met in the meanwhile, asked the General Secretariat to re-examine the basis on which subscriptions were calculated and to suggest a fairer system than the one at present in force, based on the population.

The General Assembly ratified this proposal.

The special issue of Interpol stamps.





## MISCELLANEOUS

Mr Sicot said that on the suggestions made by various members it would be advisable to adopt a flag which could be flown over the headquarters of the organization and over the building where the General Assemblies would meet. Mr Sicot presented a model which was blue and white—essentially international colours. In the centre of the flag was the I.C.P.C. emblem, adopted in 1949 and well known to readers of the *International Criminal Police Review*.

This flag was unanimously adopted as the organization's emblem with applause.

The President then recalled that the Assembly should renew several terms of office but since the new constitution would doubtless come into force next year, these terms of office might, exceptionally, be prolonged until the next meeting of the General Assembly.

The Assembly approved this proposal.

The President then read a letter he had received from Mr Kreehler, Chief of the Austrian Police, in which the Federal Minister of the Interior, on the authority of a decision made by the Federal Austrian Government,

invited the I.C.P.C. to hold its 1956 General Assembly meeting in Vienna.

The Assembly having unanimously and with applause showed its acceptance of this invitation, Mr Grassberger (Austria) thanked them for the way in which they had welcomed the Austrian invitation.

The President then announced that the meeting of the General Assembly was officially closed.

As usual, he did this with regret at the thought of having to separate from his colleagues who had worked in an admirable spirit of co-operation.

Several important problems had been discussed and a very useful exchange of views had taken place on the very important matter of constitution reform.

The President expressed his gratitude to the Turkish Government and all authorities of that country, in particular the Governor of Istanbul, the Director General of the National Security of Turkey, Mr Azmi Yumak and his collaborators who had done their very best to facilitate the stay of delegates in Istanbul.

Sultan Ahmet square, with the mosque in the background.



# A Memorable Week in Istanbul

The town of Istanbul owes much of its fascination to the fact that it is an incredible mixture of the Byzantine, Roman, Ottoman and present-day civilizations.

This town, which lost the name of Constantinople when Ankara became the seat of the Turkish government, is separated into two distinct parts by a short inlet of the Bosphorus, called the Golden Horn. On the southern side of this is the old town of Istanbul, which was once Byzantium and whose fortifications stretch from the Golden Horn to the Sea of Marmara and are as poetic and impressive as the remains of ancient Rome.

It is in old Istanbul that are to be found the finest remains of ancient times: St. Sophia, built by Justinian to the glory of divine wisdom (Aïa Sophia), used after 1453 as a mosque and whose mystic grandeur impresses even the most indifferent onlooker; Sultan Ahmet's or the Blue mosque, whose walls are covered with exquisite mosaic work forming an extraordinary symphony of colour; Suliman's mosque, in form and splendour as impressive as St. Sophia; the old seraglio of Topkapi, with its treasures mindful of the "Arabian Nights"; and the Great Bazaar, which is so picturesque and so unique. Towards the northern extremity of the Golden Horn is to be found the mosque of Eyüp, with the tomb of Eyüp Ensari, the prophet's companion, at the foot of the gloomy hill which is largely occupied

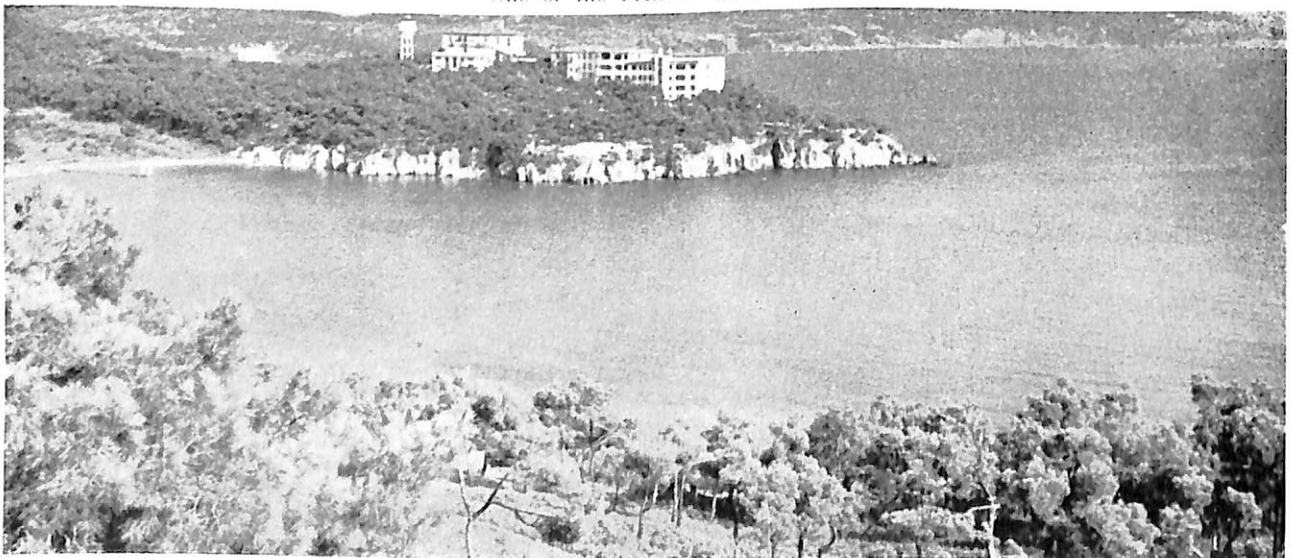
by the old Musulman cemetery filled with wild flowers which is referred to by Pierre Loti in his books.

On the northerly side of the Golden Horn with its multitude of gaily coloured boats and sailing ships is the more European Beoglu, with its two districts of Pera and Galata, the palace of Dolmabahçe, the last residence of the sultans, where Ataturk died in 1938, the Galata tower and ultra-modern buildings—including the Hilton hotel—in violent contrast with the buildings of the older districts.

The port is situated at the junction of the Golden Horn with the Bosphorus. This is about seventeen miles long and varies in width from 600 to 3,500 yards. Two castles guard the narrowest point: Anadoluhisari and Rumelihisari. The view from the Sea of Marmara with the Isles of the Princes looking towards the Bosphorus and the Golden Horn is unique and as darkness approaches, its ethereal beauty borders on the unreal as the mosques of Istanbul, with their diaphanous domes and sculptured minarets are outlined against the dark blue eastern sky.

The Turks have become Europeanised since Ataturk took over the reins of power and, as is everywhere obvious, an everlasting place in their hearts. They appear to be calm, peaceful and not particularly expansive. They are, however, capable of violent reactions, as we witnessed on the evening of Tuesday 6th Sep-

One of the Princes' Islands.



tember, when we spent several rather tense hours.

The attention of the public had been drawn to our organization by a greatly appreciated lecture on Fouché by M. Louwage, a press conference and the issuing of four special postage stamps bearing our emblem.

The authorities placed at the disposal of the I.C.P.C. the Sale Köskü palace, a luxuriously furnished building on the northern outskirts of the town. Its comfort, the simultaneous interpretation system used for the first time at a session of the General Assembly, everything had been done to ensure fruitful work and amicable collaboration.

At the end of the first day, the Turkish Minister of the Interior gave a reception in a yacht club near Scutari, on the Anatolian side of the Bosphorus. The following day, on returning after a long day's work, the delegates found themselves without warning in the middle of a serious riot originally due to the political tension in Cyprus and which had broken out with extraordinary suddenness. A procession bearing the Turkish flag had formed in the İstiqlal, the main street of Istanbul, its ranks increasing as it progressed. Several minutes later, agitators were at work in every part of the town, reviling, in particular, the shopkeepers of Greek origin. Before the police had even the time to think of some way of counteracting it, a large number of shops and other buildings had been pillaged with cold determination.

For several hours, the passions of the mob remained uncurbed, though we were at no time molested by the rioters who did not appear to be attacking people. We were able to see what an incredible amount of damage could be done by the mob once its passions have been aroused.

About midnight the army and the police started to re-establish order.

The delegates suffered practically no harm in these exceptional circumstances, which in



Dolmabahçe Palace.

no way affected the work of the Assembly.

With admirable *sang-froid* the Turkish authorities continued to provide the delegates with all possible requisites. They made it a point of honour to carry out almost the whole of the programme they had planned: visits to the palaces and mosques, receptions by the Director General of the Security, the Director of the Police, the Governor of Istanbul and the excursion along the Bosphorus and to the Island of Büyükada, which enchanted us all.

The delegates of our twenty-fourth Assembly will only wish to retain these peaceful memories of their stay on the banks of the Bosphorus, along which they sailed in a comfortable motor yacht, flying, for the very first time, the Interpol flag.



# SUB-COMMITTEES

constituted during the XXIVth Session

## SUB-COMMITTEE ON STATUTES

**Chairman :** J.C. van der Minne (Netherlands).

**Vice-Chairman :** Y. Sahar (Israel).

**Members :** I. Brezovic (Yugoslavia), P. Dickopf (Germany), A. Doha (Pakistan), M. Fathi (Egypt), R. Franco (Mexico), C. Gerlini (Italy), M. Jumsai (Thailand), A. Lourenço (Portugal), B.N. Mullik (India), E. Ros (Sweden), M. Rosales (Mexico), F. Schloeter (Venezuela).

**Secretary :** J. Népote (I.C.P.C.).

## SUB-COMMITTEE OF THE HEADS OF THE NATIONAL CENTRAL BUREAUX

**Chairman :** R. Hierro Martinez (Spain).

**Members :** A. Alearva (Portugal), A. Amstein (Switzerland), J. Belot (France), A. Christides (U.S.A.), J. de Castroverde (Cuba), G. Dosi (Italy), F.G. Echalecu y Canino (Spain), M. Fathi (Egypt), F. Franssen (Belgium), R. Grassberger (Austria), L.S. Grayson (Canada), J. Gilson (Luxemburg), J.W. Kallenborn (Netherlands), U. Kiuukas (Finland), L. L'Abbé-Lund (Norway), Mora Tulabamba (Thailand), A. Selinger (Israel), K. Tsuchikane (Japan), J. van Ijsendoorn (Netherlands), G. von Sydow (Sweden).

**Secretary :** J.J. Marc (I.C.P.C.).

## SUB-COMMITTEE ON AIR POLICE

**Chairman :** Sir Ronald Howe (United Kingdom).

**Members :** G. Dosi (Italy), D.E.W. Fish (I.A.T.A.), J.P. Goossen (Netherlands), H. Haegers-Tröm (I.A.T.A.), G. Thu'in (Sweden), J. van Ijsendoorn (Netherlands).

## SUB-COMMITTEE ON POLICE TECHNIQUE

**Chairman :** A. Roches (France).

**Members :** A. Carrel (Switzerland), C.J. Delaney (Australia), A. Diaz Rojas (Cuba), G. de Gaetano (Italy), R. Grassberger (Austria), G. Guidot (France), B. Kirman (Turkey), A. Quiroz Cuarón (Mexico), F. Santamaría (Spain), E. Vargas (Venezuela), R. Vergara (Chile).

## SUB-COMMITTEE ON DRUGS

**Chairman :** H. Söderman (Sweden).

**Members :** Ahmet Yaghmur (Saudi Arabia), L. Bernard (Italy), H.S. Bloch (United Nations), A. Brüning (Western Germany), C.A. Emerick (United States), M. Mojovic (Yugoslavia), A. Selinger (Israel), C. Siragusa (United States).

# THE INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL POLICE COMMISSION

## President

F.E. Louwage (Belgium), Honorary Inspector General of the Ministry of Justice, Brussels.

## Vice-Presidents

Ali Anwar (Pakistan), Inspector General, Special Police Establishment, Karachi.  
J.A. de Castroverde (Cuba), Professor, Head of the N.C.B., Havana.  
J.A. Ellis (Netherlands), Attorney General, Curaçao.  
Carlo Gerlini (Italy), Prefect, Assistant Chief of Police, Rome.  
R. Hierro Martinez (Spain), Director General of the Seguridad, Madrid.  
Riko Kolenc (Yugoslavia), Head of the Criminal Investigation Department, Belgrade.  
W. Krechler (Austria), Head of the National Security, Vienna.  
L.H. Nicholson (Canada), Commissioner of Police, R.C.M.P., Ottawa.  
Phao Sriyanonda (Thailand), General Chief of Police, Bangkok.

## Secretary General

Mareel Sicot (France), Inspector General of the Sûreté Nationale, Paris.

## Reporters General

Sir R.M. Howe (Great Britain), Deputy Commissioner, C.I.D., New Scotland Yard, London.  
H. Söderman (Sweden), Professor, Stockholm.  
A. Yumak (Turkey), Department Head of the N.C.B., Ankara.

## Reporters

A. Amstein (Switzerland), Assistant to the Attorney General, Berne.  
João Amoroso Netto, Dr., Inspector of Police, São Paulo.  
A.A. Christides (United States), Treasury Representative, American Embassy, Paris, France.  
M.D. Costigan (Eire), Commissioner of Police, Dublin.  
P. Dickopf (Germany), Oberregierungsrat und Kriminaldirektor, Wiesbaden.  
G. Dosi (Italy), Quaestor, Chief of the Italian International Police Bureau, Rome.  
F. Franssen (Belgium), Commissaire Général aux Délégations Judiciaires, Brussels.  
Joseph Gilson, Head of the Public Security Department, Luxemburg.  
F. Homayounfar (Iran), General of Police, Teheran.  
A. Lourenço (Portugal), Head of the International and State Defence Police, Lisbon.  
F.C.V. de Magius (Denmark), Head of the Danish Criminal Police, Copenhagen.  
A. Roches (France), Head of the Criminal Police at the Prefecture of Police, Paris.  
Y. Sahar (Israel), General Inspector of Police, Tel Aviv.  
C. Sannié (France), Head of the Department of Criminal Identity, the Prefecture of Police, Paris.  
R. Said Soekanto, Head of the Indonesian Police.  
G. von Sydow (Sweden), Chief Director of the State Institute of Police Technique, Stockholm.  
Abdul Talat Kader (Syria), Director General of Police and Security, Damascus.  
Nakagawa Tosi (Japan), Head of the Criminal Investigation Department, National Police Headquarters, Tokyo.  
L.E. Vargas (Venezuela), Head of the Identification Office, Caracas.  
M. Zaki (Egypt), Head of the Criminal Identification Office, Cairo.

# DELEGATIONS PRESENT

## AUSTRALIA

- C.J. Delaney, Commissioner of Police, Police Headquarters, Sidney, New South Wales.  
A.J. Thomson, Official Secretary, New South Wales Government, London.

## AUSTRIA

- Dr. Franz Walterskirchen, Counsellor, Ministry of the Interior, Vienna.  
Professor Roland Grassberger, Vienna University.  
Dr. Karl Slancar, Hauptpolizeirat, Vienna.  
Dr. Karl Formanek, National Central Bureau, Ministry of the Interior, Vienna.

## BELGIUM

- F.E. Louwage, Honorary Inspector General of the Ministry of Justice, Brussels, President of the I.C.P.C.  
F. Franssen, Commissaire Général aux Délégations Judiciaires, Brussels.

## CANADA

- Leslie S. Grayson, R.C.M.P. Liaison Officer, Canada House, London.

## CHILE

- Dr. Israel Drapkin Senderey, Profesor de la Escuela Técnica de Investigaciones, Dirección General de Investigaciones, Santiago.  
René Vergara, Prefecto de Investigaciones, Santiago.

## CUBA

- Professor Jorge A. de Castroverde, San Lazaro, 672, La Habana.  
Dr. Andrés Diaz Rojas.

## EGYPT

- Dr. Mohamed Zaki, Head of the C.I.D., Ministry of the Interior, Cairo.  
Colonel Mohamed Fathi, Head of the Egyptian Central Bureau, Public Security Headquarters, Ministry of the Interior, Cairo.

## FINLAND

- Urho Kiukas, Head of the Police Department, Ministry of the Interior, Helsinki.

## FRANCE

- Jean Mairey, Préfet, Directeur Général de la Sûreté Nationale, Ministry of the Interior, Paris.  
Marcel Sicot, Inspecteur Général des Services et Ecoles de la Sûreté Nationale, Secretary General of the I.C.P.C., Paris.  
Henry Castaing, Préfet, Directeur des Services de Police Judiciaire de la Sûreté Nationale, Paris.  
André Roches, Directeur de la Police Judiciaire, Préfecture de Police, Paris.  
Georges Guidot, Commissaire Divisionnaire, Direction de la Police Judiciaire, Préfecture de Police, Paris.  
Raymond Herman, Ministry of the Interior, Paris.  
Jacques Belot, Commissaire Principal, Direction Générale de la Sûreté Nationale, Paris.

## GERMAN FEDERAL REPUBLIC

- R. Dullien, Ministerialrat, Wiesbaden.  
Paul Dickopf, Regierungs-und Kriminaldirektor, Bundeskriminalamt, Wiesbaden.  
F. Sangmeister, Kriminalpolizei, Berlin West.

## GREAT BRITAIN

and

## NORTHERN IRELAND

- Sir Ronald Howe, Deputy Commissioner, New Scotland Yard, I.C.P.C. Reporter General, London.

## GREECE

- Byron Theodoropoulos Christos, Greek Consul in Istanbul.

## INDIA

- Shri B.N. Mullik, Director, Intelligence Bureau, Ministry of Home Affairs, New Delhi.  
K.F. Rustamji, Deputy Director, Intelligence Bureau, Ministry of Home Affairs, New Delhi.  
N. Sahgal, Deputy Secretary to the Government of India, Ministry of Home Affairs, New Delhi.

## INDONESIA

- Dr. P.R. Soedjono, Director, Indonesian National Police, Djakarta.

### ISRAEL

Y. Sahar, Inspector General of Police, Tel-Aviv.

Abraham Selinger, Deputy Inspector General, Head of the C.I.D., Tel-Aviv.

### ITALY

Dr. Carlo Gerlini, Prefect, Assistant Chief of Police, Vice-President of the I.C.P.C., Rome.

Dr. Giuseppe Dosi, Quaestor, Head of the Italian International Bureau, I.C.P.C. Reporter, Rome.

Dr. Guisepppe de Gaetano, Colonel, Commanding Officer of the Officers' Training School of the Public Security Guards, Rome.

Colonel Raoul Brunero, Commander of the "Latium" Legion of the Carabinieri Officers, Rome.

Lt-Colonel Luigi Bernard, Chief of Operations Bureau, General Headquarters of the "Guarda di Finanza", Rome.

Captain Nevio Tessadri, Head of the Technical Office, Radio Department of the Ministry of the Interior, Rome.

### JAPAN

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Kiriyama Takahiko, First Secretary at the Japanese Embassy, Paris.

### JORDAN

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### LEBANON

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### LIBYA

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### LUXEMBURG

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Lt-Colonel Joseph Gilson, Head of Public Security, Luxemburg.

### MEXICO

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Dr. Alfonso Quiroz Cuarón, Jefe del Departamento de Investigaciones Especiales, Banco de Mexico.

Ricardo Franco Guzman.

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J. van Ijsendoorn, Head of the Criminal Affairs Section, Police Department, Ministry of Justice, The Hague.

J.P. Goossen, Lawyer, The Hague.

### NEW ZEALAND

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### NORWAY

S. Skalmerud, Prefect of Police, Oslo.

Lars L'Abbé-Lund, Assistant Commissioner, Chief of Criminal Police, Oslo.

### PAKISTAN

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### PORTUGAL

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A. Alcarva, Head of the Portuguese National Bureau, Lisbon.

### THE SAAR

Ludwig Zeiger, Kriminalrat, Kriminalpolizei, Saarbrücken.

### SAUDI ARABIA

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### SPAIN

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