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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, 1938

**ON THE RUSSIAN, ARMENIAN, ASSYRIAN, ASSYRO-CHALDEAN,
SAAR AND TURKISH REFUGEE PROBLEMS**

CHAPTER I. — INTRODUCTION

(a) DECISIONS TAKEN BY THE ASSEMBLY

At its eighteenth session, in 1937, the Assembly adopted the following resolutions concerning the work of the Nansen Office for the year ending June 30th, 1937 (document A.75(1).1937.XII) :

“ The Assembly :

“ Notes the report of the Governing Body of the Nansen Office for the year ending June 30th, 1937 ;

“ Expresses its satisfaction at the important results achieved by the Office, both in the interests of the refugees and of the countries affording them hospitality ;

“ Thanks M. Michael Hansson, President of the Governing Body of the Office, for the tireless energy which he has displayed in the service of this cause ;

“ Requests the Governments of the States which have not yet acceded to the Convention of October 28th, 1933, to consider the possibility of doing so, and the Governments which have ratified this instrument with reservations to consider the possibility of withdrawing them ;

“ Recommends the Governments to accede to the Agreement of June 30th, 1928 ;

“ Notes with satisfaction the reduction in the number of expulsion orders issued against refugees ;

“ Urgently requests Governments not to expel any refugee before he has obtained permission to enter and stay in another country ;

“ Draws the attention of Governments to the urgency of regularising the position of refugees against whom an expulsion order has been issued, and who have been unable to obey this order for lack of an entrance visa into another country ;

“ Requests the Governments which have not yet adopted the Nansen stamp, or which have not made it compulsory, to adopt and generalise the system of the stamp ;

“ Recommends the Governments not to apply the restrictions concerning foreign labour to the refugees, and to take the necessary steps to facilitate their absorption into the economic system of the country of refuge ;

“ Requests the Governments concerned to assist in carrying out the Office's plans in regard to the transfer and settlement of the Armenian refugees in Erivan ;

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“ Notes the Office’s plan regarding the building of dwellings for the Armenian refugees in Greece ;

“ Draws, in particular, the attention of the Governments to the tragic position of the Russian refugees at Shanghai ;

“ Requests the Governments to take all suitable steps for the absorption of refugees by naturalisation.”

Following a proposal by the Norwegian delegation regarding the future of refugee work, the Assembly, in modification of a draft resolution submitted by the Sixth Committee and on an amendment submitted by the delegations of Belgium, Czechoslovakia, France and the Netherlands, unanimously adopted the following resolution :

“ The Assembly,

“ Whereas, by its resolution of 1929, it decided to wind up the refugees’ organisation methodically ;

“ And whereas, in 1930, it entrusted the political and legal protection of refugees to the regular organs of the League of Nations and the humanitarian work to the Nansen Office for a specified period ;

“ And whereas, in 1931, it recommended the adoption of a scheme for the liquidation of the Nansen Office, under which it would be completed by the end of 1938 ;

“ And whereas, in 1936, in accordance with the decision of 1931, it instructed the President of that Office to draw up a scheme of liquidation and to make recommendations for the devolution of the tasks undertaken by the Office ;

“ And whereas, in 1936, it appointed a League of Nations High Commissioner for Refugees coming from Germany ;

“ Confirms its previous decision instructing the President of the Governing Body of the Nansen Office to arrange for the effective and complete liquidation of the Office ;

“ Notes that the mandate of the High Commissioner for Refugees coming from Germany will come to an end on December 31st, 1938, in accordance with the Assembly’s previous decision ;

“ Considering, however, that the problems as a whole arising out of these decisions necessitate a new examination at an early date :

“ Requests the Council to draw up, or to cause to be drawn up, before the next Assembly a plan for international assistance to refugees.”

(b) DECISIONS TAKEN BY THE COUNCIL

Following the resolutions taken by the Assembly, the Council of the League of Nations, at its one-hundredth session, adopted, on January 29th, 1938, the following resolution :¹

“ The Council :

“ Approves the proposal submitted by its Rapporteur (M. Costa du Rels, representative of Bolivia) with a view to giving effect to the resolution adopted by the Assembly on October 5th, 1937, regarding the preparation of a plan for international assistance to refugees ;

“ Decides for this purpose to appoint a Committee consisting of the representatives of Bolivia, the United Kingdom and France ;

“ Requests this Committee to submit to the Council at its next session a report on the questions relating to international assistance to refugees referred to the Council by the Assembly resolution.”

This Committee met in Paris on February 14th and 15th, 1938, and the President of the Office, who was invited to state his views, was then able fully to express his opinion and to supply all the information for which he had been asked.

In its report submitted to the hundred-and-first session of the Council² the Committee :

(1) Noted that the problem of refugees recognised by the League of Nations could not be regarded as solved, and that many States Members of the League which had refugees in their territories considered that co-operation within the framework of the League is still indispensable ;

(2) Took the view that a single organisation might be set up, for a limited period, to take the place of the two existing organisations ;

(3) Proposed that this organisation should be directed by a High Commissioner whose duties it defined in general terms.

The Committee suggested that the Council should instruct the Secretary-General, after consultation with the President of the Governing Body of the Nansen International Office and the High Commissioner for Refugees coming from Germany, to draw up a detailed plan for consideration by the Assembly. It further pointed out that it would be necessary for the Assembly to appoint a High Commissioner at its next session, and submitted to the Council

¹ See *Official Journal* of the League of Nations, February 1938, page 111.

² See *Official Journal* of the League of Nations, May-June 1936, page 365.

the following resolution, which was adopted at the hundred-and-first session at the meeting held on May 14th, 1938 :

“ The Council,
“ Having examined the report of the Committee appointed to draw up a plan for international assistance to refugees :
“ Takes note of the proposals contained in the report which has been submitted to it ;
“ Instructs the Secretary-General :

“ (1) To transmit this report, for observations, to the Governments of the States Members of the League of Nations and, for information, to the Governments of the United States of America and the United States of Brazil ;

“ (2) To prepare, after consultation with the President of the Governing Body of the Nansen International Office for Refugees and the High Commissioner for Refugees coming from Germany, a detailed plan on the basis of the proposals of the present report ;

“ (3) To transmit the present report, together with the detailed plan, to the Assembly, with any observations he may have received from Governments.”

The Governing Body of the Office was gratified to observe that its view as to the necessity for continuing the work of assistance to refugees was accepted both by the Council and by the Assembly, and it trusts that the plan which will be drawn up and submitted to the Assembly will be of such a nature as to give refugees the effective help that their circumstances call for and result in the final liquidation, in the near future, of the refugee problem, a liquidation which will be facilitated if the co-operation of Governments in the task is assured.

(c) INTER-GOVERNMENTAL ADVISORY COMMISSION FOR REFUGEES

The Commission did not meet during the year 1937/38.

(d) MEETINGS OF THE GOVERNING BODY AND OF THE VARIOUS ORGANS OF THE OFFICE

The Governing Body, after holding an extraordinary session on September 11th, 1937, held its sixteenth session on October 27th, 1937, its seventeenth session on April 27th, 1938, and its eighteenth session on July 1st, 1938, at which various questions concerning refugees, more particularly Armenian refugees in Syria, Greece, Syros, China and France, were examined.

At the last session, on the motion of M. Soubbotitch (Yugoslavia), the Governing Body adopted the following resolution, which was communicated to the Council of the League of Nations :

“ The Governing Body of the Nansen International Office for Refugees,

“ After examining the present position of the work of assistance to refugees :

“ Considers itself bound to draw the attention of the Council of the League of Nations to the difficulties arising from the fact that no decision has yet been taken concerning the future of the work ;

“ Is unable to disguise its apprehension in view of the gravity of a situation which affects more than half a million of refugees ;

“ Recalls that the execution of any new scheme necessitates preparatory work during the period of transition ;

“ Requests the Council, therefore, to be good enough, at its next session, to consider taking the necessary steps to enable the Assembly at its nineteenth ordinary session to come to a final decision on the future of international assistance to refugees.”

The Mixed Commission, consisting of the Managing Committee and of the Finance Committee, met eight times during the year under review.

(e) CHANGES IN THE COMPOSITION OF THE GOVERNING BODY

At the beginning of 1937, the Governing Body noted with the keenest regret the resignation of His Excellency M. N. Momtchiloff (Bulgaria), substitute member, who has been appointed to other duties in London. The Governing Body has thus lost the very effective and very valuable collaboration of M. Momtchiloff, who has on many occasions shown his sympathy for the work of assistance done by the Office and had always given it his encouraging and enlightened support.

(f) CHANGES IN THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE OFFICE

At the formal request of the German Government, which announced that the “ Russische Vertrauensstelle ” would in future be the only body dealing with the protection of Russian refugees, the Office had, as from May 1st, 1938, to close down finally its representation in

Germany, which had already been in process of liquidation since Germany's withdrawal from the League of Nations. The amounts due to the Office in that country were transferred to two Russian humanitarian organisations, the Russian Red Cross and the Disabled Ex-Servicemen's Union, on the understanding that those organisations should distribute 50% of the amounts collected by them among the other Russian humanitarian organisations, since all the amounts advanced in that country had been granted to Russian refugees.

The honorary representative in Roumania having died in 1937, M. Savinoff, his assistant, had been asked to act temporarily as representative. At the beginning of 1938, the Office, with the approval of the Roumanian Government, appointed as its honorary representative in Roumania General Georges Filitti, who kindly accepted the appointment and is endeavouring to assist the refugees in every possible way and, more particularly, to secure facilities in the matter of employment.

A Distribution Committee is already operating in this country under the chairmanship of the honorary representative of the Office, assisted by representatives of Russian, Ukrainian and Armenian refugee organisations, and has achieved excellent results.

CHAPTER II. — ACTION ON THE RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE ASSEMBLY

(a) CONVENTION OF OCTOBER 28TH, 1933, RELATING TO THE INTERNATIONAL STATUS OF REFUGEES

This Convention, which has already been ratified with various reservations by the United Kingdom, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, France, Italy and Norway, was also ratified during the past year by Belgium, subject to the following reservations :

“ (1) Article 2, paragraph 3, relating to the right conferred on consuls to extend Nansen certificates, cannot be accepted by the Belgian Government.

“ (2) Article 9, in so far as it concerns the application of the provisions of the domestic legislation relating to ‘ unemployment insurance ’, cannot be accepted.

“ (3) Article 10, concerning social insurance laws, cannot be regarded with favour ;

“ (4) Article 14, concerning the enjoyment of the rights and favours accorded to foreigners, subject to reciprocity, cannot be accepted.

“ (5) The Belgian Government, in accepting the present Convention, does not assume any obligation as regards the colony of the Congo or the mandated territories of Ruanda-Urundi.”

(b) FRANCO-BELGIAN AGREEMENT AND ARRANGEMENT OF JUNE 30TH, 1928

There is no need to stress the importance of the system introduced under the Franco-Belgian Agreement of June 30th, 1928, and the Inter-Governmental Arrangement of the same date.

The number of documents issued during the past year by the representatives of the Office exercising the functions provided for in the Agreement and Arrangement in question, in virtue of a delegation of powers by the Secretary-General of the League of Nations, was 7,705. These documents are of the greatest value to refugees. No further accession was reported during the past year.

(c) RAISING OF FUNDS FOR THE NANSEN OFFICE BY THE ISSUE OF SURCHARGED POSTAGE-STAMPS

Apart from France and Norway, no other Government has given effect to the repeated recommendations of the League Assembly. During the twelve months April 1st, 1937, to March 31st, 1938, the Office nevertheless derived from the sale of these stamps 41,257.55 Swiss francs in respect of Norway and 31,431.35 Swiss francs in respect of France ; since their introduction, 133,600 crowns have been collected in Norway and 326,000 French francs in France.

It can be easily imagined how much this system would yield if it were adopted by other countries, and how much hardship could be relieved and how many refugees settled.

It is true that all countries have their own needs to meet, their own unemployment and public assistance schemes to provide for, but the issue of a surcharged postage-stamp to raise funds for refugees, far from entailing any disadvantages, would tend rather to increase their revenue, as the stamps are sought for by stamp collectors.

(d) EXPULSIONS

Though the League Assembly makes an urgent appeal every year to Governments not to expel refugees before they have obtained from another country permission to enter and reside therein, the practice of discriminating between refugees who are unable to leave the country of refuge and other aliens, most of whom can easily be repatriated, has not yet been generally adopted in the matter of expulsions.

In the year 1937/38, the number of expulsion orders served on refugees was particularly large, and the Office thus had to intervene in a larger number of cases on behalf of the persons expelled. The number of such cases rose from 1,086 in 1936/37 to 1,312 during the past year.

Mention should, however, be made of a measure recently adopted on this subject by France. The Decree-Law of May 2nd, 1938, in its Article 11, has finally broken with the former system and replaced it by a new system based on considerations both of humanity and of public order. In future, instead of aliens who are unable to leave French territory being expelled, they will be assigned a particular place of residence and obliged to report periodically to the police authorities. A circular of the Ministry of the Interior, dated May 28th, 1938, No. 72, amplifies the provisions of the Decree-Law in a most satisfactory manner by enacting that refugees recognised as such by the League of Nations are presumed to be under such a disability. The Nansen certificate or a certificate authenticated by the representative of the Nansen Office will be taken as sufficient proof that the holder is a refugee. If it is considered that the refugee is a danger to safety or public order he will be ordered to reside in a specific place. In principle, this will be the place of his ordinary residence.

The Governing Body ventures to express the hope that other countries which have hitherto applied to refugees the rules of the ordinary law in regard to expulsion will be able to enact similar measures.

This would put an end to the sentences passed on refugees for breaches of expulsion orders, orders with which the refugees are unable to comply.

(e) NANSEN STAMPS

The Governing Body finds that no countries other than those which had already introduced the Nansen stamp have generally adopted it on identity certificates. The stamp should be applied more particularly in countries with a very large number of refugees. The Governing Body, therefore, can only reiterate the observations made in its last year's report.

In this connection, the Governing Body would recall the remarks which it has already had the honour to make to the Assembly in its report for the year 1936/37 (document A.21.1937.XII). It feels that, though all refugees are equally entitled to support, it would seem inequitable that those residing in certain countries should be entirely exonerated from the Nansen stamp whilst they benefit at the same time from the proceeds of stamps paid for by refugees residing in other countries.

Whatever form the work of assistance to refugees may assume in the future, the Governing Body considers that material assistance should be one of its functions, for it feels that the refugees with whom it is concerned still require material help and that the need for this help will increase for some time to come. The number of old and disabled persons is increasing yearly, as are their needs. The resources at the disposal of the relief agency should therefore also increase, and the Governing Body asks the Assembly to be good enough to recommend once more the general adoption of the Nansen stamp by all countries. Private organisations are doing all they can to help refugees, but their resources are insufficient. They would even have been obliged to discontinue their work if they had not been subsidised by the Office out of the proceeds of the Nansen stamp.

CHAPTER III. — ACTIVITIES OF THE OFFICE

(a) SURVEY OF THE REFUGEE PROBLEM

The Governing Body notes that, in some countries, the living and working conditions of refugees have appreciably improved, whereas, in certain other countries, the policy of protecting national labour has even been accentuated and no action has been taken on the Assembly's recommendation of October 9th, 1937.

The Governing Body would request the Assembly to renew its recommendations in the assurance that Governments will finally comply with them.

The Governing Body is glad to point out, on the other hand, that the application of the Convention of October 28th, 1933, though weakened generally by the reservations made, has resulted in a steady improvement in the lot of refugees. The extension of this Convention without reservations would therefore be extremely desirable.

(b) NUMBER OF REFUGEES

In his report on the liquidation of the Nansen Office submitted last year to the League Council,¹ the President of the Governing Body felt justified in reducing the estimated number of refugees to 600,000, whereas the estimate given before 1936 was one million. As the outcome of further investigations, the President was able during 1938 to inform the Committee set up by the Council of the League of Nations to prepare a plan for international assistance to refugees, and the Governing Body also, that the number of refugees under the Nansen Office should not be much more than half a million.² This estimate was given, however, subject

¹ Document A.11.1937.XII.

² In a special report to the 1936 Assembly (document A.27.1936.XII), the President had already reduced the estimate of the number of Nansen refugees from one million to approximately 700,000.

to the results of the investigations being made by the Royal Institute of International Affairs, London, under the direction of Sir John Hope Simpson. As, according to Sir John Hope Simpson's preliminary report, this estimate has been proved to be approximately correct, the Governing Body confines itself to referring to this report.

(c) NON-POLITICAL CHARACTER OF THE WORK OF THE OFFICE

As in the past, the Nansen Office has continued to carry on its work on absolutely non-political lines.

The Governing Body, referring to certain public assertions to the contrary, wishes to state that the only refugees concerned in the administration of the Nansen Office are a Russian and Armenian with one substitute each, this being in accordance with the Statutes voted by the Assembly itself in 1930, which provide for the representation of the Advisory Committee of Private Organisations for Refugees on the Governing Body.

As regards the representatives of the Office abroad, they now only include four refugees or ex-refugees, of whom two already belonged to the Nansen High Commission, while the other two, who are only correspondents, were both appointed before the present President came into office.

(d) GENERAL ACTIVITIES

(1) The work done by the Office in various branches of humanitarian activity will be referred to below. Mention should, however, be made of the fact that the President approached the French authorities with a view to a modification of the rules applying to refugees in regard to expulsion.

The President was once again given proof of the sympathy with which the French authorities are prepared to examine the Office's suggestions on behalf of refugees. The provisions of Article 11 of the Decree-law of May 2nd, 1938, and the Ministerial Circular of May 28th are clear evidence in point.

(2) The President took part, both as President of the Office and as Norwegian delegate, in the work of the Conference on German refugees which was held at Geneva in February 1938. He was also invited, in both these capacities, to attend the meeting of the Inter-Governmental Committee convened for July 1938 at Evian, on the initiative of Mr. Franklin Roosevelt, President of the United States of America.

(3) The President took advantage of his journeys to Paris to visit several institutions engaged in humanitarian work for refugees, in particular the Nansen Home for Children. He also visited at Marseilles the St. Anne Camp, which shelters from 700 to 800 of the poorest Russian and Armenian refugees, some of whom, at least, are still living in insanitary conditions. As a result, however, of the generosity of the Marseilles Municipality, the situation has, generally speaking, appreciably improved.

(4) During the past year, the President gave a lecture (which was published in three languages), on the Office's behalf, at the Nobel Institute, Oslo, and three lectures in Geneva. He has also been asked by the World Alliance for Friendship through the Churches to give a lecture in Norway towards the end of August 1938. Two other lectures which the President will give at Oslo will also be broadcast by the Danish wireless stations on July 30th, 1938, and by the Norwegian wireless stations on August 15th, 1938.

(5) The French Government kindly agreed to let the Office have the total proceeds of the surcharge on the stamp issued on behalf of refugees, so that the Office's funds were increased under this head.

Reference has been made above to the satisfactory results of the sales of surcharged postage-stamps in France and Norway.

(6) During the past year, the Office has increased its efforts for the vocational re-adaptation and re-training of Russian, Armenian and Saar refugees. Thirty-three refugees in France have, with the help of the Office, been able to choose and learn a new occupation, enabling them to become independent. The personal advances made by the Office for this purpose varied between 1,500 and 3,000 French francs per refugee, and the total amount advanced under this head was about 75,000 French francs.

The Governing Body has found that the re-training of refugees constitutes one of the best ways of giving assistance, for a specialised worker finds it more easy to obtain employment.

During the past year, the group of Russian workers members of the French General Confederation of Labour also asked for the assistance of the Office both in the field of vocational re-training and in regard to occupational training-courses and the creation of holiday camps for workers' children. The Office made this group the necessary grants for these purposes.

(7) During the past year, as the result of reports that the Assyro-Chaldean refugees in Syria and the Lebanon were in a particularly difficult situation, the children and women being in need of clothing, the Office took steps to assist more than 500 of these refugees by sending them sixteen cases of clothing, twelve of which were bought by the Office and four contributed by the Bible House. These clothes were distributed to the refugees by M. J. Künzler, of the Swiss Association for Armenians in Syria and the Lebanon, and were of the greatest service on the approach of winter.

(e) OTHER ACTIVITIES

The representatives and correspondents of the Office in Europe, Syria and China have continued their work on behalf of refugees. In the course of the year, 133,439 persons were thus assisted (see Appendix I). As in the past, this assistance covered the following points: obtaining Nansen certificates, entry and transit visas, preparation and attestation of various documents, legal assistance, action on behalf of refugees threatened with expulsion, steps taken with a view to obtaining exemption from the restrictions imposed for the protection of national labour, naturalisations, admissions to hospitals and State institutions, assistance with a view to occupational re-training, establishment of occupational training-courses, holiday camps for children, relief to indigent persons and advances to enable refugees to start a small business or industry. Thousands of refugees have also been assisted through the grants and advances made by the Office to humanitarian organisations. A home for children known as the "Nansen Home" was, as has already been stated, recently opened at Châtenay, near Paris, thanks to a generous contribution made by the Office, and a home for the aged has been established in Nice, where twenty-five old persons have been given shelter, ten free of charge. Rest homes for disabled and incurable persons have been helped, grants have been given for the distribution of meals, medical attention has been provided and the Office has also assisted hospitals, sanatoria, etc.

The many expressions of gratitude which the Office is constantly receiving bear witness to the efficacy of this humanitarian work.

(f) VARIOUS OTHER MEASURES OF ASSISTANCE

Apart from the advances and grants made by the Office to refugee organisations, a detailed statement of which is annexed to this report (Appendix II), the Office has assisted in settling 1,801 refugees in various countries by means of small advances not exceeding the sum of 200 Swiss francs per person and amounting, in the aggregate, during the last twelve months to approximately 27,000 Swiss francs. Some refugees have gone to overseas countries and settled there; others have started small businesses. Advances have been used for securing university degrees, purchasing the tools necessary for various occupations, paying naturalisation fees, occupational re-training and innumerable other purposes.

CHAPTER IV

SPECIAL PROBLEMS RELATING TO CERTAIN CATEGORIES OF REFUGEES

(a) *Armenian Refugees in Syria*

At the moment when this important task is nearing completion, the Governing Body thinks it useful to recall its origin briefly.

More than 100,000 Armenian refugees were transferred to Syria and settled themselves there during the great war. About 40,000 of these were in the direst distress in 1926, living in temporary shelters in camps at Beirut, Aleppo and Alexandretta. In 1927, the High Commissioner for Refugees had undertaken, in conjunction with the representative of the mandatory Power, to liquidate these camps and settle these refugees. For this purpose, agricultural colonies were founded, urban dwellings built and grants made. This protracted operation was made possible by loans and gifts made, in the first place, to the High Commissioner and later to the Office by the Government of the French Republic and by humanitarian organisations and out of the Office's own funds. When the High Commissioner was replaced by the Nansen Office, the work on behalf of refugees was continued and the Office made new contributions towards it. It should be observed that it was chiefly by re-employing the capital invested as and when it was refunded that this work could be constantly continued with comparatively modest resources. The object was to settle more than 40,000 refugees living in 3,800 hutments at Beirut and 4,000 at Aleppo, not counting those in Alexandretta and other towns for which no figures are available. In spite of all the efforts made and though it was expected to wind up the undertaking by the end of 1934, the work had to be continued until the end of 1937 and, at that date, there were still 700 hutments to be abolished. For various reasons, the Office had to decide to suspend its activities in Syria at the end of December 1937, but the work was continued by the Armenian General Benevolent Union which, with the funds received in response to appeals and financial grants from the Office, will probably succeed in accomplishing the task by the end of 1938.

Of the above number of refugees, 36,016 have been settled in the 5,576 houses built at Beirut, Aleppo, Damascus, Alexandretta, Rihania and Kirik-Khan either directly by Dr. Nansen's High Commission and by the Office or as a result of advances made by it. Furthermore, 1,090 refugees have been installed and settled in five large agricultural colonies at Pré-Militaire, Soug-Sou, Nor-Zeitun, Bey-Seki and Kirik-Khan, comprising 251 houses and

1,185 head of live-stock, including 710 cattle, 15 horses and 460 goats on an area of 569 hectares. Lastly, schools and churches have also been erected. A sanatorium is at present being completed for the building of which the Office made a large contribution. In urban areas, repayments are being made regularly and it is anticipated that the Office will be able to recover the greater part of its advances, especially owing to the fact that the urban property has increased in value. In respect of the agricultural holdings, on the other hand, repayments have been very small as they are affected by political disturbances and unfavourable weather conditions.

Altogether there are 4,455 current accounts open. Survey work is almost completed and plans have been drawn up. The work of the Office representative consists, at present, in collecting repayments, transferring title deeds to refugees as they complete repayment of their debt and dealing with the various other formalities that are inevitably connected with an undertaking on this scale. In a few cases, legal proceedings have been taken and distraint levied.

As already stated, the Office drew up a liquidation scheme in 1934 which has only been put into force since January 1st, 1938. Some repayments have already been made to the creditors of the Office, particularly to the Armenian organisation which has taken over the completion of the enterprise. The capital invested successively in this work, including both contributions and loans, amounted to £S400,000, of which the sum of £S350,000 is at present covered by undertakings to repay, allowance being made for miscellaneous expenses and various other items of a non-recoverable character. The aggregate amount of the sums utilised as a result of re-investing advances as and when repaid exceeds £S540,000.

The Governing Body wishes to point out that, as was to be expected, the recent events at Alexandretta caused some panic among the Armenian population settled in the Sanjak, whose material situation had already been considerably affected by uncertainty. Some families felt obliged to leave the town of Alexandretta, while a considerable number had abandoned the villages of Kirik-Khan and Rihania. The refugees of the village of Sooug-Sou were on the point of doing the same when the representative of the Office in Syria intervened. His conviction that such anxiety was unfounded was fully confirmed by a conversation which he had with the Governor, a Turk of that district, who assured him that the authorities would treat the Armenians in the most friendly manner. Moreover, the Consul-General of Turkey confirmed the statements of the Governor of the Sanjak, and informed the representative of the Office that definite orders to the same effect had been given by the President of the Turkish Republic, Kemal Ataturk himself.

In these circumstances, there is every reason to believe that these statements from such high authorities will not only have the effect of reassuring the Armenian population and of bringing back the refugees who have already left (the representative of the Office reports that several heads of families have returned to the Sanjak), but will convince the Armenians of this area that they have a unique opportunity of permanently establishing relations of sincere and firm friendship.

(b) *Russian Refugees in Turkey.*

(1) The process of naturalising the Russian refugees domiciled in Turkey has continued during the past twelve months. Of more than 1,800 Russian refugees in Istanbul, only 192 have not yet received their naturalisation papers. Only the formalities remain to be completed, however, the records of these individuals being at present under examination by the Ministry of the Interior. This task is thus virtually completed, thanks to the spirit of comprehension and consideration shown by the Turkish Government.

The Office is now endeavouring to recover the large advances which it had to make to refugees for payment of the fees and dues connected with naturalisation. The Governing Body trusts that the Turkish authorities will be good enough to lend their co-operation with a view to facilitating the collection of the sums advanced, at any rate, in the case of refugees whose financial circumstances enable them to fulfil the undertakings which they assumed.

(2) Of the Russian refugees evacuated from Istanbul as a preliminary condition for the naturalisation of their compatriots, sixteen are still in the island of Syros (Greece), the others having been settled in various countries which were willing to receive them. Steps are being taken to settle these sixteen unfortunate individuals in other countries. It will be recalled in this connection that the Greek Government authorised these refugees to settle in the island of Syros only provisionally. It has since been good enough to allow some of them to remain permanently in its territory, but insists on the others being evacuated, as the time-limit given to them has long since expired. These refugees, who have no permit to work, have been maintained at the cost of the Office for more than two and a half years. Though this may seem to be a minor problem, it nevertheless gives the Governing Body serious concern in view of the imminent liquidation of the Office. The Governing Body cannot, however, bring itself to believe that it will prove impossible to find a permanent home for these sixteen refugees who have already suffered so much.

(c) *Armenian Refugees in Greece.*

The Governing Body feels it should draw attention to the critical situation of many refugees in Athens.

On their arrival, these refugees were provisionally settled in hutments and, owing to the special conditions prevailing at the time, their settlement was not properly organised. In view

of the steady growth of the city of Athens and on grounds of health and better town-planning, the authorities have had to re-organise these temporary settlements and endeavour to remove from the centre of the city the refugees who were settled in slum quarters on one of the chief thoroughfares. In order to make up to some extent for the inconvenience caused by such a transfer, the Greek authorities decided to grant the Office 40,000 square metres of land in the district of Nea Smyrni, on the understanding that the Office would build thereon small houses as permanent homes for these refugees. About 32,000 of these 40,000 square metres have already been put at the disposal of the Office.

The Office has endeavoured to find the necessary funds for building houses. Thanks to appeals made by the Armenian General Benevolent Union, contributions made by the Office and other funds collected for this purpose, it has proved possible to secure about 120,000 Swiss francs, and some forty houses, each comprising two rooms, a kitchen and a lavatory, are on the point of completion. The erection of other dwellings of slightly smaller dimensions has been begun. More than 600 refugees will soon be able to have permanent homes ; but, in order to complete this work, the result of which will be to give permanent homes to several hundreds of refugee families who are at present living in extremely insanitary slum quarters, much larger amounts of capital are required and these are proving difficult to secure.

In this connection, it should be mentioned that, whereas, in Syria, the accommodation constructed for refugees does not have to comply with town-planning provisions, the regulations in Greece, and more particularly in the capital, are strict and the houses erected must be of solid construction and satisfy various requirements. Accordingly, whereas the Office intended to build from 400 to 500 small houses capable of accommodating more than 2,000 refugees, the number of buildings contemplated will now have to be smaller. On the other hand, each family will have a little piece of ground on which it can make a small garden.

The Governing Body feels it should point out that more than 25,000 Armenian refugees have been given shelter in Greece and that that country, which had to cope with the requirements of its own refugees, has, by welcoming these Armenian refugees in addition, given an example of solidarity that is worthy of admiration.

(d) *Saar Refugees.*

With part of the credit of 200,000 Swiss francs put at the disposal of the Office by the League Assembly, 158 refugees were evacuated to South America, to Paraguay, where, as a result of agreements concluded, on the one hand, with the Government of Paraguay and, on the other hand, with M. Georges Naville, a big landowner of Swiss nationality, these refugees have been settled on twelve-hectare lots, one of which was cleared before their arrival. A living-house of the local type with an outhouse for the kitchen, the bare essentials of furniture, a well, agricultural implements, seeds and a small supply of poultry were put at their disposal. Further, during the first year, each refugee receives a small monthly allowance to enable him to meet current requirements until his crops afford him a livelihood. To cover unforeseen requirements, the Office created a Loan Fund, administered by M. Naville, to facilitate the purchase by refugees of agricultural implements or other articles for the better working of their land. M. Naville also helps the settlers with advice and gives them the benefit of his long experience and has frequently supplied them with seed free of charge. During the last twelve months, the Office has made a grant for the construction and upkeep of an infirmary and a school erected on land given by M. Naville.

The dispersion of Saar refugees throughout France, the small number of them qualified for agricultural work, the improved economic conditions in France and the results of the application of the 1933 Convention relating to the International Status of Refugees, explain the fall in the number of refugees desiring to emigrate ; hundreds of refugees who had applied to be transferred have since given up the idea.

In these circumstances, the President of the Office, with the approval of the Governing Body, was authorised to utilise the balance of the credit granted for the purpose of helping Saar refugees in France either for training or adapting them to new occupations or for any other means that seemed most suitable.

It has furthermore been found that the Saar refugees, being mostly labourers or miners who have always lived in industrial centres, were not qualified for the heavy work, or able to endure the hardships, which a colonist's life entails. For this reason, some refugees preferred to leave the colony and go to the Argentine to work at their old trade. The Office cannot be blamed for not having warned applicants for colonial settlement of the hard work which awaited them. In spite of these withdrawals, which are perfectly natural as they can be observed in all colonisation enterprises, thirty-seven lots are at present occupied by refugees.

A few Russian refugees have also settled in this colony, which is known as the " Nansen Colony ".

The Office is also keeping in close touch with the work of the Saar Office instituted in France which receives all the proceeds of Nansen stamps paid for by Saar refugees. Under the chairmanship of M. Max Braun, the Office endeavours to aid the indigent. Several Saar refugees have been enabled, with the help of grants from the Office, to obtain work and become independent after undergoing a period of occupational re-training. Others are at present attending occupational training-courses with the same end in view.

(e) *Russian Refugees in China.*

The situation of the many Russian refugees in China, more particularly those living in Shanghai, has been seriously affected by the hostilities. The representative of the Office has made great efforts to assist the refugees and has been associated with the work of the International Relief Committee set up by the foreign colonies. The Office itself has made grants to alleviate the most critical cases. The Governing Body feels bound to draw special attention to the valuable aid given to its protégés by the Caisse des œuvres d'intérêt public in the French Concession, under the chairmanship of M. Baudez, French Consul-General ; the contributions of the British Appeal Committee for Russian Women in the Far East which collected nearly £295 distributed among the organisations dealing specially with Russian women, and the very effective work done by the Committee of the Associated Foreign Charities and M. Aall, Norwegian Consul-General, Doyen of the Consular Corps in Shanghai and Chairman of the International Relief Committee, who has intervened on several occasions to help refugees. The Governing Body tenders its sincerest thanks to all.

As the International Red Cross Committee has recently drawn attention to the critical situation of Russian refugees at Harbin, the Office has remitted to its representative in China a grant to be transmitted by him to the Committee dealing with Russian refugees, with a view to their relief.

LIQUIDATION

On the subject of the liquidation of the Office, the Governing Body refers to the President's report on this question submitted to the Council of the League of Nations in May 1937 (document C.226.1937.XII) and begs to inform the Assembly that all the arrangements for liquidation have been made and that the Office will cease working at the end of December 1938.

FINANCE

(a) *Communication to the League of Nations of the Office's Accounts for the Financial Year 1937.*

At its seventeenth session on April 27th, 1938, the Governing Body approved the accounts of the budget and the relief funds for the year 1937 and transmitted them to the League in conformity with the Office's statutes (document A.3(d).1938.X). With the help of the additional contribution of 104,080 Swiss francs granted by the Assembly at its last session, the budget of the Office for 1938 was covered and, as various savings have also been effected, it is likely that the close of the financial year will show a surplus.

(b) *General.*

The relief funds obtained during the year ending June 30th, 1938, amounted to 528,779.05 Swiss francs, including 285,005.90 Swiss francs from Nansen stamps, 72,688.90 Swiss francs from surcharged postage-stamps sold in France and Norway, 52,964.55 Swiss francs reimbursed by refugees in respect of advances made for their settlement, 113,592.75 Swiss francs from miscellaneous contributions, more particularly for the settlement of Armenian refugees in Greece, and 4,526.95 Swiss francs for interest, etc.

A total sum of 321,341.10 Swiss francs was distributed by way of advances and grants to refugees and refugee organisations.¹ On June 30th, 1938, the balance of the Humanitarian Fund amounted to 356,979.20 Swiss francs (see Appendix III).

¹ Apart from an amount of 121,703.10 Swiss francs paid over to the Distribution Committees in France and Roumania.

INTERVENTIONS ON BEHALF OF REFUGEES MADE BY THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE OFFICE (AND RÉSUMÉ OF THEIR ACTIVITIES)
DURING THE PERIOD FROM JULY 1ST, 1937, TO JUNE 30TH, 1938

Appendix I

Interventions	Austria	Belgium	Bulgaria	China	Czechoslovakia	Danzig (Free City of)	Estonia	Finland	France	Germany ¹	Greece	Lithuania	Roumania	Switzerland	Syria	Turkey	Yugoslavia	² Other Countries	Totals	
I. Issues and Renewals of Nansen Passports:																				
(Applications to local authorities for the issue of identity certificates):																				
Russians				609		97			124	402		6	18		14		12		4,782	
Armenians			41					57												
Assyrians, Assyro-Chaldeans and Turks								5												
Saar								65												
II. Issues of Visas:																				
(Action taken to obtain them):																				
(a) Entry visas:																				643
Russians		19	69	158	15		2		65	63		2	11				16			
Armenians		1	55	4					42		51									
Assyrians, Assyro-Chaldeans and Turks									5											
Saar									63											
(b) Transit visas:																				310
Russians			59	43	20				8	24			1							
Armenians			56	5					5		49									
Assyrians, Assyro-Chaldeans and Turks																				
Saar									3											
(c) Return visas:																				342
Russians		4		207					10	31		1	6							
Armenians				10					21											
Assyrians, Assyro-Chaldeans and Turks																				
Saar									49											
III. Establishment of Documents referred to in Article I of the Arrangement of June 30th, 1928, and of Similar Documents:																				
(a) Certifying the identity and the position of the refugees (apart from the interventions mentioned under Section I):																				
Russians			7	189					58	222		6	9							822
Armenians			3	12					64		145		2							
Assyrians, Assyro-Chaldeans and Turks											18									
Saar									1											
(b) Certifying the family position and civil status in so far as these are based on documents issued or action taken in the country of origin of the refugees:																				
Russians			3	93	16				438	706		11	27							2,061
Armenians				4					579		113		2							
Assyrians, Assyro-Chaldeans and Turks											6									
Saar									13											

¹ Down to April 30th, 1938.

² Great Britain, Hungary, Italy, Norway, Poland.

INTERVENTIONS ON BEHALF OF REFUGEES MADE BY THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE OFFICE (AND RÉSUMÉ OF THEIR ACTIVITIES)
DURING THE PERIOD FROM JULY 1ST, 1937, TO JUNE 30TH, 1938 (continued)

Interventions	Austria	Belgium	Bulgaria	China	Czechoslovakia	Danzig (Free City of)	Estonia	Finland	France	Germany ¹	Greece	Lithuania	Romania	Switzerland	Syria	Turkey	Yugoslavia	Other Countries ²	Totals
III. Establishment of Documents referred to in Article I of the Arrangement of June 30th, 1928, and of Similar Documents (continued):																			
(c) Testifying to the regularity, validity and conformity with the previous law of their country of origin of documents issued in such country:																			
Russians				159		12			62		38	8							
Armenians				13					43		142								
Assyrians, Assyro-Chaldeans and Turks									4		7								
Saar									1										
(d) Certifying the signature of refugees and copies and translations of documents drawn up in their own language:																			
Russians		2	9	218	4				2	172	158	18	1				1		
Armenians				18					3		541								
Assyrians, Assyro-Chaldeans and Turks											18								
Saar																			
(e) Testifying before the authorities of the country to the good character and conduct of the individual refugee, to his previous record, to his professional qualities, and to his university and academic standing:																			
Russians				132	21	6					15	3							
Armenians		41	46	16							12								
Assyrians, Assyro-Chaldeans and Turks											4								
Saar																			
(f) Recommending the individual refugee to the competent authorities, particularly with a view to his obtaining permits to reside and admission to schools, libraries, etc. (apart from the recommendations under Sections I and II):																			
Russians		104		407	126	1	256		913	268		37	19		4		18		
Armenians		2		22					306				2						
Assyrians, Assyro-Chaldeans and Turks									20										
Saar									55										
IV. Other Interventions:																			
(a) Legal assistance:																			
Russians				6	39	2	94		36		84	184					1		
Armenians									18		469								
Assyrians, Assyro-Chaldeans and Turks											24								
Saar											4								
(b) Exemptions from restrictions applied to foreign labour:																			
Russians		26	275				20		26	1,029		3	10						
Armenians			32						29				3						
Assyrians, Assyro-Chaldeans and Turks																			
Saar									1										

IV. Other Interventions (continued):												
(c) Expulsions:												
Russians	108	1	64	1	211	6	749	211	—	—	—	1,312
Armenians	—	1	—	—	—	—	123	—	—	—	—	—
Assyrians, Assyro-Chaldeans and Turks	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	—	—	—	—	—
Saar	—	—	—	—	—	—	42	—	—	—	—	—
(d) Taxation:												
Russians	2	184	—	5	4	2	255	4	31	101	—	970
Armenians	—	7	—	—	—	—	128	—	241	—	—	—
Assyrians, Assyro-Chaldeans and Turks	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	10	—	—	—
Saar	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(e) General certificates of indigence:												
Russians	31	230	—	44	50	—	459	50	—	—	—	1,036
Armenians	—	77	—	—	—	—	109	—	—	—	—	—
Assyrians, Assyro-Chaldeans and Turks	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Saar	—	—	—	—	—	—	30	—	—	—	—	—
V. Delivery of Certificates of Exemption from the Nansen Stamp:												
Russians	—	2,400	—	—	—	—	2,596	—	—	—	429	1,594
Armenians	—	1,146	—	—	—	—	1,607	—	—	—	924	—
Assyrians, Assyro-Chaldeans and Turks	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Saar	—	—	—	—	—	—	63	—	—	—	—	10,759
VI. Settlements, Placings, Evacuations, Naturalisations, etc.:												
Russians	43	64	74	67	—	51	110	—	152	1,809	—	3
Armenians	—	22	—	—	—	—	39	—	175	—	—	—
Assyrians, Assyro-Chaldeans and Turks	—	—	—	—	—	—	10	—	—	—	—	—
Saar	—	—	—	—	—	—	208	—	—	—	—	—
VII. Placings in Various Trades and Enterprises by Means of Small Advances and Advances to Refugees to enable them to find Employment:												
Russians	4	12	27	1	2	2	73	2	—	—	—	5,567
Armenians	—	—	—	—	—	—	36	—	—	—	—	—
Assyrians, Assyro-Chaldeans and Turks	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Saar	—	—	—	—	—	—	36	—	—	—	—	—
Refugees, Members of Families, etc., benefiting indirectly from the Above Advances:												
Russians	2	48	18	4	3	16	50	3	398 R	—	—	—
Armenians	—	—	—	—	—	—	47	—	132 A	—	—	—
Assyrians, Assyro-Chaldeans and Turks	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Saar	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
VIII. Other Activities (i.e., applications to private and national organisations for relief in cases of unemployment, indigence, sickness, old age, etc.; investigations, consultations, translations of documents, etc.; research for parents and families; circular letters to refugees, etc.): Assistance and Interventions of all kinds (apart from those mentioned in the preceding sections):												
Russians	111	2,085	3,429	11	5,020	215	5,721	5,020	787	495	13,153	14
Armenians	—	503	148	—	—	—	5,214	—	5,981	—	—	—
Assyrians, Assyro-Chaldeans and Turks	—	—	—	—	—	—	3,847	—	134	—	—	—
Saar	—	—	—	—	—	—	2,466	—	—	—	—	—
Totals by countries	6	848	10,340	250	8,207	571	27,220	8,207	9,994	36,605	16,189	17
										5,854	2,304	97,602
												133,439

¹ Down to April 30th, 1938.

² Great Britain, Hungary, Italy, Norway, Poland.

Appendix II

SUBVENTIONS MADE BY THE OFFICE TO ORGANISATIONS FOR GENERAL ASSISTANCE TO REFUGEES FROM JULY 1ST, 1937, TO JUNE 30TH, 1938

PART I. — DIRECT CONTRIBUTIONS FROM THE OFFICE TO ORGANISATIONS

Organisations	Amount in Swiss francs	Object
Versailles Lycée, 3,000 French francs . . .	508.50	Assistance to the most necessitous pupils at the Lycée.
Union of Relief to Russian Jews, Vienna .	500.—	For extending the work of assisting indigent Russian Jews.
Russian Boy Scouts in Bulgaria, Sofia, 250 francs and 250 francs	500.—	To enable the children of necessitous parents to go to holiday camps free of charge.
Union of Russian Invalids in Bulgaria, 1,000 francs and 2,000 francs	3,000.—	For assistance to members of the Union.
Holiday colony in Estonia, 400 francs and 400 francs.	800.—	To enable the most necessitous children to go to the holiday colony.
Action orthodoxe (Comité de secours aux tuberculeux russes) 6,000 French francs, 8,000 French francs and 5,000 French francs.	2,871.—	For the maintenance of this relief work and of the Home of Rest of this organisation.
Association nationale des scouts russes, Paris, 10,500 French francs—viz. 6,000 francs for the Association in Paris, 1,500 francs for the Bordeaux Section and 3,000 francs for the Rives, Alsace-Lorraine, Nice, Toulon and Joinville sections . .	1,779.75	For the organisation of holiday camps.
National Association of Russian Youth, 1,000 French francs	169.50	Subvention for the holiday colony of this Association.
Comité d'aide sociale aux Emigrés russes, Paris, 5,000 French francs	850.—	Assistance to unemployed and homeless.
Confédération des Travailleurs chrétiens russes, Geneva, 14,000 French francs .	2,032.—	Relief to aged, unemployed and children in France (twenty-seven associations), Yugoslavia (thirty-eight associations) and Bulgaria (nineteen associations).
Union des Associations des Emigrés Ukrainiens en France	2,500.—	For the extension of the Union and the organisation of a holiday colony.
Plus 4,000 French francs and 5,000 French francs	1,389.—	
Institute of Agriculture and Forestry, Zemun (Semlin) 2,000 dinars	183.50	For purchasing winter fuel.
Club of Ukrainian Emigrés, Lwów (Lemberg)	300.—	Organisation supplying free meals to indigent refugees.
Union of Ukrainian Women in Czechoslovakia.	570.—	For distributing free meals to children, students and unemployed.
Russian Colony at Hercegnovi	400.—	For the purchase of linen for the Home for old people and necessitous persons.
Russian Red Cross Hospital, Pančevo. . .	2,000.—	For the maintenance of this organisation.
Home for Russian Girls, Belgrade	400.—	For the purchase of linen, etc.
Section of the Russian Sokol at Nis	150.—	Organisation of a holiday camp for needy Russian children.
Union of Russian Sokols in Yugoslavia . .	300.—	To enable indigent children to go to a holiday colony.
Plus 3,000 dinars	275.25	
Association of Members of the Russian Zemstva and Towns, Yugoslavia	2,000.—	For extending the work of this Association.
Association of Russian Ex-Servicemen in Bulgaria.	450.—	To provide its members with indispensable medical attendance.
Armenian Scouts' Organisation in Bulgaria, 5,900 leva.	296.50	To enable the children of indigent parents to go to a holiday camp.
Union générale arménienne de scoutisme, Paris, 5,000 French francs	847.50	For extending their holiday camps.
Association des scouts arméniens, Bagneux, 2,500 French francs	423.75	For extending their seaside and mountain camps.
Union of Disabled Ex-Servicemen, Estonia.	684.40	To alleviate the precarious situation of fifty-two ex-servicemen disabled in the war.
. Carried forward . .	26,180.65	

PART I. — DIRECT CONTRIBUTIONS FROM THE OFFICE TO ORGANISATIONS (*continued*)

Organisations	Amount in Swiss francs	Object
<i>Brought forward . . .</i>	26,180.65	
Union générale arménienne de bienfaisance, Paris, 25,000 French francs, 30,250 French francs and 25,000 French francs	12,655.70	To provide suitable housing for indigent Armenian families at Beirut and Aleppo.
Assyrian colony, Zahlé	2,178.65	Cost of garments, etc., sent from Geneva to Zahlé.
Russian (pre-war) Red Cross Dispensary, Berlin	597.—	For the purchase of surgical instruments and the renewal of laboratory equipment, drugs, etc.
Committee of Women for Assistance to Russian Refugees in Greece, 50,000 drachmæ	2,000.—	For repairs to a shelter and the maintenance of sick or disabled refugees.
Mme. Skripitzin's Refectory, Sofia	600.—	For the purchase of food for necessitous Russian children, pupils at the Russian lycée.
Direction générale de l'ancienne organisation de la Croix-Rouge russe, Paris, 7,500 French francs	{ 1,072.50 4,250.—	Assistance to the Villejuif Hospital. To assist the work of this organisation outside France.
Direction générale de l'ancienne organisation de la Croix-Rouge Russe, Athens	1,500.—	Subvention to the (pre-war) Russian Red Cross in Greece.
Union des médecins russes à l'étranger, Paris, 4,000 French francs	584.—	For the assistance of Russian disabled medical practitioners and the widows and children of Russian medical practitioners.
Welfare Committee for Elementary School Pupils, Belgrade, 3,000 dinars.	275.25	For extending the Committee's relief work.
Committee of the Russische Kinderhilfe in Deutschland	250.—	For extending this work in Germany.
Association des Grands Mutilés, anciens combattants russes résidant en France, 15,000 French francs and 3,000 French francs	{ 2,205.— 429.—	For the establishment of a food store. For the equipment of a workshop.
Comité russe de secours, Paris, 10,000 French francs and 10,000 French francs	2,900.—	To enable this organisation to continue its work.
Conservatoire russe, Paris, 10,000 French francs	1,430.—	For the foundation of ten new scholarships.
Refuge russe "Mère Mélanie", Rozay en Brie, 7,500 French francs	1,072.50	Towards the installation of central heating.
Comité central de patronage de la jeunesse universitaire russe à l'étranger, 5,000 French francs and 40,000 French francs	{ 715.— 5,640.—	For extending this Committee's work.
Home for the Aged, Belgrade, 10,000 dinars	917.50	For the equipment of the Home.
Union of Ukrainian Emigrants in Czechoslovakia	200.—	To assist needy Ukrainian students.
Russian Welfare Association in Poland	1,000.—	Assistance to indigent Russian refugees.
Asile pour vieillards, Nice, 20,000 French francs	2,860.—	For the equipment of the <i>Asile</i> (8,000 francs) and its maintenance for a year (12,000 francs).
Comité de la colonie arménienne, Geneva	500.—	To enable this Committee to continue its humanitarian work.
Pynan Alekseï Kymnase. Home in Finland, 5,000 markkaa	480.50	To complete and put in order the premises of the Home.
Russian Orthodox Communities in Bulgaria	500.—	To enable a larger number of necessitous refugees to be assisted.
Cossack Union, Athens, 5,000 drachmæ	200.—	To enable the Union to complete its Home for aged and infirm Cossacks.
Direction générale de la fédération des invalides mutilés de guerre russes à l'étranger, 34,000 French francs	4,794.—	For extending this relief work.
Comité des Zemstvos et Villes russes, Paris	4,000.—	Towards this Committee's humanitarian work.
<i>Carried forward . . .</i>	82,987.25	

PART I. — DIRECT CONTRIBUTIONS FROM THE OFFICE TO ORGANISATIONS (*continued*)

Organisations	Amount in Swiss francs	Object
<i>Brought forward . . .</i>	82,987.25	
Comité des Zemstvos et Villes russes, Bulgaria, 5,790 leva	300.—	For their holiday camp in Bulgaria.
Committee for the Relief of Russian Jews in Germany	1,500.—	For assisting Russian Jewish refugees in Germany.
Groupe académique russe, Paris	250.—	For assistance to aged and needy intellectual workers.
Maison de secours aux chômeurs ukrainiens, Paris, 3,000 French francs	441.—	To enable this Institution to continue its work.
Union of Ukrainian Women Emigrants, Warsaw	1,000.—	Assistance to orphan girls and the daughters of unemployed.
Committee of the Home for Ukrainian Children, Podebrady	550.—	Towards the humanitarian work of this Committee which houses twenty-one children.
	500.—	
Patronage Committee of Russian Students in Czechoslovakia, KČ. 10,000	1,522.50	To increase the number of scholarships and to extend scholarships granted.
Russian Centre—"Rusky Domov"—Prague, KČ. 2,500.	380.—	Towards reducing the deficit and enabling the Centre to continue its work.
Society for the Welfare of Russian Child Emigrants in Czechoslovakia	750.—	Towards the rent of the Home which houses twenty-seven children from 2-6 years.
Union of Russian Social Welfare Organisations, Prague	500.—	To enable this Organisation to continue its work.
Paternal Committee of the Russian Secondary School, Belgrade	300.—	For food and clothing for a number of children.
Parents' Committee of the Russo-Serbian Girls' Secondary School, Belgrade, 5,000 dinars.	458.75	For the purchase of clothing, shoes, drugs, school-books, etc.
Students' Hostel, Belgrade, 2,000 dinars	183.50	To improve the food of fifty women students.
Russian Students' Union of the University of Zagreb, 2,000 dinars.	183.50	Towards the cost of heating, lighting and food.
Russian Refectory, Berlin.	450.—	To enable the Refectory to continue its work.
Association of Armenian Women "Tebrotzassère"	1,000.—	To enable this Organisation to withstand the depression and the increase in the cost of living.
Committee of the Armenian Sanatorium for Tuberculosis Cases, Mameltein	2,000.—	To enable the sanatorium to be completed.
Comité d'aide et d'assistance sociale aux réfugiés russes de la ville de Marseille et de la région, 10,000 French francs	1,360.—	For assistance to Russian refugees at Marseilles.
American Mission at Harbin for Needy Russian Refugees	500.—	Assistance to needy Russian refugees.
Union of Russian Invalids, Athens, 30,000 drachmæ	1,200.—	Towards the cost of improving and enlarging the Home constructed with the help of the Nansen Office.
Union of Russian Emigrants of Macedonia and Thrace, 25,000 drachmæ	1,000.—	To assist Russian refugees in Thessaly.
Various Russian Humanitarian Organisations at Shanghai	4,000.—	Assistance to Russian refugee war victims, etc.
Nansen Home for Russian Children, Châtenay	2,500.—	To complete the equipment of the Home.
Private Home, Belgrade, 1,000 dinars	91.75	Towards the expenses of the Home.
Mutual Relief Committee, Bela Crkva	200.—	For providing free meals to necessitous refugees.
Society for Assistance to Russian University Students, Belgrade, 5,000 dinars.	458.75	To assist a larger number of students of both sexes.
Croix-Bleue des Arméniens de France, Paris, 5,000 French francs	675.—	For extending this relief work.
Section russe de la Confédération générale du travail, Paris, 7,000 French francs	854.—	For the organisation of a holiday colony for fifty children of Russian refugees.
Total	107,096.—	

PART II. — SUBVENTIONS GRANTED BY THE COMMITTEE OF RUSSIAN ORGANISATIONS SET UP IN PARIS TO ADMINISTER THE RUSSIAN PART OF THE REVENUE FROM THE NANSEN STAMP RESERVED FOR RUSSIAN REFUGEE RELIEF IN FRANCE (Year 1937)

Categories of Organisations	Amount in French francs
(a) Grants to four organisations dealing with the sick in general	18,825.—
(b) Grants to four organisations dealing with tuberculosis cases	45,900.—
(c) Grants to eleven organisations dealing with children of pre-school and school age .	74,200.—
(d) Grants to nineteen organisations dealing with the aged	73,250.—
(e) Grants to twenty organisations dealing with the unemployed.	150,450.—
(f) Grants to three organisations dealing with students	19,500.—
(g) Grants to four organisations dealing with war invalids.	47,000.—
(h) Grants to three Ukrainian organisations	22,000.—
(i) Grants to fourteen organisations dealing with holiday camps	34,000.—
Total	485,125.—

PART III. — GRANTS MADE BY THE COMMITTEE FOR THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE ARMENIAN PART OF THE REVENUE OF THE NANSEN STAMP, SET UP IN PARIS TO ADMINISTER THE PART RESERVED FOR THE ASSISTANCE OF REFUGEES OF ARMENIAN ORIGIN IN FRANCE (Year 1937)

Categories of Organisation	Amount in French francs
1. General assistance (indigent, aged, infirm, sick, tuberculous, etc. persons) (nine organisations).	268,796.95
2. Dispensaries and medical assistance (two organisations)	42,000.—
3. Orphan relief (three organisations)	35,000.—
4. Ex-service men and volunteers (five organisations)	24,000.—
5. Poor students and school-children (three organisations)	14,000.—
6. Necessitous intellectual workers (one organisation)	6,500.—
7. Children's holiday camps (two organisations).	3,000.—
(Twenty-five organisations in all)	
Total	393,296.95

Appendix III

A. HUMANITARIAN FUND

MOVEMENT FROM JULY 1ST, 1937, TO JUNE 30TH, 1938 (TWELVE MONTHS)

	Swiss francs
Credit balance of the Humanitarian Fund as at July 1st, 1937	292,371.20
I. Receipts.	
	Swiss francs
Proceeds of the sale of Nansen stamps	285,005.90
Miscellaneous contributions	113,592.75
Proceeds of the sale of surcharged postage stamps :	
France	Swiss francs
Norway	31,431.35
(less 7,944.30 Swiss francs for commission).	<u>41,257.55</u>
	72,688.90
Repayment by refugees	52,964.55
Miscellaneous receipts (interest, etc.)	<u>4,526.95</u>
	<u>528,779.05</u>
Total	821,150.25

II. *Expenditure.*

	Swiss francs	Swiss francs	Swiss francs
Advances made	71,404.65		
Advances made (commitments).	<u>746.85</u>	72,151.50	
Grants made.	200,378.60		
Grants made (commitments).	<u>48,811.—</u>	249,189.60	
		321,341.10	
Allowances to organisations :			
France (50% of the stamp)	115,203.10		
Roumania.	<u>6,500.—</u>	121,703.10	
Additional charges		6,777.60	
Miscellaneous expenditure		2,178.55	
Difference on exchange		<u>12,170.70</u>	
			464,171.05
Balance of the Humanitarian Fund as at June 30th, 1938			<u>356,979.20</u>
Total			821,150.25

B. SETTLEMENT OF SAAR REFUGEES

(Credit voted by the League of Nations : 200,000 Swiss francs)

	Swiss francs
Balance in hand as at July 1st, 1937	32,024.85
<i>Receipts:</i>	
Payments on account by the League :	
Balance due out of credit of 200,000 Swiss francs	97,100.—
Bank interest	<u>59.60</u>
	129,184.45
<i>Expenditure:</i>	
Evacuation to Paraguay and occupational regrouping	<u>41,444.10</u>
Balance in hand as at June 30th, 1938	87,740.35

Appendix IV

LIST OF MEMBERS OF THE GOVERNING BODY

President appointed by the Assembly of the League of Nations : M. Michael HANSSON.
Vice-Presidents: His Excellency M. C. ANTONIADE, Mr. L. B. GOLDEN.

I. MEMBERS APPOINTED BY THE INTER-GOVERNMENTAL ADVISORY COMMISSION FOR REFUGEES :

(a) *Members:*

His Excellency M. C. ANTONIADE, Minister Plenipotentiary of Roumania.
 His Excellency M. P. DE REFFYE, Minister Plenipotentiary of France.
 His Excellency M. I. SOUBBOTITCH, Minister Plenipotentiary, Permanent Delegate of the Kingdom of Yugoslavia accredited to the League of Nations.
 (One seat vacant.)

(b) *Substitute Members:*

His Excellency M. J. FELDMANS, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary, Permanent Delegate of the Latvian Government accredited to the League of Nations.
 M. G. ROMANELLI, Minister Plenipotentiary, Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Rome.
 (Two seats vacant, one since April 1938.)

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 PRIVATE ORGANISATIONS FOR REFUGEES :

(a) *Members :*

Mr. L. B. GOLDEN, British United Committee, London.
M. L. PACHALIAN, Comité central des réfugiés arméniens, Paris.
M^e J. RUBINSTEIN, Commission centrale pour l'étude de la condition des réfugiés russes, Paris.

(b) *Substitute Members :*

M. M. FEDOROFF, Comité central de patronage de la Jeunesse universitaire russe à l'étranger, Paris.
M. C. HANEMIAN, Office des réfugiés arméniens en France, Paris.
Mr. W. A. MACKENZIE, Save the Children International Union, Geneva.

V. MEMBERS APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE NANSEN INTERNATIONAL OFFICE :

(a) *Members :*

His Excellency Senator G. CIRAOLO, President of the Executive Committee of the International Relief Union, Rome.
Mlle. S. FERRIÈRE, International Migration Service, Geneva.

(b) *Substitute Members :*

M. A. FRANÇOIS, former Senator, Brussels.
M. B. DE ROUGE, Secretary-General of the League of Red Cross Societies.

LIST OF MEMBERS OF THE MANAGING COMMITTEE
AND THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

MANAGING COMMITTEE

(a) *Members :*

M. Michael HANSSON, President of the Governing Body of the Nansen International Office.
His Excellency M. P. DE REFFYE.
M^e J. RUBINSTEIN.

(b) *Substitute Members :*

M. L. PACHALIAN.
(One seat vacant.)

FINANCE COMMITTEE

M. Michael HANSSON, President of the Governing Body of the Nansen International Office.
His Excellency M. C. ANTONIADE.
His Excellency M. P. DE REFFYE.
M^e J. RUBINSTEIN.
(One seat vacant.)

STAFF OF THE OFFICE

Administrative Director : G. CORONI Bey.

Members of the Secretariat : M. G. ZWERNER, one chief accountant, one assistant accountant, one archivist, three bilingual shorthand-typists, two shorthand-typists, one office-keeper.

REPRESENTATIVES

Belgium :

M. R. COUBAUX,	Honorary representative	Belgian	30, rue d'Idalie, Brussels.
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Bulgaria :

M. B. SERAFIMOV,	Representative	Russian refugee	18, Chipka Street, Sofia.
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Czechoslovakia :

Dr. A. MASARYKOVÁ,	Honorary representative	Czech	17, Rubesova, Prague.
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France :

M. M. PAON,	Representative	French	38, boulevard Raspail, Paris (VII ^e).
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<i>Greece:</i>	M. A. KOTELNIKOV,	Representative	Greek	9A, rue Metropoleos, Athens.
<i>Roumania:</i>	General G. FILITTI,	Honorary representative	Roumanian	Boulevard Regele Ale- xandru I, 62-E, Bu- charest.
<i>Syria:</i>	M. G. BURNIER,	Representative	Swiss	P.O. Box 714, Beirut.
<i>Turkey:</i>	M. G. COUTEAUX,	Honorary representative	Belgian	P. O. Box 1236, Istanbul.
<i>Yugoslavia:</i>	M. K. PETROVITCH,	Representative	Yugoslav	Pašičeva 4/III, Belgrade.

CORRESPONDENTS

<i>China:</i>	M. A. LOONIS,		Belgian	290, Szechuan Road, Shanghai.
<i>Danzig:</i>	M. W. ELISAROFF,		Russian refugee	11a, Schäferstrasse, Zoppot (Danzig).
<i>Estonia:</i>	M. M. SOBOLEV,		Russian refugee	11, Vahe tänav, Narva.
<i>Latvia:</i>	Latvian Red Cross Committee,			1, Skolas iela, Riga.
<i>Lithuania:</i>	M. A. TIMINSKIS,		Lithuanian	Duonelaicio g. 7a, Kaunas.