

TRAFFIC IN WOMEN.

OFFICIAL AND NON-OFFICIAL
CO-OPERATIVE ACTION
IN COMBATING THE
TRAFFIC IN THE EAST.

COLL P

17558

REPORT

OF A

CONFERENCE OF BRITISH AND
INTERNATIONAL REPRESENTATIVES

London, July 1934.

*Suggested Measures preparatory to the Conference in
Asia on Traffic in Women, which has been recommended
by the Council to the Assembly of the League of Nations.*



21 0985955 X

TRAFFIC IN WOMEN.

OFFICIAL AND NON-OFFICIAL
CO-OPERATIVE ACTION
IN COMBATING THE
TRAFFIC IN THE EAST.

REPORT

OF A

CONFERENCE OF BRITISH AND
INTERNATIONAL REPRESENTATIVES

London, July 1934.

*Copies of the full Report (price 1/-), and of the 13-page
Summary (price 3d.), may be obtained from the British
Social Hygiene Council, Carteret House, Carteret
Street, London, S.W. 1.*

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE OF
BRITISH SOCIAL HYGIENE COUNCIL AND
THE CONFERENCE OF BRITISH MISSIONARY
SOCIETIES.

Sir BASIL BLACKETT, K.C.B., K.C.S.I.
President, B.S.H.C.

Rt. Hon. L. S. AMERY, M.P.
Chairman, Imperial and International Committee B.S.H.C.

Miss BALFE.
President, Catholic Women's League.

Mr. S. COHEN.
Assessor, League of Nations Advisory Committee on Traffic
in Women and Children.

Dame RACHEL CROWDY, D.B.E., R.R.C.
Lately Director of Social Questions Section, League of
Nations.

Mrs. C. NEVILLE-ROLFE, O.B.E.
Secretary-General, B.S.H.C.

Major G. ST. ORDE-BROWNE, O.B.E.
Lately Labour Commissioner, Tanganyika Territory.

Rev. W. PATON, M.A.
Secretary, International Missionary Council.

Miss RUTHERFORD, M.A., B.Sc.
Assistant Secretary, London Missionary Society.

Mr. F. A. R. SEMPKINS.
Assessor, League of Nations Advisory Committee on Traffic
in Women and Children.

Dr. DRUMMOND SHIELS, M.C.
Medical Secretary, B.S.H.C.

Canon E. F. SPANTON, M.A.
Secretary, Universities Mission to Central Africa.

Rev. E. W. THOMPSON, M.A.
Secretary for India, Methodist Missionary Society.

Miss M. M. UNDERHILL, B.Litt.
Co-editor, International Review of Missions.

Dr. H. H. WEIR.
Medical Secretary, Society for the Propagation of the Gospel.



TABLE OF CONTENTS.

	PAGE
RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED	3
EXTRACTS FROM STATEMENTS IN SUPPORT OF CO-OPERATIVE ACTION	6
PROCEEDINGS.	
INTRODUCTORY REMARKS.	
The Rt. Hon. the Earl of Lytton, K.G., G.C.S.I., G.C.I.E.	13
Sir Basil Blackett (<i>Chairman of the Joint Standing Committee of the B.S.H.C. and the Conference of British Missionary Societies</i>)	16
STATEMENT FROM THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS.	
Mr. H. R. Cummings (<i>representing the Social Questions Section of the League of Nations</i>)	17
THE NECESSITY OF THE SUGGESTED CONFERENCE OF EASTERN COUNTRIES UNDER THE ÆGIS OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS.	
Mr. Karol Pindor (<i>Member of Travelling Commission, League of Nations Enquiry into Traffic in Women and Children in the East</i>)	22
COMMENTS BY:—	
Father Léon Robert (<i>Secrétaire Missions Etrangères</i>) ...	37
Mr. S. Cohen (<i>Assessor to the League of Nations Advisory Committee on Traffic in Women and Children</i>)	37
Mr. Kawasaki (<i>Member of Staff, Japanese Embassy</i>) ...	39
Miss M. Malthe (<i>Danish Missionary Society</i>)	39
Miss Meliscent Shephard (<i>Assoc. for Moral and Social Hygiene—India</i>)	39
HOW THE TRAFFIC HAS BEEN AND MAY BE CONTROLLED.	
Dame Rachel Crowdy, D.B.E., R.R.C. (<i>Expert appointed by the League of Nations Council to the Traffic in Women Committee</i>)	40
CATHOLIC MISSIONS IN THE EAST.	
Père Robert (<i>Secrétaire Missions Etrangères</i>)	46
THE PART THAT CHRISTIAN MISSIONS CAN CONTRIBUTE IN COMBATING THE TRAFFIC.	
Rev. William Paton, M.A. (<i>Secretary, International Missionary Council</i>)	49
CHINA AND CO-OPERATION.	
Mr. Lui Chieh (<i>First Secretary, Chinese Legation</i>)	52

	PAGE
AN EXAMPLE IN CO-OPERATION FROM SINGAPORE. Sir Cecil Clementi, G.C.M.G., F.R.G.S. (<i>lately Governor of the Straits Settlements</i>)	58
REMARKS ON THE SITUATION IN THE DUTCH EAST INDIES. The Baroness van Boetzelaer van Dubbeldam (<i>Vice-Chair- man, International Missionary Council</i>)	63
VOLUNTARY CO-OPERATION IN INDIA. Miss Meliscent Shephard	64
SALVATION ARMY WORK IN INDIA AND THE FAR EAST. Commissioner Blowers	69
REMARKS ON THE SITUATION IN SINGAPORE. The Bishop of Singapore	73
REMARKS ON THE SITUATION IN INDIA. Mrs. Gupta	76
REMARKS ON THE SITUATION IN CHINA. Miss Irene Ho	78
PUBLICITY	82
Alphabetical List of Members	85
Countries and Organisations Represented	89

SUMMARY OF REPORT.

The League of Nations Advisory Commission for the Protection and Welfare of Children and Young People held its Thirteenth Session at GENEVA from April 4th to 11th, 1934.

The resolutions then adopted are intended to cover the results of the investigation carried out by a special commission, which travelled in the Far East, and which presented a report upon the extent of the traffic as it existed in the following countries:—

JAPAN, CHINA, HONG-KONG, MACAO, PHILIPPINE ISLANDS, INDO-CHINA, DUTCH EAST INDIES, STRAITS SETTLEMENTS, MALAY STATES (FEDERATED AND UNFEDERATED), SIAM, INDIA, CEYLON, PERSIA, IRAQ, SYRIA, etc., and PALESTINE.

The Advisory Commission found the need existed for closer collaboration between the Authorities and voluntary organisations, Missions and other bodies concerned, and recommended that a Conference should be convened in Asia under the ægis of the League of Nations.

In order that the suggested Conference may be successful, it is felt that the voluntary organisations of all countries in the East and the Missions should confer beforehand, so as to make recommendations to the League Conference and for the guidance of the Government Experts who, it is hoped, will be present.

For that purpose the Joint Standing Committee of the British Social Hygiene Council and the Conference of British Missionary Societies called a preliminary Conference in London of such organisations and individuals especially interested in the question in the East, to give opportunity for an exchange of views preparatory to similar conferences in other countries.

The Conference considered the following resolutions:—

The Traffic in Women and Children Committee:
(Resolution IV.)

“ Points out that, while the general abolition of licensed or tolerated houses will have an important effect in reducing the traffic in women, this step, taken by itself, cannot, in its opinion, effectively remove the dangers to health and morals arising from commercialised vice and that this step needs to be supplemented by the education of public opinion regarding the social value of the proposed legislation, by the education of individuals regarding their social and moral responsibility and by further measures, such as the organisation of free treatment of venereal disease available to all members of the community and propaganda designed to enlighten public opinion as to the dangers of venereal disease.

“ Side by side with these measures, it is essential for the suppression of the traffic in women that the steps taken to prohibit brothels of all kinds and to punish brothel-keepers, *souteneurs* and procurers should be adequate, and that suitable measures should be taken for the preservation of public order in the streets.”

The Traffic in Women and Children and Child Welfare Committees: (Resolution I.)

“ Attention is drawn in the report of the Commissions to the need for closer co-operation and greater exchange of information between the authorities who are responsible for the measures taken to prevent traffic in women. This seems to the Advisory Commission an important object which might be secured if the whole question were discussed at a conference of the different authorities of countries in the East interested in the matter. Such a Conference might, with the concurrence of the Governments be convened under the auspices of the League of Nations, and it might be held at the same time as the meeting of the Singapore Bureau. It might be useful if some representation of unofficial organisations and missions who are closely interested in the problem were invited to the Conference.”

The Traffic in Women and Children and Child Welfare Committees: (Resolution VII.)

“ Collaboration between public authorities, missions and private organisations in rendering assistance and relief to victims of the traffic should be maintained and increased.”

There are other resolutions of great importance, particularly those concerned with the abolition of licensed or tolerated brothels in those countries in the

East where they still exist, and with the appointment of a larger number of trained and experienced women officials to the staffs of those authorities in the countries of the East who are responsible for the welfare of women and children, also for more satisfactory guardianship, assistance, care and education of immigrant minor girls who are victims of the traffic.

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY JOINT
CONFERENCE IN LONDON, JULY 1934.

The following resolutions were adopted unanimously:—

Resolution 1.

This Conference supports the suggestion of the League of Nations Advisory Commission that a Conference of the different authorities of countries in the East should be summoned, under the auspices of the League of Nations, to consider ways of obtaining closer co-operation and greater exchange of information.

It further supports the suggestion that representatives of unofficial organisations should be invited to such a Conference.

And expresses the hope that a decision in this sense will be taken by the League of Nations Assembly next September, while taking into account the fact that at least a year will be required for preliminary work by voluntary organisations if public opinion is to be adequately prepared.

Resolution 2.

This Conference is of opinion that it is desirable that the local Authorities, National Voluntary Organisations, Welfare Societies and Missions of all denominations in Asia should promote Regional Conferences preparatory to the League of Nations Conference on Traffic in Women, and allied subjects.

This Conference further requests the representatives from Eastern countries present at this Conference to promote the organisation of such regional conferences in their own countries, and to give such personal assistance and guidance as may be possible in the formation of local public opinion in support of the League Conference.

Resolution 3.

This Conference invites the women's organisations, wherever they exist throughout the East, to give further thought and continued constructive help to the solution of the problems of suppressing the Traffic in Women and Children, and of the rehabilitation of the victims of the Traffic.

Resolution 4.

This Conference, realising that the suppression of commercialised vice and the traffic in women is an ideal equally acceptable to all religions and cultures, expresses the conviction that only by the co-operation of all can such an ideal be realised.

Resolution 5.

This Conference requests the Joint Standing Committee of the British Social Hygiene Council and the Conference of British Missionary Societies to submit the resolutions and report of the Conference to the Council of the League of Nations and the Governments of the

countries concerned; and to take steps to secure their wide dissemination among non-official organisations in the East.

Resolution 6.

This Conference is convinced that it would be of great value to appoint a liaison officer or officers to promote co-operation between the various authorities and voluntary organisations in the Far East who are concerned with the suppression of traffic in women and of commercialised vice. It expresses the hope that the question of making such an appointment will figure on the agenda of the League of Nations Conference.

The resolutions were proposed and seconded by representatives of the various countries and International and National Organisations as follows:—

Resolution 1.

Chairman of International Bureau for Suppression of Traffic in Women: Dr. MONTEFIORE.
Conference of British Missionary Societies: Dr. H. H. WEIR.

Resolution 2.

First Secretary to Chinese Legation: Mr. LUI CHIEH.
Administrative Officer, Hong-Kong: W. W. SCHOFIELD.

Resolution 3.

Indian Council of Women: Mrs. GUPTA.
China: Miss Ho.

Resolution 4.

Secretary for the Dept. of Home Affairs, Tokio: Mr. ISHII.
The Rt. Rev. THE BISHOP OF SINGAPORE.

Resolution 5.

Dame RACHEL CROWDY, D.B.E., R.R.C.
Japan Mission of the United Church of Canada: Rev. E. C. HENNIGAR.

Resolution 6.

Assessor, League of Nations Advisory Committee on Traffic in Women and Children: Mr. F. A. R. SEMPKINS.
First Secretary to Chinese Legation: Mr. LUI CHIEH.

EXTRACTS FROM STATEMENTS IN SUPPORT
OF CO-OPERATIVE ACTION.

The Earl of Lytton.—*Conference President.*—"It may not be possible for any one Government to suppress prostitution among its subjects, but it is possible for many Governments by co-operation with each other to suppress the international traffic in women and children which flourishes to-day at so great a cost to human health and happiness."

"This is a problem which is common to all humanity—it is not the concern of any one country more than any other, of any one faith more than another. If any one link in the chain of co-operation breaks down, the value of all the rest will be lost."

Sir Basil Blackett, as *Chairman of the Joint Standing Committee of the British Social Hygiene Council and Conference of British Missionary Societies*, stated the Joint Committee placed their services at the disposal of the Conference to carry out any suggestions for practical action that might be made, and also recommended the holding of similar conferences in China, Japan, India and Malaya, with a view to stimulating local opinion in making preparation for the League Conference, which can only be effective if prepared for in advance.

SUMMARY OF POSITION IN THE EAST 1933.

Extracts from Paper by Mr. Karol Pindor:

To furnish the information and to prepare the ground for the necessary common action of Eastern countries in the fight against the evil was, during two years, the task of the League of Nations Commission of Enquiry into traffic in women and children in the East.

International traffic is obviously nothing but a continuation, a farther ramification, of the internal traffic of both the country of origin and the country of destination of its victims. This is particularly so in the East, where victims of international traffic are as a general rule brought to a foreign country for clients of their own race only.

Under these circumstances it may safely be assumed that all recommendations made by the Commission of Enquiry for the suppression of International Traffic are applicable also to the internal problem of prostitution and traffic of the various countries concerned.

If therefore the Commission proves at the hand of irrefutable facts and figures that "the principal factor in the promotion of international traffic in women in the East is the brothel," there can be no doubt that the same is true of the internal situation with regard to prostitution and traffic in each individual country through which that international traffic passes. Be it traffic from country to country, or province to province, or town to town or village to village, the nature of the problem is always the same.

If the report on the Enquiry further stresses the importance of educational and preventive measures, emphasises the rôle of Mission work, recommends the active participation of private organisations in official

work destined to combat international traffic in the East and pays a tribute to the value of employment of women officials in that work, the same considerations naturally apply to the individual internal fight against the evil in each of the territories concerned.

Let us now turn to the question of international co-operation in the fight against traffic in Asia and see what has been achieved in that respect since the visit of the Commission of Enquiry. The Commission has noted a particular lack of initiative in this field of action. The Report on the Enquiry regrets that in many cases excellent measures taken by individual countries at the points of departure and destination of international traffic are rendered of no account because of a complete absence of their co-ordination. It draws attention to a series of circumstances favouring particularly traffic in women and children of Chinese and Russian nationality in the Far East, circumstances which could be done away with by suitable common action by the competent authorities of the different countries concerned.

With this aim in view the report recommends in the first place the convocation of a conference of representatives of China, Hong Kong and Macao, as countries of origin of traffic in Chinese women with representatives of Indo-China, Siam, British Malaya, the Netherlands' East Indies and the Philippines as countries of destination of this traffic with the object of co-ordinating measures which these countries have already introduced individually to combat international traffic at their own frontiers.

Collaboration in fighting international traffic might, however, be considered to mean not only common action in order to frustrate actual attempts made to move victims of traffic from one country to the other. In a

wider sense it may be interpreted to include also a concerted attack on the causes of the evil.

To establish contact with the national association of Eastern countries in such a way that a free exchange of views with them might result in enlisting their co-operation for the success of the proposed League Conference, will not in all cases be possible by more correspondence from London.

Being aware of the decisive rôle which private initiative has everywhere and at all times played in social progress, they would no doubt be guided in their efforts by the conviction that the success of the movement for the suppression of traffic in women and children in the East must chiefly depend upon the support which will come from the midst of the Eastern nations themselves.

By assisting in the necessary organisation of such national support, foreign social workers in the East can now render an immense service to the cause.

Traffic in women and children is a world-wide evil. World-wide co-operation of public-spirited men and women of all nations is needed to combat it.

India.

Sir Bhupendra Nath Mitra, *High Commissioner for India*.—"All India regardless of race and creed, desires to co-operate, by every means within her power, with the work of social regeneration. In our country especially, unofficial effort in this matter is the essential precursor of official action. We do not regard the problem as being special to any one class or one religion but as one that transcends all distinction of race and creed.

China.

Mr. Lui Chieh, First Secretary Chinese Legation.—“Both the Commission of Enquiry and the Advisory Commission of the League have again and again emphasised the importance of such co-operative action, and I need hardly say how much my Government welcomes the co-operation of friendly nations in the common effort to combat traffic in women and prostitution.”

It is emphasised in the Report of the Commission of Enquiry that licensed houses are a cause of the international traffic and Governments have been asked to consider the possibility of abolishing them. On this point the attitude of the Chinese National Government is a very distinct one. The Capital of Nanking, ever since it was made the seat of the National Government, has not only abolished brothels but prohibited the practice of prostitution in all forms.

What achievements have been made in that direction can only be viewed as the beginning of a difficult campaign and much still has to be done before we eradicate such a widespread and deep-rooted evil.

We know that even the strictest enforcement of law will not be completely successful unless it is supplemented by enlightened public opinion.

Something should be done to focus the attention of voluntary organisations and direct their efforts to this specific question of traffic in women and prostitution, in order to achieve the maximum result.”

Japan.

Mr. Ishii, Secretary to the Department of Home Affairs, Japan.—Mr. Ishii, through Mr. Kawasahi.—“I am sure the Japanese Government will be glad to co-operate in every possible way with all the countries concerned, to render the Singapore Conference successful.”

Holland.

The Baroness van Boetzelaer van Dubbeldam, The Vice-Chairman of the International Missionary Council.—“If co-operation is needed it will certainly be forthcoming, not only on the part of the individual who deals with the missionary, but through the instrumentality of the Mission Consulate. In the Dutch Colonies there is a Consulate for the Missions, an extremely useful institution, and it is by means of that body that co-operation between Missions and Government has been possible.”

France.

Père Robert, Secrétaire Missions Etrangères.—“Representing the Catholic missions, I may tell you that the organisations of the Catholic Missions in the Far East number about 400 Missions or dioceses. The Catholic Church is international, and so it is extremely easy for the missions to co-operate with any committee or any league regarding the suppression of prostitution and the protection of children.”

Great Britain.

Rev. William Paton, Secretary International Missionary Council.—“I think I can speak for the International Missionary Council and the Protestant Missions in saying that in so far as our organisation can be of help in this common work, we should like it to be used. There is, for instance in China, a body known as the National Christian Council of China, which represents the bulk of the Protestant Chinese Christians and the foreign missionaries. In other regions of Asia, Japan, Korea, the Philippines, Siam, India, the Near East as well as in Africa, we have similar organisations representing both the indigenous Churches and the Missions. I hope that through such organisations we might be able to give some help along the lines proposed.”

If a larger knowledge of the essentials of this matter were diffused through the public abroad, including the missionaries, the total share taken by the missionary organisations would be larger and more effective.

I should like to say here that so far as I can speak for the Christian missionary movement I can say that we welcome and desire the utmost co-operation with all other bodies.

I should like to make it quite clear that American, Continental and British Missions alike are increasingly looking for the carrying on of their work in Asia and Africa, not only through the agency of foreigners but through the indigenous Churches.

It is important therefore that we in the missionary movement should make it plain to you, and practise the principle, that we desire to work as much as we can through indigenous Christian bodies, and that these bodies will be composed, not primarily of missionaries, but of indigenous Christians in the different lands."

Malaya.

Sir Cecil Clementi, *former Governor of Hong-Kong and the Straits Settlements and Federated Malay States.*—"I have no doubt whatever that with co-operation between the unofficials and officials nearly all these problems can be successfully solved. Without such co-operation the problems present, frequently, very grave difficulties."

India.

Mrs. Gupta, *Women's Organisations.*—"I am here as representative of the National Council of Women of India. I think that the question of preventing traffic in women and children should be dealt with more from a

moral and educational point of view than from any other. If the traffic is to be eradicated, it is really the children of the various nations who will have to be trained in the moral and religious aspect, and it is only through education and moral training that it is ever likely to be eradicated. I do not believe legislation will have much effect unless the education of the people morally is first dealt with. Therefore it seems to me that the women's organisations have a great work before them in trying to co-operate."

PROCEEDINGS.

TRAFFIC IN WOMEN, OFFICIAL AND NON-OFFICIAL CO-OPERATIVE ACTION IN COMBATING THE TRAFFIC IN THE EAST.

The Rt. Hon. the Earl of Lytton, K.G., G.C.S.I., G.C.I.E.:—

"There are some evils in this imperfect world which we may hope to minimise, though their abolition may be beyond the reach of any one generation. War is one of these. Though it may be beyond our power to prevent entirely those periodical conflicts in which the men of one country think it their highest duty to kill the men of another country, yet we may, if we care sufficiently, make such conflicts rarer, and it ought to be possible, though the means has not yet been found, to eliminate the element of private profit in the manufacture of arms.

Another such evil is the suffering involved in the traffic in human vice, but here again it should be possible, if we cared enough, to minimise the evil, to restrict the traffic within certain bounds, and to suppress that feature of it whereby profits accrue to one set of people by exploiting the

weaknesses of others. It may not be possible for any one Government to suppress prostitution among its subjects, but it is possible for many Governments, by co-operation with each other, to suppress the international traffic in women and children which flourishes to-day at so great a cost to human health and happiness.

This task the League of Nations has definitely undertaken. Its Social Welfare section has been at work upon it for some years. It has sent a Commission of Enquiry into the Far East, to learn the facts and consider the remedies. The Committee has made its report. The 5th Commission has considered this report and made recommendations to the Council. The Council has accepted these recommendations, and in turn reported them for approval to the Assembly, which meets in the autumn.

The Assembly will almost certainly give the necessary authority for a conference to be held at Singapore between representatives of the Governments concerned and the voluntary organisations which work in that part of the world.

Such a conference will probably assemble in about a year's time, and it is very important that when it does meet it should bear some fruit and not merely stop at the talking stage. This subject is very easy to talk about, but it is immensely difficult to get anything practical done about it.

We are therefore utilising a season when many officials and many voluntary workers are at home on leave to ask them to meet in conference and begin to consider what can usefully be done. We want to get through much of the talking stage now, to ventilate opinions, hear suggestions and criticisms, so that when the more important conference meets in the East it may accomplish some real measure of co-operation amongst all those concerned.

Now that is the essential condition of any constructive action—there must be co-operation—between neighbouring Governments—between Governments and voluntary organisations—and between the different religions and social systems. This is a problem which is common to all humanity—it is not the concern of any one country more than

another, of any one faith more than another. If any one link in the chain of co-operation breaks down, the value of all the rest will be lost.

But no solution can be of value which ignores the varying customs and social systems of different countries. That is why a conference must be fully representative, and it must be composed of practical people. We begin with ideals, of course—ideals are the motive force of such a movement—but ideals must be fortified by knowledge, and a great deal of work is necessary to accumulate the real facts. That work has been accomplished. The Commission of Enquiry has done that, and our thanks are due to the High Commissioner for India, to Sir Cecil Clementi, the late Governor of the Straits Settlements and the Federated Malay States, and to the representatives from Hong Kong, for the valuable help they have rendered in furnishing the facts which are now embodied in the comprehensive reports available for your use to-day.

The time has now come to make use of the knowledge which has been acquired. It is easy enough for a gathering at Geneva of men and women, inspired with the highest ideals, to draft a Convention—but that is not enough. A League Convention can be as effective or as ineffective as the national legislation of any one country. The governing factor in both is the public opinion of the community in which they are to be enforced. We may have a Convention to check all traffic in women of whatever age from one country to another, but if the population of an adhering country does not understand the value to its own community of enforcing such a Convention through local legislation, even if that local legislation is passed and the Convention is ratified, the necessary change in the behaviour and social customs of the community will not follow. Therefore we are anxious that the leaders of all cultures should make the case to their own communities on the basis of their own code and standard of conduct, indicating the necessity for the checking of the traffic and the suppression of commercialised vice. Only so can there be real international progress.

This conference has been summoned to make a beginning in this all-important work."

Sir Basil Blckett, *Chairman of the Joint Standing Committee*:—"My Lord, Ladies and Gentlemen. As chairman of the Joint Standing Committee of the British Social Hygiene Council and the Conference of British Missionary Societies, I wish to say how very much indebted we are to Lord Lytton for giving up the time at a very busy period of the year to come here to-day, and to thank him on behalf of the Joint Committee. In regard to the future, the Joint Standing Committee has perhaps performed most of its function in bringing this conference together, a conference which cannot, I think, fail to be of extreme utility in converting the ideas talked about at Geneva into action to take place in the East. The Joint Standing Committee stated that the Committee were anxious to have the opportunity of carrying out any work arising from the conference, and would be glad to handle any suggestions and endeavour to give practical assistance in securing any action that is desired by the conference. The importance of this conference has already been explained by the chairman, but I would suggest the possibility, if practicable, that similar conferences might take place in China and Japan, with a view to performing very much the same service as we are doing here, in making preparation for the full convention to be held, say, at Singapore, which can only be effective if it is thoroughly prepared for in advance."

Sir Bhupendra Nath Mitra, *the High Commissioner for India*, who greatly regretted that press of official business had unavoidably prevented him from attending this conference, communicated the following message through Mr. Zaman:—

"I can assure the Conference that all India, regardless of race and creed, desires to co-operate, by every means within her power, in the work of social regeneration which you have met to consider. We Indians recognise that social evil exists in all lands, in our own as well as in others, and I have no doubt that our conscience is fully alive to the need for the eradication of such evils. In our country especially, unofficial effort in this matter is the essential precursor of official action, and I am happy to be able to tell you that the organisation of unofficial effort is making

marked headway throughout the land. We do not regard the problem as being special to any one class or one religion, but as one that transcends all distinction of creed and race. I have no doubt that the proceedings of this Conference will be studied by my countrymen with keen interest, and that valuable lessons will be drawn from its deliberations."

STATEMENT FROM THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS.

Mr. H. R. Cummings, *representing the Social Questions Section of the League of Nations*:—

"The Enquiry by the League of Nations Commission into traffic in women and children in the East was a continuation of the research work undertaken by the League in this field. It was carried out under instructions from the League of Nations Council after the Governments concerned had consented and agreed to co-operate, and it had as its basis the resolutions passed by the Advisory Committee on Traffic in Women and Children. The necessary funds were provided by the American Bureau of Social Hygiene at New York.

The organisation entrusted with the investigation consisted of:—

(1) A travelling Commission of Enquiry of three members appointed by the Council, namely, Mr. Bascom Johnson, U.S.A., Director of the Legal Section of the American Social Hygiene Association, Dr. Alma Sundquist, Sweden, Physician, and M. Karol Pindor, Poland, Counsellor of Legation.

(2) A Committee on which the Governments with representatives on the Traffic in Women and Children Committee appointed delegates with experience in Eastern countries. The travelling commission visited Siam, Indo-China, Hong-Kong, the Philippines, various centres in China and Japan, Korea, Singapore and Malaya, India, Ceylon, Persia, Iraq, Syria, Lebanon and Palestine.

The enquiry was conducted

- (a) By a questionnaire sent in advance;
- (b) By official written replies to the questionnaire;
- (c) By statements from official and unofficial sources;
- (d) By a special invitation published in local papers to people to give information;
- (e) By the inspection of brothel areas and visits to institutions.

The travelling Commission submitted its report in 1932, and a summary was issued in 1934.

This report was finally discussed at the meeting of the Advisory Commission for the Protection and Welfare of Children and Young People last April. It had been sent to about seventy important Missions and organisations for their observations, and in addition to the Government delegates and assessors of the Commission, the representatives of certain Governments (China, Netherlands and Persia) and of certain private organisations (World's Y.W.C.A., International Missionary Council and Sacred Congregation for the Propagation of the Faith) attended the meeting in order to submit observations and suggestions. A digest of the Comments made by the private organisations has been published.

The Advisory Commission took, as starting-point of its discussion, the more important practical measures contained in the report of the travelling Commission.

1.—*The establishment of Central Authorities, responsible for the protection and welfare of young girls and women, and an effective collaboration and exchange of information by such Authorities throughout the East.*

According to information received by the Central Authorities of Ceylon, Madras and Rangoon, the Unfederated Malay States and Palestine, international traffic is non-existent on these territories, and the legislation is adequate to cope with the situation.

The Inspector-General of Police of Hong-Kong states that semi-official correspondence on traffic questions is conducted directly by the Hong-Kong and Canton Police

Authorities, China having no Central Authorities in the important ports.

The Governor-General of Indo-China, Hanoï, states that though there are no official measures of co-ordination between the various administrations, the competent authorities are in constant touch in regard to traffic in women and children. He considers it desirable that international co-operation should be improved.

The Inspector-General of Police of Batavia states that measures of co-ordination are made difficult by the fact that in the countries with which co-operation would be most needed, Central Authorities either do not exist or have been appointed too recently to work effectively.

The information submitted to the Advisory Commission seemed to prove that closer co-ordination was an important object which might be achieved if the whole question were discussed at a conference of the competent authorities of countries in the East interested in the matter. The Commission therefore thought that such a conference might be convened under the auspices of the League of Nations and might be held at the same time as the annual meeting of the League of Nations Singapore Bureau. The Commission drew attention to the usefulness of inviting representatives of some unofficial organisations and Missions closely interested in the problem.

The Advisory Commission discussed the possibility and desirability of the League of Nations appointing a special liaison officer for combating traffic in the East. His task would be to co-ordinate the efforts of Governments and private organisations and to stimulate activity in regard to this question.

Several delegates opposed this idea as inexpedient and impracticable; others expressed the desire that the suggestion should not be lost sight of. Several of the Women's Organisations, in endorsing the appointment of a liaison agent, thought he should be assisted by a qualified woman social worker. The Commission took no decision on these proposals, but decided to mention them in its report to the

League of Nations Council. The Council noted the suggestion that this proposal should be considered, and instructed the Secretary-General to bring it to the notice of the States concerned.

2.—*The abolition of licensed or tolerated brothels in those countries of the East where they still exist.*

The Commission had before it a report of the League of Nations Secretariat on the effects of the closing of licensed houses in various countries. The Commission observed with great satisfaction that there is no evidence of any increase in the incidence of venereal disease as the result of their abolition, or of ill-effects on public order and decency. In view of the strong evidence that licensed or tolerated houses are dangerous to health and morals, and stimulate and perpetuate traffic, the Commission asked the League of Nations Council to invite Governments to maintain the abolition of the system of licensed houses wherever this has been realised, and to consider the desirability of abandoning the system where it still exists. It requested the Council to invite the Governments to circulate to such local authorities, as having power in the matter still retain the system, copies of the report containing the information that decided the Commission to recommend abolition.

The Secretary-General transmitted this recommendation of all the States Members of the League and non-Member States concerned, and requests for the report have already been received from a number of Governments.

3.—*The appointment of a larger number of trained and experienced women officials to the staffs of the authorities in the Eastern countries who are responsible for the welfare of women and children.*

Emphasis was laid on the necessity of women social workers appointed by the courts to act in cases of traffic, and to give evidence on behalf of the child victims, as well as on the desirability of having more trained women probation officers and policewomen. The principle of this proposal was accepted, the delegates of the Eastern countries

suggesting, however, that all details should be left to the Governments concerned.

4.—*The general adoption of a policy of assisting, caring for and educating immigrant minors who are victims of the traffic—a policy already in force in several countries of the East.*

The Commission emphasised the desirability of such measures instead of purely negative ones, such as expelling minors from the country. It drew attention to the necessity of placing women inspectors on board ships transporting migrants, and thought the more general question of the protection of migrants to the East should be considered at the proposed conference of Central Authorities.

These two recommendations were brought to the notice of the States concerned by the Secretary-General, at the request of the Council.

5.—*Further collaboration between the Authorities, Missions and Private Organisations.*

The various aspects of this problem were discussed at length by the Commission, and the possibilities of rendering assistance and relief to victims of the traffic were examined. The Commission considered that one of the chief methods of protection should be the provision of popular public health instruction and character training. It thought that there was an urgent need for training and educating girls in the East so that they might not only know how to protect themselves, but also have the resources of legitimate occupations. It expressed the opinion that all preventive measures of education and social assistance calculated to reduce prostitution should apply to both sexes. It strongly urged that the collaboration between public authorities, Missions and private organisations in rendering assistance and relief to victims of the traffic should be maintained and increased.

The League of Nations can promote and co-ordinate action in all these matters, but it cannot, of course, take action on national ground. This is the task of the Governments and the voluntary organisations.

The recommendations of the Advisory Commission and all relevant documents have been communicated to the States Members and non-Members of the League of Nations, and the Assembly is expected to suggest action when it meets in September."

Mr. Cummings supported the statement that ample preparation was necessary for any conference that might be held. The experience of the League and of those who had worked there for many years proves the need for careful preliminary preparation.

THE NECESSITY OF THE SUGGESTED CONFERENCE OF EASTERN COUNTRIES UNDER THE ÆGIS OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS.

Mr. Karol Pindor,

Member of the League of Nations Commission of Enquiry in the East. Read by Mr. S. Cohen, Assessor in the Advisory Committee of the League of Nations Enquiry into the Traffic:—

Just thirty years ago the first international agreement for the suppression of traffic in women and children was signed at Paris. At that time international collaboration with the East in these matters hardly existed. One did not think at the conference table in Paris in 1904 of Chinese or Japanese or Philipino victims of international traffic. Suppression of the white slave traffic was the officially designated object of the diplomatic instrument in question.

Much has changed since those days. From the beginning of the existence of the Social Questions section of The League of Nations, information on the subject of traffic in women and children of all nations has been gathered. More and more the international character of the problem became visible, not only in the West, but also in the East.

Each country can successfully cope with traffic that goes on within its own borders. But international traffic—that is, traffic which crosses the frontiers and brings its victims from one country to another—must be attacked by international collaboration. The League of Nations had already succeeded in bringing about co-operation in the West, and it was decided in 1930 to extend its activity to the East.

To furnish the information and to prepare the ground for the necessary common action of Eastern countries in the fight against the evil was during the following two years the task of the League of Nations Commission of Enquiry into traffic in women and children in the East.

In order to avoid misunderstanding, much care had been taken to make it clear that the enquiry was not concerned with the internal social policy of the various Eastern countries, but that its purpose was limited to the international aspect of the problem. That is the reason why the Commission concentrated its efforts on those parts of the East, where a traffic in women from country to country is in existence, and why the bulk of their report deals with conditions in the Far East. And that is also the reason why all suggestions which they have submitted to the Council of the League refer exclusively to the existing instances of an International Traffic in the East.

Nevertheless, the work done by the League Enquiry might also prove of some utility in the internal social problems of the countries concerned.

International traffic is obviously nothing but a continuation, a further ramification, of the internal traffic of both the country of origin and the country of destination of its victims. This is particularly so in the East, where victims of international traffic are, as a general rule, brought to a foreign country for clients of their own race only.

Under these circumstances it may safely be assumed that all recommendations made by the Commission of Enquiry for the suppression of International Traffic are applicable also to the internal problem of prostitution and traffic of the various countries concerned.

If, therefore, the Commission proves by irrefutable facts and figures that "the principal factor in the promotion of international traffic in women in the East is the brothel," there can be no doubt that the same is true of the internal situation with regard to prostitution and traffic in each individual country through which that international traffic passes. Be it traffic from country to country, or province to province, or town to town or village to village, the nature of the problem is always the same.

If the Report on the Enquiry further stresses the importance of educational and preventive measures, emphasises the rôle of Mission work, recommends the active participation of private organisations in official work destined to combat international traffic in the East and pays a tribute to the value of employment of women officials in that work, the same considerations naturally apply to the individual internal fight against the evil in each of the territories concerned.

II.

More than two years have now passed since the League Enquiry took place. Its results have been published and are before us. In order to obtain a picture of the situation, as it is to-day, let us bring our information up to date and review what has been done in the East since the time of the Enquiry to fight traffic in women and children. Let us first see what developments have taken place in the different countries individually, and then what has been achieved in the way of international co-operation.

As regards developments in the attitude of the different countries of the East towards their internal problem, we hear from *Japan* that there is a growing national movement against prostitution and traffic. A new society for the prevention of traffic in women has been established, and the Government, both Houses of Parliament and private organisations are represented on its membership. The society is studying means of putting abolition into force. Japanese non-Christian organisations have joined hands with Christian organisations in the cause. Thus, for

instance, the Purity Society of Japan is engaged in a joint campaign with the Women's Christian Temperance Union for sex education and the abolition of licensed quarters. It is reported that the authorities no longer grant permission for a new licensed quarter and in thirteen prefectures the local government Council has already voted for the abolition of the existing licensed quarter. Three of these prefectures have actually abolished theirs. It is reported that a large number of women officials are now appointed in Japan to the staff of municipal or local Government Social Bureaux where they are rendering most efficient service.

Reports from different parts of *China* confirm a growing interest in the problem of combating prostitution and traffic. Two instances of co-operation of social workers with local authorities in the province of Shantung are cited which have resulted in the closing of brothels.

Most important developments have taken place in recent years in the policy towards prostitution and traffic in British colonies and protectorates in the East.

In the *Straits Settlements* the keeping of brothels has been made illegal and a policy of gradual systematic closing of brothels was begun at the end of 1930, *i.e.*, at the time of the arrival of the Commission of Enquiry in the Far East. A similar law was enacted in the Federated Malay States in 1931, and after the visit of the Commission brothel-keeping was made illegal also in two of the unfederated Malay States, *viz.*, in Johore in 1932 and in Kedah in 1933. The authorities in British Malaya note that the abolitionist policy continues to give most satisfactory results from the point of view of checking traffic in women and of clearing the territories concerned from male undesirables who were thriving on the commercial organisation of prostitution, such as gangsters, procurors, pimps, etc.

The example of Singapore was followed by Hongkong in 1932. In that year all brothels for non-Chinese clients were closed and a policy of gradual closing of the other brothels was begun and is being continued systematically. At the time of the Commission's visit there had been 2,600 Chinese prostitutes in brothels for Chinese clients. In

September, 1933, their number had been already reduced to 561. The Secretariat for Chinese Affairs, which is acting as Central Authority in Hongkong, has lately added two women inspectors to its staff.

Much public interest and a fruitful activity of Missions and private organisations in collaboration with the authorities in the fight against prostitution and traffic in the last three years is reported from *India*. Up to 1933 the Indian territories which had passed legislation against brothels were the United Provinces, Bombay, Bengal, Madras, Burma, Puddukottah, Travancore, Cochin and Ceylon, while the following were reported to be considering legislation: Delhi Province, Hyderabad Sindh, Hyderabad Deccan, Punjab, Mysore State, United Provinces, Central Provinces, Bihar and Orissa.

In Madras there were during the visit of the Commission of Enquiry in 1931, 600 brothels. Since then in 1932 legislation against brothels has been brought into force and, according to news received in 1933, about 18 months after, 136 brothels had been closed down. The Madras Suppression of Immoral Traffic Act had already been passed in 1930, but its application had been delayed, as the Government held the opinion that it would not be justified to enforce the Act until sufficient accommodation in philanthropic homes of a rescue type was available. This having been provided for, thanks to the offer of funds from voluntary sources, the Act was enforced in 1932. The gradual closing of brothels continues.

An increased activity of social workers in *Syria* is reported, and is reflected in recent literature there, on the subject of the various systems of state attitude towards prostitution. An interesting pamphlet on the connection between juvenile delinquency and prostitution in *Syria* appeared in 1933.

These are, as far as we know, the new features in the fight against prostitution and traffic in the East, *i.e.*, the developments which have taken place since the visit of the Commission of Enquiry.

It is a significant fact that wherever there has been any kind of initiative in the East recently to cope with these social problems, it has aimed straight at the root of the evil and the chief factor in the promotion of prostitution and traffic: the brothel.

Brothels are now abolished or being abolished in the following countries and territories of the East:—Palestine, a large part of British India, Ceylon, British Malaya, The Dutch East Indies, the Philippines, and *Hong-Kong*.

They continue to exist in Syria, Iraq, Persia, part of British India, Siam, Indo-China, Macao, China, Manchuria, Korea and Japan.

The area where brothels exist is still the larger one. But judging from certain indications the spirit of abolition appeals to a section of enlightened public opinion in that area too, and seems to be gaining in strength. *There is a revolutionary force in it, it travels on the wave of the modern conception of social justice.* It is no longer the old issue of public health and public order, such as caused the many fluctuations between abolition and state regulation of prostitution in former centuries in many parts of Europe. In the East to-day it is the existence of slavery, as clearly attached to the brothel, that is repulsive to the social conscience of many enlightened men and women. Once this verdict is distinctly felt, it is necessarily final, as final in the East as in the West.

A high standard of measures to combat traffic and to protect its victims has already been attained in the British and the Dutch territories in Asia. This pioneer work and the general sincere interest in the problem in the East permit of the hope that the evil will continue to decrease in all Eastern countries.

Let us now turn to the question of international co-operation in the fight against traffic in Asia and see what has been achieved in that respect since the visit of the Commission of Enquiry. The Commission had noted a particular lack of initiative in this field of action. The Report on the Enquiry regrets that in many cases excellent

measures taken by individual countries at the points of departure and destination of international traffic are rendered of no account because of a complete absence of their co-ordination. It draws attention to a series of circumstances favouring particularly traffic in women and children of Chinese and Russian nationality in the Far East, circumstances which could be done away with by suitable common action by the competent authorities of the different countries concerned.

With this aim in view the Report recommends in the first place the convocation of a conference of representatives of China, Hong-Kong and Macao, as countries of origin of traffic in Chinese women, with representatives of Indo-China, Siam, British Malaya, the Netherlands' East Indies and the Philippines, as countries of destination of this traffic with the object of co-ordinating measures which these countries have already introduced individually to combat international traffic at their own frontiers. Further, the Report urges the conclusion of an understanding between the Mayor of Shanghai and the International and the French Settlements, with the object of preventing the use of Shanghai as a base for traffic, and also the conclusion of an understanding between the police authorities of Canton, Hong-Kong and Macao, with the object of ensuring prompt action against traffickers who try to evade police-intervention in one of these territories by transferring their victims to the neighbouring territory. Finally, attention is drawn to the necessity of a number of minor understandings between authorities of different nationalities in the Far East in order to prevent the continual circumvention of existing regulations by traffickers in certain places with regard to both Chinese and Russian victims.

If we ask now what progress has been made in the last two years in these matters, the answer is most unsatisfactory. Only in one of the minor points mentioned in the Report of the Commission, concerning a subterfuge of traffickers on the route from the Netherlands' East Indies to Singapore, a settlement has been reached. Otherwise nothing whatsoever, *as far as we know*, has been done to

promote international collaboration against traffic in the East, neither on the lines recommended by the Commission of Enquiry, or in any other way.

It is a great pity that this should be so, if we consider that in many cases a simple communication of copies of emigration registers and such like documents from one port to another might help to detect important channels of traffic and to save many victims from their cruel fate. Let us take one example. A Chinese girl is being directed by a trafficker from Amoy to Singapore. In the Mayor's office at Amoy she proves by letters that she is asked by her relatives in Singapore to join them. Persons of apparently good reputation and financial standing in Amoy confirm that this is so and put up a formal written guarantee that the girl is being taken to Singapore for a legitimate purpose. She is allowed to leave. On her arrival at Singapore the immigration authorities establish proof that she is a victim of traffic and has been brought for immoral purposes. She is refused permission to land. What happens then? Very little. The trafficker directs her to Bangkok instead and otherwise his whole apparatus is untouched, and his accomplices can continue to function. Those at Singapore who have furnished the letter of invitation, which, of course, was not used for the police in Singapore, as well as the procuror who brought the girl from her village in Fukien, and the guarantor in Amoy who guarantees with his house and his shop that everything is in order, can continue to function. The trafficker and his accomplices know that no word of the affair will ever pass between the Government offices of Amoy, Singapore and Bangkok and therefore they can sleep quietly and may continue their business undisturbed. The same sound sleep may be enjoyed by all their colleagues in the East who are lucky enough to operate between territories which are under the administration of different nationalities. For however great may be the zeal of the responsible officials in each of these territories, however elaborate may be the measures which each territory applies to fight the trafficker, they never join hands in this fight. No trace of collaboration exists between them!

When it is possible for individual Eastern countries earnestly to envisage or even to accomplish a fundamental change of policy in matters of prostitution and traffic—a change which involves much labour and financial sacrifice and heated public controversy—why should it be impossible at the same time to bring about an understanding between neighbouring police or emigration authorities about an almost mechanical co-ordination of already existing measures which require no change of policy and no expense?

Obviously for some reason or other the technical difficulties of starting international co-operation in these matters in the East are unusually great. We do not examine the reason. We simply note the fact and draw the conclusions from it. The logical conclusion is that a new initiative from outside is needed to bring about the desired action.

This was also the conviction of the Traffic in Women and Child Welfare Committees of the League of Nations when in their joint session in April last they adopted the following resolution:—

“Attention is drawn in the Report of the Commissioners to the need for closer co-operation and greater exchange of information between the authorities who are responsible for the measures taken to prevent traffic in women. This seems to the Advisory Commission an important object, which might be secured, if the whole question were discussed at a conference of the different authorities of countries in the East interested in the matter. Such a conference might, with the concurrence of the Governments, be convened under the auspices of the League of Nations, and it might be held at the same time as the meeting of the Singapore Bureau. It might be useful if some representation of unofficial organisations and Missions who are closely interested in the problem were invited to the Conference.”

III.

The Committee of to-day's gathering has set its members the task of finding means to stimulate the interest

of the non-government organisations in the Eastern countries in the proposed League Conference. Let us first of all examine the following questions:—

- (1) What should be the agenda of the League Conference?
- (2) Which area should be covered by its agenda?
- (3) Who should take part in the conference?

QUESTION I.—*The Agenda of the Conference.*—The first concern of the Conference should be to establish the most urgently needed collaboration between police and immigration authorities of the different countries in the detection and apprehension of international traffickers and in the rescue of their victims. Provision should be made for mutual, regular and rapid information about the movements of suspected traffickers and suspected victims of traffic.

As a further step the regular exchange of information should not be limited to suspected, but extended to all potential victims of international traffic, such as Asiatic women and children of the emigrant class who are travelling on traffic-infested sea-routes.

Information of this kind might be sent by correspondence, or, better still, conveyed by persons officially entrusted with the task of accompanying emigrants on their sea-voyage and exercising protection over them. These persons should be well acquainted with the methods of traffickers of the particular region and qualified to detect cases of kidnapping and traffic. They could on their return voyages take care of women and children who are either re-emigrants or who have been refused entry into the country.

A general understanding might be reached at the conference with regard to an efficient public guardianship over victims or suspected victims of traffic of minor age.

Such and similar measures of the competence of police and immigration authorities would be the object of immediate concern of the proposed conference.

Collaboration in fighting International Traffic might, however, be considered to mean not only common action

in order to frustrate actual attempts made to move victims of traffic from one country to another. In a wider sense it may be interpreted to include also a concerted attack on the causes of the evil. In that case it would involve, moreover, a common search for the most efficient means to combat prostitution and traffic as a general, *i.e.*, national as well as international problem. Such a common search would give the proposed conference a most interesting and undoubtedly most useful scope. It must, however, be said that this question would have to be treated with great caution, in view of the possible sentiment on the part of the different countries that a common study of this kind would lead too far into the domain of purely internal matters which—as they might think—would be better excluded from the object of official, international deliberations.

On the other hand it would be a great pity if the occasion of the gathering of experts from many countries were not used for a thorough exchange of opinions and experiences in all branches of the problem.

A solution of this dilemma might perhaps offer itself, if the conference were divided into an official part which would have on its agenda merely the question of technical collaboration in the fight against international traffic, and a second, unofficial part which might be devoted to the informal exchange of views and experiences of the members in all questions related to prostitution and traffic, including also educational and preventive social work in the widest sense of the word.

It should, however, be made very clear that from the formally official standpoint the stage of enquiry into the social background of traffic is terminated—terminated with the findings of the League Commission—and that official international work ahead—be it the official agenda of the League Conference or the functions of a League agent—will now concern merely the technical co-operation of the different countries in combating international traffic. A doubt on this point could cause some countries to take up an attitude of reserve towards the proposed conference.

QUESTION 2.—With regard to the question which area should be covered by the agenda of the Eastern Conference, it will be remembered that international traffic, *i.e.*, traffic across political frontiers, happens to exist to a considerable extent only in the Far East, and not in the Near or the Middle East. This—in parenthesis—does not mean that the Far East is less moral than the Near and Middle East. No. Prostitution and traffic are common to all parts of the East. The reason for the difference in international traffic is, that Asiatic prostitutes leave their country exclusively in search of clients among their own countrymen abroad, and that only the Far East knows large-scale migratory movements and settlements of one people in the territory of another.

Therefore the official part of the Conference which would consider the means of technical collaboration against international traffic need concern itself only with the Far East, *i.e.*, British Malaya, the Dutch East Indies, the Philippines, Siam, Indo-China, Hong-Kong, Macao, China, Manchuria and the Japanese Empire.

The unofficial part of the Conference, however, need not be limited to the Far East. On the contrary it would be most desirable if representatives from the whole of Asia would participate in the informal discussions on the different aspects of the problem.

QUESTION 3.—Who should take part in the Conference? The answer is given in the Geneva resolution. The resolution speaks of a conference of the different authorities of countries in the East, interested in the matter, to be convened under the auspices of the League of Nations. And it adds that it might be useful, if some representatives of unofficial organisations and Missions who are closely interested in the problem were invited to the Conference.

It is a well-known fact, that if persons with a large practical experience and a first-hand knowledge of a problem come together and are—as it cannot be otherwise in this case—animated by a keen desire to help, complicated problems of co-operation often become astonishingly simple. The large practical experience which competent officials have

acquired through their administrative activity, and missionaries and lay social workers through their preventive and rescue work, is bound to furnish in the aggregate an excellent basis for the deliberations of the Conference.

The great significance of the Conference will lie not only in the measures of co-operation on which the government delegates will be able to agree this time. It will lie in the fact that experts in the problem from the various countries in the East will for the first time come into personal contact with each other and that the stone of common action will be set rolling. I have no doubt that the meeting of persons devoted to the same ideals will create the desire for further exchange of opinion and pave the way for renewed contact and understanding.

IV.

Let us examine now what might be done to stimulate the interest of the non-government organisations in Eastern countries in the proposed League Conference.

I have no doubt that, if fully notified of the facts which occupy the attention of this meeting, each one of these organisations will readily agree on the urgent necessity of such a conference, and gladly contribute their efforts to make it successful.

The question remains, which are the organisations that should be approached and in what form should the facts of the problem be brought to their knowledge.

As regards both Protestant and Catholic Missions, and the Eastern branches of the several great international private organisations who are interested in this problem, such as the Salvation Army, the Y.W.C.A., etc., they are either in close touch with the sponsors of this gathering already or else easy to reach through their European head offices.

A difficulty arises, however, in establishing contact with national organisations in the different countries of the East whom we know to be active in the social problem under discussion. And this difficulty must be overcome. For there

is no doubt that the active support by various Asiatic national societies who are concerned with problems of social welfare is of paramount importance for the success of the proposed League Conference. Women and children of their nations are the principal victims of international traffic in the East. Therefore, they are the most directly interested in measures to combat it.

In the Far East the Japanese and Chinese social welfare societies come into first consideration. Amongst the Japanese the most active are the Kakusai Kai (Purity Society) at Tokio (41 Otsuka nakamachi Koishikawa, Tokio), the Japan Anti-Prostitution League, at Tokio (500 Shimo Ochiai, Tokio), and the Fujin Kyofukai (Women's Christian Temperance Union), Tokio.

In China the following are the most prominent: the Women's Association of the Kuomintang, at Nanking; the National Child Welfare Committee of China, Shanghai; the Anti-Kidnapping Society of Shanghai; the Association for the Relief of Women, Municipality of Canton; the Red Cross Society (Infants' Home), Tsinanfu, Shantung; the Women's Mutual Relief Association, Hsien Yu District, Fukien Province.

In the Netherlands' East Indies: The Indo-European Association of Women, Batavia; the Indian Commission of the Federation of Christian Associations for Women and Girls, Batavia.

In the Philippine Islands: National League of Catholic Women, Manila; National Christian Council of the Philippine Islands.

I do not enumerate national social welfare societies in British colonies or protectorates, as the Committee of this gathering undoubtedly knows them, and will get into touch with those who come into consideration.

To establish contact with the national associations of Eastern countries in such a way that a free exchange of views with them might result in enlisting their co-operation for the success of the proposed League Conference, will

not in all cases be possible by mere correspondence from London. Some of these associations would probably not even be reached by a letter bearing their address only in an English version of their name. Others would have great difficulty in obtaining a clear translation of an English communication into their own language. Many of them, while showing great devotion to their local charitable work, would hardly dispose of a sufficiently businesslike organisation to be able to act independently in the matter of an international problem.

The services of some competent intermediary on the spot will therefore be necessary in many cases, in order to convey to them the purpose of an appeal coming from this gathering. It would be of particular value if either Missions or foreign organisations who dispose of the necessary apparatus on the spot, such as the Y.M.C.A., the Y.W.C.A., or the Salvation Army, would consent to take upon themselves the task of this mediation. They need not limit themselves to societies mentioned here, but might with excellent purpose, according to their own judgment, enlist the interest of others as well. Being aware of the decisive rôle which private initiative everywhere and at all times has played in social progress, they would no doubt be guided in their efforts by the conviction that the success of the movement for the suppression of traffic in women and children in the East must chiefly depend upon the support which will come from the midst of the Eastern nations themselves.

By assisting in the necessary organisation of such national support, foreign social workers in the East can now render an immense service to the cause.

Traffic in women and children is a world-wide evil. World-wide co-operation of public-spirited men and women of all nations is needed to combat it.

Father Léon Robert:

“ Mr. Pindor is laying too much stress, I think, on the subject of the national and international aspects of the question. In an affair like this it is not a question of international or national; it is a question of vice which is equally to be fought by any nation under the one heading of immorality. Mr. Pindor should not fear that the people in the Far East will be offended by the fact that we treat the question simply objectively with reference to any nation, whether French, Chinese, or any other. We must simply take the evil as it is and try to combat it by the best means.”

Mr. S. Cohen:

“ When I read Mr. Pindor's paper I naturally made no comments because I had to convey to you just what he wanted to tell you, but as a result of studying the paper I feel that there are several points that ought to be emphasised.”

This has already been done by speeches we heard this morning, but there are one or two matters which I think it worth stressing somewhat further. We ought not to forget that public opinion was aroused so enormously by the published report of the first enquiry by the League of Nations that many organisations began to work in collaboration with one another, and I venture to think if we can make as wide a circulation of the present report as possible, we shall find that there will be organisations in the East who will get together and who will bring about some active work in due course. The main thing we have to remember is the recommendation of the League of Nations to bring about the Far East Conference. The Conference itself can only meet with success if there is some preparatory work, and the preparatory work that we want done is that of educating the people in the different countries of the East in order to form a strong public opinion to bring about some

action. To do that we must endeavour to go among the peoples themselves and teach them what the public opinion in other countries is. It is quite true that they will probably not read documents in any language, but they will listen if they can get a personal explanation of what the League wants, what is necessary to stop the traffic, and what is necessary to rehabilitate the women who have left the brothels.

One important thing mentioned by Mr. Pindor is the effect produced upon the male undesirable. He stated that the clearing of the territories concerned of male undesirables who were profiting by commercial and organised prostitution was essential. There is no doubt about it that if only we can get action taken in other parts of the Far East similar to that which was taken in the Straits Settlements and in particular in Singapore, we shall find a great decrease in the number of people who live on prostitution.

If there were no people desirous of making a profit out of this evil, there would be no such thing as the traffic, and therefore we must try to uproot them.

I would like to emphasise what we in Geneva feel very strongly, that this is a question of collaboration. You will be dealing with peoples with different customs, and different views of life, but I am sure that if the matter is taken up earnestly and energetically, we should bring about that collaboration very rapidly.

The question of the appointment of a liaison officer has been mentioned. Many of us felt very strongly that such an appointment was necessary. It could not be dealt with for a variety of reasons, but I venture to think one could consider the question of a liaison officer in connection with the voluntary organisations who would give an impetus to the fullest discussion of the solution of the problem of fighting the traffic.

We need someone who can travel about and create public opinion, and give educational facilities for the study of the different aspects of the question.

Japan.

Mr. Kawasaki (*Member of Staff, Japanese Embassy*):

"On behalf of Mr. Masaichi Ishii, Secretary of the Department for Home Affairs I should like to say it has been a great pleasure to Mr. Ishii to be here. We have enjoyed listening to the enthusiastic speeches of the representatives of other countries. In the Report read by Mr. Pindor, there was a summary of the existing situation in Japan. The situation was so well summarised that there is nothing left for me to add on behalf of Mr. Ishii in connection with the subject under discussion. Mr. Ishii represented Japan at the Fifth Session of the Commission of the League of Nations last April, and he is shortly returning to Japan. As regards the Singapore Conference, Mr. Ishii will, no doubt, inform his Government of the necessary preparations to be taken with a view to making the forthcoming Conference a success. I am sure the Japanese Government will be glad to co-operate in every possible way with all the countries concerned to render the Singapore Conference successful. I thank you for permitting me to make these few remarks on behalf of Mr. Ishii."

Denmark.

Miss Malthe regretted that Mr. Pindor had limited himself to a consideration of the traffic in the Far East, because from their experience in the Near East they felt it was very necessary that similar conferences should take place throughout the East.

India.

Miss Shephard drew attention to the fact that the problem in India is not so much international as it is inter-racial. Various difficulties arise which place the

victim at the mercy of the Traffickers. The latest information with regard to the closing of the brothels is that in Madras in 1934, 187 brothels had been closed. The penal sections of the Madras Suppression of Immoral Traffic Act were put into operation in 1932.

Miss Shephard welcomed the spirit in which Mr. Pindor showed that Abolitionism had a revolutionary force behind it, and that it travelled upon the modern conception of social justice, but remarked that in India there was still a conflict between Public Health and Public Order, and therefore the results of abolition in India were very satisfactory, particularly as they were part of this revolutionary movement which was going on.

It was hoped that the Officials entrusted with the care of emigrants would have fuller information than they do have at present about the movements of Traffickers.

HOW THE TRAFFIC HAS BEEN AND MAY BE CONTROLLED.

Dame Rachel Crowdy, D.B.E., R.R.C.,

Expert appointed by the League of Nations Council to the Traffic in Women Committee.

While listening to Mr. Pindor's paper to-day, I have been reminded of a famous occasion when, very soon after the Peace Conference, an Imperial Conference was held, for which the League of Nations Union gave a dinner. Lord Balfour made a brilliant speech mostly about the League,

with a little philosophy thrown in. Professor Gilbert Murray, a speech full of Latin and Greek quotations. General Smuts then spoke, and the last person down to talk was Mr. J. H. Thomas. We wondered if there was anything left to say. Mr. Thomas said, "The Labour Party have their quotations too! 'after the Lord Mayor's show comes the dustman so I am speaking now'," I feel rather like this to-day.

The title of my paper applies presumably to international traffic and traffic in the East. In view of the purpose for which this conference is held, I cannot possibly separate my subjects in that way. As Mr. Pindor says, national and international organisation is entirely and absolutely inseparable. It is very certain that bad or inadequate organisation in any country creates international disorganisation. We have a real example of that in the licensed houses system of which Mr. Pindor has already spoken to-day. There is no question but that countries which keep a licensed house system must create a permanent market for a supply, which really only the international traffic can supply at all adequately. I cannot, therefore, divide the international and national aspect. I cannot divide at all easily either what has been done in the East, or what can be done in the East in connection with the international traffic from what has been done in the West and from what may be done in the West. In regard to international traffic I have grown very convinced in Geneva of the fact that if an evil is known to the people of any one country, of any one race, of any one religion, and if that evil is really appreciated, it is just as likely to be remedied in one part of the world as in another, and people of any one country are just as anxious to put an end to the evil as any other people. As to what has been done, it is a very difficult thing to say. I only know really what has been done since the League of Nations came into existence and since the Social Section of the League was started in 1920. I think it is perfectly fair to say that the setting up of the Advisory Committee on which East and West are both represented has been a means of creating public opinion which is the most valuable means of putting an end to any evil, whatever it may be. I think the sending

of these two League Commissions, first of all to South and Central American countries and to the countries in Europe, and secondly to the countries of the Far East, has been a tremendous factor in creating an interest in the countries visited, and in bringing important knowledge to the people concerned. The recommendations in both expert reports are, roughly speaking (making allowance for traditions and religious customs), very much the same. First of all the education of people, the education of the young ones more particularly, a world-wide, wide-spread and knowledgeable public opinion, the raising of the marriage age in countries where the marriage age is low, the supervision of migrant girls, the supervision of contracts and the giving of help to any young people proceeding from their own country to any other country; increased punishment for any man or woman engaged in the traffic in women and commercialised prostitution, and lastly the closing of licensed houses, putting an end to the system of toleration of vice and the evils that go with it. This latter measure is just as applicable to the East as to the West, and is perhaps the most important reform of all if we are to put an end to the traffic. Countries that have abolished the licensed houses don't want to go back to them, when they find that neither socially, commercially, civically, nor in health have they suffered from the change.

My five years in France, when I saw something of the licensed brothels open for the British soldiers in certain parts of France, and my eleven and a half years in Geneva have made me rather a cynic. I do not share Mr. Pindor's belief that it is a change of heart in the world which is bringing about the wish for a reform. I do not share the belief that it is only because many people think that it is right that an end should be put to international traffic and to the licensed house system that we have this move on at present. It is because, coupled with the ethical and emotional arguments of the past, we now have the arguments for health and the arguments for economics. Again and again it has been proved in Geneva in connection with other subjects, that if you could show that a thing was right you certainly created a useful public opinion, but if in addition you showed that a country would be more healthy—that

economy would be effected—you were still more likely to get reform. All the recommendations I have quoted have been generally accepted by the members of the League, though they have not all been put into force, have not found their way into the laws of the countries accepting them in principle. In the early days there was a general belief in Geneva that the western world, keeping in touch with observers from the United States of America, would possibly give a lead to the East in its social reform. I always remember the humiliating day when I discovered that we had a marriage age in England of 12 for girls and 14 for boys, and could only get the age raised by being able to show Government leaders that China, Japan and Turkey had put up the age to 15—16 for girls and 17—18 for boys. I cannot, therefore, separate the East from the West from any suggestions we have to make!

I believe that half the mistake in the past has been, that in our work in the Far East, we have tried to go in with our Western ideas unchanged, believing they could be applied easily to Eastern countries, that we have thought much too much along the lines of our own Missions whatever they may be, and that we have not successfully tried to get the co-operation of the nationals, nor obtained help from the leaders of the national religions of the countries concerned. I do hope that in anything that is done through this, or any other preparatory body, we shall work harder for the co-operation of the people of the countries themselves, and of their religious leaders. I think we have got some very remarkable examples already of what has been done through working through the peoples and associations concerned, and by the adaptation of Western literature to Eastern necessities. I am thinking of the example set by the Madras Society. Most of us, too, would agree that a certain speech of Gandhi's to the Madras students had a very remarkable effect on the attitude of these students to social questions.

We come now to the question of rehabilitation, which I think is more important than anything else we are working on at the moment. It is no good closing the doors of licensed brothels and doing nothing for or with the women out of these brothels. The question of rehabilitation has

not been really studied until recently very seriously. I feel convinced that the one thing really worth working for is to try to get the women to return to the normal circle of life. It is no good taking a prostitute out of a brothel and setting her permanently to do sewing at half-a-crown a week or laundry in whatever institution we may put her in, and expecting her to remain permanently in any such job that is found for her.

I am quite sure that we must concentrate all we can on the *international* anti-traffic machinery, and really study international traffic as it is still carried on. It is not only the person who changes, it is the methods by which these girls are taken from one country to another which change also, and with which we have to deal to-day—there is the air problem and still more, the increased road and motor traffic. How much supervision is given to road traffic?

Lastly, what steps can we take (I suppose "we" means this conference)? I think, first of all, though the League of Nations reports may not be perfect, it is the business of all voluntary organisations and governments to circulate this League Report on Traffic in the East and give it the widest circulation throughout the countries concerned. I hope very much that the central authorities will be increased in the various countries, and again I should like that Report used as a basis for regional conferences, which we hope may take place. I should like also to stress once more the necessity of enlisting the co-operation of all voluntary organisations, all religious organisations, whatever their teachings may be, and whatever their religions may be, to make this crusade just as much a part of their religious crusade as it is a part of the policy of the Standing Committee of the Social Hygiene Council.

I should like this Conference to endorse very strongly the recommendations that a conference should be held in the East, and that to that Conference should come not only governments' representatives, but representatives of the voluntary organisations that are working on the subject, as also the various religious denominations, and representatives of such bodies as those which may be considering the question seriously. And lastly I should like to press very

much that this Conference should support the idea, even though it has not been accepted as yet in Geneva, of the appointment of a liaison officer attached to the Singapore Bureau, or even non-attached, so long as he has a standing with the Governments in the Far East; if this appointment cannot be made for reasons of diplomatic difficulties at the moment, I would like to press voluntary organisations interested in the subject to come together among themselves, and to have some scheme of providing such a temporary liaison officer who can attend the regional conferences, and can "accelerate" so that they take place; someone who can give advice where wanted. I am absolutely sure from my very limited experience in the East three years ago, that anyone sent out by the soundest and best organisation working on this subject, would not have to press his services on anybody. I believe he would get people coming from everywhere for advice. I remember in a British Crown Colony an official saying to me—"I am very glad you have come, because I have held things up, particularly in connection with the closing of licensed houses, until you arrived. The Foreign Office said you were coming, and I want to have the chance of hearing from you the effect of closing in other places. We want to change our system, how can we do it? We have this difficulty, what is happening in other countries?" I think if you could get someone who would bring knowledge, wisdom and understanding of the various problems to the task you would take a very forward step not only in creating public opinion, but you would get a common policy in the East, which is what is really wanted if you are to put an end to this traffic. I would remind the Conference that the request for the sending of this expert Enquiry to the East and the Enquiry that has just taken place in fact, originated from Mr. Sugimura, of Japan, at that time under-secretary-general in Geneva. Once more a lead from the East!

CATHOLIC MISSIONS IN THE EAST.

Père Robert,

Secrétaire Missions Etrangères.

After so many speakers on this important question, I have indeed very little to say. Representing the Catholic Missions, I may tell you that the organisations of the Catholic Missions in the Far East number about 400 Missions or dioceses. The Catholic Church is international, and so it is extremely easy for the Missions to co-operate with any committee or any league regarding the suppression of prostitution and the protection of children. In fact it is no secret to you that long before the establishment of the League of Nations, in all our work, we were doing our utmost for suppressing prostitution and for protecting children.

As you know, prostitution is forbidden by Christian law. It is not a sin against nature, or "*contre nature*," but a sin against natural law. Woman is not to be at the disposal of man for his only pleasure; she is to establish a "*foyer*," a home, and to be the mother of his children and to educate them. That is why we take the greatest care to protect women and children. In each mission we have institutions more or less connected with the protection of women, and when we have sufficient means to support them, we have houses that we call "*les maisons du bon Pasteur*" under the direction of the *Société du Bon Pasteur*. We have such establishments in India, and now we have one in Shanghai where we can accommodate about 250 women.

There are two sides to this interesting question: the medical and the moral. I leave the medical question to the doctors. They know exactly what is to be done and in connection with our Missions they have always fulfilled their duty with great activity and zeal, and usually without asking for any remuneration. Regarding the moral question, the Rev. Paton told you a minute ago all that I could tell you. The question of morals is really fundamental, and morality is taught in the Missions through the daily instruction which we give both to Christians and to non-Christians. It is

perfectly true, as one lady said a few minutes ago, that in the Far East we have many races and many religions; and very often on questions of morality there are points on which it is difficult to agree. I will mention a point which is rather delicate, still, it is better that you should know it. Not many years ago I was acquainted with a father of a family who had, I knew, promised his son to give him a concubine for three months, if he succeeded in his examinations. That is not very common; still, it shows how some persons, or categories of persons, in the Far East do not always see the moral point of education. I fancy that this man saw no wrong; I do not condemn him, because to condemn a man you must know what is in his conscience, and a thing which is objectively very bad may subjectively be without fault. We all know that. That is why we must have great charity with the people who are not followers of our own religious principle. If we cannot bring them to this standard of Catholic or Christian morality, we at least try to bring them on to the level of natural morality; this is the first step. When people know what moral good is, then it is easy to bring them to what we call moral religion, or morality according to religious principle. So all our work in connection with the various committees for protecting children and suppressing vice is generally—for a Catholic missionary—limited to constant moral education of the people. We must look after them, not only when they are in difficulties, but when they are out of difficulties we must still continue to help them. From the theoretical point of view, all the reports which we have heard are very good. I would not minimise in any way the value of the report which appeared on the Far East drawn up by experts. I am sure that it is a great and interesting work. I read it all through and very much appreciated the advice given in it. But let me tell you, there is a very great difference between theory and practice. I have been personally connected for ten years with the municipality of Shanghai. I was on the Committee of Police, and on the very question debated here and also at our meeting in Geneva all the various ordinances made by the municipality in this connection were certainly very good in theory. But in practice I know too well that they were not always observed. The

report made on the Far East tells you all that is going on in the outskirts of the Far East. But the members of the Commission never penetrated into the interior, and there is a great difference between what you see in Shanghai and what you see in Yunnanfu, Kweiling, Nanningfu, Chungking, Foochow, etc. . . . I do not wish to accuse any of the native authorities in any part of the Far East. I am sure that they do all they can in the situation to minimise prostitution and to protect children. We owe them a great debt of gratitude for the help that they are giving us, both in Japan, China, Indo-China and India. But our co-operation with them, and all they do, still leaves a good deal to be done in future to suppress, or at least to minimise, the evil of prostitution.

When the women leave our establishment, we have still to provide for their maintenance. We are not always able to find them remunerative work. Very often they have to earn their living by washing clothes in the Convent, for we believe that in the Convent they have respectable work. But as soon as we can give them suitable work, they leave the establishment, and in this we were greatly helped by the Governor of Hong-Kong and by the municipal police. Of the women passing through our institutions, many became very good mothers of families and brought up their children very honestly. When you take a woman out of the miserable condition in which she lives, you must still follow her, whether guilty or not guilty, because very often the woman is innocent; she is always a victim in this sort of affair. This has been our experience in the Far East, and although I have rather lost touch with what is going on in Europe, because I have passed all my life in the Far East, I believe that if I were to interrogate a priest or clergyman in Europe he would tell me that they encounter the same difficulties.

After this brief *résumé* of what we do and what we have done, I must express the wish of my superiors by assuring you that we will co-operate with the League of Nations or with any committee to work with them in harmony, in order to attain the end which all of us here are trying to attain. We will work with heart and soul for the protection of the women and children.

THE PART THAT CHRISTIAN MISSIONS CAN CONTRIBUTE IN COMBATING THE TRAFFIC.

Rev. William Paton, M.A.,

Secretary International Missionary Council.

While Dame Rachel Crowdy said that her thunder had been stolen by Mr. Karol Pindor, I feel that she has taken some of my thunder, or at least, some of my minor noises. I want to speak quite briefly about the share which the Christian missionary movement can take in this question, and I shall, of course, speak on behalf of Protestant Missions. You will all understand that the ordinary man or woman who is sent to Africa or to Asia as a missionary has his or her own particular kind of work to do, is trained for some special kind of vocation—educational, evangelistic, medical—is probably working in an under-staffed institution, is immersed in day-to-day routine duties. It is not to be expected, I think, that more than a small section of the total missionary force should be expert in the subject we are discussing to-day. There have been in many countries a certain number of missionaries who can be called, in a real sense, expert. When I used to live in Calcutta, I do not think there was any person outside the Calcutta Police who knew as much as the Rev. Herbert Anderson, of the Baptist mission, about this subject. Apart from such exceptional cases, however, we should not expect the missionary to have expert knowledge of this matter.

I agree with Dame Rachel Crowdy that if a larger knowledge of the essentials of this matter were diffused through the public abroad, including the missionaries, the total share taken by the missionary organisations would be larger and more effective. I speak myself as a layman with very little detailed knowledge, although very great fundamental conviction on the matter, and I feel that for many people the subject seems somewhat complicated and technical; they hear something of conferences and reports and legislation, but are too busy to devote time to study the details, give a vague assent and turn to something

else. If we could circulate very widely the admirable summarized Report and take steps to see that the essentials of the matter are clearly understood, the missionary movement would be able to make a larger contribution to the problem. I should like to say here that so far as I can speak for the Christian missionary movement I can say that we welcome and desire the utmost co-operation with all other bodies.

I think that the main contribution of Christian Missions must be found at a stage earlier than that on which we have been speaking. In Resolution 4 of the Conference Report, quoted in the programme of this meeting, it is suggested that, among other things needed is the education of individuals regarding their social and moral responsibilities. Such a phrase covers an immense amount and may be no more than a counsel of perfection; but there is, after all, no foundation for this work except the fundamental work of moral education, and only upon this foundation can there be erected any stable structure or legal enactment. It is here, in my opinion, that the main contribution of the missionary movement will be found. In many of the great countries of the East it is still the case that the total number of colleges, schools, and other educational establishments maintained by Christian Missions is a considerable fraction of the whole. We know that this fraction must decrease as the resources of the State and of private generosity are more fully employed. The Christian missionary schools and colleges must depend for their influence not upon quantity but upon quality. They can do much if the education they give is intimately related to the actual problems of life. There is growing in the countries of the East a realisation that much of existing education is bound in a dangerous way to conventional curricula and the getting of a degree, and there is a movement for an education more related to life. No service that the Missions can render is more vital than that rendered through the work of moral education through the schools and colleges and the life of the Church.

May I make another point. My subject is that of Christian Missions, and I should like to make it quite clear

that American, Continental and British Missions alike are increasingly looking for the carrying on of their work in Asia and Africa, not only through the agency of foreigners, Americans or English, Germans, Dutchmen or Frenchmen, but through the indigenous Churches which have been growing up. This is, I think, of some practical importance for us here. There is a very natural aversion on the part of the people of the great and ancient countries of the East to having their policy on important moral subjects dictated or pressed upon them by foreigners. The point here is not merely that a difference in religion is involved, but that a national feeling is involved. National feeling is very strong all over the world just now, and we can easily understand the resentment which may be caused by the tactless treatment of such matters as we are to-day discussing. It is important therefore that we in the missionary movement should make it plain to you, and practise the principle, that we desire to work as much as we can through indigenous Christian bodies, and that these bodies will be composed, not primarily of missionaries, but of indigenous Christians in the different lands.

This may perhaps help us with regard to this difficult problem of how to get action started in regions of the world where the mere sending of a circular in English may produce little effect. I think I can speak for the International Missionary Council and the Protestant Missions in saying that in so far as our organisation can be of help in this common work, we should like it to be used. There is, for instance, in China a body known as the National Christian Council of China, which represents the bulk of the Protestant Chinese Christians and the foreign missionaries, and in other regions of Asia—Japan, Korea, the Philippines, Siam, India, the Near East—as well as in Africa we have similar organisations representing both the indigenous Churches and the Missions. I hope that through such organisations we might be able to give some help along the lines proposed in the papers you have heard.

We must recognise in this subject which we are discussing one of the great world causes on which the verdict of morality and scientific analysis are manifestly at one.

There is unity in all truth. It was the great strength of Mrs. Josephine Butler that she always held together the religious and moral standpoint with the scientific standpoint, insisting that ultimately they were in agreement. If, therefore, the Missionary movement endeavours to press its convictions about moral questions, it does not do so as if there were a special kind of Christian truth to be urged in a partisan way. We believe that in this work we are concerned with truth and justice, and we believe that all men, if they approach this subject with humble and impartial minds, will find themselves at one. We therefore welcome with the utmost possible cordiality the collaboration of people of all religions. We recognise that the leadership in each country must lie with the people of the country, and we shall throw ourselves humbly into the work, glad to make available such technical ability or organising knowledge or other contribution as we may be able to render. We shall always recognise that the great moral momentum which alone will carry through the needed reforms, must come from the people in the country concerned.

CHINA AND CO-OPERATION.

Mr. Lui Chieh,

First Secretary, Chinese Legation.

It is with particular satisfaction that I attend this Conference on behalf of the Chinese Government, because, in my opinion, this Conference marks a practical step towards closer international co-operation and greater exchange of information between interested organisations. Both the Commission of Enquiry and the Advisory Commission of the League have again and again emphasised the importance of such co-operative action, and I need hardly say how much my Government welcomes the co-operation of friendly nations in the common effort to combat traffic in women and prostitution.

I am invited here perhaps for a twofold purpose: on the one hand as a Government representative to listen to your deliberations and to be guided by your opinions, and on the other to present China's case in regard to the problem and furnish, if possible, some fresh material for your discussion.

The Report of the Commission of Enquiry which has given rise to the summoning of this Conference and naturally forms the nucleus of to-day's discussion is a most comprehensive and impartial survey of the situation in the East, and the general situation has altered little since the publication of the Report. Mr. Pindor has brought the Report up to date. I shall, therefore, confine my remarks to describing to you the policy of my Government in regard to this question; what measures it has taken or seeks to take, and to what extent the recommendations of the Commission of Enquiry have been put into effect.

The Report of the Commission of Enquiry advocated several measures which have been reaffirmed by the Advisory Commission and repeated to you this morning by Mr. Cummings. Perhaps in discussing the present situation in China I may take these recommendations as basis and quote the Report freely. First and foremost, the Commission of Enquiry recommended the appointment of central authorities in China and Persia and closer co-operation between the existing authorities in the East. The Chinese Government has since appointed the Ministry of the Interior as the Central Authority, and the Advisory Commission has in its Report for 1934 taken note of this appointment. The Ministry has taken steps to co-ordinate the work of the police and local authorities for the suppression of traffic in women. It has sent in a report to the League Secretariat for the period January, 1932—June, 1933, during which period 566 cases of trafficking and procuring were discovered and 935 persons were convicted. But as yet little has been done in the way of corresponding with the central authorities of other countries.

Mr. Pindor in his paper, read this morning, stated that there are no central authorities in the large Chinese ports. I may perhaps point out that the task of suppressing traffic in

women in China is entrusted to the police which is under the Ministry of the Interior, the central authority for the whole country; and therefore, in the case of Canton, mentioned by Mr. Pindor, it is quite proper for the Hong-Kong authorities to seek co-operation of the Canton Police, the Bureau of Public Security, on this matter.

The next important recommendation of the Report was the appointment of a larger number of women officials in the departments concerned with the suppression of the traffic in the East. Already for some years, a great number of women have been regularly employed by the Chinese Police to keep watch at railway stations and wharfs and to search and interrogate suspected women travellers. These women inspectors have proved so successful in the detection and prevention of crime that the police authorities are taking measures to strengthen and enlarge this branch of their staff. In Nanking and Shanghai schools have now been established for the training of women police who are to be specially charged with the protection of children and young people. I believe this has also been communicated to the League Secretariat.

The third recommendation of the Commission Report was the adoption of a more constructive policy in regard to female emigrants under age who become victims of the traffic. As far as China is concerned, the question of incoming traffic is negligible, and the urgent need is to prevent young persons from going out of the country as victims of the traffic. The measures against possible traffic taken by the Chinese emigration authorities are as stringent and thorough as is possible to enforce in the present circumstances. All women leaving the country are required to submit their case to investigation by the Chinese municipal authorities and to obtain the guarantee of morally and financially responsible persons as to the legitimacy of the purpose of their journey. The Report of the Commission of Enquiry contained full accounts of the procedures adopted by the Chinese emigration officials at the different ports, but, as Mr. Pindor rightly pointed out in his paper, these measures will necessarily remain ineffective as long as there is no adequate co-operation with

the authorities of the ports of destination. For two main reasons the strict application of the emigration regulations encounters in practice considerable difficulties. Firstly, Chinese emigrants to the South Sea ports generally embark in the British Colony of Hong-Kong where Chinese citizens are not required to submit to passport regulations; and secondly, most ships plying between China and the South Sea ports are foreign ships on which, in conformity with privileges enjoyed by certain nations, passengers are exempted from Chinese control of their documents. It is gratifying to note that since the publication of the Report some of the South Sea territories, notably Singapore, have introduced effective measures to suppress commercialised vice. If the demand for the traffic can be curtailed the supply will naturally diminish. The Report of the Commission of Enquiry has revealed that the volume of traffic of Occidental women to the East is negligible, and the traffic of Oriental women never passes west of Suez, but entirely follows the emigrants and settlers into the Colonial and overseas territories in the East. It is, therefore, extremely important that these colonies and overseas territories should take the initiative to combat the traffic. When the Convention for the suppression of Traffic in Women of Full Age came up for discussion at the Fifth Commission of the Assembly last year, I had occasion to urge strongly that the Convention should be so framed as to cover all colonies, protectorates and territories under suzerainty or mandate and not to leave any loophole for their exemption from the application of the Convention. There was considerable discussion with regard to Clause 10 of the Convention dealing with colonies. I am glad that Singapore has given a lead in this direction.

There is yet another difficulty in the strict enforcement of the measures taken by the Chinese Government for the suppression of prostitution and traffic, and that difficulty has been noted by the Commission of Enquiry when it recommended closer co-operation between the Chinese officials and the authorities of the foreign settlements in China. Each of these settlements handles the

problem of prostitution and traffic in women according to its municipal laws and its own policy. While the Chinese city of Shanghai, for instance, strictly prohibits all forms of prostitution, the French Settlement of Shanghai has retained the system of licensed houses. Such discrepancy in the policies of Chinese and foreign authorities in adjacent areas naturally forms an obstacle to the effective enforcement of Chinese regulations, and traffickers can easily resort to areas under foreign jurisdiction as bases of illegitimate operation. As early as June, 1930, the Bureau of Public Health of Greater Shanghai proposed to the Settlements to make arrangements for the gradual restriction of prostitution with a view to eventually abolishing the evil "in the interests of public health" and "for the good of humanity."

Mr. Pindor has in his statement this morning, as he has on many occasions, laid the greatest stress on the necessity of co-operation between the Chinese authorities and the foreign settlements.

It is also emphasised in the Report of the Commission of Enquiry that licensed houses are a cause of the international traffic, and Governments have been asked to consider the possibility of abolishing them. On this point, the attitude of the Chinese National Government is a very distinct one. The capital of Nanking, ever since it was made the seat of the National Government, has not only abolished brothels, but prohibited the practice of prostitution in all forms. The Municipality of Greater Shanghai, which is the chief commercial metropolis in the East, has followed the lead and achieved notable results.

These actions taken by the Chinese Government have been fully acknowledged in the Report of the Commission of Enquiry. Perhaps I may be allowed just to add that though prostitution is in China, as elsewhere, a deep-rooted evil, it is only found in the large cities and ports, and therefore, the greater part of the country is free from this open sore.

Here may I also add my endorsement and appreciation of Sir Cecil's enlightening description of the Mui Tsai system.

The Mui Tsai has frequently been misrepresented in the West as a slave while, as Sir Cecil told you, she is in the literal sense a "little sister" and in practice analogous to an "adopted daughter." It was only last year that I made a statement at the Sixth Committee of the League Assembly to the effect that the Mui Tsai system should be discussed as a question of child welfare under the social section rather than as a form of slavery under the political section. I don't propose to go any further into the question of Mui Tsai at this Conference since you can readily see that it is quite distinct from the question of traffic in women, except perhaps that I may remind you of the very judicious comment of the Commission of Enquiry that "Mui Tsais are very rarely given over to prostitution."

There are two effective ways of combating the traffic which have been emphasised in the resolutions of the Traffic in Women and Children Committee. One is by legislation and strict enforcement of laws and regulations, and the other is through the education of public opinion. Though no special law has been enacted to deal with the traffic question, the criminal code provides severe penalties and covers all possible cases of the crime of traffic. The punishment for procuring, abduction and detention for immoral purposes is in every case a term of imprisonment, and if a fine is imposed it is in addition to the term of imprisonment. Article 257 provides that "whoever causes the person who has been enticed away or abducted to be conveyed out of the territory of the Republic shall be punishable by imprisonment for a term of *not less* than seven years." In those places where prostitution is prohibited not only are brothel-keepers and *souteneurs* punished, but clients of prostitutes are also subject to fines.

But we know that even the strictest enforcement of law will not be completely successful unless it is supplemented by enlightened public opinion. The Report of the Commission of Enquiry mentions the case of a large Chinese community in Indo-China, which shows how community pride alone acts as an effective factor in restricting traffic and doing away with brothels and prostitutes.

Reference has already been made in the Report of the Commission of Enquiry to the achievements of the Chinese Government in the domain of education and in different branches of Social Welfare. I may, perhaps, just mention that a nation-wide campaign known as the New Life Movement has recently been started in China for the education of the people regarding their social and moral responsibility, which, I believe, will have far-reaching effects in awakening public consciousness against this great social evil. Women's organisations and other voluntary associations interested in the welfare of women and children have had phenomenal growth in China during these few years, and will continue to be an influential factor in the work of social regeneration. But you will agree with me that it is urgent that something should be done to focus the attention of voluntary organisations and direct their efforts to this specific question of traffic in women and prostitution, in order to achieve the maximum result. I believe conferences such as we have here to-day, if they are held in various parts of the East, cannot fail to stimulate and mobilise public opinion. For this reason I heartily support the plan of convening a Conference of the authorities of the countries in the East interested in the matter, along the lines suggested in the resolution of the Traffic in Women and Children and Child Welfare Committees.

AN EXAMPLE IN CO-OPERATION FROM
SINGAPORE.

Sir Cecil Clementi, G.C.M.G., F.R.G.S.

*(lately Governor of the Straits Settlements).**

The duty I have undertaken is to explain to you, briefly, by an example from Hong-Kong and Malaya, how advantageous is collaboration between official and voluntary

* Sir Cecil Clementi, presided at the afternoon Session.

workers for the purpose of suppressing the traffic in women and girls.

At the outset let me emphasise the importance of geographical considerations. That can well be illustrated by the contrast between Hong-Kong and Malaya. Hong-Kong is merely a dot on the map of China. Malaya is a country as large as England. Hong-Kong is a deep-sea port of Canton; it is, in fact, the ocean-mouth of the West River, which drains the provinces of Kwang-tung and Kwang-si. Kwang-tung alone is as large as Italy, with a larger population, and there is a daily ebb and flow of many thousands of passengers between Hong-Kong and Canton. Thus you can readily understand that the social problems of Hong-Kong cannot be efficiently handled unless the support of the authorities of Kwang-tung province is also enlisted and that public opinion in Hong-Kong cannot act effectively unless public opinion in Kwang-tung province is also in sympathy. The position in Malaya is very different. It is true that the Dutch archipelago is close by, and that the mainland territory marches with that of Siam; but in Malaya the Government and people are in a much more independent position, and are able to solve most of their social problems for themselves without having to place too much reliance on the co-operation of adjoining countries.

The problem of protecting women and girls is one that concerns mainly the Chinese population both in Hong-Kong and in Malaya, and my credentials for addressing you on the subject are that I have been Governor of Hong-Kong and of the Straits Settlements and that I have travelled in all the eighteen provinces of China.

The way in which the British administration addressed itself to this problem was by creating, in Hong-Kong and in Singapore, Chinese Protectorates. The head of the Chinese Protectorate in each colony is the Secretary for Chinese Affairs, who is in no sense a policeman. He is what the Chinese call the *fumokun*, "the father and mother official," and is intended to be the guide, philosopher and friend of the Chinese. They are expected to, and do in fact, turn to him for help when they are in difficulty. For the purpose of dealing with the traffic in women and girls, the

Secretary for Chinese Affairs in both colonies enlists the support of the Chinese community, and there has been formed in each colony an institution known as the Po Leung Kuk (Board for the Protection of Virtue). The members of that Board in each colony are mainly Chinese and, apart from the Board, there are also associated, for the purpose, many voluntary workers, both men and women, of several races.

These Boards are giving the Government and the people most excellent service. The Po Leung Kuk in Singapore is a model of what such an institution should be. It is charmingly situated on a little hill-top and the children and women there enjoy plenty of light and air. It is, of course, a refuge for women and girls. The Po Leung Kuk in Hong-Kong is less well situated. Until recently it was in the heart of the town, but during the last two years it has been shifted to the outskirts of Victoria City in a more rural position, and the circumstances of the inmates have greatly improved.

In Hong-Kong we have also a Society known as the Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Children, which is almost wholly an unofficial organisation, though it does, of course, include officials. My wife and I, for example, are life members of the Society, and the Secretary is Mr. Hazlerigg, the Crown Solicitor, who gives the Society most efficient service. The bulk of the members, including the President, are unofficial. The present President is a Chinese unofficial member of the Colony's Executive Council. The Hong-Kong Society discharges the same functions as the similar Society in Great Britain: and, as regards the institutions known as the Po Leung Kuk and also the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, there is no doubt whatever that public opinion is behind the Government. We have acted with public opinion and therefore have been successful.

In another matter there has not been the same measure of unanimity between officials and non-officials, and thus progress has not been so good. I refer to the Mui Tsai problem. It is not uncommon for those in England to refer to the Mui Tsai as slaves. The Chinese word for "slave"

is *no-puk*, which no Chinese would confuse with the words "Mui Tsai," which, literally translated, mean "little sister." These "little sisters" are in effect the adopted daughters of the household in which they live.

The system of Mui Tsai has grown up in China as the result of the circumstances of the Chinese people both ethical and economic. Ethically the Chinese are still under the Code of Confucius, which requires as a matter of filial piety that every Chinese should have a son to continue the worship of the ancestors of his family. In China there is also polygamy, which leads to the birth of a large number of unwanted girls in the endeavour to bring to birth the male heir regarded as so essential. On the other side, there is the unfortunate fact that the Chinese peasantry are often in dire poverty. They live, for the most part, about one jump ahead of starvation. When I was a young man I was engaged on famine relief work in the province of Kwang-si, and I know from personal experience how terrible are the conditions among the peasantry in time of famine. There is little store upon which a Chinese peasant can fall back when his crops fail through drought or flood. At a time such as that it becomes necessary for the peasantry to dispose of their surplus children. I well remember how, when I went up the West River more than thirty years ago on famine relief duty, there stood at each landing stage passed by the launch on its way up-river, rows of women with children on each side whom they wished the passers-by to take away from them, in order that they might be saved from starvation. Several children were offered to me as a gift under such circumstances. The question of my race did not enter into the minds of Chinese mothers when intent upon saving the lives of their children. In times which are not so distressful the peasantry try to dispose of their unwanted daughters by sale to anyone who will take them. A girl so purchased is brought to the family of her adopters and becomes a part of that family, so much so that the head of the family is expected to see that the girl is properly married when of nubile age, and such a "Mui Tsai" is expected to put on mourning when the head of the family dies.

The system of Mui Tsai is not in itself radically bad, although I, like everyone else who has been in contact with it, would like to see its disappearance. It must, however, disappear by degrees. It cannot be abolished by a stroke of the pen. And here I come back to the fact that the circumstances in Hong-Kong and Singapore are very different for the purpose of dealing with a problem such as this.

When we were told in Hong-Kong that it was the determination of H.M. Government that the Mui Tsai system should end and we announced that decision to the Chinese, there was great reluctance on the part of the Chinese population to assist us in the matter. They did not feel any moral qualms about Mui Tsai; they felt that the Mui Tsai problem was not as serious as it had been represented to people in England to be and, moreover, that the children were not in general subject to cruel treatment. It is of course true that in certain families children were cruelly treated. You find that in England too. But, as a rule, the fact that a girl is a Mui Tsai does not result in her being treated more cruelly than the daughter of the family would, in similar circumstances, be treated. We found that Chinese opinion was not with us; and, when it became perfectly plain to the Chinese community in Hong-Kong, that the registration of Mui Tsai would be insisted upon, they took their own steps for dealing with the matter. A great many of them took their Mui Tsai away from Hong-Kong to Canton, or to "Canton More Far" and there abandoned them. Thus a great deal of cruelty was inflicted upon those children owing to the well-intentioned action of the good folk of this country who could not appreciate the situation in Hong-Kong.

The same was not the case in Singapore because that territory is not socially or geographically a part of China. Therefore we were able to deal with the problem with a larger degree of independence. There was no fear of a Mui Tsai being taken up country and abandoned. In Singapore we were much more successful in handling the problem, although even there the Chinese conscience did not feel about the matter in the same way as the European conscience did.

The problem is gradually solving itself; but what I wish to impress upon those who hear me is that in matters of this kind it is necessary to proceed with patience and caution. The remedies must be mainly educational and economic. I have no doubt whatever that, given co-operation between the unofficials and the officials, nearly all problems concerning the protection of women and girls can be successfully solved. But without such co-operation the problems will frequently present insuperable difficulties.

The Baroness van Boetzelaer van Dubbeldam (*Vice-Chairman, International Missionary Council*):—I must make it clear that I am in no way connected with this work either in Holland or in the Dutch East Indies. Before leaving Holland I got into touch with Mr. de Graaf, who is the expert on this work in Holland, and he sent me the report of the Commission of the League of Nations. The main points relative to the Dutch East Indies are that it seems that the Government there has the matter well under control; that the officers everywhere are suspicious in the extreme of all who come to the country with the special end in view of enticing women and children, and I am under the impression that even those engaged in the traffic seem not to regard the Dutch East Indies as a satisfactory field for their activities. There are in Batavia several homes for the children taken from traffickers, and in those homes there are about 600 boys and girls. The homes belong to private organisations and the Government aids with money.

As for co-operation with the Missions, the Dutch Missions in the East Indies are mostly concentrated in the villages. There are not many missionaries in the big towns, but there are some, and there have been some who have come into contact with the victims of the traffic. If co-operation is needed it will certainly be forthcoming, not only on the part of the individual who deals with the missionary, but through the instrumentality of the Mission Consulate. In the Dutch colonies there is a Consulate for the Missions, an extremely useful institution and, I think, unique. It has existed for twenty-eight years and it is by means of that body that co-operation between Missions and Government has been possible.

Mr. Lui Chieh (*First Secretary, Chinese Legation*):— In order to facilitate and to achieve the best results from this League of Nations Conference careful preparation is necessary. Therefore, I propose that:—

“ This Conference is of opinion that it is desirable that the Local Authorities, National Voluntary Organisations, Welfare Societies and Missions of all denominations in Asia should promote Regional Conferences preparatory to the League of Nations Conference on Traffic in Women, and allied subjects.

This Conference further requests the representatives from Eastern countries present at this Conference to promote the organisation of such regional conferences in their own countries, and to give such personal assistance and guidance as may be possible in the formation of local public opinion in support of the League Conference.”

Mr. W. Schofield (*Administrative Officer, Hong-Kong*), seconded.

The Chairman put the resolution to the vote. It was carried unanimously.

VOLUNTARY CO-OPERATION IN INDIA.

Miss Meliscent Shephard (*Association for Moral and Social Hygiene*):—I have been asked to speak on two aspects of these questions: co-operation and rehabilitation in India.

My credentials for doing so are that in 1928, the centenary year of Mrs. Josephine Butler's birth, the Association she founded (The Association for Moral and Social Hygiene) were invited to send a worker to India to undertake an investigation into the tolerated vice areas, with a view to their abolition, and to promote an educational campaign on the whole subject.

The invitation came from the Calcutta Vigilance Association, which is mainly an Indian group. I mention this because, from the first inception of my work six years ago, the spirit of co-operation was present. Since 1928 I have had the privilege of collaboration and consultation with group after group, whether official, military, missionary, women's organisations or religious leaders; and I should like to emphasise this point, for in these politically difficult days it has been a great encouragement to find that the underlying unity of great principles does outweigh the differences of race, creed and political ideals.

The work in India is being conducted on five main lines: legislative, educational, medical, recreational, rescue.

The law is useless unless public opinion marches alongside. Laws should be but the crystallisation of the best public opinion; therefore legislation must be slow, and must be used as a peg upon which to hang education. The fact that a draft bill is coming up for discussion means that much explanation of its purpose can be given, and so the principles behind abolitionist work spread. We now have laws in India in seven Provinces and Presidencies, and in Ceylon and Burmah. This legal network penalises the keeping of brothels, procuration, living upon immoral earnings (whether as landlords or as souteneurs), and protects women and children.

The recent League of Nations' Report on the Traffic in the Far East underlines our contention, that the licensed or tolerated brothel is the main market and transit house for the unfortunate women.

Another aspect of *educational work* has been the study of the present and past traditions in these matters, in the different cultures in India. As Sir Cecil has said, the wholesale transfer of Western culture to the East is quite impossible. I would pay a very great tribute to my friends in India, who have been good enough to discuss this whole question with me, to read some of our scientific and Western books on these subjects, and then to transmit the spirit of

these books into the vernaculars. It is of the most urgent importance that the Eastern peoples should acquire the spirit of scientific knowledge. Literal translation is practically useless.

As a member of the British Social Hygiene Council since 1922, I have naturally been interested in the possibility of introducing biological teaching into the colleges and schools in India. The Commissioners of Education, with the Government of India, and the different Directors of Public Instruction in the Provinces, have been good enough to discuss this question with me; and we can now look forward to a special conference, on my return in October, which the Commissioner for Education has promised to call, in which these problems will be discussed. Certain agenda have been circulated, and the experience gained by previous conferences held in Calcutta in 1930 gives me hope that the forthcoming meetings will give a distinct lead to the educational aspect of this great question.

With regard to *medical training*, I have found that in some hospitals students are allowed to go out into practice without training in the diagnosis and treatment of the venereal diseases. Representation in the proper quarters, in one instance, resulted in five out of eleven teaching hospitals including these subjects as part of their compulsory curricula; a real advance. The illiteracy of the masses is a real difficulty when we consider the necessity for free treatment for all diseases, but the personality of the medical and nursing staff will attract patients where knowledge of the necessity for treatment is often lacking.

The fourth aspect of the work—*recreations*—can be but touched upon. Having been a member of the Bengal Board of Film Censors, I know the difficulties which certain films produce in Eastern countries, and we are profoundly grateful that a change is apparently intended. The recent ridicule in the *Punch* cartoon is helpful. Our Association was responsible for asking the Government to abolish the tax on imported educational films, and that consent, on the part of Government, is one more instance of co-operation. The

Government has also listened to an appeal we made in connection with film-posters, postcards, newspapers' advertisements, etc., and it is introducing an All-India Bill shortly, in which these posters and advertisements will be included in the censorship duties.

Time does not permit me to give you many instances of co-operation, but I should like to mention two. One, in which we were responsible for drawing the attention of Government, the police, the voluntary societies and the Governor of the Seychelles, to the fact that procuresses in Bombay were obtaining girls from the Seychelles for immoral purposes (pretending to be milliners in need of assistants), the result of which disclosure was the introduction of the passport system into the Seychelles. Secondly, the difficulty with regard to Japanese women and Russian women stranded in Indian cities; correspondence and consultation with the Consuls, with the Nansen Russian Refugee Office and other bodies, resulted in the return of the girls to their own countries. I should also like to stress the importance of the work so quietly and effectively done by Missions and by the Salvation Army, in all questions of rehabilitation.

With regard to *rehabilitation*, my second point, I would emphasise what Sir Cecil said this morning: real rehabilitation must be indigenous. It is useless for Westerners to go into Eastern countries and try to transplant rescue work from the Western cultures to the East. We have to get close enough, to be humble enough, to be really friendly enough, to believe that the Eastern cultures are able to rehabilitate their own people. I, as a Christian, feel that only the Christian faith can rehabilitate; but I do not say that my Hindu, Muslim, Parsi or Buddhist friends must think that. If I am honoured by being asked to contribute knowledge of organisation or vocational training, of health work or handicrafts, to their deliberations on committees, then I will gladly give what I have; but Indians in India must and are working out the salvation of Indian girls from the cultural and religious points of view. It is useless to leave out the spiritual rehabilitation. The human being is first and foremost a spirit, inhabiting for a short time this physical body.

That is why I am glad, in India, to represent the Association for *Moral* and Social Hygiene, because it is moral as well as social hygiene that will solve these problems. I do not mean that we do not rely upon our medical friends, for we need their co-operation; and we are indeed thankful that, after years of opposition and misrepresentation and misunderstanding, the scientific world is now saying that, after all, "Josephine Butler and her groups were right; we are coming to support you." This "marriage" of science and ethical and spiritual principles is a good augury for the future.

In all schemes for rehabilitation there must be some outlet for the creative instinct; the girls and boys must make something beautiful. Industries are part of the work undertaken in homes staffed by indigenous workers, by Missions, by the Salvation Army. Care of children, weaving, teaching, nursing, cooking, making clothing—all these things provide an outlet and restore balance to the girls deprived of normal family life. In India safe vocations for women are still difficult to find. The aim of all rehabilitation must be the restoration to *normal* life. In India this naturally means the married life, and the finding of suitable husbands is one of the duties of every rescue worker.

In this brief summary I would like in conclusion to urge that the widest publicity should be given to the recommendations of the Traffic in Women Committee, and of the chapter on Brothels in the Far Eastern Commission's Report, as well as to the proceedings of this Conference. As one privileged to travel about in a great country at the invitation of the people in that country, I can testify to the usefulness of sharing ideas with those of other races. I look forward with confidence to the conference which we are calling in India in the autumn when—as my experience of previous conferences in 1930 and 1932 proves—we shall learn how to co-operate more cordially in the future, and shall learn from one another. I hope that conference will be one step forward, and will perhaps prepare the way, as far as India is concerned, for co-operation with the projected conference in the Far East, of which mention has already been made.

SALVATION ARMY WORK IN INDIA AND THE FAR EAST.

Commissioner Blowers: The only justification for my speaking here is my knowledge from a practical viewpoint of the Army's work among women and girls.

The Salvation Army has from its inception been keenly and practically interested in the matter that is before the Conference, and would continue as far as practicable, in every possible way to co-operate in dealing with the traffic among women and girls.

Just as Missions specialise in preparation for educational and other work, so the Army specialises in training women in England for this work among women and girls, and appoints such to stations in India and the Far East.

In response to the question before the Conference as to how co-operation can best be promoted in the East between the authorities and voluntary organisations, I venture the opinion that much more might be done by approaching the officials, and not waiting for the officials to approach the voluntary worker. The Army has always found officials, on this subject, approachable, sympathetic and very willing to assist in every possible way; indeed, they are only too glad to have the assistance of voluntary workers.

In support of this view I would mention the recent legislation of the Act for the Suppression of Immoral Traffic in Madras. The Act was passed in 1930, but it was only when voluntary bodies, especially the Salvation Army and the Vigilance Society, linked up with the police, that active steps were taken and special efforts made. During the past year 1,569 visits were made to houses of ill-fame by Salvation Army officers, and some 150 brothels were closed.

In speaking of Japan the new police regulations make it possible for free women to leave licensed quarters, and in some prefectures licensed quarters have been abolished, which certainly is a step in the right direction. But a new situation has come into being as the result, a situation that

is fraught with a new danger, viz., cafés that spring up like mushrooms—a menace that is a serious one.

In Tokyo there are now 7,380 cafés—this is ten times the number of restaurants, and it is all the more remarkable considering the present hard times. Two years ago there were 50,000 waitresses in the whole of Japan. To-day there are 23,300 in Tokyo alone. They outnumber by far the Tokyo geisha and prostitutes. Women rush to this trade, which brings quick gains and does not demand heavy work, and they are free compared with other groups of women who are under the more or less strict control of the authorities.

Here in Japan a new atmosphere has been created by the "cultivation" of the police, who are friendly and work in co-operation with our voluntary efforts.

In order to do everything possible to counteract this evil, the Salvation Army has introduced station work as an auxiliary to actual rescue work. A trained man and woman meet all trains that come into Tokyo, for the purpose of advising girl and women arrivals. Last year 449 mail trains were met; 2,725 hours were spent in advising arrivals, and 269 girls coming to the city for the purpose of prostitution were taken into Army homes. In all this there was co-operation with the police.

It is suggested that voluntary bodies might do much more in the way of approaching the authorities—certain of their members might become probation officers for girls under the Juvenile Offenders Act. It might also be suggested to the authorities that women voluntary workers might become honorary magistrates. Where the need exists, if the authorities do not approach, let the voluntary bodies press the matter upon the authorities.

The Salvation Army have found the police in Hong-Kong only too glad to avail themselves of the help of Salvation Army officers who have been appointed to this class of work, and the police and the Army have "linked up" and at times spent the whole night in visiting Chinese junks, which are used to carry off women and girls for immoral purposes.

I urge that this work should not only be looked at from a legislative viewpoint, but that by prayer God's help should be sought in all endeavours in this difficult and important work.

Dr. C. G. Montefiore (*International Bureau for the Suppression of Traffic in Women, and Jewish Association for the Protection of Girls and Women*): I beg to move:—

"This Conference supports the suggestion of the League of Nations Advisory Commission that a Conference of the different authorities of countries in the East should be summoned, under the auspices of the League of Nations, to consider ways of obtaining closer co-operation and greater exchange of information.

"It further supports the suggestion that representatives of unofficial organisations should be invited to such a Conference.

"And expresses the hope that a decision in this sense will be taken by the League of Nations Assembly next September, while taking into account the fact that at least a year will be required for preliminary work by voluntary organisations if public opinion is to be adequately prepared."

I notice I am put down among the list of Members here in a dual capacity, first, because I represent the International Bureau for the Suppression of Traffic in Women, of which I happen, for the time being, to be Chairman, and also as a representative of the Jewish Association for the Protection of Girls and Women. In both of those capacities I would like to say that the organisations which I represent are heartily in sympathy with the objects and purpose of this Conference and would like, so far as they can and so far as it falls within their province, to help and support it in every possible way.

Dr. H. H. Weir (*Conference of British Missionary Societies*) seconded.

The Bishop of Singapore: Might I, to test the feeling of this Conference, propose as an amendment that for the words "at least a year" there be substituted "two years."

A great deal of emphasis has been laid throughout the day upon the necessity of slow and patient progress, and it appears to me that in districts where we are less advanced in the matter of education than in India, as is evident from Miss Shephard's most illuminating talk about conditions there, that in those districts, if we are to assist in the organisation first of all of regional conferences to be followed later by a conference of all those different bodies, that two years is probably not an excessive time to suggest for that adequate measure of preparation. I may say, in passing, that I am quite sure it will take at least two years to convert the Municipality of Singapore.

Mr. Sempkins (*International Bureau and Assessor to the Advisory Committee on Traffic in Women and Children, etc.*): Would it be possible to put a reference in that resolution to the question of a liaison officer? At present there is no assurance at all that that question will come up at the Conference. It has been left for the Conference to decide.

Mrs. Neville-Rolfe (*British Social Hygiene Council*): May I suggest that is a matter for another resolution, because it is a matter on which there is a difference of opinion. May I suggest that this resolution, as it stands, receives the assent of the Conference and that a resolution on the other point be passed at a later stage.

Miss Alison Neilans (*Association for Moral and Social Hygiene*): Naturally one would like to have the Conference held as soon as possible, and I should not like to go against this meeting in suggesting a delay. I would, however, like to support the Bishop of Singapore in one thing, namely, that public education is really more important than the outward passing of legislation. Coming, as we do, from all parts of the world, with consciences newly-stirred by the real beastliness of the traffic in women, we are apt to pass hasty, even prohibitory, legislation which may be ineffective in practice. Therefore, I second the amendment that there should be two years' preparation for the Conference, because that will allow more time for organisations all over the world to begin to move public opinion, and they will have, two years hence, a Conference as their ultimate objective.

Mr. Lui Chieh: I beg to differ from the opinion expressed by the last two speakers because, in my view, the time element does not play such an important part in this resolution. We ask the Assembly next September to decide on this question of convening a Conference and at the same time ask them to take into account that "at least a year" should be given for preparation. The Assembly may give us three years. Again, we are not tackling an entirely new problem. We have all the material admirably set out in the Report of the Commission of Enquiry. We have all the facts. Also the object of the Conference is to mobilise public opinion. It is not a Conference to pass legislation. For these reasons, I beg to submit that we retain the words "at least a year."

Dame Rachel Crowdy (*Expert appointed by the League of Nations Council to the Traffic in Women Committee*): I support what has been said by the Chinese delegate. It seems to me the wording "at least a year" satisfies the ardent members of this Conference who want to get to work at once and at the same time leaves a loophole for the League of Nations to make the time longer if they choose.

The Chairman: Do you press your amendment, my lord?

Miss Neilans: If it is "at least a year." I thought it was "within a year."

A Member: It cannot possibly be less than two years.

The Bishop of Singapore: I gladly withdraw the amendment.

The Chairman then put the motion as moved and declared it carried unanimously.

The Bishop of Singapore: I should like to say, as representing the important area of British Malaya, that as far as the Anglican Church, which I represent, is concerned, and I think I may safely add the other Missionary bodies working in that area, a very cordial welcome will be given to the resolution which you have just passed, and that we shall feel ourselves extremely honoured and also

placed under a great responsibility and pledge if the League of Nations decides upon Singapore itself as the venue of that Conference. Singapore has been described as the cesspool of the East. I am not going to besmirch the city in which I live by corroborating that description, which I do not really believe to be true. On the other hand, I fear there is a certain amount of danger that we should ascribe to ourselves a credit and completion and thoroughness in this work which is not really our due. It is perfectly true that in the course of the last few years the Governments of the Straits Settlements and of the Federated Malay States have passed legislation leading to the suppression of known brothels; and that I regard as a very important and significant achievement. At the same time, Sir Cecil Clementi has given you a most sympathetic description of certain remedial measures which have been taken for the rehabilitation of the victims of this traffic, with the full consent of the community, but I think that I am not exaggerating when I say that there is still a very long road to go before we can describe the conditions, in a country even in which such legislation exists, as in any degree satisfactory. That legislation has been passed in the teeth of very fierce opposition, almost the whole brunt of which was borne by my predecessor, Bishop Ferguson Davie. It was a very hard tussle, indeed, and I think I am correct in saying that, to a very large extent, public opinion in British Malaya is unconverted to the policy adopted by the Government and, I have no doubt, endorsed by all representatives here. That is a realistic fact which I think we ought to bear in mind. We have at present an unconverted public opinion, and that public opinion includes, unfortunately, not only those indigenous people whose traditions and customs are different from our own, but it has been very largely and strongly advocated by our own community and has throughout been supported by a hostile Press, or, I would rather say, a misunderstanding Press. I would blush to tell you some of the things that have been printed in our local Press about the perfectly respectable people whom I see before me! There is, therefore, a very great deal of work to be done and a great deal that we can gain as well as, I hope, something we can contribute in the pooling of such experience and knowledge and aspiration

as will be brought together in a Conference under the auspices of the League of Nations. It would not be right that I should take up too much of your time, but to illustrate my point in regard to the remaining unsatisfactoriness of conditions I would cite two things. I believe it is correct to say that the Government itself has been embarrassed by the consequences of the legislation which has already been passed, and it has proved extraordinarily difficult to proceed against the landlords of premises used as brothels. If my recollection serves me, an amending piece of legislation was introduced within the last year or so in the Legislative Council of the Straits Settlements in order to close that loophole, but the opposition expressed to the form which that legislation was taking led to the withdrawal of the Bill, and the situation is as it was before. The second point, which I believe will require careful attention and at least should be borne very prominently in our minds, is that the closing of licensed houses has by no means solved the whole of the problem. I listened with interest to what Mr. Karol Pindor said, but I question whether his statement is correct that the closing of brothels has seriously decreased the business of the male accomplice. He said: "with most satisfactory results from the point of view of checking traffic in women and of clearing territories concerned of male undesirables who are directing the commercialised organisation of prostitution." I feel that clause merits some further enquiry because there is at least a report in Singapore that those male undesirables are finding a flourishing source of traffic in a different direction. Whereas in the days of the licensed houses the clients who wished to use them knew where to go, now they are forced under the recent legislation to go in search of traffic, and this particularly loathsome type of our common human kind is finding in these new circumstances a very great field of activity. Those instances I give by the way to illustrate the point which I think has already been made, that the whole of this problem requires the most constant and unremitting vigilance, because it is perfectly certain that it will not be solved as a whole merely by repressive measures, good as those are, in their place; and it is also certain that any measures taken by the Government to suppress the influences of these enemies

of society will be immediately met and combated by new innovations on their part. Therefore, it is a matter for constant and up-to-date enquiry. Thus, coming from such an important centre, I welcome the intention to hold both a regional and corporate conference which may benefit us all, not only by the advice and counsel which we may give one another, but by arousing public opinion to the very great seriousness and acuteness of the problem which we are considering.

Mrs. Gupta: I am here as representative of the National Council of Women of India, and am very pleased indeed to have been asked to move this resolution:—

“ This Conference invites the women’s organisations, wherever they exist throughout the East, to give [further] thought and [continued] constructive help to the solution of the problems of suppressing the Traffic in Women and Children and of the rehabilitation of the victims of the Traffic.”

May I be allowed to say a few words, on behalf of the women’s organisations in India, in relation to this problem. There are in India three important women’s organisations besides several smaller ones: the All India Women’s Educational Organisation, the National Council of Women of India and Women’s Indian Association. All three of these organisations have been striving ever since their inception to deal with this problem of suppression of traffic in women and children and I believe that in Ceylon, in 1913, brothels were closed by legislation. From that period up to now, especially within the last six years, several Provinces in India have followed similar legislation. In 1930 I was happy to be on the Sub-Committee of a small women’s organisation which was sending up representation to the Government in order to close brothels in Bengal, and we were glad subsequently to have achieved that closing. I am glad to say that in 1934 a resolution, moved by Miss Shephard, was passed by the All India Women’s Conference.

In Bengal we have been lucky enough to secure women magistrates to deal with juvenile offenders, and I have no doubt that there are Provinces which in this and other matters

are more advanced than Bengal, but I cannot speak with authority on them.

I think that the question of preventing traffic in women and children should be dealt with more from a moral and educational point of view than from any other. If the traffic is to be eradicated, it is really the youth of the various nations who will have to be trained in the moral and religious aspect, and it is only through education and moral training that it is ever likely to be eradicated. I do not believe legislation will have much effect unless the education of the people morally is first dealt with. Therefore, it seems to me that the women’s organisations have a great work before them in trying to co-operate.

Moral and ethical teaching in all girls’ and boys’ schools is most essential, especially in India, where education is in such a backward state. Religious, moral and ethical teaching is more essential than legislation. We should concentrate more on that as far as India is concerned.

It is gratifying since I left India two years ago to see how many more Indian women have come forward to help in this question. In two years there has been a vast improvement in all the social work in India, especially in the question of traffic in women and children. It is, of course, difficult to get Indian women to take up this course. You know the purdah system does not enable women to come out freely to do social work, especially work of this kind. We thank Miss Shephard very much for all the help she has given us ever since her visit to India in connection with the work. We have found her ready to co-operate with us and to see our point of view; this is essential in a foreign country, because the points of view of the East and West, although they may fundamentally be the same, differ in many respects. We cannot work together unless our point of view is understood.

Miss Shephard has spoken of the rehabilitation of the victims. Circumstances in India prevent the girls from entering various employments open to the women of the West, and that gives rise to difficulties. We are increasing the number of Indian nurses, but they are confined mostly to the purdah hospitals. There is again very little demand

for girls for domestic service. So that, the question of rehabilitation is not so easy, so far as we in India are concerned. It is, however, receiving due attention in all the Provinces, and those in the women's organisations are trying to see what can be done in the way of teaching cottage industries, weaving, spinning and so on, and making the girls useful and able to use their faculties in those directions.

Miss Irene Ho (*China*): It is with great pleasure that I second the resolution. My colleague has spoken of the measures the Government has taken and Mr. Pindor's report has referred to private organisations which are dealing with the problem. In addition, every educational institution, every social institution in China is dealing with similar problems. What we can do is to encourage more intelligent effort in these directions. I agree with my Indian sister that the problem is fundamentally educational. Until we get public opinion thoroughly to endorse it, we cannot hope entirely to eradicate the evil. It seems to me that if we extend our present facilities for vocational training we can place all the women born in China, as in every other country. I should like to add that, in China, we are more fortunate than they are in India, because there is not the scarcity of work for women. Women in China can and do take part in all the work done by men, though to a less degree and varying in different parts of China. The opportunities are there and if only more social and private organisations will train the right type of women for the right type of work our task will not be an impossible one. I would like to remind you again of the attitude Sir Cecil suggested: that in these matters we need an infinite amount of patience. We cannot say that because traffic in women has ceased in Western countries, China, India, Japan and other countries are barbaric because it still exists. Progress proceeds at different rates in different countries. A few hundred years ago the situation was slightly different. So while on the one hand we must work as hard as we can, on the other we must be as patient and sympathetic as we can.

On the suggestion of several members the resolution was amended to include the words "further" and "continued" as shown in brackets.

The Chairman then put the resolution as amended, which was carried unanimously.

Mr. Ishii (*Secretary for the Department of Home Affairs, Tokyo*), proposed:—

"That this Conference, realising that the suppression of commercialised vice and the Traffic in Women is an ideal equally acceptable to all religions and cultures, expresses the conviction that only by the co-operation of all can such an ideal be realised."

Mr. S. R. Zaman (*Indian Civil Service, Public Department of the High Commissioner for India*): I beg to second the resolution. It is needless for me to dwell at length on its subject matter.

The Chairman put the resolution to the vote. It was carried unanimously.

Dame Rachel Crowdy: I move:—

"The Conference requests the Joint Standing Committee of the British Social Hygiene Council and the Conference of British Missionary Societies to submit the resolutions and report of the Conference to the Council of the League of Nations and the Governments of the countries concerned; and to take steps to secure their wide dissemination among non-official organisations in the East."

That resolution, I think, is clear. It means that we want the most widespread publicity possible for everything we are doing here to-day, and we want the Council of the League of Nations, in addition, to realise that we are a serious-minded and representative body studying this subject and determined to follow it to what we hope will be its ultimate end.

Rev. E. C. Hennigar (*Japan Mission of the United Church of Canada*): I would like to say that the non-official organisations in Japan with which I have been associated during the last ten years will certainly support all the

measures which this Conference to-day is looking forward to. I would like to emphasise the fact that we Missionaries in Japan are associated on invitation with this particular piece of work. It is a piece of work which the Japanese people themselves are carrying forward with great ability and success, and I, for one, have been invited by the Japanese to be one of their Committee. Our effort there is not only a Christian effort, but the Buddhists also are heartily supporting our work. The Buddhist Congress last year unanimously supported this piece of work, and one of our most enthusiastic supporters is a man whom Mr. Ishii, I am sure, knows very well, Mr. Tahashima Beiho, a prominent Buddhist priest.

The Chairman put the resolution to the vote. It was carried unanimously.

Mr. F. A. R. Sempkins: I beg to move:—

“This Conference is convinced that it would be of great value to appoint a liaison officer or officers to promote co-operation between the various authorities and voluntary organisations in the Far East who are concerned with the suppression of Traffic in Women and of commercialised vice.

“It expresses the hope that the question of making such an appointment will figure on the agenda of the League of Nations Conference.”

I would not have detained this Conference for a moment on a point like this were I not convinced from experience as an official and as Secretary to a voluntary organisation as to the value of liaison work in general; and, secondly, had it not been a fact that a great many people have tried to shelve this question of the liaison officer. Unless everybody who believes in the value of this liaison work will openly support the idea, it is most unlikely, in my view, that it will ever come on the agenda of the Conference at Singapore at all, because it is going to cost money. It is going to mean a certain amount of trouble for some people concerned, and it is not one of the sort of things which will

attract support at a Conference in Singapore. I profoundly trust that this Conference, at any rate, will support the idea.

Mr. Lui Chieh: I claim the privilege of seconding the resolution for the appointment of a liaison officer, and I support the appointment.

The Chairman then put it to the vote. It was carried, with the Japanese Delegates dissenting.

Mr. Kawasaki (for Mr. Ishii): Japan is opposed to the idea of the appointment of liaison officers, for this reason: that in Japan as regards this particular problem the Home Office are taking the initiative and lead, and the country is behind the movement. The Home Office has taken the lead in the movement, so we see no reason why we should appoint a liaison officer. I do not know whether you would like to appoint a liaison officer in preparation for the Singapore Conference.

The Chairman: This resolution merely proposes that the matter should be brought prominently to the notice of the League of Nations.

Mr. Kawasaki: In that case Japan is absolutely opposed to the idea of the appointment of a liaison officer.

The Chairman: The time to express that opposition would be at the League of Nations.

The Chairman: I take note of the fact that the representative of Japan, here present, is opposed to the resolution. The resolution, however, is passed.

Sir Abdul Qadir: I am much interested in the question of social and moral hygiene and have been connected with the Association which is working for this cause at Lahore. Co-operation of prominent men and women of Lahore and the Punjab has been secured and various organisations have been working for the suppression of the traffic. The work is proceeding well in the Province from which I come. I express my appreciation of the work this Conference is doing and assure you of my deep sympathy with it.

Mrs. Vakil: I represent the London Committee of the Women's Indian Association and would like to acknowledge the splendid work done by Miss Shephard in connection with suppression of traffic in women and children in India. There are still many parts of the world where this evil exists and one fervently hopes that by legislation, public opinion and proper education it will be eradicated. Legislation is of not much use if public opinion and the highest moral point of view are not behind it. A great deal can be done in schools and colleges to attain this end, but in a place like India where this boon is only available to a few, other methods are absolutely essential, like lectures, films and broadcasting. Legislature can do very little as long as the standard of morality is low. An important step is to educate the parents, who are very often under the mistaken idea that standards of morality differ for boys and girls. So long as they mistakenly believe that sexual life is necessary for a boy on reaching puberty, so long will this unjust and inhuman demand go on, and so long will traffic in women and children continue under one name or another.

PUBLICITY.

The question was raised as to the circulation of the proceedings of the Conference. The representation of the League did not know to what extent the publication on Tolerated Houses would be circulated.

Mrs. Neville Rolfe said that it was hoped to circulate widely a full report of the present Conference. If preparatory measures are to be taken for the League Conference, it is absolutely essential that the rank and file of the resident population in the East should understand the implications of the abolition of commercialised vice, and if they are to understand that it is essential that the officers of the major municipalities of the East should have before them all the evidence that is available as to the medical and social reasons for the regulation of prostitution. Therefore we are hoping to be in a position, with the help

of the Colonial Office and India Office, if they will apply to the League of Nations for sufficient quantities of the report on the Abolition of Tolerated Houses, to send these to the non-government organisations and municipalities. May I put in a definite plea to those here to-day, particularly those representatives of the Missions and social organisations as well as officials, when they go back to their own part of the world, to put into study immediately the question of rehabilitation in connection with the local background. I wish to endorse the danger of transporting ready-made our ideas of rehabilitation to the East. We are extremely dissatisfied with our own methods of rehabilitation. They are not in a condition to warrant their being used as a model. It would be far more effective to take this as a new problem and consider how the victims of the traffic can be readjusted in the abolition of that traffic. It is a question of a new vocational training—how a considerable group of employed persons, thrown out of employment, is to be fitted for work in a different sphere.

The Chairman: Our business is now at an end, and I wish to congratulate you on the unanimity which has characterised all our proceedings. There was only one discordant note, and that arose in connection with the appointment of a liaison officer. I sympathise with the representatives of Japan in having had the matter sprung upon them. It was sprung upon me also, but I think on further reflection that those representatives will notice that the resolution merely commits this Conference to bringing the matter prominently to the notice of the League of Nations, and seeing it is discussed when the Conference of the League takes place. Under those circumstances I think it would not have been wise in this Conference to have embarked on the discussion at this stage. The matter still remains *sub judice* and will be fully discussed at the proper time. I think our proceedings this afternoon have been helpful, and I hope they will tend to advance the cause of the protection of women and girls which we all have at heart. (Applause.)

The Bishop of Singapore: I am sure I shall be voicing the feelings of the Conference in asking them to record a very hearty vote of thanks to you, sir, for having accepted

EASTMAN, Mrs. E.	British National Committee of the International Bureau, West London Mission.
EMMOTT, The Lady, J.P.	National Council of Women.
GUILLEMARD, Sir Laurence	British Social Hygiene Council.
GUPTA, Mrs.	
HALFORD, Mr. B. F.	Jewish Association for the Protection of Girls and Women.
HARRIS, Mr. S. W.	Home Office.
HARRISON, Miss Agatha	World's Y.W.C.A.
HAYNES, Mr. A. S., C.M.G.	Royal Empire Society.
HENNIGAR, Rev. E. C.	Japan Mission of the United Church of Canada.
HIGSON, Miss J.	British National Committee of the International Bureau, also British Social Hygiene Council.
Ho, Miss Irene	
HORSBRUGH, Miss F., M.P.	
HOWARD, Mr. F. J., O.B.E.	Colonial Office.
HOWITT, Mr. Charles	Administrative Officer—Federated Malay States.
HUMFRAY, Mr. I.	
HUNTER, Mr. M. J.	
ISERLAND, Dr. Otto	International Missionary Council.
ISHII, Mr. Masaichi	Secretary for the Department of Home Affairs—Tokyo.
IYER, RAS BAHADUR, L.K.A.	
JANSEN, Mr. T. R.	Ceylon Medical Service.
JAZAWADEM, Mr. S. F.	Ceylon Medical Service.
JOYCE, Mrs. Edith, M.D.	London Missionary Society.
KAUFMANN, Mr. H. P.	Administrative Officer—Ceylon.
KAWASAH, Mr.	Japanese Embassy.
KENDAL, Mr. Norman, C.B.E.	International Bureau for the Suppression of Traffic in Women.
KEYSER, Mrs. M.	Jewish Association for the Protection of Girls and Women.
KING, Alice F.	Singapore.
KING, Father Edward, S.J.	
LAMONT, Miss S. F.	Church of Scotland Mission.
LANDAU, Mrs.	British National Committee of the International Bureau.
	National Catholic Protection Council.
LEITH, Mrs.	Methodist Missionary Society—India.
LIESCHING, Miss M. Grace	Zenana Bible and Medical Mission.
LUI, Miss Lucille Tang	Nanking.
LYTTON, Rt. Hon. the Earl of, K.G., G.C.S.I., G.C.I.E.	
MALTHE, Miss Martha	Danish Missionary Society.
	Member of Committee of Enquiry into Traffic in Women and Children in the East, League of Nations.

MASON, Miss Bertha... ..	British Social Hygiene Council.
MAYEN, Mr. S. R.	India.
M'CALL, Mr. C.	Association for Moral and Social Hygiene.
McIVER, Colonel C.	Indian Medical Service.
MILLER, Mrs. K. C.	Mulvany House, Calcutta.
MONTEFIORE, Mr. C. G., D.D., D.Litt.	International Bureau for the Suppression of Traffic in Women and Jewish Association for the Protection of Girls and Women.
MORTIMORE, Rev. A. J., M.A.	Church of England Zenana Missionary Society.
NEILANS, Miss Alison	British National Committee, also Association for Moral and Social Hygiene.
NUNBURNHOLME, The Dowager Lady,	National Council of Women.
OLAFSSON, Miss Ingibjörg	International Bureau—Danish Member.
ORDE-BROWNE, Major A. St. J., O.B.E.	British Social Hygiene Council.
PATERSON, Miss Agnes	Y.W.C.A., Calcutta.
PATON, Rev. William, M.A.	International Missionary Council and Conference of British Missionary Societies.
PILLIDGE, Miss Mabel	Methodist Missionary Society, India.
PYKE, Mrs. L.	Jewish Association for the Protection of Girls and Women.
QADIR, Sir Abdul	
QUO TAI-CHI, Mr.	H.E. The Chinese Minister in London.
RADNLESCU, Mlle. E.	International Council of Women, Roumanian N.C.W.
ROBERT, Father Léon	Secrétaire Missions Etrangères.
ROBERTS, Basil, The Rt. Rev. the Bishop of Singapore.	
ROBINSON, Miss A. M.	C. of E. Zenana Missionary Society.
ROLFE, Mrs. Neville, O.B.E.	British Social Hygiene Council; International Bureau and British National Committee.
SALOMON, Mrs. L. E.	International Council of Women.
SAUNDERS, Miss Grace	World's Y.W.C.A.
SCHOFIELD, Mr. W.	Administrative Officer—Hong-Kong.
SCOTT, Dr. Agnes C.	
SEARLE, Lt.-Col. Hammond, M.C., M.B.	War Office.

the responsibility of presiding this afternoon. At the same time we accord hearty thanks to the Earl of Lytton for taking the Chair this morning.

Dr. Drummond Shiels: On behalf of the Standing Committee I would be glad to second that vote of thanks. We have been exceedingly fortunate in our two Chairmen. This afternoon we have had in Sir Cecil Clementi one who has given a lifetime of service to the East and one who is conversant not only with social questions but with the history of the great nations represented there. We are all grateful, also, that the representatives of so many of the Eastern nations, and such capable representatives, have been sent to give the assistance they have done at this Conference. We are very hopeful of the result of our proceedings.

The votes of thanks were accorded amid hearty applause.

ALPHABETICAL LIST OF MEMBERS.

ABDUN-NOOR, Mr. Thabit	Iraqi Legation.
AIMAN, Mr. J. S.	Indian National Council of Y.M.C.A.'s.
ANDERSON, Rev. T. Herbert	Baptist Missionary Society—India.
ARMSTRONG, Miss Margaret	Catholic Women's League.
BAGGALLAY, Mr. P. G.	
BALFE, Miss K.	Catholic Women's League.
BANERJI, Sir Albion, C.S.I., C.I.E.	
BARCLAY, Rev. Gurney	Church Missionary Society.
BARKER, Mr. Herbert E.	British Sailors Society.
BARKER, Lt.-Col., F. A.	Indian Missionary Society
BARTHOLOMEUSZ, Mr. F. R.	Church of Ceylon, Medical Dept.
BIGLAND, Mrs. Edith	British Social Hygiene Council.
BLACKETT, Miss Frances	British National Committee of the International Bureau.
BLACKETT, Sir Basil, K.C.B., K.C.S.I.	British Social Hygiene Council.
BLOWERS, Commissioner Arthur	Salvation Army.
BUTT, Miss Dorothy	British National Committee of the International Bureau.
CARDEN, Miss C. I.	National Vigilance Association.
CHIEH, Mr. Lui	Chinese Legation.
CLARE, Sister	British National Committee of the International Bureau, West London Mission.
CLEMENTI, Sir Cecil, G.C.M.G., F.R.G.S.	Lately Governor of the S.S. and High Commissioner for the F.M.S.
COHEN, Mr. S.	Jewish Association for the Protection of Girls and Women; Assessor to the League of Nations Advisory Committee on Traffic in Women and Children; British National Committee of the International Bureau and British Social Hygiene Council.
CROSSLEY, Mr. A. J.	Indian Medical Service.
CRICHTON, Major W. H.	C. of E. Advisory Board for Moral Welfare
CROWDY, Dame Rachel, D.B.E., R.R.C., LL.D.	International Federation—League of Nations Union; International Bureau for the Suppression of Traffic in Women, and British Social Hygiene Council.
DAVIES, Miss Alice M.	Nursing Sister—Hong-Kong.
DICKINSON, Miss	St. Joan's Social and Political Alliance.
DUBBELDAM, The Baroness van Boetzelaer van.	International Missionary Council—Holland.

SEMPKINS, Mr. F. A. R.	International Bureau and British National Committee; National Vigilance Association and British Social Hygiene Council; Assessor to the Advisory Committee on Traffic in Women and Children.
SENEVIRATNE, Mr. L. B. E.	Ceylon Medical Service.
SHEPHARD, Miss M.	Association for Moral and Social Hygiene—India.
SHIELS, Dr. Drummond, M.C.	British Social Hygiene Council.
DE SILVA, Mr. M. W. M.	Ceylon Public Health Service.
SINCLAIR, Mr. D. E.	Ceylon Association—London.
STEVENSON, Sister	British National Committee of the International Bureau.
TAYLORSON, Miss Ethel	Methodist Missionary Society.
THORPE, Sister D.	British National Committee of the International Bureau.
TROUÈ, Mlle. Marguerite	Union Internationale contre le Péril Vénérien.
TURNER, Colonel Dr. Percy	Salvation Army and British Social Hygiene Council.
UNDERHILL, Miss M. M., B.Litt... ..	Conference of British Missionary Societies.
VAKIL, Mrs.	Women's Indian Association.
VENKATRAMAN, Dr. K. V.	
DE VILLIERS, MINA	National Council of Women, Capetown.
WALL, Miss	Home Office.
WALSH, Mrs. Paton	Association of Ladies of Charity, also British National Committee of the International Bureau.
WANG, Dr. Ching-Chun	Chinese Government Purchasing Commission.
WATNEY, Mr. C.	
WEIR, Dr. H. H., M.B.	Society for the Propagation of the Gospel.
WILSON, Dr. Dagmar Curjel	Indian Red Cross Society.
WOO, Mr. T. W.	Akademia Zinica, Nanking.
YANG, Dr. Lin	
ZAMAN, Mr. S. R.	Indian Civil Service, Public Department of the High Commissioner for India.

COUNTRIES AND ORGANISATIONS REPRESENTED.

International.

League of Nations—Social Questions Section. Mr. H. R. Cummings—Secretary-General's representative in London.

Assessors and Experts to the Advisory Committee on Traffic in Women and Children. Mr. S. Cohen, Secretary, Jewish Association for the Protection of Girls and Women: British National Committee and British Social Hygiene Council.

Mr. F. A. R. Sempkins, Secretary, International Bureau: British National Committee: National Vigilance Association and British Social Hygiene Council.

Dame Rachel Crowdy—Expert appointed by the League of Nations Council to the Traffic in Women and Children Committee, also representative of International Bureau and British Social Hygiene Council.

Mr. M. R. K. Burge—London Office.

International Labour Office and International Federation—League of Nations Union.

International Bureau for the Suppression of Traffic in Women and Children.

Mr. Norman Kendal, C.B.E. Mr. C. G. Montefiore, D.D., D.Litt., also Jewish Association for the Protection of Girls and Women (Great Britain).

International Council of
Women.

Mlle. E. Radnlescu,
Roumanian N.C.W.
Mrs. L. E. Salomon, Ex.
Pres. Johannesburg
Branch of N.C.W.
Mina de Villiers, N.C.W.,
Capetown.

International Missionary
Council.

The Baroness van Boetzelaer
van Dubbeldam.
Dr. Otto Iserland—Associate
Director Social and In-
dustrial Research.
Rev. William Paton, M.A.,
Joint Secretary, International
Missionary Council, also
Conference of British Mis-
sionary Societies.

World's Y.W.C.A.

Miss Agatha Harrison.
Miss Grace Saunders.

Ceylon.

Ceylon Association ...

Mr. D. E. Sinclair—Represent-
ative in London.

Individuals

Mr. H. P. Kaufman—Adminis-
trative Officer.
Mr. M. W. M. de Silva,
Ceylon Public Health Ser-
vice.
Mr. T. R. Jansen, Ceylon
Medical Service.
Mr. L. B. E. Seneviratne,
Ceylon Medical Service.
Mr. F. R. Bartholomeusz,
Church of Ceylon Medical
Dept.
Mr. S. F. Jazawardem, Ceylon
Medical Service.

China.

Government

Mr. Quo Tai-Chi—His Excel-
lency the Chinese Minister in
London.

Mr. Lui Chieh—First Secre-
tary, Chinese Legation.

Individuals

Dr. Ching-Chun Wang—
Chinese Government Pur-
chasing Commission.

Miss Irene Ho.

Dr. Lin Yang.

Mr. T. W. Woo, Academia
Zinica, Nanking.

Miss Lucile Tang Lui,
Nanking.

Denmark.

Individuals

Miss Ingibjörg Olafsson—
International Bureau, Danish
member.

Miss Martha Malthe—Danish
Missionary Society.

France.

Individuals

Father Léon Robert—Secré-
taire Missions Etrangères.

Mlle. M. Troué—Union Inter-
nationale contre le Péril
Vénérien.

Great Britain.

Members of Government Departments.

Colonial Office

Mr. F. J. Howard, O.B.E.

Home Office

Mr. S. W. Harris.
Miss Wall.

War Office

Lt.-Col. Hammond Searle,
M.C., M.B.

Members of Organisations.

- Association of Ladies of Charity. Mrs. Paton Walsh (also British National Committee).
- Association for Moral and Social Hygiene. Miss Alison Neilans (also British National Committee of the International Bureau and British Social Hygiene Council).
- British National Committee of the International Bureau. Miss Frances Blackett. Sister Brailsford—represented by Sister Clare. Mrs. Eastman. Miss J. Higson (also British Social Hygiene Council). Mrs. Landau. Sister Stevenson. Sister D. Thorpe.
- British Sailors' Society ... Mr. H. E. Barker (also British Social Hygiene Council).
- British Social Hygiene Council. Sir Basil Blackett, K.C.B., K.C.S.I., President. Mrs. Neville-Rolfe, O.B.E. (also International Bureau and British National Committee). Dr. Drummond Shiels, M.C. Mrs. Edith Bigland. Sir L. Guillemard. Miss Bertha Mason. Major G. St. J. Orde-Browne, O.B.E.
- Catholic Women's League Miss K. Balfe—President. Miss Dorothy Butt. Miss Margaret Armstrong.
- Jewish Association for the Protection of Girls and Women. Mr. B. F. Halford. Mrs. M. Keyser. Mrs. L. Pyke.

National Council of Women.

The Dowager Lady Nunburnholme.
The Lady Emmott, J.P.

Missionary Societies—

- Church of England Zenana Missionary Society. Rev. A. J. Mortimore, M.A. M. Grace Liesching. Rev. A. M. Robinson.
- Church Missionary Society Rev. Gurney Barclay.
- Conference of British Missionary Societies. Miss M. M. Underhill, D.Litt. Dr. H. H. Weir, S.P.G.
- London Missionary Society Mrs. Edith Joyce, M.D.
- Missionary Church of Scotland. Miss S. F. Lamont.
- National Vigilance Association. Miss C. I. Carden.
- Royal Empire Society ... Mr. A. S. Haynes, C.M.G.
- Salvation Army Commissioner Arthur Blowers (also British Social Hygiene Council). Colonel Dr. Percy Turner.

Individuals

- Mr. P. C. Baggallay.
Mr. A. J. Crossley, C. of E. Advisory Board for Moral Welfare.
Miss F. Horsbrugh, M.P.
Mr. I. Humfray.
Mr. M. J. Hunter.
Father Edward King, Soc. of Jesus.
Mr. C. M'Call, Association for Moral and Social Hygiene.
Mr. C. Watney.

Holland.

Individuals The Baroness van Boetzelaer
van Dubbeldam—Vice-
Chairman, International
Missionary Council.

Hong-Kong.

Individuals Mr. W. Schofield, Adminis-
trative Officer.
Miss Alice M. Davies—
Nursing Sister.

India.

Government Mr. S. R. Zaman, I.C.S.,
Secretary, Public Depart-
ment, Office of the High
Commissioner.

Organisations.

Association for Moral and Social Hygiene. Miss M. Shephard.
Indian National Council of Y.M.C.A.'s. Mr. J. S. Aiman.
~~Indian Red Cross~~... .. Dr. Dagmar Curjel Wilson.

Missionary Societies—

Baptist Missionary Society Rev. T. Herbert Anderson.
Methodist Zenana Mis- Miss Mabel Pillidge.
sionary Society.
Methodist Missionary Mrs. Leith.
Society. Miss Ethel Taylerson.
Y.W.C.A. Miss Agnes Paterson.

Individuals.

Sir Albion Banerji, C.S.I.,
C.I.E.
Lt.-Col. F. A. Barker, I.M.S.
Major W. H. Crichton, I.M.S.
Mrs. Gupta.
Mr. S. R. Mayen.

Individuals—contd.

Colonel C. McIver, I.M.S.
Mrs. K. C. Miller (Hon.
Secretary, Mulvany House,
Calcutta).
Sir Abdul Qadir.
Dr. K. V. Venkatraman.
Miss Dickinson, St. Joan's
Social and Political Alliance.
Mrs. Vakil, Women's Indian
Association.
Dr. Agnes C. Scott.

Iraq.

Government Mr. Thabit Abdun-Noor—
Royal Iraqi Legation.

Japan.

Government Mr. Masaichi Ishii—Secretary
of the Department for Home
Affairs.
Mr. Kawasaki—Member of
Staff Japanese Embassy.

Organisations.

Japan Mission of the Rev. E. C. Hennigar.
United Church of Canada.

Malaya.

Sir Cecil Clementi, G.C.M.G.,
F.R.G.S., lately Governor
of the S.S. and High Com-
missioner for the F.M.S.
Mr. Charles Howitt, Adminis-
trative Officer, Federated
Malay States.

Straits Settlements.

The Rt. Rev. the Bishop of
Singapore.
Miss Alice F. King.

A 13-page Summary of this Report may be obtained from THE
BRITISH SOCIAL HYGIENE COUNCIL, CARTERET HOUSE, CARTERET STREET,
LONDON, S.W.1. *Price 3d.*

Published by THE JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE OF THE BRITISH SOCIAL
HYGIENE COUNCIL AND THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF MISSIONARY
SOCIETIES, CARTERET HOUSE, CARTERET STREET, LONDON, S.W.1.

