



# BERNE



OCTOBER 10<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> 1949



18<sup>th</sup>  
GENERAL  
ASSEMBLY  
OF THE  
INTERNATIONAL  
CRIMINAL POLICE COMMISSION

FOURTH YEAR

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# DELEGATIONS PRESENT

## AT THE 18TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

### AUSTRALIA

Mr. WEBSTER A.A., Superintendent, Officer-in-charge, C.J.B., Melbourne.

### AUSTRIA

MM. WALTERSKIRCHEN Franz, Dr., Ministry Councillor, Chief of the Criminal Police Dept. of the Federal Ministry of the Interior, Vienna.

SLANCAR Karl, Dr., Police Counsellor, Chief of the Criminal Investigation Office of the Federal Police Headquarters, Vienna.

GRASSBERGER Roland, Dr., Professor of Penal Law and Criminology, Head of the Institute of Criminology at the University of Vienna.

Miss HOFSTÄDTER Margareta, Interpreter at the Criminal Police Dept. of the Federal Ministry of the Interior, Vienna.

### BELGIUM

MM. LOUWAGE Florent E., Inspector General, Ministry of Justice, Brussels.

LEEMANS Pierre, *Commissaire Général aux Délégations Judiciaires*, Brussels.

### CANADA

Mr. WRIGHT James Albert, R.C.M.P., Major, Office of the High Commissioner for Canada, Ottawa.

### CZECHOSLOVAKIA

MM. GÖRNER Joseph, Dr., Lieutenant-Colonel of the National Security Dept., Head of the Criminal Central Office of the Ministry of the Interior, Prague.

VRAŽDA Joseph, Lieutenant-Colonel of the National Security Dept., Chief of the National Security Dept., delegated by the Ministry of the Interior at Bratislava.

DAVID Jan, Captain at the National Security Headquarters, Rapporteur-Expert of the section entrusted with international affairs at the Central Criminal Office, Prague.

### DENMARK

MM. BEGTRUP-HANSEN Knud, Supreme Chief of the Danish Police, Copenhagen.

HERFELT Jens, Chief of the Copenhagen Police.

de MAGIUS F.C.V., Chief of the Danish Criminal Police, Copenhagen.

### EGYPT

MM. HASSAN Mohammed Yehia, Captain of the Egyptian N.C.B., Cairo.

SALEH Khalil, Secretary at the Egyptian Embassy at Berne.

### FINLAND

Mr. KIUKAS Urho, Chief of the Finnish Police, Helsinki.

### FRANCE

MM. DUCLOUX Louis, Prefect, Secretary-General of the I.C.P.C., Paris.

VALANTIN Georges, Director of the Criminal Police Services, National Security Department, Paris.

DESVAUX René, Director of the Criminal Police Department, Prefecture of Police, Paris.

SANNIE Charles, Prof., Head of the Criminal Records Office, Prefecture of Police, Paris.

LEVAILLANT Jacques, Director of the Technical Services of the Ministry of the Interior, Paris.

MARABUTO Paul, Police Superintendent of the National Security Department, Paris, Reporter to the I.C.P.C.

NEPOTE Jean, « *Commissaire Principal* », Assistant to the Secretary-General of the I.C.P.C., Paris.

### GREAT BRITAIN

Sir Harold SCOTT, K.C.B., K.B.E., Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police, London.

Mr. HOWE Ronald M., M.C., Assistant-Commissioner, C.I.D., New Scotland Yard, London.

### GREECE

Mr. LEONTARITIS Theodore, Director of the Criminal Police, Ministry of the Interior, Athens.

### IRAN

Mr. HOMAYOUNFAR Faradjollah, General of the Iranian Police, Tehran.

### ISRAEL

MM. SAHAR Yeheskiel, Inspector General of the Israeli Police, Tel Aviv.  
YARON Yerachmiel-Ram, Director of the Criminal Investigations Department, Tel-Aviv.

### ITALY

MM. BILANCIA Francesco, Dr., Head of the Judicial and Administrative Police Department, Ministry of the Interior, Rome.  
DOSI Giuseppe, Dr., Head of the Italian Central Bureau, Ministry of the Interior, Rome.

### LEBANON

Mr. NASSER RAAD, Director of the Lebanese Police, Beirut.

### LUXEMBURG

MM. KAUFFMAN Jean, Dr., Advocate General, Luxembourg.  
GILSON Joseph, Major, Head of the *Gendarmerie* and Public Security, Luxembourg.

### NETHERLANDS (THE)

MM. GOOSSEN Jan Paul G., Dr., Assistant Director General of the Dutch Police, The Hague.  
ADLER J.A., Adviser to the Dutch Ministry of Justice, Chief of the Counterfeits and Forgeries Department of the I.C.P.C., The Hague.  
LANGENDAM Simon G.C., Director of the Telecommunications Department of the Dutch Police, The Hague.  
KALLENBORN Jan Willem, Director of the Criminal Investigations Department, The Hague.

### NICARAGUA

Mr. LIFSCHITZ Isidoro, Consul General at Berne.

### NORWAY

Mr. KALTENBORN, Chief of the Criminal Police, Oslo.

### PORTUGAL

MM. LOURENÇO Agostinho, Director of the International Police, Lisbon.  
COIMBRA Francisco, Prof., Director of the Forensic Medicine Institute, Oporto.  
FERREIRA Jorge, International Police Inspector, Assistant to the Chief of the Telecommunications Services, Lisbon.  
FALCAO José Boim, International Police Inspector, Lisbon.

### SANTO DOMINGO

Mr. FRANCO-FRANCO Tulio, Minister Plenipotentiary of the Dominican Republic, Berne.

### SWEDEN

MM. ROS Erik, Dr., Prefect of Police, Stockholm.  
SÖDERMAN Harry, Dr., Director of the State Technical Police Institute, Stockholm.  
THULIN Georg, National Police Inspector, Stockholm.

### SWITZERLAND

MM. MÜLLER Werner, Head of the Security Department and of the Criminal Police of the City of Berne.  
NIEVERGELT Jules, Dr., Chief of the Zurich District Police.  
KREBS Albert, Chief of the Berne District Police.  
AMSTEIN André, Dr., of the Public Prosecutions Department of the Confederation (Swiss central office for the suppression of counterfeit currency and illicit drug traffic), Berne.  
CARREL Alfred, Dr., Head of the Swiss Police Central Office, Berne, as Expert.

### SYRIA

Mr. EL DJABRI Omar Bey, Chargé d'Affaires of Syria at Berne.

### TRIESTE

(Anglo-American Zone)

MM. RICHARDSON Gerald, O.B.E., Colonel, Director of Public Safety and Commander, Headquarters Venezia Giulia Police Force, Trieste.  
PATTEN Raymond Lawrence, Major, Superintendent of Police, Headquarters Venezia Giulia Police Force, Trieste.

CORSI Egone, Dr., Deputy Superintendent of Police, C.I.D., Headquarters Venezia Giulia Police Force, Trieste.

### **TURKEY**

Mr. YÜMAK Azmi, Director of the 5th Section—General Direction, Security Department of the Ministry of the Interior—and Chief of the Turkish national Bureau of the I.C.P.C., Ankara.

### **UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

MM. TELFORD Horton R., Attaché at the American Embassy in France, Paris.  
SPAMAN Guy, Attaché at the American Embassy in France, Paris.

### **URUGUAY**

Mr. FRASCHETTI RUI Antonio, Investigation Department, Montevideo.

### **VENEZUELA**

MM. PEREZ MACHADO J.M., Dr., Director of the Department of Justice of the Ministry of Interior Affairs, Caracas.

VARGAS Luis Emilio, Head of the Identification Department of the Ministry of Interior Affairs, Caracas.

## **OBSERVERS**

### **U. N. O.**

Mr. GROS Louis, Delegated to the Social Affairs Department, United Nations.

### **GERMANY**

(American Zone)

Mr. URTON, Chief of Public Safety, American High Commission for Germany, Frankfurt.

(British Zone)

MM. TIMMERMAN John, Assistant Inspector General, Public Safety Control Commission, Germany.

SHERMAN S. R., Wing-Commander, Narcotic Zonal Officer, Minden.

(French Zone)

Mr. KURY Antoine, Head of the Central Service of the Judicial Police, Baden-Baden.

### **INTERNATIONAL PENAL AND PENITENTIARY COMMISSION**

Mr. CLERC François, Prof. of Penal Law, Neuchatel University, St-Blaise.

### **INTERNATIONAL SOCIAL DEFENCE INSTITUTION**

Mr. GRAMATICA Filippo, Prof., President of the International Social Defence Institute, Genoa.



## **MEMBER COUNTRIES**



ARGENTINA, AUSTRALIA, AUSTRIA, BELGIUM, BULGARIA, CANADA, CHILE, CZECHOSLOVAKIA, DENMARK, EGYPT, FINLAND, FRANCE, GREAT BRITAIN, GREECE, GUATEMALA, HUNGARY, INDIA, IRAN, IRELAND, ISRAEL, ITALY, LEBANON, LUXEMBURG, NETHERLANDS (THE), NORWAY, POLAND, PORTUGAL, SOUTH AFRICA, SWEDEN, SWITZERLAND, TANGIER, TRIESTE (Anglo-American Zone), TURKEY, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, VENEZUELA, YUGOSLAVIA.

# THE DEBATES



## OPENING SESSION

On October 10th 1949, at 9 h. 30, in the hall of the National Council of the imposing Federal Palace at Berne, the 18th General Assembly of the International Criminal Police Commission was opened.

Accompanied by Dr. Jezler, replacing the Chief of the Federal Police Division, Professor Lüthi, Attorney-General of the Confederation, the State and National Councillor Arnold Seematter, Police Director of the Canton of Berne, the Municipal and National Councillor Edouard Freimueller, Director of the Communal Police and Public Hygiene of the City of Berne, Mr. de Steiger, Federal Councillor and Chief of the Federal Department of Justice and police, opened the Session.

★

Federal Councillor de Steiger commenced his opening speech with a welcome in the name of free and independent Switzerland and in the name of the Federal Council.

He described the universality of criminality, which develops despite geographical frontiers, and stressed the necessity for all Countries to unite their efforts in order to fight it. In order to do so, they should not only study in common those measures which are of a nature to prevent criminality, but should also seek technical means liable to discover and suppress it. He said:

*"Crime, like contagious diseases, does not concern itself with geographical frontiers nor with the constitution of a country. It exists everywhere and no country is in a position to claim that it is free from crime.*

*"An efficient criminal police service, worthy of the technical and preventive system, is therefore a necessity to all countries, whatever may be their political doctrine and constitution. The tracking-down of criminals*

*on a world-wide scale is essential. And the more it is developed, the more it is an inestimable service rendered to the whole world.*

*"Switzerland is proud to think that the work of your Commission is being carried on in her capital. We consider that being a neutral country, it is particularly possible here in Switzerland to study all these problems, without touching on those shades or political differences which, in other matters, might arise.*

*"The Sub-Committees which you have set up and which deal in a permanent manner with the problems of drugs, counterfeit currency, the white-slave and children traffic, and study the development of radio communication and technical police, to cite only a few examples, will be able to discuss their subjects in an atmosphere of complete understanding.*

*"Which country to-day is able to do without those means necessary to combating crime? The spirit which animates your Executive*

*“Committee and which also inspires you, Gentlemen, ensures for us that this session will be of the greatest service to the security of those countries represented here.”*

After mentioning the different questions put on the agenda, Federal Councillor de Steiger continued:

*“The technical means at the disposal of criminals are such that there can be neither rest nor hesitation for police organisations. They must be capable, never arrive too late, make no mistakes, but be able to give protection to all those meriting it. Apathy on the part of the State or the cities in such matters would be unpardonable.*

*“You have a vast task before you, Gentlemen, but the manner in which you work gives us such a feeling of security and respect that we cannot but congratulate ourselves on knowing that your commission is hard at work.*

*“Has there, as a consequence of the war, been a general increase in crime, and will this crime continue increasing, or will it, with the return to normal economic and social conditions, decrease? These are the questions which continually preoccupy governments and which are studied by you with all possible care.*

*“The criminal classes know how to make use of all technical progress which is available to them. Of that we are sure. Let us be the first in keeping up to date, and in making the best use of progress and discoveries by employing them to ensure the security and well-being of all States and peoples.*



Federal Councillor DE STEIGER.

*“As for Switzerland, she will not fail to carry out, as far as possible, the desires of your Commission. She considers it an honour to be able to facilitate your task. Let us take note, to cite only two examples, of the Central Office for the fight against counterfeit money and of the Central Office for the suppression of illicit trade in drugs, which have been set up by the Swiss Confederation. With the help of her cantons and cities, Switzerland will do her best to carry out her duties which, to her, are responsibilities of the highest importance.*

*“May this session in Berne, in the year 1949, be a proof of the strength, intelligence and foresight of the International Criminal Police Commission!”*

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Mr. F.E. Louwage, President of the I.C.P.C., then replied to Federal Councillor de Steiger, exalting, first

of all, the ideal of freedom which presided over the birth and establishment of the Helvetic Confederation, and saying how glad he was that the Commission had been able to meet in the Swiss capital, where the spirit of independence, tolerance and humanity is so deeply implanted. He said in particular:

*“You have been able to attain the paradox of a unity, which still leaves to each canton a large measure of independence, and which received its consecration by the Constitution of 1848, a model of a democratic Charter.*

*“It is not only to her natural frontiers that Switzerland owes her freedom from conflict since 1874. It is also to the valour of her*

"people, who, in the struggles against the oppressor, in their common suffering and arduous work, found this love of country, this spirit of independence, this inclination to mutual tolerance and this constant collaboration in the works of peace.

"That is why the International Criminal Police Commission is so glad to meet in the capital of the Helvetic Confederation, for our international organization nourishes the same ideas of understanding in respect to humanitarian ideologies, nationalities and races. It is animated by the same desires for peace and by the same aspiration: to contribute to the welfare of humanity."

Then he went on to describe the high mission of the I.C.P.C., as the Federal Councillor, moreover, had already analysed it. He said:

"The International Criminal Police Commission strives—and the Federal Councillor has been good enough to recognise the success of its efforts—to combat the common law criminal, wherever he exercises his activities, wherever he hides himself in order to escape the legal and necessary measures taken against him.

"It serves above all to renew, to improve and to develop the essential part of our activities: the constant co-operation of criminal police forces, on a world-wide basis, in identifying, tracking-down and arresting common law criminals.

"The work of our Commission, although essentially active and with a repressive aim, thus plays a large part in the prevention of crime, because it often stops the criminal

from committing or repeating his misdeeds.

"Of course, a part of our work concerns the domain of doctrine and organisation. It is this part of its activity which is the object of the present session; and it is most certainly of great importance.

"This Assembly aims at consolidating, improving and developing the essential part of our work: the daily collaboration of all criminal police forces on a world-wide scale, with the object of distributing information and descriptions for the immediate search for common law criminals and for their arrest."

But President F.E. Louwage insisted on giving credit to the ordinary policeman whose persevering and dangerous work finally enables the accomplishment of this important mission.

"You may not realise that day and night, whatever the weather, police officers or gendarmes are on duty, visiting homes, search-

ing trains and aerodromes, because they have received a communication from the International Bureau or one of the distant National Central Bureaus, sent by post or by air and by our special network of radio-communications, to recover stolen goods, to track down the perpetrator of a crime and prove to him that law and order are everywhere safeguarded.

"Gentlemen, you yourselves and my colleagues will not take it amiss if, while not failing to recognize the eminent merits of the members of our Commission, who have been able to attain, through their common efforts, results which no other purely administrative



President F.E. LOUWAGE.

*“organisation could achieve, I pay homage here to the humble policeman who sacrifices his health and often his life, for the welfare of peaceful citizens.”*

The President then greeted the delegations present, and particularly those coming from distant countries, and extended a warm welcome to those belonging to countries which had recently joined and concluded:

*“We address our warmest thanks to Federal Councillor de Steiger who, at the suggestion of our friend, Rapporteur General Müller, is responsible for the invitation of the Swiss Government; to State Councillor Seematter, Police Director of this canton; to Mr. Freimueller, Municipal Councillor; to Attorney-General Lüthi whom we congratulate, in passing, on his recent promotion in the University faculty; to Dr. Jezler, who is replacing Director Rothmund, absent because of illness; to many other personalities who are so numerous that I am sure that you will excuse me if I cannot name them all.”*

*“And you, Mr. Federal Councillor de Steiger, have kindly pointed out, in your discourse which was so eloquent and so praising, the esteem that you have for our Commission.”*

*“This esteem has found its first proof in the particular privilege accorded us by the Federal Council in inviting us to hold our conference in this building.”*

*“I express the wish that the molecules of wisdom, of measure and of judgment prevailing in this atmosphere may have a favourable influence on our debates.”*

★

The High Swiss authorities, as well as the delegates of the I.C.P.C. then left the auditorium for a recess, during which time the Berne Police choir sang.

## GENERAL REPORT ON ACTIVITIES

In his speech, President F.E. Louwage had described the success obtained by the I.C.P.C., since 32 Countries were represented at its session, as well as several international organisations, including the U.N.O.

This proves, therefore, that our institution continues to develop.

Mr. Ducloux, Secretary-General, speaking on the report on activities, did not fail to bring into evidence the vitality of the I.C.P.C. and to stress the work accomplished by the International Bureau and the Secretariat General since last year.

Mr. Ducloux described first of all the activity of the International Bureau: the general files contain at present 35.000 names and the

ten-fingerprint, single-fingerprint and photographic files are constantly increasing. The special files centralizing thefts and drug traffic cases are becoming more and more considerable.

The International Office for the suppression of counterfeits and forgeries, installed at The Hague, has, owing to the support of the Dutch Government, greatly improved the quality and increased the volume of its work.

A reconstitution of the files relative to international criminals known in Vienna before 1939, has been completed.

Thus, the documentation described above has been largely used in order to give active assistance in the criminal cases of which the





Secretary-General L. DUCLOUX.

International Bureau has been informed more and more frequently by the National Central Bureaus or by the Judicial Authorities. Thus, the number of interventions by the International Bureau has already exceeded, for the first eight months of 1949, the total figure for the year 1948.

Relative to radio-telegraphic transmissions, the traffic has increased in function with the increasing number of affairs dealt with, and also because new stations have been opened up: viz. Luxemburg, Trieste and Hamburg. Moreover, the international network can communicate by teleprinter with Vienna. Thus, the description or the demand for the arrest of a criminal can be circulated to-day within a few minutes in fourteen countries: Austria, Belgium, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, France, Great-Britain, Italy, Luxemburg, Netherlands, Portugal, Saar, Sweden, Switzerland and Western Germany. America and the Middle East will be reached shortly by the international network. In order to accelerate and improve international traffic, the Assembly will pro-

nounce, moreover, for the putting into service of an abbreviations code and the adoption of the telecommunications general regulations.

Mr. Ducloux then went on to speak on the work of the Secretariat-General proper, and said:

*"The zone of influence of the I.C.P.C. has extended since last year in a very considerable way, owing to the adhesion of the Police of several Countries which we are happy to welcome among us. These are: Canada, The Republic of Guatemala, India, Israel, Lebanon, and the free territory of Trieste. We are also glad to count among the delegations present those of the Dominican Republic, Iraq, Nicaragua, Syria, Uruguay, and we hope that their presence is the manifestation of the adhesion of their country to our Organisation.*

*"We have, on the contrary, to deplore the defection of Chile, whose representative was however one of the first to answer President F.E. Louwage's call in 1946. We officially group now the police authorities of 35 States, as against 19 in 1946, 26 in 1947 and 30 in 1948.*

*"Moreover, some well-known legal and criminological associations have invited us to attend their meetings and state the point of view of the Police on different problems. For instance, the Secretariat General appointed a delegate to attend the Social Defence Congress, which has just opened in Liege, and a delegate is taking part at the present time in the preparations for the important International Criminology Congress, which is to be held in Paris in 1950.*

*"Another important event took place in this field last February. We are referring to the official recognition of the I.C.P.C. as a Consultative Organisation, category B, by the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations, and we are happy to greet here, for the first time, its distinguished representative.*

"The status of the United Nations thus gives us power to present, on our own initiative, the proposals for surveys and plans which interest us particularly and, besides, to be methodically consulted on all problems relative to criminality. This de facto and de jure recognition also enables us to extend our relations with other international organizations.

"This is not merely a theoretical attitude, but an effective measure, and we shall apply ourselves to the task of making it efficient.

"Indeed, during the last few months, we have already been called upon to attend meetings and give our opinion or to make reports, in particular relative to the prevention of crime and the treatment of delinquents, as well as to the draft of a general agreement for the suppression of prostitution.

"We have also been consulted on the setting up, in the Far-East, of an office to deal with white slave traffic.

"President Louwage and I represented the Commission at two study and propaganda conferences which were recently held in Geneva, concerning non governmental consultative organisations.

"A Committee of six members, of which President Louwage is one, was appointed on this occasion to elaborate an international draft agreement setting up a juridical status for consultative organisations and the granting of material facilities to these organizations—these are both questions which concern us directly.

"The granting of this consultative status inevitably places us before liaison problems. These would be relatively easy to solve on a continental scale, in the case of relations with the European Office of the United Nations at Geneva; but they would be more difficult if, as we believe, our Commission

"must effectively be represented at Lake Success.

"We consider, in fact, that contacts made by correspondence will not suffice indefinitely to maintain the acquired position. On certain occasions, our Vice-President, Mr. Hoover, has been good enough to represent us at the Economic and Social Council and we are glad to be able to express our appreciation on this occasion of his enlightened collaboration.

"However, it is beyond question that the part played by the I.C.P.C. will be far more effective when it is in a position to send a consultant, that is an observer, to be on the spot, in order to follow the discussions of certain specialized Commissions, for instance the drug commission.

"This question should logically come under the chapter of material facilities to be granted by the United Nations to consultative organizations, and has already been evoked at Geneva, as I have already mentioned.

"We wish to believe that, so far as we are concerned, it will be resolved favourably in the future, but we consider that it is necessary to see, in the meantime, whether the treasury of the Commission could not make the indispensable sacrifice for an effective representation at Lake Success in 1950.

"I shall have finished dealing with the activities of the Secretariat General, when I have informed the Assembly that we shall publish shortly, in addition to the International Review, a quarterly list of articles, classified according to their subject, and selected from the documents and reviews which we receive from all parts of the world.

"We will then be able to furnish, on request, such articles concerning law, scientific police or professional methods as are deemed interesting; thus, our library will be



In session.  
Some delegations.

*"within the reach of all correspondents, even those in distant countries.*

*"The library of the I.C.P.C. can constitute also for each of us a true centre of study and we shall appreciate all the technical works sent to us. We take this opportunity to thank the delegates who have already sent such documents to us.*

*"I would not wish, Gentlemen, to deal with the last part of my report before greeting, in the name of the International Criminal Police Commission, the effective or moral presence of the most highly qualified representatives of the International Penal and Penitentiary Commission, the Social Defence Institute, all authorities whose consideration greatly honours us.*

*"Apart from any feeling of pride, we greatly appreciate this confidence as it establishes, for our police community and above all for the benefit of social order, the great advantage of a free meeting of pure doctrine and human realities of police experience."*

The Secretary General, Mr. L. Ducloux, then offered some fundamental recommendations, especially for the benefit of the chiefs of the National Central Bureaus.

*"It is quite evident that without your enlightened assistance, as much in the field of documentation and criminal suppression, as in that of scientific and professional surveys, the Secretariat General could not alone accomplish the work of the Commission.*

*"This report reflects, in truth, the efforts of all the member-countries and not ours alone. We make a point, therefore, of giving the credit which is due to the delegates one and all, present or absent.*

*"But our mission is permanent and here, more than anywhere else, perfection is difficult to attain. We should, nevertheless, try to approach perfection by constantly improving our methods of work.*

*"When we refer to the Resolutions adopted*

*"in 1947 and 1948, and even if we go back much farther, we remark that the majority of the questions concerning law, criminology, professional technique and practical application to which we are now giving our attention, have already been posed in the past.*

*"In reality, there are very few new problems. Therefore, in the great majority of cases it is a matter of applying the decisions taken, or else, if they do not appear good, of discussing them again.*

*"I must only remind you that it is necessary, in the first place, to see that criminal cases are centralized on a national scale in order to inform, if need be, and according to the case, another National Bureau or the International Bureau.*

*"The reference to this fundamental principle brings us to the distribution of work between the National Bureaus and the International Bureau, a question which has already been carefully studied by Mr. Drtina, Mr. Leemans and Mr. Dosi, and finally settled at Prague in the following way, by Resolution No. 7:*

*"The National Bureaus have the power to correspond directly with each other in order to deal with such or such a case, and it is for them to inform the International Bureau" (Prague 1948).*

*"This definition is perfect, when it is a matter of simple bilateral exchange, whatever the importance.*

*"But it is not sufficient in a case where three or more countries are involved, for it is precisely this dispersion which, in our opinion, characterizes international crime, and consequently conditions international investigation.*

*"We consider therefore that, to avoid confusion, the International Bureau should, in principle, intervene in a case immediately when there are more than two countries involved.*

*"As for criminal documentation, it should of course always be sent to the International*

*"Bureau as soon as it is supposed to be outside national territory.*

*"Here is a recent example, which illustrates the latter case:*

*"The National Bureau of the State of Israel informed Paris, with supporting documentation, of the arrest flagrante delicto of a burglar suspected of having given a false name... a certain Gitler. The International Bureau identified the individual from his fingerprints as being an expert criminal in France, Belgium and Poland, under the names: Iglicki, Irach, Marcowic and Sigewski. Moreover, he was wanted by the Swiss Authorities of Neuschâtel for the burglary of a jeweller's shop in this town in 1947.*

*"It is quite evident that if the Chief of the National Central Bureau (N.C.B.) at Tel Aviv had not informed the International Bureau, this dangerous criminal would have been judged there as a first offender; he would have escaped the justice of another country, and would have taken up his criminal activities again in a very much shorter space of time.*

*"On the contrary, we could mention one or more recent cases where the International Bureau could have intervened usefully if it had been advised in time.*

*"The intervention of the International Bureau in very far-flung cases is all the more necessary, in our opinion, for those cases permanently connected with international law, such as the suppression of counterfeiting, and drug trafficking. We think that, in all countries where there does not seem to be any serious inconvenience, these police specialities should be attached to the National Bureaus, in order to ensure more direct contact with the International Commission.*

*"Needless to say, Gentlemen, it is not our intention to advise you to set up watertight compartments between the interior services of each country and the National Bureaus,*

*and still less between the National Bureaus themselves.*

*"The suggestions and recommendations mentioned above have nothing hard and fast about them.*

*"They were prompted, on the contrary, to give rapid and complete legal assistance to Justice, by doing away with useless obstacles, and by putting some order in our interventions. Their value depends entirely on the spirit of broad-minded understanding in carrying them out, which quality is certainly not lacking among us."*

The Secretary General concluded as follows:

*"Gentlemen, the work of social protection and salubrity undertaken from the first by the I.C.P.C. has a far-reaching effect. This task exacts, and will continue to exact from our successors, a great deal of faith and patience, and also much devotion to a profession which is sometimes unappreciated.*

*"Our Commission will only give its true measure when, in all organized Nations, the specialized repressive Services have recognized the pre-eminence of its international mission.*

*"Perhaps the time is not so far distant as may be imagined.*

*"Meanwhile, I trust that I shall not be accused of overstatement in affirming that, on condition that we persevere resolutely towards active and confident professional cooperation, the progress made these last three years justifies high hopes for the future."*

After Mr. Dosi (Italy) had advocated the continual strengthening of the National Central Bureaus, the following resolution was unanimously adopted.

The General Assembly of the I.C.P.C., meeting at Berne from October 10th to 15th 1949,

After having considered the general report on activities made by the Secretary General,

Unanimously approves this report.

## FINANCIAL REPORT

The General Assembly next discussed the financial report. The Secretary General took this opportunity to indicate that the state of the treasury was improving. The result being that it had been possible to free, to some extent, the budgets of the Dutch and French police from the particular material burden which had been placed upon them. Moreover, a necessary operating fund was being established. The receipts permitted us to meet the essential expenses.

Therefore, if the countries continued to pay their subscriptions regularly, the treasury would offer a guarantee of stability and thus enable the I.C.P.C. to make a useful step in its development.

MM. Kiukas (Finland) and Slancar (Austria) chosen by the Assembly as auditors, con-

firmed the situation described by the Secretary-General and a Resolution was unanimously adopted in the following terms:

The 18th General Assembly of the I.C.P.C., meeting at Berne on October 10th 1949,

After having heard the report by MM. Kiukas (Finland) and Slancar (Austria), Delegates chosen as auditors,

Approves the financial report by the Secretary-General,

Decides that the financial participation of the member States will be on the same basis for the year 1950 as for the year 1949,

Recommends the Members to propose to their respective Governments that the statutory subscription be paid regularly.

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## ILLEGAL AND INHUMAN METHODS WITH RESPECT TO ACCUSED PERSONS <sup>(1)</sup>

President Louwage explained why he had drawn up a report on this problem of present interest.

*"Since last year, in Europe and, to a certain extent, in America, a campaign has been launched by certain juridical organisations, in certain penal magazines, in certain legal circles, unfortunately in the Press, where they give a picture of the criminal police as systematically practising torture. I think that we should state emphatically that these methods and these tortures do not exist and that, if sometimes illegal and inhuman methods are reported, it could only be an exceptional case."*

The President specified that he had already publicly protested against such methods when the General Assembly of the I.C.P.C. was held in Paris in 1931 and also in his works.

He considered that, for the sake of our prestige and honour, action should be taken

against the hostile campaign waged against the criminal Police, which campaign often had an interested object in view or was launched for the sake of publicity.

In reply to a question put by Mr. Sahar (Israel), asking him to give further details on the use of drugs and barbiturics in order to force prisoners to make admissions, President Louwage said that he had published an article on this subject in the Review No. 30, of August 1949.

Dr. Slancar (Austria) recalled that the Austrian police was faced with the difficult task of having to replace, after the Liberation of the country, a considerable number of criminal police officers. These new officers had received a suitable technical training. He emphasized that criminals, when brought before the Law Courts, systematically attack the

<sup>(1)</sup> The original of the reports submitted to the Assembly can be sent to whomsoever applies to the Secretariat General.

police as a means of defending themselves. The Austrian police keep a strict watch in order to avoid the maltreatment of accused people.

"We do not desire" concluded Mr. Slanear, "to be in any way confused with the Gestapo which functioned in our country between 1938 and 1945."

Sir Harold Scott (Great-Britain), specified that, in England, considerable importance was attached to this problem; each accused person must be considered a priori as being innocent until the contrary is proved, and he suggested that, in Police Schools, the complete recognition of the right of every accused person to enjoy a fair and humane treatment, should be explained to the pupils.

Professor Clerc (International Penal and Penitentiary Commission) considered that owing to the personality of the criminal, the police could not allow themselves to use with them the same rules which are employed in ordinary society. This should be understood by everybody.

He considered that it should be brought into evidence in the debate that a long established distinction existed in international public law, between ruse, which is illicit, and stratagem, which is allowed.

According to Professor Clerc, by means of this distinction it would be possible to justify and strengthen the position of the police.

President Louwage, owing to his long experience, considered that the methods of enquiry used by the criminal police could be identical to those employed by the Examining Magistrate.

Only one exception could be made to this general rule. The policeman is in a better position than the Examining Magistrate to put himself on the same psychological and social standing as the criminal. For instance, the policeman can use the same language as the criminal to advantage.

Mr. Valantin (France) recalled that the campaign against illegal and inhuman methods is considerable in France and that the discussion



Sir Harold SCOTT speaking.

should deal with the question of deciding where illegal and inhuman methods begin and where they end.

In countries which were occupied during the war, the reaction is more violent than in others; therefore Mr. Valantin suggested determining acts of violence or inhuman treatment by "an act contrary to human dignity."

Mr. Louis Gros (United Nations) suggested that "the universal declaration of human rights", adopted by the United Nations, should be referred to.

The President expressed his opinion on the question by the terms of his report as follows:

*"Technical and scientific police methods, or what we prefer to call "Police art", and the knowledge of criminal psychology supply us with all the ways and means with which to solve the most complicated criminal problems. The considerable satisfaction derived from investigations where this "art" is employed, is a far greater reward than that of spontaneous admissions. For a true policeman, the most interesting investigations are not in connection with crimes which*

*"excite universal interest, but those where he  
"can confound the accused, owing to his  
"observations, inductions and deductions, to-  
"gether with hard work and perseverance."*

The discussions closed with the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted:

The 18th General Assembly of the I.C.P.C., meeting at Berne on October 10th 1949,

Having considered report No. 3 of its President, Mr. F.E. Louwage, referring to the "Illegal and inhuman methods with respect to accused persons",

Considering that it is necessary to protest against statements which tend to spread the belief that the criminal police employ, or otherwise tolerate systematically, with regard to persons suspected of an infringement of the penal law or other persons, means of pressure, privations or acts of violence contrary to the different legislations and to the Universal Declaration of human rights,

Considering that it intends, on the contrary, to denounce the use of such means,

#### DECIDES:

The representatives of the I.C.P.C. will remind the criminal police that their enquiries, investigations and co-operation in the work of justice must be conducted according to the methods provided by the progress of the scientific or technical police and criminology; that all acts of violence or inhuman treatments, that is to say those contrary to human dignity, committed by the police in the exercise of their judicial or criminal police duties, must be denounced to justice.

They also recommend that in all the police training schools, special importance be attached to the complete recognition of the right of all persons suspected of an infringement of the penal law, or any other persons, to receive a fair and humane treatment.

Mr. Kallenborn (Norway), although in agreement with the basis of the resolution, considered however that it was not opportune to give publicity to this problem.

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## THE FILM AS AN ADJUNCT TO POLICE TECHNIQUE

Mr. Népote, Assistant to the Secretary-General resumed the essential ideas of his report tending to use films as an adjunct to police technique. The educational or purely documentary rôle of the cinema is evident. Moreover, it is an indispensable means of teaching. He considered, therefore, that the police should make use of it, in order to show, for instance, how the criminal develops his activities, (*"modus operandi"*), criminal tactics and the study of police defence and prevention methods.

After having given some ideas on the realization of these instructional films, the Reporter considered that the financing would be facilitated if all the Member-States co-operated towards its achievement. Among other solutions, he suggested that the I.C.P.C. should get together a sufficient number of subscribers and use the necessary funds for

producing a film on counterfeit money, which could be ready in a few months.

President Louwage agreed with the general idea put forward by Mr. Népote but considered nevertheless that, before undertaking the practical achievement with the help of I.C.P.C. funds, it would be advisable to get more information relative to the cost of a film and the intentions of the Member-States. Therefore, he suggested submitting the question to the Sub-Committee of technical police presided over by Mr. Howe.

Mr. R.M. Howe (Great-Britain) agreed as to the value of the film as a means of instruction, but thought that it was difficult for a country to vote a certain sum without knowing what the value of the film would be.

Professor Grassberger (Austria) who has already produced about ten instructional films in his country, gave his views on the subject



from the experience he had acquired. He distinguished films of a purely technical nature, and those of a documentary type dealing with the problem in a more or less romantic manner. The former are shorter and less expensive, the latter place the police officer in a situation which he might be called upon to face.

Dr. Görner (Czechoslovakia) was also favourable, in principle, to the production of instructional films. He mentioned that these had been used by the Czechoslovak police with success. He suggested, however, that the films envisaged in the future should be of more universal interest than counterfeit money; according to him, this would be an excellent method of putting into practice the resolution relative to the use of illegal and inhuman methods, and could be used by police Schools.

Mr. Sahar (Israel) asked the Secretary-General to envisage the establishment of a sort of film library for police films which had already been made and belonging to police forces whose countries are members of the Commission.

President F.E. Louwage agreed with the latter proposal and suggested adding a paragraph accordingly to the resolution. The

latter was unanimously adopted in the following terms:

The General Assembly of the I.C.P.C., meeting at Berne on October 10th, 1949,

Having considered report No. 6, presented by Mr. Nepote,

Considering the capital importance of presenting to all police officials modern means of teaching and vivid documentation on the methods employed by malefactors and on the tactical—preventive or repressive—resources which police services must dispose of;

DECIDES that the Sub-Commission on technical police and identification, under the chairmanship of Reporter-General Howe, will study the propositions made concerning the production of certain films of an educational interest and that, in the meantime, the chiefs of the National Bureaus will inform the Secretary-General if their Government is prepared to buy from the I.C.P.C. those films produced entirely under its auspices and with its financial backing; the Chairman of the Sub-Commission will report on this subject to the General Assembly in 1950.

DECIDES that the Secretary-General will be entrusted with gathering from all Members information concerning the existence of and the terms of acquiring the films already made in connection with police technique.

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## THE CRIMINAL POLICE OF THE AIR

Two reports were submitted relative to this problem, one by Mr. Népote, Assistant to the Secretary-General of the I.C.P.C., and the other by Mr. Goossen, Assistant Director-General of the Dutch Police.

The former document, by giving recent examples, shows how an aircraft can be used by particularly clever and intelligent criminals. The International Bureau has recently had to deal with an important case of trafficking, by co-ordinating the work of several national police forces.

Mr. Népote stressed the particular danger

that private aviation presents and drew the conclusion that it was absolutely necessary to centralize the cases of traffic by means of aircraft at the International Bureau and, for each State, to examine very closely the respectability of private pilots.

Mr. Goossen, for his part, indicated that a certain number of smugglers had operated in different countries, using small aircraft that, up to the present, cannot be checked according to the rules of the regular traffic of civil air navigation. Therefore, it would be advisable for the police to become acquainted with

all aviation documents and to be in contact with the International Civil Aviation Organisation.

The Air Police Sub-Committee, Chairman Mr. R.M. Howe, to which Major Hassan (Egypt), unanimously elected by the Assembly, had been admitted, examined the common resolution submitted by the President and completed it by asking particularly the Secretary-General to publish at regular intervals a list of suspected aircraft and pilots.

The Secretary-General, Mr. L. Ducloux, considered that it was necessary to be very careful relative to disclosures of this sort, and suggested that it be limited to individuals who habitually traffic.

Mr. Sherman (British Zone in Germany) remarked that there was a precedent for the circulation of such lists: that of the list of boats suspected of smuggling drugs.

Sir Harold Scott (Great Britain) insisted on the confidential character that such a circulation should have.

The following Resolution was unanimously adopted:

The 18th General Assembly of the I.C.P.C., meeting at Berne from October 10th-15th 1949,

Having considered reports Nos. 5 and 5 bis, respectively presented by MM. Nepote (Secretariat-General at Paris) and Dr. Goossen (Holland), concerning the Air Police and the International Civil Aviation Convention,

Taking into account the remarks made by MM. F. E. Louwage, R.M. Howe, L. Ducloux and Sir Harold Scott:

- 1° Recommends the National Central Bureaus to inform the International Bureau, in the shortest possible time, of all offences or traffic occurring by means of commercial or tourist aircraft, as well as all important thefts committed on aircraft or on aerodromes in the course of international transportation;
- 2° Requests the Secretary-General to make known, through the distribution of confidential memoranda, the planes and members of crews suspected of repeated illegal trafficking on an international scale;
- 3° Recommends that Members propose to their Governments to train criminal police officers in matters of air transportation and air traffic in general, and to entrust preferably these officials, who would be in contact with the National Central Bureau, with the investigations relative to thefts and illegal traffic committed by means of planes; to send to the Secretary-General, before February 1st 1950, any suggestions and proposals in this connection;
- 4° Recommends that Members propose to their Government to make provisions in their legislations for the permanent or temporary withdrawal of the licence of those pilots having used aircraft for criminal purposes; to increase the supervision of aerodromes and private planes;
- 5° Decides that the Air Police Sub-Commission will study the terms advocated concerning immigration and control measures, which are particularly the subject of annex 9 to the International Civil Aviation Convention; the Chairman of this Sub-Commission will submit to the Secretary-General a report on this subject before December 1st, 1949.

## EXTRADITION

During the course of the General Assembly which met in Prague in 1948, this problem was the subject of a long report by the Secretary-General and finally, a draft of a General Convention on extradition was submitted to the delegates with a view to its adoption by their respective Governments. Their atten-

tion was drawn to the procedure of provisional arrest and particularly to the recognition of the descriptive notice (in french: "*notice signalétique*") circulated by the International Bureau as an official notice of arrest.

The report submitted to the Berne Assembly by Mr. L. Ducloux had for its principal

*Downwards from left to right: MM. CLERC,  
KURY, COIMBRA, WEBSTER, DOSI,  
LEEMANS, GROS, KIUKAS,  
YüMAK, VARGAS, TELFORD.*



object to make known how this type draft of a general convention was received. This document also mentioned that no fundamental contestation had been raised up to the present relative to the adoption of the descriptive notice referred to in the index of the International Review as an official document implying provisional arrest and that, moreover, since the putting into practice of this procedure, the notices for arrests sent out by the International Bureau had been recognized without difficulty as having an executive value.

On the whole, the I.C.P.C. had received in majority approbations and agreements in principle, but it had also registered certain reservations bearing on the difficulty of modifying the legislations in force. On the contrary, in actual practice, the notices for provisional arrest sent out during the year by the International Bureau in the accepted forms have been carried out, but for a few exceptions, without any serious inconveniences.

Mr. L. Ducloux requested, however, that telegraphic notices be used only for important and urgent cases.

Mr. Walterskirchen (Austria), whilst declaring himself a supporter of the principles of the I.C.P.C. within the framework of the legislation of his country, stated that the latter meets with certain difficulties owing to the situation resulting from the occupation.

President Louwage pointed out that this was a situation of a temporary character and would not last.

Mr. Dosi (Italy) said that the Italian Ministry of Justice had sent instructions to all judicial authorities in Italy urging that the process of extradition be effected with the maximum of speed.

Mr. Sahar (Israel) declared that his country was examining a draft legislation concerning extradition.

Mr. Homayounfar (Iran) considered that all requests relative to preventive arrests be addressed not to the National Central Bureaus of the different countries, who in turn must

apply to the judicial authorities, but be addressed by the Examining Magistrate of the requesting country directly to the Examining Magistrate of the country requested. Thus, on a warrant of the Examining Magistrate, the police should be able to carry out a preventive arrest. He proposed the creation of a Sub-Committee which would be entrusted with the task of studying and completing a text to which the member countries would declare their adherence.

President Louwage replied that the question of provisional arrest in the case of extradition was a question which had been studied since the setting-up of the Commission and went on to describe the mechanism of preventive arrest practised in numerous countries: the judicial authority is immediately notified by the police authorities which have made the arrest; a warrant for provisional arrest is issued, which confirms the operation.

It is certain that such a procedure requires at the base a bilateral convention on extradition between the two countries concerned. Also he considered it advisable that a general agreement on the subject of extradition be reached.

MM. Homayounfar (Iran) and Hassan (Egypt) mentioned a particular case which had occurred between their two countries.

Mr. Gros (United Nations) put forward the opinion that the Secretary-General should contact the Secretariat of the United Nations for a study of the question to be made, preceded by an exchange of views, and that the members of the I.C.P.C. afterwards take the matter up with their respective Governments.

The text of the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

The I.C.P.C., meeting at Berne from the 10th to the 15th of October 1949, after becoming acquainted with report No. 11 by the Secretary-General and with the opinions which have been made known during the past year, concerning the adoption of a general draft convention on extradition, presented to the Prague General Assembly of 1948,

Notes that no basic objection has been raised so far as to the adoption of the descriptive notice

(" notice signalétique ") referred to in the index of the International Review, as an official document implying provisional arrest,

Notes also with satisfaction that, but for one or two exceptions, since the putting into practice of that formality, the notices of arrest sent out by the International Bureau have been recognized without difficulty as having the value of executive decisions,

Invites in consequence the Delegates who have not yet done so, to inform if necessary the Secretary General, according to the resolution adopted at Prague, of the obstacles of a fundamental or prac-

tical nature which might seem to them to be in opposition with definitive measures in this field,

DECIDES that the President and the Secretary-General will ask the General Secretary of the United Nations to study this question with a view to examining the possibility of putting on the agenda of the competent organization of the United Nations, the elaboration and adoption of an international convention on the subject of extradition,

RECOMMENDS finally the Delegates to supervise the rigorous observance of those rules already existing on the subject and to adopt, as far as possible, the uniform formula for requesting a provisional arrest, which was proposed in the report.

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## JUVENILE DELINQUENCY

The different reports sent by several delegates enabled the Secretary-General Mr. Ducloux to prove that almost everywhere in the world effective measures had been taken, that the police had become specialized in the fight against juvenile delinquency and that, among other things, groups of women police had been formed.

The draft resolution concerning this question was unanimously adopted, without any particular observations on the part of the delegates.

Mr. Kallenborn (Netherlands) was admitted to participate in the Sub-Commission on juvenile delinquency.

The 18th General Assembly of the I.C.P.C., meeting at Berne from October 10th-15th, 1949,

After having taken note of the report made by the Secretary-General, in the name of the Members of the Sub-Commission on Juvenile Delinquency,

RECOMMENDS the Heads of the National Bureaus to continue their efforts in all the fields of professional activity where the grave problem of delinquent childhood exists and, especially, to increase their initiatives in the field of prevention,

REQUESTS them, in addition, to continue to send methodically information to the International Bureau on the progress of the question in each country concerned, in view of the fight against crime in general.

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## THE STRUGGLE AGAINST THE ILLICIT TRAFFIC IN DRUGS

On this important question, Mr. Marabuto, Rapporteur of the I.C.P.C., recalled that last year his former report had had for its object the consideration of the situation in drug trafficking in comparison with before the war.

The new report weighed up the situation since last year, in the light of the reports

submitted by the different governments to the United Nations, in the light of the various answers sent by the delegates to the International Bureau and on the basis of the cases indicated to the latter.

The first part of the document consisted of a certain number of headings giving an

outline of the situation relative to the movement of the traffic, the sources of supply of the drug, the illegal methods employed, the methods of transport and the trend of the traffic.

In the second part, the Reporter brought into evidence the action of the organizations of control and repression, the nature of the struggle on the legislative and statutory plane,



The General Reporters: MM. W. MÜLLER, H. SÖDERMAN, R.M. HOWE.

and described the work of the International Bureau in this domain.

Mr. Marabuto urged the delegates to send in more and more complete and precise documentation, so that the activity of the N.C.B. be guided and intensified owing to the general observations drawn therefrom.

The Reporter wished that the I.C.P.C. could make itself heard at the United Nations on the different questions relative to the struggle against the misuse of drugs, by means of the privileges it enjoys under the consultative status conferred upon it.

With this aim, it was not less advisable that the delegates of countries who have a representative on the drug Commission inform their governments of the useful and efficacious action undertaken by our Commission,

the latter being, should the occasion arise, able to advise and inform the international organization.

After this report, the Rapporteur General, Mr. Söderman, imparted to the Assembly the suggestions put forward by the Sub-Committee on drugs which, the previous day, had proceeded with the study of the report. MM. Sherman (British Zone) and Amstein (Switzerland) had been unanimously elected there.

The minutes of the Sub-Commission approved the report submitted by Mr. Marabuto, and stipulated that it was necessary to give greater attention to the synthetic drug traffic, to increase the penalties inflicted on traffickers, and to give to the police forces and customs officials special training on the subject of drugs.

These recommendations were adopted following the respective interventions of MM. Sannié (France), Valantin (France), Grassberger (Austria) and Sherman (British occupation Zone).

The Sub-Commission pronounced in favour of sending a representative of the I.C.P.C. to the Commission on Drugs of the U.N.O. in 1950. It approved, in addition, a project of recapitulatory tables published by the Secretary-General on cases of drug trafficking mentioned to the International Bureau.

After this intervention of the President of the Sub-Committee on drugs, Mr. Sherman gave some highly interesting details on the organization of the repression of illicit drug traffic in certain countries.

He recalled that the international control of drugs is governed by four international conventions of 1912, 1925, 1931 and 1936. The national laws must, in principle, be adapted to these conventions, but the differences on



Left: Police Headquarters, Bern.  
Mr. W. Müller, who organized the Conference.



some points of detail render the working difficult.

Two of the countries most vitally concerned with the control of narcotics—United Kingdom and U.S.A.—have special administrations entirely distinct from their police forces. These special administrations, however, differ from one another because the problems they face are different. The United Kingdom is a great manufacturing country, but the illicit traffic is negligible; therefore this special service concentrates its forces on the control of manufacture and distribution. A rigid control checks the traffic. According to Mr. Sherman, as Great-Britain is an island this limits the entry of illicit drugs to a few ports where the Customs officials are given special training courses. Consequently, the police of Great-Britain only play a comparatively minor rôle in the suppression of the illicit drug traffic.

Mr. Sherman said that in the U.S.A. the "Bureau of Narcotics" is faced with quite a different problem. In addition to being a great manufacturing country, it must control long frontiers and deserted coastlines. In certain regions, the climate is suitable for the growing of opium and Indian hemp. In the U.S.A., the illicit traffic is a far more difficult problem than in Great-Britain. It is beyond the competence of the states and must be treated on a federal scale. It is for this reason that the "Bureau of Narcotics" has been set

up. Its agents have certain police powers and work in the closest co-operation with the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the other state and city police forces.

The "Bureau of Narcotics" is not, therefore, a police administration. Mr. Sherman explained the work of the Drug's Branch and the Bureau of Narcotics, because the I.C.P.C. should have an understanding of their position and functions. Both were set up on the lines indicated by the International Convention of 1931. "That is why", he said, we must not assume that the campaign against the illicit drug traffic is always a purely police responsibility."

Under the energetic leadership of Mr. Anslinger, the "Bureau of Narcotics" has established central records, containing information concerning the activities of drug traffickers all over the world. These records are made available to the Commission on narcotic drugs of the U.N.O. and are kept up-to-date by the information received from all the police forces of the U.S.A., the Services of the "Bureau of Narcotics", American consular authorities abroad, as well as from information contained in reports sent to the U.N.O. by foreign countries and afterwards published. It would, therefore, seem at first sight as though our work in Paris is merely a duplication of that which has been going on for a long time in Washington. This, however, is not the case. The work of the Narcotics

Sub-Committee of the I.C.P.C. is complementary to that of the "Bureau of Narcotics." In most countries, especially in Europe, the campaign against the illicit traffic is a police affair and calls for speed both in communication and action by the police. Mr. Sherman stressed the fact that the Narcotics Sub-Committee of the I.C.P.C. can render considerable service by acting as a central documentation and distributing agency of all information on the illicit traffic.

From time to time, it can issue bulletins, and the reception of such bulletins would considerably stimulate the interest of Chiefs of Police in this most important social problem. The I.C.P.C. also should encourage the rapid interchange of information through the "Interpol" radio network and organize useful meetings, owing to these personal contacts.

After recalling his meetings with colleagues of neighbouring countries, Mr. Sherman drew the attention of the delegates to chapter 5 of the annual Report sent by the States to the U.N.O., entitled "the illicit traffic". This chapter could be compiled from information supplied by police and customs. In fact, in many countries, the chapter is actually written by the Police.

Although the U.N.O. does not require the reports until the end of June, this chapter should be sent before March 31st. It should therefore be no trouble for Chiefs of the N.C.B. to send copies of this report to Paris before the 1st. April. Mr. Sherman emphasized that this chapter was the only part of the annual report that was directly of interest to the work of the I.C.P.C. Besides, chapter IV—"International co-operation"—affords an opportunity to bring to the attention of the U.N.O. the excellent work being done by the I.C.P.C. in the campaign against the illicit drug traffic. The chiefs of the N.C.B. should make arrangements, each in his country, to mention our work, in this chapter.

Mr. Sahar (Israel) observed that the situation in Palestine described in Mr. Marabuto's report had changed since the creation of the

State of Israel; the situation having changed favourably and, taking into consideration the difficulty of surveillance in stretches of desert, it had been possible to cut the North-South line usually used by smugglers.

Referring to Mr. Marabuto's report, Mr. Homayounfar (Iran) recalled the interest that his country attached to the drug question. A new law prohibiting opium dens and organizing their suppression was actually under examination.

Mr. Gros (United Nations) emphasized the importance of synthetic drugs. He observed that the World Health Organization was also competent in the matter of drugs, particularly to establish whether such or such a synthetic product should be considered as a drug.

Professor Sannié (France) pointed out the differences existing between classical drugs with a natural product base and synthetic drugs. He considered that it was easier to control the latter than the former. The natural drugs must, consequently, retain more particularly the attention of the Commission.

Mr. Sherman (British Zone) pointed out that synthetic drugs were very easily produced and that the control was as difficult as that of so-called natural drugs; consequently, the International Commission should concern itself with all categories of drugs, whatever their origin.

President F.E. Louwage then put to the vote the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted, except for the abstention of the representative of the United-States, Mr. H.R. Telford, representing Mr. J.E. Hoover, the questions of narcotics not being within his competence.

The 18th General Assembly of the I.C.P.C., meeting at Berne from October 10th-15th, 1949, after having considered the report by Mr. Marabuto on the fight against the misuse of narcotics,

Notes that a praiseworthy effort has been made by the police of the different countries, either with a view to reconstituting those services dealing with



narcotics, or with regard to the specialization of personnel,

Taking note of a manifest recrudescence in the use of narcotics, recommends the members to propose to their Governments to persevere along the path of specialization and to intensify, by all means in their power, their measures of suppression,

Suggests that specialized services should remain in close contact with the National Central Bureaus, so as to obtain on the spot a better centralization of work and a more direct liaison with the International Bureau;

RECOMMENDS Members to propose to their respective Governments that their Police and Customs services be given special training in this matter;

So as to enable the Sub-Commission on Narcotics of the International Criminal Police Commission to

maintain an up-to-date and complete picture of the question,

RECOMMENDS the Member States to continue to advise systematically the International Bureau, with the aid of forms printed for this purpose, of all the cases of theft or traffic coming to the notice of the competent organizations,

RECOMMENDS to those Members whose country has a representative on the Commission on drugs of the U.N.O., to take the matter up with him, to make known the co-operation of the I.C.P.C. in this field.

Further RECOMMENDS the Members to suggest to the national service concerned that, in the annual report submitted to the U.N.O., special mention be made regarding the action of the I.C.P.C. concerning the repression of drugs on an international scale, particularly regarding chapter 4 (international co-operation) of the annual report.

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## ABBREVIATIONS CODE

In order to obtain greater rapidity in the output of radio-electric communications, an abbreviations code (in french: "*code de condensation*") was presented to the Delegates. It was a former draft applied before the war, modified by the Sub-Committee on telecommunications and offering, moreover, certain advantages with regard to discretion. It will be published in French and in English.

After the intervention of Mr. Nasser Raad (Lebanon) proposing a slight change in the form of the resolution, Mr. Dosi (Italy) wished to make some minor changes in the draft code: these were sent back to the President of the Sub-Committee to decide on what measures should be adopted.

So that the code may be immediately em-

ployed, the Resolution relative thereto was put to the vote and unanimously adopted as follows:

The 18th General Assembly of the I.C.P.C., meeting at Berne from October 10th-15th, 1949,

Having examined the General Secretary's report No. 13,

Considering the favourable opinion expressed by the Telecommunications Sub-Commission,

Adopts the use of an abbreviations code (« code de condensation ») suitable for international criminal police relations within the structure of the I.C.P.C., this code to be established according to the principles set forth in the present report.

## THE TECHNICAL POLICE EXPERTS AND THE I. C. P. C.

Mr. Söderman (Sweden), Rapporteur General, said that it appeared to the Executive Committee that certain eminent gentlemen of the scientific Police, whose renown is universally established, had not, up to the present time, had any contact with the I.C.P.C.

This gap could be filled by conferring on some of these experts, ten at the maximum, the capacity of "Technical Advisers to the I.C.P.C.". Only eminent personalities could be chosen, whose scientific authority and international renown are beyond question. These appointments will be made by the General Assembly on proposal by President Louwage and after the examination of candidates by the Executive Committee.

These personalities could possibly participate in the work of the Sub-Committee on technical police, presided over by Mr. R.M. Howe.

Mr. Söderman (Sweden), Rapporteur General, submitted to the Assembly the following resolution which was unanimously adopted:

The I.C.P.C., after having considered the report of the Rapporteur General, Mr. Söderman, decides that, after the examination of candidates and suggestions by the Executive Committee, the General Assembly is authorized to name in capacity of "Technical Advisers to the I.C.P.C.", a limited number of experts of the scientific police and related techniques, whose authority and fame are universally accepted, and provided that the Governments of the States to whom these gentlemen belong do not oppose their appointment.

Following the adoption of this text, the As-

sembly unanimously agreed on the following eminent gentlemen:

1. *Dr. Edmond Locard*, Director of the Police Laboratory in Lyons, whose reputation is world-wide.
2. *Professor Marc Bischoff*, Professor of scientific police at the University of Lausanne; successor to the great Reiss, professor Bischoff enjoys a wide reputation in the scientific world. His works deal above all with the expert examination of handwriting and the professional education of the police.
3. *Mr. Charles Bruff*, expert of the scientific police, authorized by the Department of Justice in Oslo; Mr. Bruff, who has worked for more than forty years in his profession, is particularly renowned in Scandinavia.
4. *Professor Moureau*, of Liege. Mr. Moureau is considered to be one of the principal world specialists in the question of blood groups.
5. *Professor René Fabre*, of Paris. Mr. Fabre, a Member of the Academy of Medicine, Dean of the Faculty of Pharmacy in Paris and Professor of Toxicology in this Faculty, is an eminent specialist whose Treatise on Toxicology is a fundamental one and whose ability in criminal as well as in industrial toxicology is universally known.
6. *Dr. Holden*, Director of the Technical and Scientific Police Laboratory of Scotland Yard.

Places were reserved for some eminent criminologists or experts of the first order, from the United States or South America.

## COUNTERFEITING

Mr. Müller (Switzerland), Rapporteur-General, had made a long report on this subject, but of which we can give only a few aspects below:

Counterfeiting has become a serious, present-day problem.

During the years 1947-1948, the International Bureau identified 127 different types of counterfeits, among which only 24 concerned coins.

This is because the technical improvements in methods of printing, the printing of forged documents and forged currency in particular, have facilitated counterfeiting. Counterfeiters are no longer obliged to employ considerable and cumbersome material, and are no longer obliged to resort to the services of genuine artists for drawings or engravings. Photo-mechanical processes have vulgarized the industry of forgeries and have put these methods at the disposal of the humblest artisans.

First of all, counterfeiters imitated the currency issued by the allied military authorities, the so-called "american" notes. Then the bank-notes of countries with "hard" currencies: Swiss francs, dollars, pounds sterling, finally to extend to German money of the western zone, Belgian francs and pesetas.

The above mentioned information shows the seriousness and international character of counterfeiting.

It is for this reason that the International Bureau, in liaison with the "Counterfeits and Forgeries" Office at The Hague, collected documentation on the subject, relative to the different types of counterfeiting.

Mr. Müller pointed out that the Sub-Committee on counterfeiting, of which he is the Chairman, considered that the I.C.P.C. should

continue its work on this subject and, therefore, ought to possess a maximum of information on cases of this nature. The use of forms should be encouraged and developed. Moreover, the Sub-Committee regarded favourably the draft resolution terminating the report.

After Mr. Dosi had mentioned the recent arrest, in Italy, of a large ring of counterfeiters, Sir Harold Scott recalled that his country had not yet ratified the Convention of April 20th, 1929, relative to counterfeiting and that this did not facilitate co-operation: nevertheless, he followed the question with attention and the English metropolitan police will continue to co-operate very closely, as in the past, with the International Bureau and with the other competent national authorities on the subject.

Mr. Sahar (Israel) indicated that his country was in the same situation, but that in the same way she co-operated very closely in this domain.

The President took the opportunity of pointing out to the delegates of the States who had not yet ratified this Convention, the urgent necessity of doing so. The Resolution to be adopted will include this recommendation.

Mr. Valantin stated that in France different penalties are imposed for the counterfeiting of national money or foreign money: therefore the Resolution should make provision for this anomaly. The President took note. In addition, he said that he intended to call two consecutive conferences in 1950, the General Assembly and a Conference on counterfeiting, provided for in the Convention of 1929.

Mr. Népote (France) suggested that, for the latter conference, the Member States send, as far as possible, specialized officials.

Mr. Adler (Netherlands) submitted to the Assembly the annual report of the documentation service on counterfeits and forgeries, relative to:

1. international co-operation,
2. an inventory of specimens,
3. the review "Counterfeits and Forgeries."

He stated that, when the last rectifying tables were submitted to the delegates at Prague, in September 1948, 150 countries, dominions, colonies and territories had their own coinage. Since then, the situation had altered for certain of these territories. Such is particularly the case for Newfoundland, which has become an integral part of Canada. Other countries, on the contrary, had come into existence — for example Israel; so that the situation is unchanged. Today, as in 1948, there are 150 countries, dominions, colonies and territories which have their own coinage.

Since last year, 30 new issuing institutes have promised their collaboration. The number of genuine notes received has gone from 645 to 1015 and that of authentic coins from 172 to 532. 32 countries have not until yet given any collaboration, that is a proportion of 20 %. Besides, a certain number of issuing institutes do not collaborate regularly.

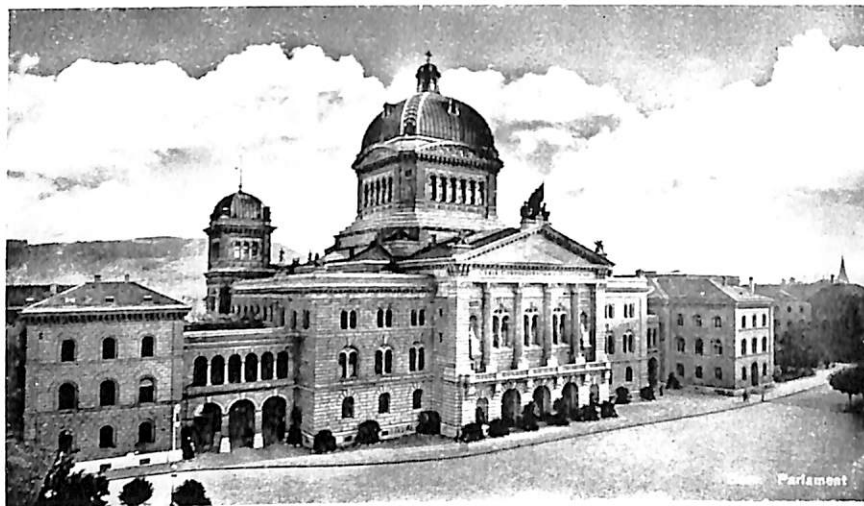
Amongst the countries which collaborate, 15 have not as yet contributed specimens, that is 10 %. Mr. Adler hoped that it would be possible to receive these specimens and to ensure the collaboration of these countries before the opening of the Conference of the national central offices in 1950. That is what his efforts will aim at.

The number of subscribers to the Review "Counterfeits and Forgeries", which was 615 on the 31st August, 1948, has since then risen to 704, that is an increase of 89. Switzerland

is in the first place with a total of 132 subscriptions; the Netherlands are next with 82. Mr. Adler announced also an increase in the number of subscribers in France, which have risen from 54 to 68, and in Belgium, from 38 to 49. There is also exceptional progress to be noted in Italy, where from one year to the next the subscriptions have risen from 40 to 73, that is an increase of 80 %.

Mr. Adler stated that an improvement in the system of mobile binding of the review will be effected from next year on, the present system not being entirely satisfactory.

But more important than this material improvement is that effected in the information



The Federal Palace, Berne.

service of the Review "Counterfeits and Forgeries". Mr. Adler stressed the difficulties met with by the publication, as quickly as possible, of detailed descriptions, with photographic reproductions, of the different new counterfeits about which they have been informed. To obviate these difficulties, the review has begun the publication of "Provisional Communications", of which certain have already been sent to the Members of the Commission. These "Provisional Communications" have been drawn up in a very succinct manner and despatched without photographic reproductions, index and summary. They will be followed by final communications.

The Resolution, slightly modified, relative to counterfeit money, was put to the vote and unanimously adopted.

The 18th General Assembly of the I.C.P.C., meeting at Berne from October 10th-15th 1949,

After hearing report No. 4 by M. W. Müller, Rapporteur General and Chairman of the Sub-Committee on counterfeiting,

Notes the material impossibility encountered by the President of the I.C.P.C. to call a Conference of the Central Offices within the time specified,

Expresses satisfaction to see such a Conference convened during the year 1950,

Invites the participating members to furnish the Secretary General with all the documentation necessary for this Conference, as well as to have themselves represented there, as far as possible, by counterfeiting experts,

Invites the participating members to prevail upon the Issuing Institutes of their Countries for them to participate in this Conference,

Considering, on the other hand, the gravity and international character of this offence:

Recognizes the necessity of closer co-operation on the international scale and, for this purpose, invites the participating members to apply ever more strictly the recommendations formulated by the Secretary General of the I.C.P.C., particularly those contained in his circular letter No. 3110 of July 16, 1948, within the framework of international conventions now in force,

RECOMMENDS the Members whose States have not already ratified the international convention of the 20th April 1929 on counterfeiting, to propose to their Governments its ratification, which is essential to international co-operation with a view to suppression in this field.

It draws their special attention to the repressive measures advocated in this convention, concerning the forgeries and alterations of currencies in other countries.

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## INTERNATIONAL MUSEUM OF FORGERIES

In order to struggle with more efficacy against counterfeiters, and following the technical improvements made by the latter in the course of their criminal activities, it would be extremely interesting for the I.C.P.C. to have the material which has been used by counterfeiters.

The latter are for the most part habitual criminals, and the products of their "modus operandi" constitute useful elements of investigation and identification.

The expert would thus be able to elucidate a number of details relative to forgeries and benefit from these observations and conclusions.

On different specimens of the same forgery, one can determine, independently to the printing, certain constant and predominant characteristics of the counterfeiter's work. This material (blocks, plates and other instru-

ments) is therefore very interesting for the study of a case.

For Mr. Adler (Netherlands), Chief of the Counterfeits and Forgeries Department of the I.C.P.C. at The Hague, and author of the report, the idea of an International Museum of Forgeries is not new. In 1922, Mr. J.A. Adler started getting together a number of objects and documents in the Criminalistic Laboratory of Vienna. The considerable material which was thus gathered served as a foundation for this Museum.

The different delegates who attended the first Conference of the I.C.P.C. (Vienna 1924) took a great interest in the question; the articles which were subsequently sent helped in getting together a considerable amount of material which had been used by forgers.

This material, deposited at Vienna and at The Hague, was dispersed during the war; at the present time, it is being reconstituted.

It is for this reason that Mr. Adler esteems that the I.C.P.C. should be able to count on the fullest co-operation of the police Authorities and executive organizations. He hopes, therefore, that the destruction of counterfeiters' material, by order of certain legislations after the judicial winding up of counterfeit or forgery cases will not be continued and that the question will be reconsidered by the Judicial Authorities.

It is indeed important to keep articles which could be the object of fruitful study and would permit learning more about the modus operandi of forgers and thus offer technical details which would lead to identification. In brief, owing to the useful indications that these various material elements are likely to furnish to experts, the Rapporteur suggested to the Assembly that a Resolution should be adopted in favour of gathering the material in question and sending it to the Museum which will be set up at The Hague.

President Louwage considered that only apparatus of exceptional interest should be sent to The Hague.

Mr. Homayounfar (Iran) shared the opinion of the President and esteemed that forging material, such as had been discovered in his country, would be so considerable in size that its transport would be impossible.

Mr. Lifschitz (Nicaragua) suggested that, in that case, the material should be used for

teaching purposes and be kept in the police schools of the country where it had been discovered.

Consequently, the following Resolution was put to the vote and unanimously adopted:

The 18th General Assembly of the I.C.P.C., meeting at Berne from October 10th-15th 1949,

After having taken cognizance of report No. 4 bis by Mr. J.A. Adler, concerning the International Museum of Forgeries of the I.C.P.C. and of the remarks made by President F.E. Louwage,

RECOMMENDS its Members to ascertain, after facts of forgeries or alterations have been legally established by judgment, whether the models or smaller tools used for carrying out these offences are likely to be of special educational value to the international criminal police.

In which case, they will examine, in agreement with the competent Judicial Authorities, whether these objects could be sent to the International Museum of Forgeries of the I.C.P.C.

They will then get into touch with the General Secretary of the I.C.P.C., who will let them know whether or not they are of sufficient interest to be sent to the Museum, at present attached to the Delegated Office in The Hague.

RECOMMENDS the Members not to destroy material liable to be of use for teaching purposes, but to send it either to the International Museum of Forgeries of the I.C.P.C., according to the preceding paragraph, or to the Police training Colleges of their Country.

## THE EDITING COMMITTEE OF THE INTERNATIONAL REVIEW

President F.E. Louwage said that there had been some confusion when the Editing Committee was constituted at Brussels in 1946, relative to its veritable mission. The President's idea was then to appoint a certain number of personalities who, being particularly interested in the editing of the International Review, would write articles, recruit contributors, and help the Secretary-General in the editing of the Review. According to the President, the Editing Committee has

swollen out of all proportion, and he suggested that the number of the Members could be reduced to 12, amongst whom would figure the members of the Executive Committee. The seven persons to be appointed would, as far as possible, belong to different countries of the globe, so that the Secretary-General could receive interesting articles from all regions.

Mr. Dosi (Italy) indicated that there ought to be published in the Review a brief account

of the activities of each National Bureau. President F.E. Louwage told the Assembly that he was surprised that there were not more subscribers to the International Review and requested the delegates to make a propaganda effort in their Countries in order to obtain more subscriptions for the Review. Following the suggestions made by various delegates, the list of members of the Editing

Committee was unanimously decided upon as follows:

- Prof. Grassberger (Austria),
- Mr. Perez Machado (Venezuela),
- Major Hassan (Egypt),
- Dr. Srp (Czechoslovakia),
- Mr. Kallenborn (Netherlands),
- Mr. J.E. Hoover (United States),
- a Canadian delegate would be appointed later.

## INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL POLICE STATISTICS

Mr. Söderman, Rapporteur-General, said that during the Paris Conference, in June 1947, a Sub-Committee had been appointed to draw up uniform criminal police statistics for all countries.

tics depend on the systems of statistics actually in existence and which are difficult to modify.

The work of studying the diverse statistics was entrusted to Mr. Desvaux (France), who explained that it was not possible to make general comparisons between the different countries, even for a group of offences previously chosen, as the Police and judicial organizations vary so much from one State to another. The comparison cannot be established, if one takes into consideration the relative importance of territories and populations, social customs, administrative regulations and penal laws.



On the terrace of the Federal Palace.

It seemed likely that the carrying out of such a task would meet with numerous difficulties. Indeed, the qualifications of crimes are not the same in the different countries; the way in which investigations are carried out and criminal procedure also vary. Moreover, the different States do not consider the same offence with the same measure of gravity. Finally, international criminal statis-

sons do not afford any great chance of success. But the examination, for a determined State, of a same group of offences would make it possible to follow the fluctuations and to examine the motives. Thus, a comparison between the fluctuations of this group of offences and similar groups in other countries, would be of the greatest interest.

Under these circumstances, Mr. Desvaux

considered that international statistics should be reduced to tables including a limited number of headings.

In the face of this project, Mr. Söderman (Sweden), Rapporteur-General, stated that certain general considerations render essential the division of statistics into two parts: criminal police statistics, dealing with cases, and Court statistics, dealing with persons.

Indeed, the majority of countries compile judicial statistics, but criminal police statistics are lacking.

Moreover, he considered that the tripartite classification, mentioned above, was not universally applicable, for a case may be considered as an infraction against a person in one country and against the State in another.

With regard to the project of statistics submitted by Mr. Görner, Mr. Söderman in his report found it somewhat incomplete owing to the fact that it does not give, for instance, any information relative to the number of crimes elucidated by the Police.

Mr. Söderman (Sweden) recalled that the Sub-Commission on Statistics had examined his report. It was in favour of making a distinction between criminal police statistics and court statistics. Moreover, it shared the opinion of Mr. Görner, who considered it was necessary to limit the statistics to three important categories of offences: offences against persons, offences against property, and immoral offences. To conclude, he read the draft resolution drawn up by the Sub-Com-

mittee which, after being put to the vote by the President, was unanimously adopted.

Beforehand, MM. Telford (U.S.A.), Yaron (Israel), Yümak (Turkey), Grassberger (Austria) were chosen as members of the Sub-Committee on statistics.

Considering the necessity of compiling international statistics on criminality,

Considering that international statistics thus established will give, even now, a useful general view of criminality, relative in time, but which cannot yet be considered as having an absolute value,

Considering that, at the beginning, it is advisable to establish a draft of international statistics on a very simple base,

The 18th General Assembly of the I.C.P.C.:

1" Approves the conclusions of report No. 9 by Rapporteur General Söderman on international statistics, which report establishes a distinction between:

—Criminal police statistics concerning cases themselves (Police);

—Judicial statistics concerning persons (Courts).

2" Invites the Sub-Commission to continue its work, taking into consideration the draft of statistical charts drawn up by Rapporteur General Söderman, as well as the classification of felonies and misdemeanours in three large groups, advocated by Vice-President Görner.

3" Requests the Secretary General to contact the competent organizations of the U.N.O. and the various international organizations concerned with statistics, in order to keep them informed of the work of the I.C.P.C.



## GENERAL REGULATIONS FOR THE NETWORK OF RADIO-TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Mr. Ducloux (France) declared that, in accordance with the decisions taken last year at Prague, the draft for the general regulations for telecommunications established by Mr. Levallant had been studied and perfected by the members of the sub-committee appointed for that purpose and who met under the effective presidency of Mr. Nievergelt. The general regulations themselves constitute a voluminous document, of which the essential elements are summarized in report No. 14 of which he was going to give a résumé, according to the ideas of Mr. Levallant.

The draft of the regulations for international police radio-communications is based on the radio-communications regulations appended to the International Convention of Communications (Atlantic City, 1947).

It consists of a preamble and six chapters.

The preamble sets forth a certain number of rules concerning modifications that may later be made in the regulations.

Chapter 1 defines the purpose of the international police radio-electric network and the principles of its organization: these provisions are in accordance with the resolution adopted at Prague in 1948 by the General Assembly of the International Criminal Police Commission.

Chapter 2 refers to the assignment and utilization of frequencies.

Chapter 3 concerns the stations of the international police radio network; most of the rules or recommendations that it sets forth are imposed by the provisions of the radio-communications regulations or by the necessity of obtaining a correct operation of the network.

Chapter 4 pertains to the telegraphic correspondence accepted by the international

police radio-network, to the drawing up of radio-telegrams and their handling in the sending, intermediate and receiving stations. These provisions are similar to those adopted by services similar to the international police transmissions services; certain principles of the regulations for the international service of police radio-telegraphy, set up in 1931, have been kept. This chapter ought to be familiar not only to the operating personnel of the network, but also to the officers empowered to draw up and deposit the radio-telegrams in the stations of the I.C.P.C.

Chapters 5 and 6 concern the process of exploitation properly speaking; they define the work of the operators and the rules which they contain must be perfectly known by them.

The composition of the network, likely to undergo modifications, has been removed from the text and made the object of an appendix which will be periodically brought up to date.

Mr. Ducloux then read the resolution of report No. 14 and indicated that lack of time had prevented him having the report translated and printed. The text would reach the delegates sometime in the future.

The President considered that it would be difficult to vote on a resolution or adopt a text, as an English translation had not been presented to the Assembly, and he asked whether the draft should be adopted "provisionally" or whether it should be left over for examination at the next General Assembly.

Mr. Levallant (France) remarked that the Assembly ought to decide immediately, as this was entirely a technical matter which had been unanimously accepted by a Sub-Commission of experts. The draft of the regulations had been the object of a thorough



In front of the Federal Palace:

*Top left:* the delegations from Venezuela and Trieste; *right:* MM. DUCLOUX and MÜLLER.

*Centre, (left):* the french delegation; *(right):* the British and Dutch delegates.

*Below:* the Italian delegation; and also MM. SÖDERMAN, VALANTIN and EL DJABRI.

examination and ought not to raise any further objection.

Under these circumstances, President F.E. Louwage put the Resolution to the vote and it was adopted temporarily (except for the abstention of the Nicaraguan Delegate).

The 18th General Assembly of the I.C.P.C., meeting at Berne from October 10th-15th, 1949, Having taken note of report No. 14 of the Subcommittee on telecommunications,

Considering:

That international police radiocommunications should be controlled by special regulations based on

the principles adopted by the General Assembly at Prague in 1948,

That these regulations should, however, be in conformity with the terms of the final decisions of international Conventions on radiocommunications,

That the draft regulations submitted satisfy these two conditions,

Provisionally approves the terms of these regulations,

Recommends that they be brought into force as soon as possible, at a date to be fixed by the Secretary General of the I.C.P.C.

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## CO-ORDINATION OF SURVEYS CONCERNING THE DEVELOPMENT OF TECHNICAL MEANS OF THE POLICE

Mr. Levaillant (France) recalled the main idea from which he started, in order to draw up the draft resolution which is at the end of report No. 17: that is, it is of the greatest interest to the Police of the different countries to unite their efforts not only to suppress offences, but also to work out technical means of such a nature as to increase the efficiency of the struggle against criminals.

It is in his capacity as technician who has had numerous problems to solve and who, each time, has been obliged to search for documentation as complete as possible, that Mr. Levaillant thought it desirable to be able, through the intermediary of the General Secretariat of the International Commission, to set up a kind of centre where all the technical information that the police could furnish to the General Secretariat would be collected and where, in exchange, the police would find the greatest amount of information.

The General Secretariat could also, in the opinion of Mr. Levaillant, assume the task of

uniting the most highly qualified specialists for any new problem arising, and entrust them with the task of solving it. Certainly, such collaboration would greatly facilitate research in the technical field and the preparation of material.

In order to make his idea clear, Mr. Levaillant quoted the example of apparatus which are used for detecting lies, employed in America but concerning which most European countries have need of more information.

The President put the following resolution to the vote, and it was unanimously adopted:

The 18th General Assembly of the I.C.P.C., meeting at Berne from October 10th-15th 1949,

After noting a report presented by Mr. Levaillant in the name of the General Secretariat, on the subject of the co-ordination of scientific surveys applying to police affairs,

Considering that the police services are using to an increasingly greater extent various technical means, and that the I.C.P.C. can play an important



Mr. LIFSCHITZ speaking to Mr. NEPOTE.  
Behind them: Mr. AMSTEIN.

rôle in the centralization of information, the co-ordination of certain studies in this field, and generally in technical co-operation,

Recommends that:

- 1° In the matter of technical problems already solved to the advantage of the police in different countries, the General Secretariat be instructed to centralize information, to cause a comparative study of the different solutions adopted to be made and, as far as possible, to select the best solution in view of directing programs for equipping police forces not already equipped, and also for improving or renewing equipment programs already in existence.
- 2° Each time that a new technical problem seems likely to concern the police, all the Member States of the Commission should be informed through the Secretary General, who will centralize observations and possibly information already known, who will pass them on to the qualified Sub-Commission or national organizations concerned, and, after comparison, will recommend to the different national police bodies the adoption of measures which appear to him to require standardization.

## SOME PROBLEMS OF CRIMINAL IDENTIFICATION

Mr. David (Czechoslovakia) presented the report written by Dr. Srp, of the Central Criminal Office at Prague. Considering it unnecessary to insist on the importance of documentation likely to lead to the identification of a criminal, Mr. David said that the report made an attempt to propose a minimum of fundamental rules. He requested member States to pay greater attention to the identification documents sent abroad, and to send to the International Bureau all information concerning methods of identification used in their countries, in accordance with questionnaires which will be made by the permanent

Sub-Committee on scientific and technical police methods.

Mr. Sannié (France) indicated that he was entirely in favour of the draft resolution.

Mr. Népote (General Secretariat) stated that, in reply to certain questions raised by Mr. Srp's report, the International Bureau envisaged sending circulations of fingerprints and descriptions of criminals by means of microfilms. Experiments were going to be made shortly.

Mr. Dosi (Italy) considered that Dr. Srp's recommendation should be extended to all judicial matters in the international field.

The following resolution was unanimously adopted:

The 18th General Assembly of the I.C.P.C., meeting at Berne from October 10th-15th, 1949,

Having noted the report of Dr. Srp (Czechoslovakia) and the observations of Mr. Dosi (Italy), on several problems in the field of identification,

Requests the delegates of Member States to give

more attention to identification data sent abroad, which ought to facilitate exact and precise identification,

Invites the delegates of Member States to send to the Secretary General all information relating to identification methods in their own countries, in conformity with questionnaires which will be made by the Sub-Committee on scientific and technical police methods.

## CLOSING SESSION

All the reports having been successively examined in detail, there only remained for the Assembly to discuss the Secretary General's proposal, relative to the choice of an emblem for the Organization.

A photographic reproduction representing a globe with a sword and scales, surrounded by a wreath of olive branches, was submitted to the Assembly who, after some minor observations, approved the project (1). After which, President F.E. Louwage pronounced his closing speech.

*"Our work is finished and soon we shall be dispersing to return to our respective places of work. I should like to hope that you will take with you the desire to put into practice the ideas exchanged, the resolutions adopted here, and to obtain from your national central Bureaus and from your Chiefs of Criminal Police all the collaboration so indispensable to the International Bureau and to your foreign colleagues. You will be so much the more willing to grant this co-operation now that you have learnt to know the personnel of the General Secretariat and of the International Bureau and above all your colleagues—I shall say now: your friends in different countries. That, in my opinion, is the essential purpose of our meetings.*

*"By our presence here, all idea of suspicion or ignorance will have disappeared, because*

*"you have been able to realize through contact with your friends that, from a professional point of view and from the point of view of international co-operation, they think just like you and that they are determined, while not intervening in political, religious or racial affairs, to help each other in the fight against criminals.*

*"To furnish to the International Bureau and to the central national Bureaus all useful information on this matter, to reply with speed and precision to the demands which are made to you in the framework of the work of the I.C.P.C., to furnish us with articles for the Review by technicians of value, these are the most important tasks which already were the reason for our success and our prestige.*

*"Have confidence in your Executive Committee, of whose devotion to our common work I can assure you. I thank its members for their constant and exemplary work.*

*"It remains for me to ask you for a special effort regarding the Countries which have not yet joined our Commission. Those who have contacts with neighbouring countries or who know their chiefs of criminal police, should not lose any occasion to bring an influence to bear on them and to tell them about the I.C.P.C.*

(1) This emblem will figure, in the future, on official documents.

*"I am sure that thus, in a few months, we shall be able to add to our already considerably extended list of members, other States.*

*"I particularly pay my thanks to the Delegate of the U.N. and to the other observers from various organizations, who were good enough to follow our debates. I should be particularly glad if they could leave with the impression that the I.C.P.C. is not only a doctrinarian and didactic entity, but an organization whose work is characterized by a dynamic and useful co-ordination.*

*"I thank most sincerely the personnel of the Secretariat and the Swiss personnel, which devoted itself to helping us in our work and... leisure! Reporter General Müller and his assistants deserve the greatest praise for the preparation and functioning of the Assembly (Applause). Our gratitude goes to Mr. Federal Councillor von Steiger and his assistants, the eminent authorities of the Canton and City of Berne, for their gracious hospitality and consideration on our behalf."*

Relative to next year's General Assembly, President Louwage stated that he had received an invitation from the Dutch authorities, suggesting that the next Assembly should take place at The Hague, about June 1950. (Applause). He said that this General Assembly would be immediately preceded by the specialized Conference on counterfeit currency. This invitation was unanimously accepted.

Mr. Gros (United Nations) made known his impressions on the organization of the Conference which he had just attended, saying that the success of the meeting was mainly due to the smiling firmness with which the President had presided over the discussions. He also declared how much he had been im-



pressed by the quality of the work done by the Secretariat: *"I am not speaking of the subject matter itself of the questions dealt with which is impressive, but I congratulate you very frankly on the excellent work*

*done: not only on the faultless presentation of reports, but also on the rapidity with which we received them. I could name many intergovernmental organizations larger than yours, where not a quarter of the documentation is received before the opening of the sessions. So I address my sincerest congratulations to the Secretary General, Mr. L. Ducloux, and to his collaborators."*

At this point, on the initiative of the Rapporteur General, Mr. Müller, occurred an incident of moving simplicity:

*"Last year, at the session in Prague," said Mr. Müller, "we noted that the I.C.P.C. was celebrating its twenty-fifth anniversary. I do not wish to speak to you of its history, you know it better than I. I wish simply to recall two names, that of Mr. Schober, the founder of our Commission, and that of Mr. F.E. Louwage, who is the inspirer of the new period", and amidst long applause, a Bernese girl, dressed in a very picturesque regional costume, presented President Louwage with a bouquet of flowers. The President, visibly touched by this considerate attention, thanked the Rapporteur General, Mr. Müller, and declared the session closed.*

# Round about the Conference

Mr. Velhaven, Prefect of Police of Oslo, Doyen of our Organization, was unfortunately unable to go to Berne, owing to ill health. At the last moment, he delegated his Assistant, Mr. Kallenborn.

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An awkward accident prevented our Greek colleague, Mr. Leontaritis, from being present at the discussions: the day following his arrival in Berne, he had a fall and was taken to hospital, where an X-ray examination revealed that his ankle was broken. It was therefore at the hospital that he insisted on being informed of the minutes of the Assembly.

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The 18th General Assembly was more fortunate for the amiable Egyptian delegate, Mr. Hassan, than for Mr. Leontaritis.

Police Captain on leaving Cairo, Mr. Hassan will find himself Major there, following a promotion during his absence.

Moreover, Mr. Hassan, on the return journey after the Conference, took the opportunity of stopping in Paris, where he brilliantly succeeded in passing the last examination for a law degree at the University of Paris.

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Several member Countries of the I.C.P.C. excused themselves for not being able to send a delegate to attend the discussions of the Assembly: South Africa, India, Ireland, International zone of Tangiers.

The Secretary-General spoke on their behalf.

Messages of sympathy and wishes of success were received by the President and communicated to the Assembly: Mr. Victor Sandoval, Director-General of the Civil Guard of Guatemala, not being able to send a representative, declared himself in favour of the agreements reached at the General Assembly.

Mr. Duncan, Chief Commissioner of Melbourne, representing Australia at the I.C.P.C., had asked Mr. Webster to tell us how interested his country was in the work being done by the I.C.P.C., and to transmit his cordial greetings to all the delegates.

General A. Bertollo, Chief of the Argentine Federal Police, had also wished to reaffirm

that the Argentine police was only materially absent from the discussions, and expressed the wish that the Conference would be successful.

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If statistics were kept, Switzerland would probably be first on the list of the countries having the most international Conferences. That is to say that our Conference might have created in Berne but slight interest. We appreciate all the more the warm welcome that the High Swiss Authorities extended to our Delegates, as well as the rare favour of being able to hold it in the very hall of the Federal Council.

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The Canton of Berne, the town of Berne, the Federal Council, each in turn officially received the Assembly.

The cantonal hotel of Berne served as a background for the reception offered by Councillor Steematter, in the name of the Canton. The delegates were able to admire at leisure the mediaeval halls where the artists had succeeded so well in putting the accent on architectural simplicity and greatness, whilst at the same time adapting to it a modern decoration of exquisite taste.

The town of Berne invited all the delegates to an official dinner. Councillor Freimüller, Head of the Police Force and Public Health Dept., in a speech full of verve and wit, expressed the wish that all would carry away in leaving pleasant memories of his town. He was assisted by the best of ambassadors: folklore. At dinner, a mixed choir in regional costume magnificently sang old songs known the world over.

As for the Federal Council, they considered that the delegates ought to see some of the most celebrated scenery in Switzerland: the panorama of the Alps from Mount-Pélerin, above the Lake of Geneva.

The gods were certainly on the side of the organizers, for the mist cleared up just for the excursion to be a great success.

We were then on the territory of the Canton of Vaud: Federal Councillor von Steiger, on behalf of all, gave a toast to this canton and its amiable police.