

fifty years' lease of the territory and waters necessary for the establishment of a Soviet naval base in the area of Porkkala-Udd, and Article 5, which provides for the demilitarization of the Aaland Islands.

Articles 6 to 12 were common to the draft treaties for Roumania, Bulgaria, Hungary, and Finland, and all were accepted by the Commission. Except in the case of Article 6, there was no discussion. These articles provide for the guarantee of human rights to all Finnish citizens, the repeal of discriminatory legislation, the dissolution and banning of organizations of a Fascist type—(*i.e.*, those “ which have as their aim denial to the people of their democratic rights ”)—the prosecution of war criminals, recognition by Finland of the force of other peace treaties, the acceptance of arrangements made or to be made for the dissolution of certain international institutions, and the machinery for the revival of bilateral treaties.

During the discussion on Articles 6 to 12 the Australian delegation urged, unsuccessfully, two of its amendments which were common to all the treaties—the first, that the Allies should reinforce Article 6 by obliging Finland to write a guarantee of human rights into her fundamental law ; the second that Finland should undertake to join certain international social and economic organizations. As to these proposals there was a general opinion that the words “ Finland shall take all measures necessary ” made Article 6 sufficient in itself, and that, while it would be to the advantage of the United Nations that Finland should join such international organizations as the International Wheat Council or the Food and Agriculture Organization, full co-operation was not likely unless the states were *voluntary* members. The Soviet Union opposed both proposals strongly on the grounds that they interfered with national sovereignty. The New Zealand delegation voted in favour of the first Australian proposal, but abstained from voting on the second.

Article 32 of the draft treaty provided that the Ministers at Helsinki of the United Kingdom and the U.S.S.R. should represent the Allied and Associated Powers in dealing with the Finnish Government in all matters concerning the execution and interpretation of the treaty. The Australian delegation put forward an alternative proposal, again common to all the treaties, that a single body, a Treaty Executive Council, replacing the many separate bodies mentioned in the five treaties, should interpret and execute all the five treaties. This Council, composed of the U.S.A., the U.S.S.R., the U.K., and France plus three other States, would inherit all the records of the Conference, and would have a Secretariat and a permanent central headquarters. It would thus be in a position to give informed and uniform rulings on all disputed questions arising from the treaties. There was general agreement with the United Kingdom viewpoint that different types of disputes were best dealt with by separate *ad hoc* bodies of experts, and the Australian proposal was rejected by 9 votes to 1 (Australia), with 1 abstention (New Zealand). Thereupon Article 32 was adopted without a vote.