

The following items were on the agenda :—

- I. Director's Report (social problems of the immediate post-war period, with special reference to Europe : future policy and programme of the International Labour Organization.)
- II. The maintenance of high levels of employment during the period of industrial rehabilitation and reconversion.
- III. Welfare of children and young workers (first discussion).
- IV. Matters arising out of the work of the Constitutional Committee.
- V. Minimum standards of social policy in dependent territories.
- VI. Reports on the application of Conventions.

CONSTITUTIONAL QUESTIONS

As the Organization was established pursuant to the Treaty of Versailles, it was important that the problem of its incorporation into the new international order receive consideration. This was recognized at the Philadelphia Session in 1944, and arising out of the decisions then taken a committee had examined the matter fully, its reports being dealt with by the Paris session, which decided to take action on a limited number of questions which were of immediate urgency, the remainder to be made the subject of further study for consideration at the 1946 session.

Thus the Paris session adopted an instrument amending three articles of the Constitution dealing with membership, finance, and the procedure for amendment.

Previously membership of the League of Nations carried with it membership of the International Labour Organization. Now the members of the Organization are those States which were members on 1st November, 1945, together with any original member of the United Nations ; and provision is made for any State admitted to membership of the United Nations to become a member upon formal acceptance of the obligations contained in the Constitution.

In the matter of finance the instrument provides for transitional arrangements and authorizes the Organization to make with the United Nations such financial and budgetary arrangements as may appear appropriate. Further, a more flexible procedure for amending the Constitution is introduced.

In addition, resolutions were adopted :—

- (1) Authorizing the Governing Body of the International Labour Office to enter, subject to the approval of the Conference, into such agreements with the appropriate authorities of the United Nations as may be necessary or desirable to enable the Organization to co-operate fully with the United Nations, while retaining the authority essential for the discharge of its responsibilities under the Constitution of the Organization and the Declaration of Philadelphia ;
- (2) Concerning reciprocal relationships between the International Labour Organization and other international bodies ; and
- (3) Authorizing the Governing Body of the International Labour Office to make, in due course, appropriate arrangements with the League of Nations or with the United Nations regarding buildings and property in Geneva, also administrative and financial matters that were previously a joint issue with the League of Nations.

The twenty-ninth session of the International Labour Conference will open in Montreal on 19th September, 1946. The agenda is as follows :—

- I. Director's report.
- II. Constitutional questions.
- III. Protection of children and young workers :—
 - (a) Medical examination for fitness for employment (young workers), (second discussion).
 - (b) Restrictions of night work of children and young persons (non-industrial occupations) (second discussion).
- IV. Minimum standards of social policy in dependent territories (provisions suitable for a Convention), (first discussion).
- V. Reports on the application of Conventions (Article 22 of the Constitution).