

“II. The Assembly—

“(1) Notes with approval the development of the work of the Health Organization in urban and rural housing;

“(2) Expresses the hope that, in the preparation of the special report on housing undertaken by the Economic and Financial Organization in virtue of the instructions given by its resolution of 2nd October, 1937, it will be possible to devote special attention to the financial aspects of town-planning;

“(3) Requests the Financial Committee to consider this report when it is completed, with a view to determining whether it would be useful to Governments if the study were extended to cover other aspects of housing policy;

“(4) Requests Governments to afford the Financial Organization of the League every assistance in connection with the study of this problem.”

(Document A. 59, 1938, III.)

When the Assembly met on the 29th September the international situation appeared to be very grave indeed. Although efforts towards the preservation of peace were not being relaxed, many in a position to judge felt that before the end of the week many European Powers might well be at war. Some members of the Assembly had already submitted a draft resolution showing the concern of the League, and this had been considered by the General Committee of the Assembly. At the beginning of the Assembly meeting the President proposed, in a few words, the adoption of the draft. There were no other speeches, and the resolution was passed unanimously. It read as follows:—

“Representatives of forty-nine States meeting as delegates to the Assembly of the League of Nations have watched with deep and growing anxiety the development of the present grave situation in Europe.

“The Assembly is convinced that the existing differences are capable of being solved by peaceful means. It knows that recourse to war, whatever be its outcome, is no guarantee of a just settlement, and that it must inevitably bring untold suffering to millions of individuals and imperil the whole structure of civilization in Europe.

“The Assembly therefore, voicing the prayer of the peoples of all countries, expresses the earnest hope that no Government will attempt to impose a settlement by force.

“The Assembly welcomes with great satisfaction the action taken by the President of the United States and fully associates itself with the spirit which inspired it.”

The Assembly was adjourned on Friday, 30th September, 1938.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

W. J. JORDAN,

High Commissioner.

The Right Honourable the Prime Minister of New Zealand,  
Wellington, New Zealand.

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