

The delegates from the Argentine Republic, in correspondence to the Credentials Committee and also in a statement circulated amongst the other delegates, denied that they were part of the Fascist regime, and claimed that they were genuine workers' representatives with standing in the labour movement of twenty-seven and twenty-five years respectively.

Apart from the discussion on the Directors' report and dealing with a report on the application of conventions, the main business of the Conference was consideration of—

- (1) The maintenance of high levels of employment during the period of industrial rehabilitation and reconversion:
- (2) Welfare of children and young workers:
- (3) Matters arising out of the work of the Constitution Committee:
- (4) Minimum standards of social policy in dependent territories.

AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION OF THE INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANIZATION

The question of amending the Constitution of the International Labour Organization was one of major importance, as will be appreciated.

As it is generally known, the International Labour Organization was established in 1919 as part of the general organization of the League of Nations.

The constitution of the International Labour Organization formed part (Part XII) of the Treaty of Versailles.

In view of the disbandment of the League of Nations arising from World War II and the establishment of the United Nations Organization, it was necessary for the International Labour Organization to consider what part it should play in the new world comity of nations.

To this end, the Governing Body of the International Labour Organization had established a Committee in order to bring down preliminary recommendations to Conference for the purpose of clarifying the situation.

Consequently, matters affecting the Constitution assumed major proportions, and when the Conference met in Paris it set up a Committee of Delegates to consider the preliminary recommendations of the Working Committee previously established by the Governing Body.

Thirty-four nations had representation on this Committee. New Zealand was represented by Mr. H. E. Moston, C.B.E., as a full delegate, and I had the honour to participate in the proceedings as a substitute delegate on behalf of the workers' group.

The Chairman of the Committee was Sir Samuel Runganadhan, High Commissioner for India in London, and an Indian Government delegate to the Conference.

The Working Committee which had been set up at the Philadelphia Conference in 1944 brought down certain points for discussion, and the Office brought down a report dealing with some of the matters discussed by the Working Committee. All questions discussed and decisions arrived at are of vital importance to the nations member of the International Labour Organization. Altogether the Working Committee examined and reported on eighty points. Some of these have very far-reaching effects and differ in various degrees from the Constitution adopted in 1918. For instance, the question of finance and budgetary arrangements predominated. It was mentioned that