

On the nomination of Mr. Ness Edwards, M.P., Government delegate of the United Kingdom, seconded by Mr. Zellerbach, employers' delegate of the United States of America, M. Alexandre Parodi, Minister of Labour for France, was nominated as President of the Conference. The nomination was supported by Mr. J. Hallsworth, workers' delegate, United Kingdom. M. Parodi was elected unanimously. In the course of his Presidential address, M. Parodi said:—

The working population of the world has come through its trials conscious of the immense effort which it furnished to maintain war production in the countries which were able to remain in the fight until the end. In those which knew the horrors of enemy occupation the working population is conscious of having kept its tradition and of having been at the forefront of the fight for liberty. The Philadelphia Declaration was not therefore simply a restatement of commonplaces, a resolution following after so many others.

M. Parodi also said—

This Conference, which marks the solemn return of the International Labour Organization to Europe, wounded but alive, must, thanks to the free discussion which will characterize it, by the work which will be done in it, and by the Resolutions which will be adopted by it, mark a great step forward towards the establishment of a real peace among peoples.

ADMISSION OF MEMBERS

At the fifth sitting, on the 19th October, Iceland became a member of the Organization, and Guatemala and Italy were readmitted members in accordance with the resolution of the Conference.

ADMISSION OF EXPERTS

In accordance with Article 18 of the Constitution, Mr. Abraham Goldberg, on the request of the General Federation of Jewish Labour in Palestine, was added to the Committee on Dependent Territories. In accordance with the same Article, Mr. G. Fauquet, on the request from the International Co-operative Alliance in London, was added to the Committee on Employment by resolution of the Conference; under this procedure an expert is entitled to speak at the invitation of the Chairman of the Committee, but not to vote.

DIRECTORS REPORT

In accordance with established practice, the report of the Director of the International Labour Organization, Mr. Edward J. Phelan, was printed and previously circulated to delegates. The report consisted of 163 pages of closely printed matter divided into five main chapters. The report again is divided into subheadings dealing with the major problems of the Organization as reflected by the needs of the world's peoples. Some of these headings were War Economy; Transition to Peace Economy; Employment Organization; Holidays with Pay; Family Allowances; Housing; Agriculture; Emigration, &c.

The report is a most comprehensive, thorough document. It contains a survey of the major essential and economic problems of the world, supported by facts gathered painstakingly from all over the earth. The conclusions reached and the aspects disclosed by a masterly analysis of the information collected present to those interested in these important subjects material upon which to base a policy of reconstruction cemented by good will and co-operation.

The report is enhanced in value as all facts and opinions expressed emanate from impartial sources. The sole aim of the report being to act as a signpost to the Legislatures of the world.