

there was a measure of truth in the charges, Mr. Rens explained that the Organization owed its existence, largely, to the demands of organized workers in Europe and North America, where there were old and vigorous labour movements. At that time the Asian countries were mostly in a colonial or semi-colonial stage of development, and Europe and Asia had reached different stages of social evolution. The former, having attained political liberty, was dominated by the problems of social progress. The latter was more concerned with the primary problem of gaining political liberty. This difference was not confined to Europe and Asia. The same gulf existed between Western Europe on the one hand and Eastern Europe and South America on the other.

The situation, the Secretary-General explained, had changed rapidly in the last decade. Industrialization and the progress made in transport and communication were bringing countries closer together. Economic and social problems were becoming common problems of every nation. It was therefore necessary to accept the reproach that the Organization was too exclusively Western in outlook—at least as far as the last ten years were concerned. The Office and the Governing Body were, however, conscious of this, and were adjusting their activities accordingly.

Mr. Rens went on to say that he did not believe that the way to overcome such difficulties was, necessarily, to set up new institutions. He stressed the fact that new machinery to meet regional requirements would entail heavy expense and great inconvenience to States members who already have to send delegates to “an ever-increasing number of meetings.” He suggested, alternatively, that existing institutions should be used more intensively, and as a means to this end he proposed regular meetings of Regional Conferences, office missions to Asia to examine special problems, the reviewing of the composition of the Governing Body’s numerous advisory bodies, to consider whether Asian countries were adequately represented, and meetings of these bodies in Asian countries.

It was true that the number of office officials from Asian countries should be increased to enable the whole staff to become familiar with Asian problems, but the proper approach to that question was not to establish a group of Asian officials in the Office to deal with Asian problems exclusively. The aim was to have adequate representation of Asia, and to distribute Asian officials over all the technical staff and to obtain by such intermingling a proper reflection, in the Office, of all the differences between countries and regions.

This resolution is thus likely to receive full and sympathetic consideration by the Governing Body, and may well have a far-reaching influence on the future activities of the Organization. The Selection Committee itself attached great importance to paragraph (h) of Part I of the resolution, concerning the issue of publications in Asian languages. Part IV of the resolution resulted from a draft resolution submitted by the Indian employers’ delegate, recommending that travelling-expenses of delegates be met by the Organization. The Committee agreed that it was desirable to facilitate the attendance of delegations, but felt that the original proposal was inopportune at present.

(2) *A Draft Resolution concerning Labour Standards in Japan.*—The object of this resolution is to keep alive in Japan the standards that have been set up by the Organization, and to facilitate at the appropriate time the readmission of Japan as a member State.

(3) *A Draft Resolution concerning Tripartite Organizations and other Appropriate Arrangements.*—The Reporter of the Selection Committee, in introducing this resolution to the Conference, said that tripartite organization had been the essence of the success of the International Labour Organization, and that such organizations had also worked with commendable success in India. The resolution seeks to instruct Governments to make full use of tripartite bodies.

(4) *A Draft Resolution concerning Increased Production.*—This resolution arises from the complete recognition in the Asian countries of the necessity for increasing economic activity as a pre-requisite of the raising of living standards. The resolution