

Geneva, August 20th, 1934.

LEAGUE OF NATIONS

NANSEN INTERNATIONAL OFFICE FOR REFUGEES

(Under the Authority of the League of Nations)

**REPORT OF THE GOVERNING BODY
FOR THE YEAR ENDING JUNE 30TH, 1934.**

CHAPTER I. — INTRODUCTION.

(a) ASSEMBLY RESOLUTIONS.

The fourteenth session of the Assembly considered the annual report on the work of the Office submitted by the Governing Body and adopted the following resolutions thereon :

“ The Assembly,

“ Having considered the report of the Governing Body of the Nansen International Office for Refugees on the important assistance given during the past year to thousands of Russian, Armenian, Assyrian, Assyro-Chaldean and Turkish refugees :

“ Thanks the organs of the Office for the humanitarian and economic services they have rendered, and for the important contribution they have thus made to political and social stability ;

“ Requests the Nansen International Office to continue its study of the question of the possibility of the transfer to Erivan of Armenian refugees ;

“ Notes with satisfaction the steps taken by the Office, in close co-operation with the Inter-Governmental Advisory Commission for Refugees, to prepare a draft Convention for ensuring the protection of refugees ;

“ Urges the Inter-Governmental Conference which has been summoned for the purpose of examining that draft Convention to give the most sympathetic consideration to the recommendations contained therein ;

“ In view of the growing difficulty of settling certain classes of refugees in Europe :

“ Invites immigration countries which are desirous of developing their territories to co-operate with the Office in settling refugees suitable for those territories ;

“ Recognising the dangers to which expelled refugees are exposed, and the difficulties caused to the countries to which they proceed :

“ Repeats its earnest appeal to Governments not to expel refugees before they have obtained formal permission to enter an adjacent country ;

“ Invites the Council to take the necessary action to give effect to this resolution ;

“ And confirms its approval of the figure of 300,000 francs for the year 1934 contained in the liquidation plan adopted by the Assembly at its twelfth ordinary session. ”

(b) MODIFICATION OF THE COMPOSITION OF THE GOVERNING BODY AND OF THE OTHER ORGANS OF THE OFFICE.

Since the presentation of the report to the fourteenth session of the Assembly, the Governing Body has held its statutory meetings in October 1933 and April 1934, and the Managing Committee and Finance Commission have held fifteen sessions as a joint commission.

The mandates conferred on His Excellency Senator CIRAULO (International Relief Union), and Mr. SWIFT (League of Red Cross Societies) as members of the Governing Body, and of Senator FRANÇOIS (International Relief Union) and Mlle. FERRIÈRE (International Red Cross Committee), their respective substitutes, terminated on March 10th, 1934, and were renewed unanimously for a further period of three years by the Governing Body.

The retiring members of the Managing Committee, M. DE NAVAILLES and His Excellency M. C. GOULKÉVITCH, and the substitute members, His Excellency M. R. RAPHAEL and M. PACHALIAN, were also re-elected unanimously for a period of three years, as were His Excellency M. C. ANTONIADÉ and His Excellency M. R. RAPHAEL, the retiring members of the Finance Commission.

(c) INTER-GOVERNMENTAL ADVISORY COMMISSION FOR REFUGEES.

This Commission held its sixth session at Geneva on December 14th, 1933, under the Presidency of M. de Navailles (France).

M. DE NAVAILLES was re-elected President of the Commission for a further period of three years, and *ipso facto* for the same period as a member of the Governing Body of the Office.

His Excellency M. ANTONIADE (Roumania), His Excellency M. FOTITCH (Yugoslavia) and His Excellency M. R. RAPHAEL (Greece), were also re-elected members of the Governing Body for a similar period. His Excellency M. FELDMANS (Latvia), M. MIKOFF (Bulgaria) and Mr. PATTESON (United Kingdom) were re-elected substitute members for a like term, whilst M. ROMANELLI (Italy) was elected a substitute member of the Governing Body for three years in place of Dr. Krauel (Germany), who had resigned.

Having heard the report by the President on the work of the Inter-Governmental Conference of October 26th to 28th, 1933, and on the Convention relating to the international status of refugees adopted by that Conference, the Inter-Governmental Advisory Commission, recognising the great importance of a rapid application of that Convention, both for the refugees and for the States offering them hospitality, requested the Council of the League of Nations to draw the attention of the countries concerned to this Convention and to recommend them to sign and ratify it as soon as possible.

Recalling the decision adopted by the Council of the League of Nations on June 7th, 1928, inviting Governments to extend to certain categories of refugees the benefits of the Arrangements of July 5th, 1922, May 31st, 1924, and May 12th, 1926, the Commission recommended to the Council of the League the reconsideration of the question of the extension of the said Arrangements, together with the Arrangement of June 28th to 30th, 1928, to the categories of refugees with which the Inter-Governmental Conference of June 28th to 30th, 1928, was unable to deal in the absence of the requisite material.

On the basis of Article 1 of the Convention of October 28th, 1933, relating to the international status of refugees, the text of which is as follows :

“ The present Convention is applicable to Russian, Armenian and assimilated refugees, as defined by the Arrangements of May 12th, 1926, and June 30th, 1928, subject to such modifications or amplifications as each contracting party may introduce in this definition at the moment of signature or accession ”,

the Commission recommended the States concerned to extend forthwith in practice the benefit of the Arrangements in question to the refugees referred to above — in particular, by the co-operation of the administrative authorities with the Nansen International Office.

The Inter-Governmental Advisory Commission furthermore recalled the resolutions adopted by the thirteenth and fourteenth Assemblies of the League, together with its own recommendations — in particular, at its fifth session — with regard to the expulsion and refusal of entry of refugees, and again urged that expulsions or refusals of entry should at any rate not be put into force until such time as the refugees had obtained the requisite permission and visas to enter another country. The Commission questioned whether the application of penalties to a refugee who was unable to comply with an order of expulsion, in the absence of the requisite permission and visas to enter another country, was compatible with the general principles of criminal law.

The Council had this report under consideration at its seventy-ninth session on May 14th, 1934, and urged the States convened to sign and ratify that Convention as soon as possible.

With reference to the question of extending *de facto* and *de jure* the Arrangements of July 5th, 1922, May 31st, 1924, May 12th, 1926, and June 30th, 1928, to other categories of refugees, the Council came to the conclusion that present circumstances did not seem to be such as to commend that course, but pointed out that each Government was at liberty to decide what treatment should be applied to refugees established in its territory.

(d) ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF PRIVATE ORGANISATIONS FOR REFUGEES.

The Committee held its annual meeting on December 13th, 1933.

In connection with the consideration of further applications for membership from refugee organisations, the question was raised, in view of the changed circumstances since its creation, of the functions of the Committee, as well as that of the methods of nominating its members. It was pointed out that the Committee was created by Dr. Nansen, on his nomination as High Commissioner for Refugees, to afford him information and advice concerning the Russian refugee problem, and to collect funds to enable him to find a solution of that problem. Since that time, the Inter-Governmental Advisory Commission had been formed, and, on the creation of the Office, the Governing Body came into being, on both of which organs are representatives of the refugee organisations. It was agreed, therefore, to invite the President of the Governing Body to consult a Sub-Committee of the Advisory Committee on the question of the tasks and functions which still remained for the Committee to perform and eventually on the method to be adopted for the recruitment of its members.

The recommendations of that Sub-Committee will, in due course, be considered by the Governing Body of the Office.

At the request of the Committee of Zemstvos and Russian Towns, the Committee directed the particular attention of the Office to the tragic situation of refugee children coming from Russia. The Office was also urged to consider the necessity of organising credit operations for refugees in their countries of residence.

(e) PRESENT ORGANISATION OF THE OFFICE.

The present organisation of the Governing Body, Managing Committee and Finance Commission of the Office, of the Inter-Governmental Advisory Commission for Refugees and of the Secretariat and representations of the Office forms Appendix I to this report.

(f) COMMUNICATION TO THE LEAGUE OF THE OFFICE ACCOUNTS FOR 1933 AND OF THE BUDGET FOR 1935.

The accounts for the year 1933 of the various Office funds were approved by the Governing Body at its ninth session on April 25th, 1934, and transmitted to the League in conformity with the Office Statutes. Those accounts showed that, during the year 1933, the Office administered funds amounting in all to approximately 929,500 Swiss francs.

During the same session, the Governing Body approved the Office budget for the year 1935, which was also communicated for the information of the League. The budget, from League and other sources, amounted to 297,001 Swiss francs, compared with 322,001 Swiss francs in 1934 and 371,319.90 Swiss francs in 1933.

The sum inserted in the budget for 1935, as the League contribution, was that appearing in the Office liquidation plan approved by the twelfth Assembly — *i.e.*, 280,000 Swiss francs.

CHAPTER II. — ACTION ON THE RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE ASSEMBLY AT ITS FOURTEENTH SESSION.

(a) REFUGEE CONVENTION.

In pursuance of the decision of the Council on May 22nd, 1933, an Inter-Governmental Conference was convened in Geneva on October 26th, 1933, by the Presidents of the Inter-Governmental Advisory Commission and of the Governing Body, to consider the draft of a Convention relating to the international status of refugees.

The Conference was attended by the representatives of the Governments of the following fifteen countries : Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, China, Czechoslovakia, Egypt, Estonia, Finland, France, Greece, Latvia, Poland, Roumania, Switzerland and Yugoslavia.

The principal provisions of the Convention adopted by the Conference, which is applicable to the Russian, Armenian, Assyrian, Assyro-Chaldean, Turkish and assimilated refugees, defined by the Arrangements of May 12th, 1926, and June 30th, 1928, are as follows : To supplement and consolidate the work done by the League on behalf of the refugees, and particularly the Inter-Governmental Arrangements of July 5th, 1922, May 31st, 1924, May 12th, 1926, and June 30th, 1928 ; to establish conditions which would enable the decisions already taken by the various States, with that object, to be fully effective ; that the refugees should be ensured the enjoyment of civil rights, free and ready access to the courts, security and stability as regards establishment and work, facilities in the exercise of professions, of industry and of commerce, and in regard to the movement of persons, admission to schools and universities. That Convention has been signed, with certain reservations, by the representatives of the Governments of Belgium, Bulgaria, Egypt, France and Norway.

The text of the Convention was communicated to the Council and Members of the League on December 4th, 1933, and, at its seventy-eighth session on January 15th, 1934, the Council decided to communicate the Convention, for their signature or accession, to the following States non-members of the League : Brazil, Free City of Danzig, Liechtenstein, Monaco and the United States of America. Furthermore, at its seventy-ninth session on May 14th, 1934, the Council, at the request of the Inter-Governmental Advisory Commission for Refugees, made a recommendation to all States to adhere to the Convention.

So far, no Government has ratified the Convention.

(b) TRANSFER OF ARMENIAN REFUGEES TO THE ARMENIAN (ERIVAN) REPUBLIC.

In conformity with the resolution of the fourteenth session of the Assembly, the Office has continued the study of the possibility of developing the movement of Armenian refugees, particularly from Greece, to Erivan. Some 8,500 Armenian refugees were transferred from Bulgaria, France and Greece to Erivan during the last three years, most of whom came from Greece, and the Office was gratified to learn that their departure has very much facilitated the existence of their compatriots remaining in Greece. The Armenian Government was understood to be willing to receive further considerable numbers of Armenian refugees if a loan could be arranged for their settlement expenses. The Office has maintained close contact with the interested organisations, which are studying a questionnaire on the subject, prepared by the Office with the object of obtaining information on certain points which would enable it to form an opinion of the feasibility of the contemplated movement.

(c) OVERSEAS SETTLEMENT.

In pursuance of the invitation issued by the fourteenth Assembly to immigration countries which are desirous of developing their territories, to co-operate with the Office in the settlement of refugees suitable for those territories, the Office endeavours to keep itself informed of the settlement possibilities in various immigration countries. The information thus collected may be of service, not only to refugees, but to nationals of countries who may desire to emigrate. An example of the service the Office is able to render in this connection is reported in Chapter IV (*b*), where an account is given of the co-operation it was able to afford to the League in connection with the search for a home for the Assyrians who desire to leave Iraq. Enquiries are being prosecuted by the Office in those countries which may conceivably offer opportunities for refugee settlement.

In response to requests made by certain Governments, the Office is examining the possibility of settling overseas some groups of Russian refugees who cannot be absorbed into the economic lives of those countries.

(d) EXPULSION OF REFUGEES.

The fourteenth session of the Assembly, after having taken cognisance of the serious situation and problem in many countries arising from the growing practice of neighbouring countries to expel refugees, often for minor offences, or for reasons which are beyond the refugee's control, repeated its earnest appeal to Governments not to expel refugees before they have obtained formal permission to enter an adjacent country.

Since the adoption of that resolution, the problem of the expelled refugee has become even more acute in some countries and has become one of the major daily preoccupations of the Office. A glance at Table A in Chapter III will give some idea of the exceedingly heavy claims on the attention of the representatives of the Office exacted by this particular phase of the refugee problem. The desperate situation of some of these refugees, and the sacrifices they are prepared to make to remedy it, may be gauged from the fact that many of them have travelled hundreds of kilometres on foot to Geneva in the hope that the Office might be able to extricate them from their distressing dilemmas. The tragedy of this state of affairs for the refugees concerned is only too evident. It is not, however, without important repercussions in Switzerland, which, owing to the presence of the League at Geneva, is faced with the necessity of shouldering a difficult and costly refugee burden which would otherwise be almost non-existent for her.

The Advisory Committee of Private Organisations, the Inter-Governmental Advisory Commission and the Governing Body have each in turn during the last year devoted considerable attention to this question, and the two last-mentioned organs finally urged the Inter-Governmental Conference on the International Status of Refugees to include a clause in its Convention which, if adopted, would regularise what may well be termed "the expelled refugees traffic". It is imperative, however, that, until the Convention obtains wide ratification, concerted measures should be taken by interested Governments to remedy a situation which is fraught with very grave possibilities.

The Governing Body therefore invites the Assembly once more to urge Governments to agree that, in the interest of the refugees as well as in that of loyalty to other Members of the League, they will refrain from expelling a refugee until he has obtained formal permission to enter another territory.

CHAPTER III. — GENERAL ACTIVITIES OF THE OFFICE.

(a) EXISTING STATE OF THE REFUGEE PROBLEMS.

As in past years, it has been impossible to obtain official statistics from many countries concerning either the number of refugees in their territories, the number of refugees unemployed though capable of working, or regarding the number of infirm, aged or child refugees unable to work. From reports received from the representatives of the Office and from refugee organisations, however, it is unhappily only too clear that the numbers in each of those categories have been on the up-grade during the past year. The total number of Russian refugees has been increased by the arrival of new refugees in various countries bordering Russia, whilst the increase of the unemployed has been due to that reason, coupled with the continuing economic depression and the growing tendency in some countries to discharge refugees first when staffs have to be reduced, or when legislation against the employment of foreign workers has to be observed.

It is estimated that there are about one million refugees, of whom over 800,000 are Russian, 170,000 Armenian, and 14,000 are Assyrian, Assyro-Chaldean and Turks. Practically every one of those refugees represents a problem of some kind for the Office, as a perusal of the part of the report devoted to the Refugee Convention (Chapter II (*a*)) will show. Some idea of the magnitude of the acute portion of the refugee problem may, however, be gauged when it is pointed out that, in some countries, as many as 50 per cent of the refugees are unemployed, though able to work, and that at least 25 per cent are aged, infirm or child refugees unable

to work. Unfortunately, owing to the natural course of events, the numbers of the aged and sick are steadily on the increase, and, if funds can be obtained, the Office should consider the possibility of the endowment of institutions for the care of these deserving cases.

Shanghai affords the only exception to the general increase of unemployment among the refugees, and that has only been achieved by the unfortunate necessity imposed by circumstances on the refugees of undercutting European salaries and wages. It is also a melancholy reflection that, because the Russian refugee women in China are, for various reasons, unable to follow the example of their males in the economic market, they are forced into the White Slave Traffic in the manner described in the extract from a report from the representative of the Office in China (Appendix II). He adds that, for those reasons, a solution of the problem of over 130,000 Russian refugees in China cannot be sought by assimilation in that country, but must be looked for overseas.

This, in common with the majority of the refugee problems, raises the question of funds. Unfortunately, contributions by both Governments and private organisations show a marked falling off during the past few years, whilst the Office funds have been seriously depleted by the heavy grants to refugee organisations, which otherwise would have been compelled to discontinue their activities.

Various means have been explored of increasing the slender revenue of the Office derived from the Nansen stamp, and it is still hoped that some scheme may yet be devised which will enable the Office to liquidate the refugee work to the credit of the League and itself.

(b) SETTLEMENT AND RELIEF OF THE REFUGEES.

Notwithstanding the exiguous funds at its disposal, the Office has, by means of co-operation with all interested agencies and by careful administration, succeeded in bringing effective assistance during the past year to a very considerable number of refugees. Reference to the following Table A will show that the Office has given assistance of various kinds to no fewer than 91,125 refugees. Certain figures in that table merit special attention. Over 7,000 refugees were settled in employment; 2,833 were either placed or maintained in employment by securing for them exemptions from restrictions against the employment of foreigners; 782 refugees were placed in small trades, of which particulars appear in Table C; no fewer than 2,000 interventions were made in favour of refugees threatened with expulsion; and various forms of relief were afforded to nearly 17,000 refugees by means of grants to refugee organisations (Table B).

Table A.
INTERVENTIONS ON BEHALF OF REFUGEES MADE BY THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE OFFICE DURING THE YEAR ENDING MAY 31ST, 1934.

Activities	Austria	Belgium	Bulgaria	China	Czechoslovakia	France	Germany	Greece	Poland and Baltic States	Roumania	Switzerland	Syria	Turkey	Yugoslavia	Totals
I. Issues and renewals of Nansen Passports (Applications to local authorities for the issue of Identity Certificates):															
Russians	59	40	5,305	1,104	4	246	716	13	463			52	10	58	10,412
Armenians			2,212			129								1	
Assyrians, Assyro-Chaldeans and Turks . . .															
II. Issues of visas:															
(a) Entry visas:															
Russians		20	105		28	142		5					1	97	1,056
Armenians			11			36		19	45						
Assyrians, Assyro-Chaldeans and Turks						1									
(b) Transit visas:															
Russians		1	53	858	41	9	125	23	41				1	17	1,196
Armenians			6			7		8							
Assyrians, Assyro-Chaldeans and Turks								6							
(c) Return visas:															
Russians				108		33			32				1	58	271
Armenians						38									
Assyrians, Assyro-Chaldeans and Turks						1									
III. Establishment of documents referred to in Article I of the Arrangement of June 30th, 1928, or of similar documents:															
(a) Certifying the identity and the position of the refugees (apart from the interventions mentioned in I above):															
Russians		17	13	1,176		55	449	48					1	6	1,980
Armenians						10		137						3	
Assyrians, Assyro-Chaldeans and Turks								65							
(b) Certifying their family position and civil status in so far as those are based on documents issued or action taken in the country of origin of the refugees:															
Russians			29	144		316	227	31					24	10	1,084
Armenians		3	3			110		162							
Assyrians, Assyro-Chaldeans and Turks								34							
(c) Testifying to the regularity, validity and conformity with the previous law of their country of origin of documents issued in such countries:															
Russians		94	10	12		27	23	53						1	502
Armenians						41		190							
Assyrians, Assyro-Chaldeans and Turks								51							

100	0	1	0	1	1	1	1

100	0	1	0	1	1	1	1

100	0	1	0	1	1	1	1

100	0	1	0	1	1	1	1

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Table A (continued).

INTERVENTIONS ON BEHALF OF REFUGEES MADE BY THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE OFFICE DURING THE YEAR ENDING MAY 31ST, 1934.

Activities	Austria	Belgium	Bulgaria	China	Czechoslovakia	France	Germany	Greece	Poland and Baltic States	Roumania	Switzerland	Syria	Turkey	Yugoslavia	Totals
V. Issue of Nansen Stamps:															
1. Issue of Nansen Stamps:															
Russians	128		625			3,381								4,280	8,732
Armenians	1		315											1	
Assyrians, Assyro-Chaldeans and Turks														1	
2. Issue of certificates of exemption from the Nansen Stamp:															
Russians	32		5,085			20								3,840	11,045
Armenians			2,042			6								17	
Assyrians, Assyro-Chaldeans and Turks														3	
VI. Other Activities:															
[<i>I.e.</i> , applications to private and national organisations for relief in cases of unemployment, indigency, sickness, old age, etc.; investigations, consultations, translations of documents, etc.; letters to debtors, guarantors and employers for the recuperation of advances; sundry recommendations (apart from settlement of refugees)]:															
Russians		185	226	1,392	2,651	2,832	2,375		1,923		1,866	55	140	380	16,175
Armenians		13	7			1,869								19	
Assyrians, Assyro-Chaldeans and Turks						238								4	
VII. Settlements, Placings and Evacuations (apart from placings in Table C):															
1. Russians	2	14	907	378	87	939		576	123	214	21	1,126	17	1,237	6,924
Armenians						1,036		245							
Assyrians, Assyro-Chaldeans and Turks								2							
2. Settlements in trades by means of small advances (see Table C):															
Russians						55	4	322	9		16			2	782
Armenians		1	141		232										
Assyrians, Assyro-Chaldeans and Turks															
3. Advances to refugees to enable them to obtain employment:															
Russians, Armenians, Assyrians, Assyro-Chaldeans and Turks			540		14	76	12	8	1,904		19	2,442	13	4	16,761
Totals by countries	255	590	18,943	6,562	3,147	26,136	6,022	6,949	6,189	214	1,922	3,701	235	10,260	
GRAND TOTAL															

Table B.

ADVANCES GRANTED TO ORGANISATIONS FOR GENERAL REFUGEE RELIEF FROM MAY 15TH, 1933,
TO JUNE 1ST, 1934.

Organisations	Amount Swiss francs	Object	Number of refugees benefiting directly or indirectly
Foyer pour garçons russes, Verrières	2,000.—	Towards the upkeep of the school	25
Fédération des Associations des travailleurs chrétiens russes, Rives	2,000.—	To start a co-operation society on behalf of twenty-two associations of the Fédéra- tion.	
Comités des Zemstvos et Villes russes :			
Foyers d'enfants à Montmorency	1,000.—	Towards the upkeep of the home	40
Various institutions	8,000.—	Assistance to Russian children in various countries	1,650
School at Narva	6,079.95	Upkeep and to pay off balance owing on the schoolhouse.	
Asile des Réfugiés russes, Meshed (Persia)	200.—	To supply food to refugees passing through Meshed.	
Comité central de patronage de la Jeunesse universitaire russe, Paris	6,500.—	For assistance to Russian students.	
Union centrale des invalides de guerre russes, Wilno	580.—	Towards upkeep of a home	10
Société de Secours aux réfugiés russes en Pologne	1,800.—	For the Stralkowo camps and the home at Lochowska	110
Union des Invalides mutilés de guerre russes, Athènes	1,500.—	Assistance to members of the union.	
Association des anciens Militaires russes en Bulgarie	1,200.—	Cost of a bed in a hospital at Sofia.	
Conservatoire russe, Paris	2,000.—	To carry on its work.	
Croix-Rouge russe (a.o), Paris (12,000 French francs)	2,424.—	For the dispensary in Paris.	
Croix-Rouge russe (a.o), Paris	6,000.—	Towards the upkeep of its various insti- tutions.	
Conseil principal de la Fédération des Unions des Travailleurs chrétiens russes en Yougoslavie — Section de Topchilder Union des Travailleurs russes, Panchevo Comité d'assistance des Moldaves trans- dniestriens, Bucarest	900.— 900.— 10,000.—	For purchase of materials to carry out Public Works	150
"L'Aiguille", Paris (3,000 French francs) .	609.—	To build a pavilion for the members.	
Comité social russe, Warsaw	350.—	To settle fifty-one families in Bessarabia	200
Fédération des Invalides mutilés russes .	6,000.—	Purchase of three sewing machines (400 assisted)	400
Fédération des Travailleurs chrétiens russes en Yougoslavie	5,000.—	Canteen distributing 120 to 130 meals per day	120
Fédération des Travailleurs chrétiens russes en Bulgarie	1,000.—	Assistance to sick and unemployed refugees	9,000
Association de l'Art russe en France . . .	4,000.—	To create various enterprises	687
Comité ukrainien en Roumanie	1,500.—	For the creation of a co-operative society.	
M. Toukhtiaew, Paris (12,325 French francs)	2,500.—	For assistance in various forms	500
Croix-Rouge tchécoslovaque (50,000 Cze- chozlovak crowns).	7,700.—	For the development of a farm	14
Fonds d'hospitalisation des émigrés russes en Grèce	1,500.—	To open a restaurant to serve 100 cheap meals a day to Russian refugees.	
Société des Gens de lettres arméniens, Paris (5,000 French francs)	1,010.50	Towards the construction of a home for aged refugees.	694
Colonie de vacances des enfants des réfugiés russes en Allemagne	250.—	Towards the upkeep of a clinic	65
Union des Invalides russes, Salonica . . .	200.—	For assistance to members of the society.	
Comité des émigrés russes en Lithuanie .	1,350.—	Contribution towards upkeep	57
Union des Invalides russes en Allemagne	5,500.—	For refugees incapable of working.	
Orphelinat de Saint-Gratien	1,500.—	For assistance to consumptive refugees .	14
Orphelinat Foch, Aleppo	5,000.—	For care and assistance of total invalids at Tegel	12
Réfugiés russes nécessiteux, Vienna	200.—	To permit the orphanage to receive other orphans.	
Bureau de Bienfaisance, Geneva	300.—	Contribution towards upkeep	25
Union générale arménienne de Bienfai- sance, Paris	8,000.—	For Christmas relief 1933.	
Union générale arménienne de Bienfai- sance, Paris	2,000.—	For food and assistance to refugees passing through Geneva.	
Union des Cosaques en Grèce	7,000.—	For assistance to refugees and refugees' chil- dren in Syria, Greece and Bulgaria . .	1,102
Pères Jésuites à Kirik-Khan (3,000 French francs)	609.—	For assistance to Armenian refugees in Salonica.	
		To purchase a farm for the union	100
		To furnish quinine, etc., to Sough-Sou village	2,000
Total	116,162.45		16,975

Table C.

REFUGEES SETTLED BETWEEN JULY 1ST, 1933, AND MAY 31ST, 1934, IN THEIR COUNTRIES OF RESIDENCE, BY MEANS OF SMALL LOANS TO ENABLE THEM TO BECOME SELF-SUPPORTING.

<i>Settlement in Enterprises, Shops, Trades, etc.</i>	Number of cases	Number of refugees helped		Number of cases	Number of refugees helped
Advertising agency	1	7	Massage, course in cos-		
Art gallery	1	2	metology and	2	5
Artificial flower factory	1	2	Modistes	2	5
Automobiles :			Newspaper, to publish a	1	3
Driving lessons	1	2	Old paper and rags	2	5
Purchase of motor-cars	9	38	Photographic apparatus,		
Motor repairs	2	4	repairs	1	2
Spare parts	20	34	Photographic studio	1	1
Taxi concessions	2	5	Poultry farms	3	9
Bars, canteens, cafés,			Publication of books	2	5
restaurants	12	31	Rabbit farm	5	13
Beach concession	1	10	Refreshment kiosks	2	7
Beauty parlour	1	3	Rulers, factory	1	3
Blacksmiths	1	2	Sporting goods	1	6
Bookbinding	3	12	Tailors	4	9
Bootmaking and cobbling	9	20	Tanneries	2	5
Bric-à-brac	3	7	Technical drawing bureau	1	1
Building materials, pur-			Theatrical tourney	1	21
chase of	1	3	Thermometrical appara-		
Butchers	5	11	tus	1	3
Canning plant	1	3	Timber	1	3
Carpet repairs	1	2	Tobacco kiosks and shops	5	8
Carpenters	6	13	Toy factory	1	3
Coal	1	2	Weaving factory	1	3
Concert tourney	1	2			
Dairies	2	4	<i>Various.</i>		
Dentists	2	3	Small clinic	1	3
Doll factory	1	3	Purchases of instruments,		
Dressmaking	7	23	tools, etc. :		
Electricity	4	7	Artists and painters	8	15
Embroidery	2	9	Dictionaries	1	4
English lessons	2	2	Drawing instruments	1	2
Farming	2	103	Leather for boots	1	5
General workshop	1	3	Musical instruments	2	5
Groceries	3	7	Press for tinwork	1	2
Haberdashery shops	1	6	Topographical instru-		
Hairdressers	7	13	ments	2	5
Hawkers and pedlars	21	34	Sewing-machines	10	18
House decoration	2	3	Surgical instruments	5	11
Insurance agency	1	2	Tools, various	9	19
Knee-pads, factory of	1	6	Typewriters	2	5
Laundries	5	13	Working clothes	2	2
Libraries, etc.	1	3	Travelling expenses and		
Lingerie	9	17	transfers from one		
Manicure parlour	1	2	country to another	49	82
Maps	1	2			
Market gardens	2	4	Total	296	782

CHAPTER IV. — SPECIAL ACTIVITIES OF THE OFFICE.

(a) SETTLEMENT OF THE ARMENIAN REFUGEES IN SYRIA.

(1) *General.*

During the past year, the construction of urban quarters for the Armenian refugees still in the refugee camps has been prosecuted as much as the funds made available by reimbursements would permit. Furthermore, many buildings in the old quarters have been extended and improved for the admission of additional refugees from the camps. Important public works have also been effected in the urban districts, notably three kilometres of roads, with electric lighting, have been constructed at Beirut, and the whole quarter of Achrafié has been provided with a water supply. At Aleppo, the whole quarter has been provided with electricity, and five kilometres of drainage have been constructed by the refugees.

After two years of bad harvests, good reports were furnished by the agricultural colonies for the year 1933, and ample crops were obtained for food, seeds and fodder. Considerable progress was also made with the general improvements of the colonies.

The following figures indicate the situation of the principal urban settlements and their development during the year 1933 :

<i>Beirut.</i>			
	1932	1933	Increase
Houses constructed.	1,413	1,731	318
Population.	8,698	10,512	1,814
<i>Aleppo.</i>			
Houses constructed.	1,200	1,264	64
Population.	9,417	12,118	2,701

General Summary of Settlements effected.

Number of persons established on December 31st, 1933 :

<i>Urban :</i>		
Beirut	10,512	
Aleppo	12,118	
Damascus.	737	
Alexandretta	211	
Kirik-Khan	318	
Rihanié.	240	
	<hr/>	24,136
<i>Agricultural :</i>		
Sooug-Sou	206	
Nor-Zeitoun.	95	
Pré-Militaire.	634	
Kirik-Khan	175	
Massayef	181	
Bey-Seki	36	
Banias	109	
	<hr/>	1,436
Total.		<hr/> 25,572

Between December 31st, 1933, and June 30th, 1934, 150 refugees were settled in the agricultural colony of Rihanié, and 695 in the urban quarters, bringing the total population settled to the figure of 26,417.

The representative of the Office in Syria reports, however, that the material situation of the Armenian refugees in Beirut since the beginning of the year has become more difficult, owing to the particularly bad winter and to the increase of unemployment. Many refugees who had worked in public services and large enterprises for years were discharged and those who were retained have seen their salaries reduced by as much as 50 per cent.

Some two or three years ago it was hoped that a large proportion of the 20,000 Armenian refugees who could not easily be assimilated by Beirut would become absorbed by the country districts. Unfortunately, the crisis is, if anything, more pronounced in the country districts than in Beirut, and many of those who sought settlement in the country have been compelled to return to Beirut. Thanks, however, to the innate qualities of endurance, energy and thrift of the Armenians, cases of acute misery are happily rare.

The large camp of refugee huts has now disappeared entirely, and all the refugees, with the exception of about 800 families, have been settled in new quarters. In 1931, it was expected that the normal reimbursements of advances would provide funds which would enable all those refugees to be settled by the end of 1933. Unfortunately, the fall in prices

and the marked increase of unemployment during the last two years have prevented the full execution of that programme. It should, however, be emphasised that the non-observance of their reimbursement engagements is not due to any bad faith on the part of the Armenians, but entirely to reasons over which they have no control. The reimbursements by the urban dwellers amount approximately to 25 per cent. of the sums due according to the agreements signed by them.

The situation of the Armenians in the regions of Aleppo and Damascus and in the Sanjak of Alexandretta is much better, owing to the almost entire absence of unemployment among the Armenians of those regions. Unfortunately, wages and prices are so low that the Armenians there, also, find themselves unable to observe more than partially their obligations. The reimbursements effected by the agricultural settlers are, if anything, even less favourable, notwithstanding the satisfactory appearance of the villages and the good harvests of 1933. Produce prices once more have militated against the fulfilment of the contracts entered into by the villagers. It is at least satisfactory to note, however, that the agricultural settlers have had ample produce for the maintenance of their families, for seeds and for their cattle.

The winter sowings of cereals in the villages of Haiachene and Abdul-Huyeth were destroyed by floods, and were replaced by cotton, which is reported to be doing well and affords hopes of good saleable crops.

It must be frankly admitted that the present situation of the Armenian refugees in Syria presents a very different picture from that which was outlined when the settlement work was first embarked on in 1926-27, or even in 1931 at the time of the creation of the Office. It is, however, a consolation to know that, with few exceptions, the Armenian refugees in Syria have been enabled to make themselves self-supporting.

(2) *Liquidation.*

The Office has devoted considerable attention to the preparation of a plan of liquidation of the Armenian refugee settlement work in Syria which would safeguard the interests of the refugees as well as those of the contributors to the settlement funds.

In June 1931, an agreement was reached between the interested French authorities and the Office that, on the termination of the settlement work, an organisation should be created, in agreement with the High Commissioner for Syria, which should be charged with the recovery of advances made to the refugees and with the transfer to them of the titles of their properties.

The High Commissioner for Syria and the interested refugee organisations have expressed the opinion that only an organ placed under the authority of the Office would be properly equipped to execute, in a satisfactory manner and at reasonable cost, this complicated and responsible task. Alternative arrangements were certainly examined, such as the nomination of a bank or even the creation of an independent organisation for the purpose, but had finally to be abandoned, seeing that such institutions would possess neither the necessary technical knowledge and experience nor the requisite international authority for the intricate work of transferring the title deeds to the refugees or for advice concerning the ultimate employment of reimbursements in the best interests of the refugees.

It was mainly for those reasons that the Governing Body considered it desirable to maintain the representation of the Office in Syria, if possible, until the final liquidation of the Office in 1938.

Provision has been made for the maintenance of the Syrian representation in the Office budget for 1935, and an effort will be made to make a contribution for the same purpose from the 1936 budget, in spite of the reduction for that year, as compared with 1935, of 30,000 Swiss francs, provided for in the Office plan of liquidation approved by the Assembly of 1931. The reductions in the League contributions for the years 1937 and 1938 contemplated by that plan are, however, so considerable that some other means had to be devised to provide a budget during those years for the maintenance of the representation in Syria.

It seemed reasonable, in these circumstances, and in the interest of all concerned, for the Office to make a levy of 10 per cent. as from January 1st, 1935, on all reimbursements obtained from the Armenian refugees in Syria, and to open an account at Geneva with the funds thus obtained to meet the administrative expenses in Syria when the Office budget is no longer in a position to do so.

(3) *Ultimate Disposal of Reimbursements.*

The manner in which the distribution of the reimbursements made by the refugees will be effected is, of course, determined by the conditions on which the various loans were made to the settlement funds. Broadly speaking, the contributions fall within two categories — those loaned and those given outright; and it is under those two headings, and in that order, that it is proposed to liquidate the fund.

In Appendix VI will be found statements showing the financial position of this fund on December 31st, 1933, and in Appendix III the plan for the liquidation of the various liabilities. The sums not ear-marked for reimbursement will be utilised for various social services for the Armenian refugees in Syria, after consultation with the respective subscribers.

It will be seen that, under the liquidation plan, prior provision is made for meeting definite annuities payable to the Syrian Government and the Armenian Benevolent Union of 26,400 French francs and 181,600 French francs in reimbursement of total outstanding

loans of 132,648 French francs and 726,420 French francs respectively. The Governing Body notes with deep gratitude the generous decision of the Armenian Benevolent Union to adjourn for one year the payment of its first annuity due in 1934, to enable the sum in question to be devoted to the settlement of further refugees still remaining in the refugee camps. After payment of those annuities, the remainder available for distribution will be allotted equally for redemption of the French Government contribution of 3,000,000 French francs and of contributions from other sources.

As regards the part of the balance of the reimbursements allotted to contributors other than the French Government, it is proposed to afford priority to the repayment of loans made by the Near East Relief, Miss Roberts, the British United Committee and the Friends of Armenia, the reimbursement of which were contingent on repayments by refugees proving sufficient for the purpose.

(b) THE PROBLEM OF THE SETTLEMENT OF THE ASSYRIANS OF IRAQ.

(1) *Brazil.*

The close and active co-operation of the Office has been invoked by the Assyrian Committee of the Council appointed to consider the question of the settlement outside Iraq of the Assyrians who might decide they could not settle permanently in Iraq, following the conflict between Iraqi and Assyrian forces in the summer of 1933.

The President of the Governing Body and the Secretary-General of the Office were invited to attend the meetings of the Committee when settlement questions were discussed, and which adopted the following resolutions concerning the co-operation of the Office in Iraq and in the execution of any settlement scheme for the Assyrians on which the Committee might decide :

“ I. The Committee takes note of the intention of the Iraqi Government to nominate a local committee, consisting of the Land Settlement Expert as President, an administrative inspector, the Qaimmaquam and the Assyrian village headman concerned, to proceed forthwith to reassure the Assyrians by explaining to them the exact meaning of the decision of the Council of the League of Nations and that a Committee of the Council is actively examining plans for its execution.

“ As soon as possible after the place of settlement has been definitely fixed, a representative of the Nansen Office for Refugees, appointed by that Office in agreement with the President of the Committee of the Council, will proceed to Iraq to collaborate with the above-mentioned local Committee in the task of :

“ (a) Ascertaining what persons wish to leave the country ;

“ (b) Taking all necessary measures required for their departure, such as liquidation of property, participation by intending emigrants in the cost of transport and resettlement, conveyance from their homes to the port selected, etc.”

“ II. Finally, it decides that, once a destination has been agreed upon for the Assyrians who wish to leave Iraq, the task of preparing and executing plans for the transfer and settlement of these Assyrians shall be entrusted, under conditions which will be defined later by the Committee, to the Nansen Office, working in close collaboration through the League Secretariat with the Council Committee.”

In response to the request of the Committee, the Office communicated to it various colonisation schemes which it had studied with a view to the settlement of various categories of refugees, and which appeared to offer suitable conditions to the Assyrians. From among those schemes, the Committee considered that referred to in the Governing Body's report to the last Assembly (Chapter V(e)) as being the most suitable for the Assyrians. That scheme was submitted to the Office by a company owning three million acres of land in North Paraná, Brazil, where some four thousand European colonists were already settled and concerning which the Office had obtained a very satisfactory report from an independent source.

After having received from the Brazilian Government an affirmative reply, subject to certain reservations, contemplating the reception of all the Assyrians at the rate of 500 families per month, the Committee decided, in agreement with the Brazilian Government, to send a mission to Brazil to ensure that the conditions in Paraná were such that the Assyrians could adapt themselves to them without difficulty.

Brigadier-General J. G. Browne, who had for years commanded the Assyrian levies in Iraq and was well acquainted with their conditions of life, was invited by the Committee to undertake that task. The Committee also invited M. Charles Redard, Counsellor of the Swiss Legation at Rio de Janeiro for some twenty years, to place his experience of Brazil at General Browne's disposal, and, in response to a request addressed to the President of the Governing Body for the services of a settlement adviser, Mr. T. F. Johnson, the Secretary-General of the Office, was nominated for the purpose.

The Council approved these arrangements at its meeting on January 19th, and the mission sailed for Brazil on January 27th. The mission carried out an exhaustive inspection of the

proposed settlement territories between February 12th and April 7th, and reported that, from every point of view, the conditions in North Paraná were satisfactory for the settlement of the Assyrians. Material extracts from the Secretary-General's technical report form Appendix IV to this present report, as they may prove of interest to other refugees who may be seeking satisfactory overseas settlement conditions. It is worthy of note that the inclusive cost of transport and settlement mentioned in that report works out at little more than £30 per head.

The work and report of the mission were approved by the Committee, and subsequently by the Council at its meeting on May 17th; but the putting into execution of the scheme was prevented by a modification of the Brazilian immigration regulations, which has for effect the restriction of the number of nationals who may enter the country in any year to 2 per cent of the total number of such nationals who have entered the country during the last fifty years.

In view of that decision, the Assyrian Committee, at the request of the Council, decided to consider the question of finding elsewhere a suitable home for the Assyrians, and, in response to its request, the Office will continue to afford its co-operation to the Committee for the examination of settlement proposals which may be brought to its attention. By so doing, the Office is acting in the spirit of the resolution of the last Assembly, and referred to in Chapter II (c), which invited immigration countries desirous of developing their territories to co-operate with the Office in settling refugees suitable for those territories.

(2) *Syria.*

The Office has also been requested by the Assyrian Committee of the League to co-operate in connection with another part of the Assyrian problem.

It will be remembered that, after the differences which occurred last year between the Iraqi Government and some of the Assyrians, some 550 Assyrians took refuge in Syria and were allowed by the French High Commissioner to remain pending a solution of the whole Assyrian problem. The French Government has now decided that their families, numbering 940 persons, should be allowed to join them. The French Government requested, however, that the admission of their families into Syria, and the funds provided by the Iraqi Government for their maintenance, should be controlled by the representative of the Office in Syria.

This view was endorsed by the Assyrian Committee, and, in response to its request, the Office has instructed its representative in Syria to place his services at the disposal of the two interested Governments for the accomplishment of the object they have in view. The Office has, however, been obliged to emphasise that, whilst always willing and anxious to afford its co-operation for the alleviation of the sufferings of refugees, its responsibility in this connection is essentially that of financial control.

(c) TRANSFER OF RUSSIAN REFUGEES FROM HARBIN TO BRAZIL.

One of the acute problems with which the Office was faced at the time of its creation was that of about 1,000 Catholic, Lutheran, Mennonite and Pfingstbrüder refugees who had taken refuge in Harbin. Thanks to the financial co-operation of the Lutheran and Mennonite organisations, the Office succeeded in securing the transfer of two convoys consisting each of about 300 of the refugees to South America. There still remained, however, another 300 refugees who regarded their situation in Harbin as precarious, and who addressed urgent appeals to the Office to secure their transfer to South America. Owing to the very heavy demands on the funds of the Office on behalf of destitute refugees in all parts of the world, it was quite beyond its resources to furnish the comparatively heavy sums required for the transport to, and settlement in, South America of those refugees. To encourage, however, other interested organisations to a supreme effort, the Office offered to contribute a sum of 15,000 Swiss francs if those organisations would provide the remainder. After many months of patient negotiation, the requisite sums were finally obtained, thanks to the contributions made by the following organisations :

	Swiss francs
Central Mennonite Committee	50,327.60
Office central d'entr'aide des Eglises	2,239.—
Association internationale protestante de prêts	20,000.—
Deutscher Caritasverband	21,639.—
Martin Luther Bund	16,757.35
Missions Gesellschaft Mulheim/Ruhr	7,603.—
League of Nations Union	1,487.85
Noel Buxton Fund	158.50
Danish Committee for the Nansen Memorial Fund	137.—
Mrs. Margaret B. Savory, England	8.15
Total	120,357.45

The Office was thus enabled in the spring of the present year to have the satisfaction of evacuating from Harbin the remainder of those refugees and of arranging their transport to Brazil, where their organisations had made arrangements for their final settlement.

CHAPTER V. — OTHER REFUGEE PROBLEMS.

(a) RUSSIAN REFUGEE WOMEN IN CHINA.

For many years the High Commissioner for Refugees and the Office, in turn, have drawn the attention in their annual reports to the Assembly to the very critical situation of the Russian refugees in China. They have pointed out that the presence of nearly 120,000 Russian refugees in China, most of whom were either destitute or compelled to live under conditions foreign to those to which they were accustomed, constituted a most serious political, economic and social menace whose effects could by no means be measured in the terms of acute misery to which the refugees themselves were subjected. It is because the High Commissioner and the Office were so cognisant of the seriousness of this problem that they have devoted particular attention to the problem of the Russian refugees in China and have from their exiguous funds made comparatively large grants to enable Russian refugees to leave that part of the world.

It was, therefore, with particular gratification that the Office learned that its anxiety was shared, as regards a portion of that problem, by the Advisory Commission for the Protection and Welfare of Children and Young People, which, at its session which met from April 7th to 11th, 1934, adopted the following resolution concerning the situation of the Russian refugee women in China :

“ That the Council be asked to recommend to the Assembly that a grant be made to the Nansen Office to make at least a beginning towards rendering the assistance to Russian women in the Far East that is needed.”

That resolution was considered by the Council at its session in May 1934, and was referred to the Assembly for further consideration.

Some idea of the tragic situation of those women may be obtained from a perusal of the report on the subject from the representative of the Office in China, which appears in Appendix II.

Once again, the Office is perfectly willing to place its technical and administrative machinery at the disposal of the League, but it must emphasise that only misunderstandings and illusions will result if positive resolutions are taken in this, as in other refugee relief problems, unless they are implemented by the necessary financial safeguards.

(b) THE EXODUS OF RUSSIAN REFUGEES (MOLOKANES) TO ASIA MINOR.

After innumerable vicissitudes, several hundred Russian refugees, who came originally from the regions bordering on northern Turkey, crossed the Turkish frontier. As they were trained agriculturists, the authorities of the country accepted those who were of Moslem religion and settled them in different villages. The other refugees, who were Christians, were turned back in three different directions — towards Iraq and Persia and, through southern Turkey, towards Syria.

The last-named group, after enduring the worst hardships for five months, in the course of which their numbers were decimated by repeated attacks by brigands, finally succeeded to the number of some 120 in reaching Syrian territory. Many of them were ill; twenty-five were suffering seriously from malaria and others from dysentery. They were kindly received and given help in the form of food and medicaments, but were nevertheless once more sent back to the Turkish frontier. It was then that their suffering became most acute. Being continually driven from one country to another, in a region that was far from safe, suffering from hunger and from the lack of medical care, they were also continually attacked by brigands, who killed several of them. On November 15th, 1933, for instance, one small group was for the time being separated from the main body of the convoy. Brigands then tried to carry off two young girls aged 10. Those who attempted to prevent their being carried off (the father, the mother, the elder brother, a man and a woman) were killed one after another.

At present there are 104 of these unfortunate people in Turkey at Diarbekir and round about. To meet their most urgent needs, collections have been organised in Istanbul; and the American Committee, which is collaborating with the representative of the Office, has added to these gifts a generous consignment of medicaments and linen.

As a result of steps taken by the Office, moreover, the Turkish Government has stated that it is prepared to authorise these refugees to stay a certain time longer in Turkey. There is also a possibility of their being moved provisionally to Beirut, by permission of the French High Commissioner in Syria, pending their final evacuation to another country.

The question of this evacuation, however, raises a certain number of problems, more particularly of a financial character. It is true that many of these refugees have relatives in the United States (California); but it is unlikely that all the necessary permits for their transfer to that country could be obtained in any relatively short period of time. This solution, moreover, like the possibility of their settlement in other countries — *e.g.*, Brazil — would call for somewhat considerable outlay, exceeding the resources at the disposal of the Office at the present time. A preliminary study of this matter shows that the amount required for their transfer to, and settlement in, South America would be about £3,600.

The Office firmly hopes that the organisations which have always devoted themselves to the welfare of the refugees will once more be good enough to come to the aid of this new group, whose situation is most critical, and assist in their evacuation by making repayable advances.

CHAPTER VI. — FUNDS ADMINISTERED BY THE OFFICE.

The funds administered by the Office during the year ending December 31st, 1933, showed a marked diminution compared with previous years. As Appendix V will show, about 130,000 Swiss francs were received from various sources by the Office General Fund, and about 250,000 francs either advanced or granted to refugees or their organisations, compared with approximately 1,400,000 Swiss francs and 890,000 francs respectively for the twenty-one months ending December 31st, 1932. These figures do not include the funds administered for the Armenian refugees in Syria, particulars of which appear in Appendix VI.

This shrinkage is due to a variety of causes, not the least being the relaxed efforts in favour of Dr. Nansen's Memorial Fund, contributions to which represented 450,000 francs in the previous account. Donations for the transfer from China to South America of Lutheran and Mennonite refugees also accounted for about 230,000 Swiss francs in the previous statement.

It is expected that the revenue from the Nansen stamp will be considerably increased in the future, thanks to the agreement of the French Government to the general application of the Nansen stamp in France. A law on the subject has been adopted by the two Chambers and stipulates that one-half of the revenue from the issue of the stamp in France shall be remitted to the Office Nansen Stamp Fund, whilst the other half shall be remitted, as to 80 per cent to the Russian refugee organisations, and as to 20 per cent to the Armenian refugee organisations in France.

It is difficult to estimate what funds may be expected from this measure, but an interesting indication is afforded by the knowledge that, before the general application of the Nansen stamp in France was suspended in 1926, a revenue of about 20,000 Swiss francs per month was obtained from that source.

CHAPTER VII. — PROGRESS MADE WITH THE OFFICE LIQUIDATION PLAN.

Considerable progress has been made, during the past year, towards the liquidation or transformation of representations of the Office which constituted important charges on its budget.

(1) POLAND AND THE BALTIC STATES.

The representations for Danzig, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania and Poland were centralised under a salaried representative at Warsaw, with correspondents in the other territories mentioned. Arrangements have now been made for a decentralisation of those various representations and for the appointment of representatives or correspondents on an honorary basis or for nominal out-of-pocket expenses.

The actual state of those representations will be found in Appendix I to this report.

This rearrangement has resulted in a budgetary economy of 17,200 Swiss francs, as compared with the relevant expenditure last year.

(2) CHINA.

In spite of the magnitude of the Russian refugee problem in China, the Governing Body decided, after very considerable hesitation, that, in view of the necessity of conforming to the Office liquidation plan, it had no option but to discontinue the maintenance of a salaried representative in China. In deference, however, to the importance attached by the Chinese authorities to a close and active co-operation with the Office, negotiations are in progress with a view to the appointment of an honorary representative of the Office in China.

The suppression of the salaried representative of the Office in China is reflected by an economy of 9,800 Swiss francs.

(3) SYRIA.

Full particulars of the plans for the liquidation of the representation of the Office in Syria appear in Chapter IV (a) (2).

(4) GERMANY.

In agreement with the German Government, the representation of the Office in Berlin is entering on a period of liquidation. A register is being made of the refugees in Germany, and memoranda is being sent to them to indicate the steps they should take to conform to German legislation affecting Russian refugees. The saving effected by the partial liquidation of the Office representation in Germany amounts to 9,545 Swiss francs this year compared with the preceding year.

Appendix I.

NANSEN INTERNATIONAL OFFICE FOR REFUGEES.

(Under the authority of the League of Nations.)

LIST OF MEMBERS OF THE GOVERNING BODY.

President, appointed by the Assembly of the League of Nations:

Professor G. WERNER, Vice-President of the International Red Cross Committee.

Vice-Presidents.

Mr. L. B. GOLDEN, M. E. DE NAVAILLES-LABATUT.

I. Members appointed by the Inter-Governmental Advisory Commission for Refugees.

(1) Titular Members.

M. E. DE NAVAILLES-LABATUT, President of the Inter-Governmental Advisory Commission for Refugees.

His Excellency M. R. RAPHAEL, Permanent Delegate of Greece accredited to the League of Nations.

His Excellency M. C. ANTONIADE, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of Roumania accredited to the League of Nations.

His Excellency M. C. FOTITCH, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary, Permanent Delegate of the Kingdom of Yugoslavia accredited to the League of Nations.

(2) Substitute Members.

His Excellency M. J. FELDMANS, Minister Plenipotentiary, Permanent Delegate of the Latvian Government accredited to the League of Nations.

M. Guido ROMANELLI, Consul-General, Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Rome.

M. D. MIKOFF, Chargé d'Affaires at the Royal Bulgarian Legation, Berne.

Mr. H. PATTESON, British Consul at Geneva.

II. Member appointed by the Secretariat of the League of Nations:

M. J. AVENOL, Secretary-General of the League of Nations.

III. Member appointed by the International Labour Office:

Mr. H. B. BUTLER, Director of the International Labour Office.

IV. Members appointed by the Advisory Committee of the Private Refugee Relief Organisations.

(1) Titular Members.

Mr. L. B. GOLDEN, British United Committee, London.

His Excellency M. C. GOULKEVITCH, Conseil des anciens Ambassadeurs russes, Geneva.

M. L. PACHALIAN, Comité central des réfugiés arméniens, Paris.

(2) Substitute Members.

M. C. HANEMIAN, Office des réfugiés arméniens en France, Paris.

Mr. W. A. MACKENZIE, International "Save the Children" Union, Geneva.

M. J. RUBINSTEIN, Commission centrale pour l'étude de la condition des réfugiés russes, Paris.

V. Members appointed by the Governing Body of the Nansen International Office.

Mr. E. J. SWIFT, Secretary-General of the League of Red Cross Societies, Paris.

Mlle. S. FERRIÈRE (Substitute), International Migration Service, Geneva.

His Excellency Senator G. CIRAOLO, President of the Executive Committee of the International Relief Union.

His Excellency Senator Albert FRANÇOIS (Substitute), Member of the Executive Committee of the International Relief Union, Brussels.

VI. Managing Committee.

(1) Titular Members.

Professor G. WERNER, Chairman. M. E. DE NAVAILLES-LABATUT. His Excellency M. C. GOULKEVITCH.

(2) Substitute Members.

M. L. PACHALIAN. His Excellency M. R. RAPHAEL.

VII. Finance Commission.

Professor G. WERNER, Chairman. His Excellency M. R. RAPHAEL. His Excellency M. C. GOULKEVITCH. His Excellency M. C. ANTONIADE. M. DE NAVAILLES-LABATUT.

STAFF.

A. Central Service.

Mr. T. F. JOHNSON, Secretary-General.

Two members of the Secretariat, one accountant, one archivist, one secretary-shorthand-typist (bilingual), one assistant clerk, two shorthand-typists (bilingual), one shorthand-typist, one messenger.

B. Representatives.

<i>Austria :</i>			
E. KOMERS	Honorary Representative	Austrian	Herrengasse 23, Vienna.
<i>Belgium :</i>			
R. COUBAUX	Honorary Representative	Belgian	30, rue d'Idalie, Brussels.
<i>Bulgaria :</i>			
B. SERAFIMOV	Representative	Russian refugee	98, rue Rakowsky, Sofia.
<i>Czechoslovakia :</i>			
Dr. A. G. MASARYKOVA	Honorary Representative	Czechoslovak	Svedska Ulice 1260, Prague.
<i>Finland :</i>			
F. M. GRIPENBERG	Honorary Representative	Finn.	Malmbrinken 2. A. 13, Helsinki.
<i>France :</i>			
M. PAON	Representative	French	32, Bd. Raspail, Paris.
<i>Germany :</i>			
Representation in Germany in liquidation.			Stresemannstrasse 103, Berlin.
<i>Greece :</i>			
A. KOTELNIKOV	Representative	Greek	Iraklitou 12, Athens.
<i>Poland :</i>			
Representation in Poland under consideration			
<i>Roumania :</i>			
S. POKLEWSKI-KOZIELL	Honorary Representative	Russian refugee	25, Calei Victoriei, Bucharest.
<i>Syria :</i>			
G. BURNIER	Representative	Swiss	Boite postale 714, Beirut.
<i>Turkey :</i>			
G. COUTEAUX	Honorary Representative	Belgian	Buyuk Tunnel Han, Galata 8-9, Istanbul.
<i>Yugoslavia :</i>			
S. YOURIEFF	Representative	Yugoslav	Kopitareva Gradina 3, Belgrade.

CORRESPONDENTS

<i>China :</i>			
M. METZLER		Russian refugee	72, Hong-Kong Road, Shanghai.
<i>Danzig :</i>			
W. ELISAROFF		Russian refugee	Heinrichsallee 7, Zoppot (Danzig).
<i>Estonia :</i>			
J. SOBOLEV		Russian refugee	Koidu Tan 13, Narva.
<i>Latvia :</i>			
COMMITTEE OF THE LATVIAN RED CROSS.			Skolas iela 1, Riga.
<i>Lithuania :</i>			
J. FEDOROFF		Russian refugee	Darbiniku gve 4, Kaunas.

List of Members of the Inter-Governmental Advisory Commission for Refugees.

GOVERNMENT DELEGATES.

- Belgium* : Senator Albert FRANÇOIS, Member of the Executive Committee of the International Relief Union, Brussels.
- British Empire* : Mr. H. PATTESON, British Consul, Geneva.
- Bulgaria* : M. D. MIKOFF, Chargé d'Affaires, Royal Bulgarian Legation, Berne.
- China* : M. CHEN TING, Secretary of the Permanent Office of the Chinese Delegation accredited to the League of Nations, Geneva.
- Czechoslovakia* : His Excellency M. R. KUNZL-JIZERSKY, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary, Permanent Delegate of the Czechoslovak Republic accredited to the League of Nations, Berne.
- Estonia* : His Excellency M. A. SCHMIDT, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary, Estonian Legation, Rome.
- France* : M. E. DE NAVAILLES-LABATUT, President of the Inter-Governmental Advisory Commission, Paris.
- Greece* : His Excellency M. R. RAPHAEL, Permanent Delegate of Greece accredited to the League of Nations, Geneva.
- Italy* : M. Guido ROMANELLI, Consul-General, Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Rome.
- Latvia* : His Excellency M. J. FELDMANS, Minister Plenipotentiary, Permanent Delegate of the Latvian Government accredited to the League of Nations, Geneva.
- Poland* : M. E. ROSICKI, Sub-Chief of Section at the Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Warsaw.
- Roumania* : His Excellency M. C. ANTONIADE, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of Roumania accredited to the League of Nations, Geneva.
- Yugoslavia* : His Excellency M. C. FOTITCH, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary, Permanent Delegate of the Kingdom of Yugoslavia accredited to the League of Nations, Geneva.

ADVISORY MEMBERS.

- M. J. AVENOL, Secretary-General of the League of Nations, Geneva.
- Mr. H. B. BUTLER, Director of the International Labour Office, Geneva.
- Professor G. WERNER, President of the Governing Body of the Nansen International Office for Refugees, Geneva.

ADVISORY MEMBERS APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE INTERNATIONAL LABOUR OFFICE.

- M. Z. ZULAWSKI, Secretary-General of the Association of Trades Unions in Poland, Warsaw.
- M. C. CURCIN, Vice-President of the Confederation of Industrial Corporations, Belgrade.

TECHNICAL ADVISERS.

- His Excellency M. C. GOULKEVITCH, Conseil des anciens Ambassadeurs russes, Geneva.
- Baron B. NOLDE, Conseil des anciens Ambassadeurs russes, Paris.
- Mr. W. A. MACKENZIE, International " Save the Children " Union, Geneva.
- Mr. L. B. GOLDEN, United British Committee, London.
- His Excellency M. A. KHATISSIAN, Délégation de la République arménienne, Paris.
- M. L. PACHALIAN, Comité central des Réfugiés arméniens, Paris.
- Major C. PETERSEN, League of Red Cross Societies, Paris.
- M. J. RUBINSTEIN, Commission centrale pour l'étude de la condition des Réfugiés russes, Paris.
- Major T. F. JOHNSON, Secretary-General of the Nansen International Office for Refugees, Geneva.

Appendix II.

SITUATION OF RUSSIAN REFUGEE WOMEN IN THE FAR EAST.

(Extract from a Report by the Shanghai Representative of the Office.)

1. *Prostitution in Brothels.* — In nineteen brothels at Shanghai — this list being certainly incomplete, as clandestine brothels are difficult to trace — there were, at the end of January, 122 Russian refugees as inmates. A further ninety, who were working as “single girls”, lived in specified districts.

2. *Professional Dancing Partners.* — In the dance-halls there were, at the end of January, 638 Russian refugees as professional “partners” paid by their clients for each dance.

3. *Women acting both as Restaurant Waitresses and as Dancing Partners.* — Thirty-two Russian refugees.

4. *Restaurant Waitresses.* — It is difficult to ascertain the number of Russian restaurant waitresses. At Shanghai there is a very large number of small Russian restaurants in which it is difficult to distinguish the professional waitresses from the members of the family or the relatives of the proprietors. In the larger restaurants, there are thirty-nine Russian refugees.

The above enumeration is certainly far from complete. To it there should be added numerous massage institutions, many boarding-houses and, what are perhaps the most ignoble cases of all, exhibitions of unfortunate white Russian women to coolies who pay a few cents for the spectacle. These cases are happily becoming much rarer and are severely dealt with by the police.

There can be little hope of any reduction in these figures, for every boat which arrives from Dairen brings new refugees who imagine that at Shanghai they will find a situation or perhaps a foreign husband and thus be assured of a life that is less full of anxiety. Other hope in the same way to secure a passport, the possession of which will give them a feeling of freedom.

Mulalis mulandis, the situation is the same in the other open ports of China, more particularly Hangkow and Tientsin.

Having given these few details, I am bound to say that I entirely agree with the report by the Commission of Enquiry. The tribulations which a Russian woman has to endure from the moment she crosses the frontier are such common knowledge that they are hardly ever mentioned nowadays. Distress in Harbin has continued to increase since the Commission's visit. This sufficiently explains the growing exodus of young Russian women to the great cities of China — in particular, Shanghai. The fact that a few privileged women have succeeded in returning to Harbin to pass the summer months and visit their relatives there serves as a permanent attraction for the others.

As regards Shanghai, I think the chief reasons for this state of affairs are :

The fact that the number of Russians, estimated at over 18,000, is much too great for a city of which the European population is relatively small, the number of Europeans (probably including many half-breeds) being only 20,308, according to the most recent census ;

The fact that conditions of labour are absolutely different and that local supplies of labour are so abundant and so cheap that many occupations which are usually reserved for women in Europe are not open to the Russian refugees ;

The absolute impossibility of assimilation by the local population, because differences are too great ;

The fact that the climate is fatiguing, more particularly in summer, for those who are unable to go away, so that, in a relatively short time, it exhausts all energy and power of resistance.

I cannot but add the general complicity, not only of residents, but often also of distinguished travellers, who unfortunately regard the young Russian woman merely as an object of momentary and easy pleasure and one of the special attractions of Shanghai.

It is absolutely certain, as the report says, that, if respectable employment could be found for young Russian refugee women, this sad state of affairs would be enormously improved. Very few dancers indeed succeed in earning \$300 a month, and I think it may safely be said that 90 per cent would at once abandon that profession if they could earn 100 Mexican dollars in a respectable occupation.

Personally, I take advantage of each of my visits to Harbin in order to spread information intended to warn young people and induce parents to do everything possible not to let their daughters go.

Appendix III.

SUMMARY OF PLAN FOR THE LIQUIDATION OF THE FUND FOR THE SETTLEMENT OF ARMENIAN REFUGEES IN SYRIA.

The funds consists of two parts, (a) Loans, and (b) Contributions. The loans fall under two headings : (1) Loans repayable at Specified Dates, and (2) Loans repayable if Reimbursements by Refugees permit.

The situation of this fund on June 30th, 1934, was as follows :

(a) 1. *Loans repayable at Specified Dates.*

	French francs ¹
Syrian Government : 264,000 French francs repayable from 1930-1939, by annuities of 26,400 French francs. Balance due	132,648
Armenian Benevolent Union : £9,080 4s. 9d. repayable by four equal annuities from the year 1934, now adjourned for one year (<i>vide</i> Chapter IV (a), 2))	726,420

(a) 2. *Loans repayable contingent on Reimbursements by Refugees being sufficient.*

Near East Relief : £1,415 14s., part of a contribution of £4,000 reimbursable from 1933, if repayments by refugees admit	113,256
(The Near East Relief have agreed to accept 5.26 per cent per annum of the total repayments effected by the refugees settled in agricultural colonies.)	
Miss Roberts (balance)	67,520
Friends of Armenia	80,000
United British Committee	80,000
Nansen Office for Refugees	733,308
Total	1,933,152

(b) *Contributions.*

French Government	3,000,000
British United Committee	1,528,000
Near East Relief	214,540
Armenian Relief Union	260,400
Sundry contributions	112,943
Total	5,115,883

It is proposed that the various liabilities enumerated above should be met, from refugee repayments, from January 1st, 1935, in the following manner, it being understood that, in the case of category (b) Contributions, the repayments will be utilised for social services in favour of the Armenians after consultation with the interested contributors :

(1) *Priority Claims, per Annum.*

	French francs
Syrian Government	26,400
Armenian Benevolent Union	181,600

(2) As regards the disposal of the balance of repayments made by the refugees, it is proposed that 50 per cent should be allotted to the reimbursement of the French Government contribution of three million francs, and that the remaining 50 per cent should be allotted to the other contributors to the fund. In view, however, of the conditions made by certain of those contributors, the following priority is indicated concerning the disposal of the 50 per cent allotted to contributors other than the French Government, in proportion to their loans :

		French francs
1. Near East Relief	£1,415 14s.	113,256
2. Miss Roberts	£844	67,520
3. Friends of Armenia	£1,000	80,000
4. United British Committee	£1,000	80,000
5. Nansen Office £2,977 6s. 2d. and 100,000 Swiss francs		733,308
Total		1,074,084

¹ £1 = 80 French francs.

After the liquidation of those liabilities, refugees' reimbursements should be allotted in the following proportions, after consultation with the donators, for social relief work for the Armenian refugees in Syria :

	French francs
Near East Relief	214,540
British United Committee	1,528,000
Armenian Benevolent Union	260,400
Other sundry contributors	112,943
Total	2,115,883

Appendix IV.

EXTRACT FROM THE REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE OFFICE,
MEMBER OF THE COMMISSION APPOINTED BY THE LEAGUE TO EXAMINE
PROPOSALS FOR THE SETTLEMENT OF ASSYRIANS ON THE LANDS OF PARANÁ
PLANTATIONS, LIMITED, IN NORTH PARANÁ, BRAZIL.

Brazil is a country stretching from latitude 4° North to latitude 32° South, and from longitude 34° West to 74° West. Its area, nearly eight and a half million hectares, represents no less than 43 per cent of the total area of Latin America, and is eighteen times larger than France. Large tracts of this country enjoy a good climate and possess immense sources of potential wealth. The population, however, in 1930, according to official statistics, barely reached forty million people, or 4.7 per square kilometre.

It is only natural that such a country should attract immigrants in large numbers from all over the world, and Brazil has, as a general rule, not set up any racial or colour bar, especially in the case of immigrants whose object was to assist in the agricultural development of the country. In view, however, of the very large numbers of foreigners who seek a new home in Brazil, it is perhaps not surprising that those who are more readily assimilable, are regarded by the Brazilians with a more favourable eye.

I. INSPECTION OF PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AREAS.

A thorough examination was made of the settlements in the area of which Londrina is the economic centre. Londrina is now a township of 420 houses and 1,300 inhabitants, with the offices of the company; an omnibus service between Jatahy and the settlements; a goods clearing-station; a hospital; an agricultural experimental station; an hotel which, although primitive, provides comforts which exceed expectations for an undeveloped area; stores, and pleasant dwellings constructed for the local Director and his staff. There are streets which are, at present, in a rough state, but which are capable of being made into serviceable thoroughfares.

Among the settlements visited were those of Roland, Neu Danzig, Heimthal and Novo Vlast, where there were Austrian, Czechoslovak, German, Italian, Japanese and Polish settlers. In general, those settlers were making satisfactory progress, and more particularly in Roland, which was originally organised by the Gesellschaft für Wirtschaftliche Studien in Übersee, an undertaking which has recently been absorbed by the Colonisation Department of the German Ministry for Agriculture. The experience gained by and the methods employed in that settlement should prove of value in connection with the organisation of the Assyrian settlement. Only the Czechoslovak settlement of Novo Vlast has failed to achieve moderate success, but this is due to reasons for which the conditions in North Paraná cannot be held responsible.

The total population of the area is 4,000, compared with that of fifty less than two years ago, at the time when M. Redard made his report on this region.

II. GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF CONDITIONS IN PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AREAS.

(a) *Situation.*

The Paraná areas Nos. 1 and 2 are approximately at latitude 23½° South and longitude 50½° West. Their altitude varies between 700 and 800 metres. The Jangada region is approximately 21° South and 50° West, at an altitude of 400 metres.

(b) *Climate.*

The climatic conditions of both regions appear to be favourable to Assyrian settlers. As regards North Paraná, statistics furnished by the company indicate that the highest temperature recorded in the summer of 1933 was 38° C. and the lowest winter temperature slightly under 0° C. The highest temperature registered during the various visits to Londrina, at a time regarded as usually the hottest of the year, did not, in fact, exceed 32° C. The annual

rainfall varies between 50 and 60 inches, and occurs mostly between the months of October and March.

Climatic statistics were not forthcoming for the Jangada region, but are reported to be similar to those given for North Paraná, except that the temperatures were slightly higher. This is to be expected, taking into consideration the difference of latitude, the lower altitude, and the fact that the country is much more cleared.

(c) *Health Conditions.*

The health conditions of the two areas seem to be distinctly good. Statistics produced by the company's doctor show that, on the company's estate in North Paraná, between February 10th, 1933, when the population of the region was approximately 2,000, and February 4th, 1934, when the population was about 4,000, there was a total of eighty-two deaths, or an average of 27.3 per thousand per annum. Of those deaths, however, 65 per cent were due to infant mortality and consisted of twenty-eight children under 1 year of age and of twenty-four children between 1 and 7 years of age. There were two deaths of persons over 70. It is interesting to note that there was no mortality among the 150 employees of the company during that period, and that there were only an average of 2.2 patients per day in the hospital throughout the year.

It is significant that, until recently, there was no recorded case of malaria contracted in the region; but, during the visit to the region, two cases were reported, which indicated the existence of the malaria carrier, although no trace of the anopheles mosquito could be found. Cases of typhoid and dysentery seemed to be singularly rare, and no case at all of cholera was recorded.

No health statistics of the Jangada region were available, but the health conditions did not appear to be much inferior to those obtaining in the North Paraná area.

(d) *Insect Pests.*

In both areas, and especially in the forest region of North Paraná, there were numerous insect pests which were very troublesome, some of whose bites cause eruptions, accompanied by intense irritation, which last for several days. As the indigenous population seemed to suffer little discomfort from these pests, it is reasonable to assume that, after an unpleasant apprenticeship, settlers obtain comparative immunity from their attentions.

(e) *Communications.*

- (1) *North Paraná Area.* — Santos to Jatahy, twenty-six hours by rail.

The total transport time from Santos to the proposed settlement area would amount approximately, to thirty hours.

It is important to note, however, that the company's railway, which is scheduled to reach the vicinity of that area by the end of 1938, will effect a reduction of an hour and a half in that time. A further important reduction of the transport time to seaport is foreshadowed by a concession held by the company to construct a railway from Londrina to Pontagrossa, which will enable the growing Paraná port of Paranagua to be reached from Londrina in seventeen hours, and would then link up, *en route*, the settlement area with Curityba, the capital of Paraná, and the important towns of Palmeira, Morretes and Antonina, as well as with numerous other important population centres in South Paraná.

(2) *Jangada Area.* — Twenty-two hours by rail from Sao Paulo to Biriguy; two hours by car from Biriguy to the edge of the company's property.

(3) *Construction and Maintenance of Roads.* — The company undertakes to construct and maintain in good order essential main roads in its properties, and to construct the necessary subsidiary roads in the settlement area, but such subsidiary roads must be maintained by the settlers. Appropriate clauses should, therefore, be inserted in the respective contracts.

(f) *Soil and Water Supply.*

In both regions, the very fertile soil known as *Terra roxa* (red soil) prevails, well watered by abundant streams running between the undulations existing throughout both regions.

(g) *Cultivation.*

The following principal crops were cultivated normally in both regions: coffee, cotton, rice (on dry land), maize, millet, beans, marrows, potatoes, mandioca, sugar, tobacco, pineapple, bananas, oranges, pawpaws. There are, in addition, a variety of other vegetables and fruits which were observed in some settlements.

The Experimental Stations at Londrina and Roland have proved, contrary to popular belief, that wheat can be grown commercially in the region, the former station having produced 33 sacks per sack sown, and the latter 260 kilogrammes per 12 kilogrammes sown. It was thanks to similar experiments made by the Londrina Station that the cultivation of dry-land rice is now practised in the region. Experiments are now being made, with good prospects, for the cultivation of tung for the production of tungoil.

Jaragua and graminha (couch or doub) grasses flourish for pasture.

There is a wealth of useful and sometimes valuable timber throughout the North Paraná region, notably the peroba, a hard wood employed for construction purposes and for railway sleepers; Paraná pine, a softer wood, used for box-making and allied industries; the cedar, the white fig, and the white palm, which is utilised extensively for the construction of settlers' houses.

(h) *Animals.*

Pigs thrive and are to be found in nearly all the settlements in large numbers. Goats also do well. Horses and mules, with some oxen, are the transport animals of the settlers, but cattle are not numerous owing to the fact that the area has not yet reached the stage of general pasture.

Fowls and ducks can be bred without difficulty by all settlers.

(i) *Produce Yields, Markets and Prices.*

In Chapter III an account is given of the results achieved by settlers who started under conditions in many respects inferior to those proposed for the Assyrians. Those accounts, however, are confined, intentionally, to a limited initial period. It may be well, therefore, to examine what prospects are offered of economic development after the settler has passed the initial stages.

In the first place, it should be emphasised that the growth of the population of the company's area in North Paraná has been so rapid that local produce has been absorbed without difficulty. This situation may not, however, continue with the advent of some thousands of settlers within the space of a few months. I have thought it desirable, therefore, to obtain figures showing the yields for certain main products with their market prices in Sao Paulo :

Product	Yield per alquiere	Market price in Sao Paulo	Transport to Sao Paulo
Rice	3,000	2,271\$	263\$400
Coffee	3,375	5,450\$	595\$
Maize	6,000	1,545\$	404\$
Cotton	2,000	4,500\$	343\$80
Pig (say of 90 kilogrammes) .		168\$	22\$600

These figures are sufficient to indicate that, if settlers devote, say, four-fifths of their lands to one or two of the above products marketable in Sao Paulo, and reserve the remaining fifth for produce for their own consumption, they should have no difficulty in achieving moderate prosperity.

As regards crops mainly required for home consumption, the following table shows the comparative rapidity with which they mature :

	Months
Marrows, egg-plants, onions, cabbages, lettuces, etc. .	1
Beans	2
Sweet potatoes	3
Maize	4
Mandioca	5
Rice	6

The value of timber varies, of course, with its quality, but an interesting sidelight is thrown on the value of existing timber on the land proposed for the Assyrians by the information that a large peroba, a tree which is fairly prevalent in the area, is worth 1,280\$ delivered sawn in Sao Paulo, the transport costing 470\$800.

III. RESULTS OBTAINED BY VARIOUS SETTLERS.

A very close examination was made of the holdings of various settlers, and particular attention was paid to those settlers who had recently arrived in Brazil under conditions inferior, if anything, to those contemplated for the Assyrians. That examination indicated that, if the Assyrians display the necessary comprehension, goodwill, initiative and energy, they should, in the absence of unforeseen circumstances, experience no great difficulty in becoming self-supporting within the period of nine months it is proposed to support them in Paraná.

It may be well to give here a résumé of the present financial situation of three typical settlers who arrived under different financial conditions :

(a) Arrived three years ago with wife and two children and capital of 900\$. Present value of holding		13,000\$
Less original capital (£15)	900\$	
Less due on land purchase	2,700\$	
		<hr/> 3,600\$
Net profit		<hr/> 9,400\$ or £157

(b) Arrived in October 1931 with wife and three working sons and 3,000\$. Has maintained, in all, a family of ten. Present value of holding		29,400\$
Less initial capital (£50)	3,000\$	
Less due on land	1,700\$	
		4,700\$
Net profit		24,700\$ or £411
(c) Single unemployed man who arrived in October 1932 moneyless. Value of present holding		2,950\$
Less due on land		900\$
		2,050\$ or £35

It is worthy of note that cases of complete default in the execution of the agreements between the settler and the company are rare, and that few settlers are seriously in arrear with the payments of their land purchase instalments.

IV. PROPOSED SETTLEMENT PLANS.

General.

It is proposed that the Assyrians should be settled in groups of four families, each family being allotted five alquieres (12 hectares) of land, with a wooden house for the four families at the point of contact of the four blocks of land. Each group of four families would thus be separated from the surrounding similar groups by about 750 metres. This arrangement has the advantage of providing some companionship outside the individual family during the initial stages of settlement as well as proving more economical than the construction of a separate house for each family. After they have found their feet, there will be ample opportunity and material for the individual families to construct separate houses for themselves, should they desire to do so.

As regards non-agricultural but manual workers, arrangements could be made for them to serve an approved period of apprenticeship with qualified agricultural families, or, as far as accommodation would permit, in an experimental station which should be established in the settlement. The maintenance of such stations has proved valuable in Londrina and Roland, and would be particularly useful for the purpose of affording general agricultural advice to the settlers.

Appendix V.

RECAPITULATORY TABLE SHOWING THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE GENERAL RELIEF FUND OF THE OFFICE¹ FROM JANUARY 1ST, 1933, TO DECEMBER 31ST, 1933.

I. RECEIPTS.		II. EXPENDITURE.	
	Swiss francs		Swiss francs
Balance on January 1st, 1933	397,370.75	Advances made	206,980.70
(including 16,841.90 francs advances granted in 1932 and cancelled in 1933).		Grants made	43,303.90
Sale of Nansen stamps	67,522.45	10 per cent majoration on advances	19,163.45
Surcharge on identity certificates (Governments of the United Kingdom and India)	3,135.55	Credited to the Czechoslovak Government's account (repayments of refugees evacuated out of this fund)	5,026.05
Sale of special stamps	3,000.—	Sundries	747.30
Contributions to Nansen Memorial Fund	1,463.20	Losses on exchange	888.10
Sundries (interest, etc.)	5,914.05	Balance in hand	255,907.80
Repayments by refugees	50,687.30		
Donations for special purposes	2,924.—		
	532,017.30		532,017.30

¹ The amounts earmarked for the settlement of Armenian refugees in Syria are not included. The particulars of those funds are given in the statement on relief work in Syria.

Appendix VI.

NEAR EAST FUND AT DECEMBER 31st, 1933.

A. ASSETS.		French francs	B. LIABILITIES.		French francs
1. Cash at bank : Banque de Paris et des Pays-Bas, Genève		116,781.35	1. Capital (see Annex II)		6,160,782.85
2. M. Burnier : Balance in hand : In the Office's account with the Banque de Syrie et du Grand-Liban, Beirut		243,703.20		French francs	
3. Properties purchased (see Annexes I and II) :			Total contributions .	6,344,257.85	
(a) For urban settlement, Syr. £114,476.99	French francs		Less 5 per cent charged for the maintenance of the Syrian Agency	183,475.—	
=	2,289,539.—			6,160,782.85	
(b) For agricultural settlement, Syr. £35,633.72			2. Sundry loans made to the Office (see Annex IV)		2,244,286.90
=	712,674.—		3. Reimbursements (see Annex VI) :		
	3,002,213.—		(a) Agricultural settlements, French francs		
4. Advances (see Annexes I and II) :			Syr. £6,218.17 =	124,363.40	
(a) For buildings in urban settlements, Syr. £167,985.39			(b) Urban settlements, Syr. £72,721.59 =	1,454,431.80	
=	3,359,707.70			1,578,795.20	
(b) For the settlement of refugees in agricultural colonies, Syr. £141,311.34			4. Profit and Loss (see Annex V)		84,476.30
=	2,826,227.—				
5. General expenses (recoverable expenditure) Syr. £25,985.44		6,185,934.70			
		519,709.—			
Total		10,068,341.25			10,068,341.25

Note. — Contributions in £'s are accounted at the rates prevailing at the times they were received.

Annex No. I.

NEAR EAST FUND : FINANCIAL SITUATION AT DECEMBER 31st, 1933.

Showing Distribution of the Expenditure charged to the Urban Refugee Settlements in Syria.

Name of settlement	Purchase of property	Sundry expenditure for allotment, parcelling and constructions	Total
		Syrian £	
Aleppo	68,876.9400	50,462.7132	119,339.6532
Kirik-Khan :			
1st district	1,072.6101	84.2050	1,156.8151
2nd district	357.6650	1.3750	359.0400
3rd district	200.0000	—	200.0000
Alexandretta	1,279.9050	1,582.3630	2,862.2680
Beirut	28,768.7050	110,044.0925	138,812.7975
Damascus	13,921.1600	5,810.6542	19,731.8142
Total	114,476.9851	167,985.4029	282,462.3880

Syr. £282,462 at 20 = 5,649,247.70 French francs.

Annex No. II.

NEAR EAST FUND : FINANCIAL SITUATION AT DECEMBER 31st, 1933.
Showing Allocation of the Expenditure charged to each Agricultural Settlement of Refugees in Syria.

Name of settlement	Cost of property	Rent of property	Furniture, cattle and equipment	Food, upkeep, seeds	Transport	Building costs	Total
	Syrian £						
Nor-Zeitun	1,553.2946	—	1,424.5000	5,920.2605	241.5800	2,986.5000	12,126.1351
Soug-Su	8,198.1350	—	2,265.7800	5,979.7700	65.2975	2,603.7900	19,112.7725
Pré-Militaire :							
1. Hayashen	12,355.1050	4,708.9950	5,204.5873	26,620.1042	2,573.6520	5,764.1063	57,206.5498
2. Abdal-Huyuk	12,335.1050	2,766.8350	4,239.6515	9,351.4852	1,007.9111	4,037.5700	33,738.5578
Kirik-Khan	—	—	770.0000	3,205.2200	6.4350	621.5000	4,603.1550
Massayaf	—	10,662.3900	6,208.7876	23,426.1867	1,981.0237	4,885.6738	47,164.0618
Bey-Seki	1,212.0800	—	310.7500	648.5050	9.5000	163.0000	2,343.8350
Banias	—	—	325.0000	325.0000	—	—	650.0000
	35,633.7196	18,138.2200	20,749.0564	75,476.5316	5,885.3993	21,062.1401	176,945.0670

Syr.£176,945 at 20 = 3,538,900 French francs.

Annex No. III.

NEAR EAST FUND : CAPITAL ACCOUNT.

Contributions :

	£	s.	d.	French francs
French Government	—	—	—	3,000,000.—
Luxemburg Government	200	0	0	24,840.—
British United Committee	17,100	0	0	2,123,820.—
Friends of Armenia	271	9	4	33,708.—
Near East Association	2,681	16	7	333,080.—
Various (per Near East Association)	391	8	10	48,612.—
Union générale arménienne de bienfaisance	1,755	0	0	217,971.—
Noel Buxton Fund	200	0	0	24,840.—
International Red Cross Committee	197	14	9	24,554.—
Erivan Scheme	34	3	2	4,235.—
Contribution from the Union générale arménienne de bienfaisance for the "Parachène" Colony	1,500	0	0	127,110.—
Contribution of the same organisation for the erection of a fountain	30	0	0	2,640.—
Donations to the Nansen Memorial Fund earmarked for the work in Syria :				
Lord Mayor's Fund	3,000	0	0	371,904.85
	Swiss Francs			
Danish Committee	1,370	—	—	6,813.—
Miss H. Sturge	26	30	—	130.—
Total				6,344,257.85

Annex No. IV.

NEAR EAST FUND : CREDITORS AT DECEMBER 31st, 1933.

	£	s.	d.	French francs
1. Syrian Government (anonymous loan)	1,440	0	0	159,048.—
2. Friends of Armenia	1,000	0	0	124,200.—
3. Near East Association	1,500	0	0	186,300.—
4. Miss Roberts	944	0	0	117,250.—
5. Humanitarian Fund	—	—	—	868,928.—
6. Union générale arménienne de bienfaisance	5,000	0	0	430,000.—
7. Union générale arménienne de bienfaisance	4,080	4	9	359,060.90
Total				2,244,786.90

Annex No. V.

NEAR EAST FUND : PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT AT DECEMBER 31st, 1933.

I. REVENUE.		II. EXPENDITURE.	
	French francs		French francs
1. Balance as at January 1st, 1933	89,092.05	1. Bank charges	6.—
2. Interest	5,250.95	2. Difference on exchange	3,692.85
Total	94,343.—	3. Transfer to the Administrative Account	6,167.85
		4. Balance	84,476.30
		Total	94,343.—

Annex No. VI.

NEAR EAST FUND : REPAYMENTS MADE BY THE REFUGEES SETTLED.

A. AGRICULTURAL SETTLEMENTS.

	Syrian £
Nor-Zeitun	—
Soug-Su	—
Pré-Militaire :	
1. Hayashen	483.56
2. Abdal-Huyuk	345.76
Kirik-Khan	—
Massayaf	5,388.85
Bey-Seki	—
Total	<u>6,218.17</u>

B. URBAN SETTLEMENTS.

Aleppo	30,923.30
Kirik-Khan	66.22
Alexandretta	504.02
Beirut :	
(a) (Gullabachène and Parachène not included)	30,542.51
(b) Gullabachène	3,144.09
(c) Parachène	294.20
Damascus	7,247.25
Total	<u>72,721.59</u>