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Twenty-second Congress

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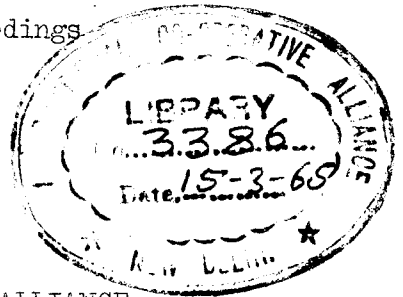
International Cooperative Alliance

held in

Bournemouth, England, 14th-17th October, 1963.

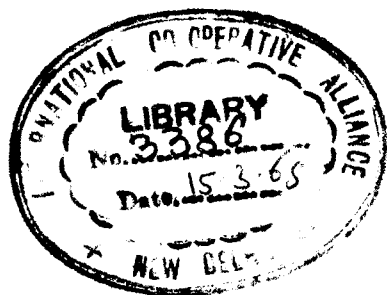
A Summary of the Proceedings

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INTERNATIONAL COOPERATIVE ALLIANCE
11 Upper Grosvenor Street, London, W.1.

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C O N G R E S S I N B R I E F

Four hundred and fifty delegates from 34 countries and a great number of observers and visitors attended the opening of the 22nd Congress of the International Cooperative Alliance in the Pavilion, Bournemouth, England, on Monday, 14th October, 1963. The Pavilion's platform was decorated in the rainbow colours and the national flags of all the delegates were hoisted at the entrance to the Pavilion. Dr. M. Bonow, President of the Alliance, was in the chair, flanked by the Alliance's Vice-Presidents, Mr. A.P. Klimov and Mr. R. Southern, and the officers, Mr. W.P. Watkins, Director, Miss G.F. Polley, General Secretary, and the Director Designate, Mr. W.G. Alexander. The proceedings opened with a civic welcome by the Mayor of Bournemouth.

Dr. Bonow presented His Worship the Mayor of Bournemouth and the Mayoress; and the Mayor, Alderman Harry Mears, O.B.E., in his speech of welcome, spoke of the pleasure he had in receiving, on behalf of the town, the distinguished members of this Congress, and the honour for the town to have an international gathering of such magnitude meeting there. The Mayor and Mayoress were presented with two handsomely bound volumes dealing with the International Cooperative Movement, and the Lady Mayoress with a bouquet of flowers.

Mr. Leonard Cooke, President of the Cooperative Wholesale Society and a member of the Central Executive of the Cooperative Union, speaking on behalf of the British Cooperative Movement, welcomed the Congress to a country where Cooperation was of long-standing, with retail societies of over 30 million members, and an annual trade of £1,000 million. The great exhibition at Belle Vue, Manchester, celebrating the centenary of the English C.W.S., was a truly international symbol of Cooperation. He wished all delegates, from both Britain and overseas, an interesting and successful Congress.

THE PRESIDENT'S INAUGURAL ADDRESS

Dr. M. Bonow, in his inaugural address as President of the Congress, said that the decolonisation process and its effects, and the group of problems contained in over-population and under-nourishment, have to be solved in our time. He stressed that Cooperation in all its different forms would have to be an integral part of all the successful economic development programmes in the less-developed countries of the world, all aimed at national production and distribution of foodstuffs. In the

developed countries, the cooperative movements could help this process by pressing energetically for the reform of national economic policies in their respective countries. In addition, cooperators have the responsibility of contributing to, and supplementing actions taken by, the Specialised Agencies of the United Nations and by national governments to promote Cooperation in all its forms.

FRATERNAL DELEGATES AND DISTINGUISHED GUESTS

Fraternal delegates and distinguished guests were then introduced by the General Secretary, Miss G.F. Polley. They included Mr. G. St. Siegens, Food and Agriculture Organisation, Mr. H.K. Nook, International Labour Office, and Miss P. Harris, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation. From the non-governmental organisations were Mrs. Krämer of the International Cooperative Women's Guild, Mr. R. Hewlett and Mr. V. Janjić from the International Federation of Agricultural Producers, Mr. J.E. Knott from the World Veterans' Federation, and Mr. R.H. Edmondstone of the International Chamber of Commerce, who attended later in the Congress. Two former Presidents of the Alliance, Mr. Väinö Tanner of Finland, and Lord Rusholme of Great Britain, were especially welcomed. Two other distinguished visitors were the Hon. Frank Meakes, Minister for Cooperation in the Government of Saskatchewan, and Mr. Bhide, from the Ministry of Community Development and Cooperation, New Delhi.

CONGRESS COMMITTEE

The General Secretary stated that in accordance with the rules of the I.C.A., the Congress Committee is appointed for each Congress, consisting of the President, the two Vice-Presidents, three members of the Central Committee - Mr. Perakash, India, Mr. Schumacher, German Federal Republic, and Mr. Rondeau, U.S.A., were appointed - and three delegates appointed by Congress at its first session - Mr. Capek, Czechoslovakia, Dr. Crisanti, Italy, and Dr. Dietiker, Switzerland, were chosen. Mr. Cuckoo was recommended as chief teller.

REPORT OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE

Congress then turned to its first major business, the report of the Central Committee. The President congratulated the officers of the Alliance on the printed report before Congress, which gives a clear picture of the main features of the work the I.C.A. has accomplished since the Lausanne Congress.

The first item of the report discussed was the question of membership of the I.C.A. Mr. Sai of the U.S.S.R. tried to introduce a new resolution on the membership question, but was made aware that it was for the authorities of the I.C.A. to deal with this matter.

The President also refuted the accusation that a majority of the Central Committee and the Executive have tried to delay or impede applications for membership, referring especially to the Polish Agricultural Cooperative Union. The President announced that two members of the Executive, together with two members of the Central Committee, have accepted to leave at the end of October for Poland, and in consultation with the Polish cooperative organisations concerned, these members will study the application for Polish membership thoroughly and objectively.

(End of first session)

I.C.A. Subscription Income

Congress took up discussions on some points of finance, and Mr. Charbo, Netherlands, pointed out that the financial position of the Alliance will need to be watched very closely. Present scales for subscriptions show that national organisations which are collective members have their subscriptions affected by the amalgamation of societies. In this way, organisations promoting amalgamations in their national fields gain a good deal of money for themselves, not only by doing their own work better, but also by reducing the subscription which they pay to the I.C.A.

I.C.A. Publications and Education

Mr. Capek, Czechoslovakia, pointed out that little information of cooperative work in socialist countries was featured in the "Review of International Cooperation".

Dr. Ruf, Switzerland, thought that the "Review" had been greatly improved of late, but does not yet seem to have found its proper form, which will cause people to subscribe to it, and he made a plea to finance a publication that, in the end, will pay for itself in order to become a truly international publication.

Mr. Thedin, Sweden, thanked the Alliance for the issue of the "Review", and especially the wealth of information about the international Cooperative Movement that reaches national cooperatives through it. The problem of circulation was a question of organisation rather than of contents.

Mr. Serwy, Belgium, emphasised the need for completing the plan envisaged when the Henry J. May Foundation was created.

Mr. Matejka, Czechoslovakia, pointed out the lack of selection of suitable persons attending the International Cooperative School, and he thought much improvement was possible through a wider selection of subjects.

Mr. Wachsmuth, U.S.A., indicated the lack of training provided for lay members of boards of management of cooperative societies.

Dr. Deshmukh, India, stated that the I.C.A. had certainly realised the importance of cooperative education, and he was happy to report that in India it is being taken up more actively than ever before, and this certainly with the help of programmes sponsored by the I.C.A.

Mr. Voloshin and Mr. Denisov, both of the U.S.S.R., described the system of cooperative education and management training in their country.

Technical Assistance

After Mr. Podlipny, Czechoslovakia, had alleged discrimination in the areas chosen for technical assistance, the President, Dr. Bonow, said that the Agricultural Conference in Tokyo was prepared and carried out in full and intimate collaboration with our Japanese cooperative friends as well as the I.C.A. Regional Officer, Dr. Saxena, and the institute through which they are going to promote agricultural cooperation in Asia will be established with the full moral and practical support of the I.C.A. through its regional institutions.

In Africa, the African Cooperative Alliance had been formed, and its President, Mr. Kapinga, had assured the I.C.A. that there is no desire to create a form of separatism and that all organisations which belong to the newly formed African Alliance are very anxious gradually to become members of the I.C.A.

As far as the Cooperative Organisation of America is concerned, in the long-term planning of the I.C.A. it is intended, as soon as sufficient resources are available, to establish a regional office in that part of the world.

Mr. Kapinga, Tanganyika, stressed the duty of the I.C.A. to see that a regional office was opened in Africa to give information and right directives to the different movements in the African States.

Mr. Voorhis, U.S.A., pointed out that the Cooperative Organisation of America consisted of movements in equal sister republics in the western hemisphere, an Organisation for assistance and the mutual promotion of Cooperation. It was hoped to have a publication, probably in Spanish, published in Mexico, and field officers working in Latin America. The Board of Directors of this Organisation consist of one representative from the Argentine, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rico, Honduras, Mexico, Peru, Puerto Rico, the United States, Uruguay, and Venezuela. He could assure Congress that they would bring as many members into the I.C.A. as they could from the area, and were already working on this.

Mr. Kaka, India, paid great tribute to the I.C.A. Regional Office, its Directors, and special officers.

Mr. Latunde, Nigeria, brought sincere greetings and gratitude from Nigeria to the I.C.A. He also stressed the most trying problems to be faced, which are the lack of capital and management training to develop marketing operations.

Many more speakers from Asian countries testified to the value of the work of the I.C.A. Regional Office and Education Centre.

Mr. Mathsson, Sweden, stressed the great importance of the Advisory Council used in the Asian work of the Alliance. The Advisory Council of the I.C.A. Education Centre has, in actual practice, the function of drawing up working plans for the Centre, and in addition each one of its members has permanent contact with the respective country that is touched by the work of the Centre. This is of extraordinarily great importance to the work of the International Cooperative Alliance. A Centre of this kind is of great importance in being potentially the one place where countries working under similar external conditions can build a forum for a dispassionate and objective analysis of their cooperative development problems.

Dr. Saxena, I.C.A. Regional Officer, stressed the great interest of the Regional Office in all the problems mentioned, and especially trade. The Centre has in hand the production of a trade directory for the South East Asian region with a brief specification of the commodities which the region is interested in exporting. The Centre has also received requests from a number of cooperative production organisations which were put in touch with the Cooperative Wholesale Society. One of the functions of the regional organisations was to develop collaboration with the various existing international organisations, and there have been preliminary discussions with the Afro-Asian Rural Reconstruction

Organisation, with a view to an exchange of information and material. The Centre has prepared scientific papers for them and offered assistance in forming regional projects. A study of cooperative marketing by a specialist in agricultural cooperation is in hand, and one on the structure of national cooperative unions. Dr. Saxena also mentioned the women's seminar which was held in connection with Unesco, and stated that the disturbing fact revealed by the seminar was the complete absence of collaboration between women's organisations and cooperative movements in South East Asia, and asked that this problem be studied by the I.C.A.

I.C.A. Development Fund

Mr. Bo, Denmark, commenting on the I.C.A. Development Fund, said that the true picture would include the many bilateral and multilateral arrangements in which national cooperative organisations participate. He pointed to the extensive contribution from the Swedish Cooperative Movement to the I.C.A. Education Centre in Delhi, the recent arrangements between the Danish and Pakistan Governments for an institute in Lahore for cooperative management and the plan for a joint Scandinavian project for cooperative training in Tanganyika, and to the examples from Israel, Czechoslovakia, and a great number of other countries, as well as the extensive work of the ILO and FAO.

Mr. Koski, U.S.A., stated that the cooperators of the United States, as represented by the delegates at Congress, feel keenly their responsibility for helping our brothers and sisters in the newly developing countries. This must be accomplished without violating the dignity and self-determination of the individual or group of individuals involved in building their own economic institutions, either through governmental or cooperative efforts, or private institutions, or all three. Since education is the foundation of understanding and therefore must precede economic development programmes, the Cooperative League supports the Development Fund of the I.C.A., which devotes its entire resources and energy to developing educational aids, materials and assistance for the newly developing countries. For this and many other reasons, the Cooperative League continues to give to the Development Fund such assistance as is possible within the limits of its own resources.

Congress adjourned.

(End of second session)

The Role of Women in Cooperation

Mrs. Krämer, President of the I.C.W.G., speaking as a fraternal delegate, made a few comments on women's place in Cooperation. For a number of years the I.C.W.G. had looked for ways and means of closer collaboration with the I.C.A. In the course of the summer of 1962, a recommendation of five points was drafted and put to the I.C.A., which also put forward a number of proposals, all resulting from the realisation that a time had come for women to play a larger part in cooperative work. The Executive and Central Committees of the I.C.A. decided that a department for women's affairs should be set up within the I.C.A. with a special secretary. The 12th Conference of the I.C.W.G. had agreed to set up a special committee to maintain contact on behalf of the Guild with the women's department in the I.C.A. The Consultative Committee is to be composed of one representative from each language group, French, German, English and Scandinavian.

Mrs. Janeson, Cooperative Union of Canada, advocated special measures for developing women's work, including a women's section in the "Review of International Cooperation", and training conferences for women in cooperative leadership.

Other speakers, including Mrs. Zagulina, U.S.S.R., Mrs. Betrixhe-Ancion, Belgium, and Mrs. Crisanti, Italy, stressed the importance of the women's side in Cooperation, the two latter asking the I.C.A. to expedite its action.

Consumer Protection

Mr. Dwight Townsend, Cooperative League of the U.S.A., talked on the responsibility of the Cooperative Movement to encourage consumer enlightenment, pointing out the help received from the Government in the United States.

Mrs. Strom, Sweden, recalled the two important conferences that had been held on consumer protection on the initiative of the I.C.A., and reminded Congress of the Consumer Working Party. She stressed the urgency to reconsider the position of consumer's organisations within the Alliance in view of many other agencies engaged in consumers' protection. One of the most important tasks of women cooperators today would be to carry out forceful cooperative programmes in defence of the consumer.

Mrs. Zagulina, U.S.S.R., emphasised that the problem of consumer protection was of the utmost importance in the light of present day techniques, and she was happy to see that the I.C.A. is dealing with it. As far as the U.S.S.R. was concerned,

there was no competitive sales promotion, but instead there was an institution of a purely informative nature with the duty of explaining to consumers the nature of the various goods and their actual use. There was also legislation which laid down the framework of any consumer publicity, and consumers' goods are always sold in full agreement with governmental legislation. This was in accordance with Central Soviet and cooperative bodies, and consumer goods have strictly to adhere to these rulings. Standards for foodstuffs are strict and this makes them absolutely safe for the consumer, and many industrial commodities carry guarantees which enable the consumer to get his money back or have the product replaced free of charge if there are complaints.

Housing

Mr. Shirazee, Pakistan, spoke on the housing aspect, paying tribute to the Housing Committee of the Alliance which has done its best to promote housing cooperatives in its sphere of activity. It is common knowledge that organisations like ILO, ICFTU, and ECOSOC have addressed themselves to this problem all over the world, but he regretted that the UN could not see its way to establishing a Special Housing Agency for solving this human problem, which he felt was acute in the advanced countries and even more so in the developing ones. He stressed that there can be no doubt of the necessary part that the Cooperative Movement must play in solving the housing problem and urged the Congress for a more dynamic approach to the problem with pilot projects introduced in Asia, Africa, and Latin America with its particular difficulty in the low income groups. He urged the International Monetary Fund and other similar organisations to come out in assisting the development areas together with the Housing Committee of the Alliance to tackle this great problem.

Mr. Rossini, Italy, also stressed the great importance of the housing issue in all parts of his country. He too looked for a solution on an international basis.

Taxation of Cooperatives

Mr. Staples, Canada, suggested that general principles regarding the taxation of cooperatives might be developed internationally and that these suggestions might then be set up by one country after another at governmental level. The I.C.A., in collaboration with the International Federation of Agricultural Producers and the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions, should if possible consult with the authorities of the International Labour Organisation on the possibility of developing conventions and principles to be applied in taxing cooperatives for the consideration of the various governments.

The President said that the problem raised by Mr. Staples is of great importance within the different cooperative movements, and asked if he would be prepared to leave the matter for further consideration by the Executive.

International Labour Organisation

Mr. Scull, U.S.A., said that the International Labour Organisation is one of the most important international organisations so far as the Cooperative Movement is concerned. It was gratifying to know that the ILO may, for the first time, put Cooperation on its agenda for the 1965 conference. The national movements should ensure that cooperators were included in the delegations of their respective countries.

Dr. Boson, the I.C.A. observer in Geneva, reported that the ILO Governing Body was to take a final decision on the question in November.

Mr. Ahmed, Pakistan, referring to the FAO enquiry into finance for agricultural cooperative development, urged the I.C.A. Executive to set up an international agency for cooperative development and to devise a scheme and have it accepted by the Food and Agriculture Organisation.

Freedom from Hunger Campaign

Dr. Deshmukh, India, was happy to note that the I.C.A. had taken an important part in encouraging the Freedom from Hunger Campaign. His plea was for the world to come forward and especially for cooperators to rescue those who are exploited and hungry and undernourished.

UNESCO

Mr. Barbier, Switzerland, expressed appreciation of the goodwill shown to the I.C.A. by the Unesco Secretariat, and explained how the grant for workers' study tours came to be cut. The Cooperative Movement must not allow itself to be regarded as a zone of least resistance for major reductions.

The President paid tribute to the incessant efforts by Mr. Barbier in Unesco to promote Cooperation.

Non-governmental Organisations

Mr. Krumin, U.S.S.R., alleged discrimination in favour of the ICFTU on the part of the Alliance with regard to non-governmental organisations and the I.C.A. should bear in mind that there are other trade union organisations.

The President said that to invite to Congress a representative of ICFTU was a gesture of appreciation for its concern with the promotion of Cooperation and technical assistance in the developing countries.

Publications

The Director replied to the complaint about material which has been sent to the Alliance for publication and not used, pointing out that when the journals of certain countries publish misleading information about the I.C.A. and its authorities, doubts were bound to arise concerning material offered by any of those journals about their own movements.

The President, concluding the discussion on the report of the Central Committee, said he wished to mention the important contribution rendered by the British Cooperative Movement. The C.W.S., the S.C.W.S., the C.I.S., and other organisations in Great Britain, including the Cooperative Union, had received people from the newly developing countries for training so much earlier than a number of other national organisations. Over a great number of years the Cooperative College at Stanford Hall had participants from the newly developing countries in its courses, and four members of the present Government in Tanganyika had careers in their own cooperative movement before assuming great responsibilities at governmental level, and had all received part of their basic education at Stanford Hall.

Obituary

As delegates stood in silence, the President recalled the names of eminent cooperators who had died since the last Congress.

Congress then agreed to adopt the report.

Congress adjourned.

(End of third session)

REPORTS OF AUXILIARY COMMITTEES

International Cooperative Insurance Committee

Mr. Dinnage, Great Britain, the Chairman, said that the Insurance Committee includes 54 insurance societies representing 20 countries and 4 continents. Steps had also been taken to establish a society in Tunisia, which will bring a coverage of 5 continents. Members of the International Cooperative Reinsurance Bureau had travelled to all corners of the earth. A

Research Committee had been established, and resulting from their recommendation, it was decided to establish a Development Bureau consisting of representatives of Austria, Belgium, Canada, Germany, Malaya, Sweden, and U.S.A., with the task of investigating the possibilities of opening up cooperative insurance societies in newly developing countries and in other parts of the world where they do not yet exist. Another recommendation under consideration is the establishment of a Loan Guarantee Fund.

International Cooperative Banking Committee

The Chairman, Mr. Quincey, Great Britain, introducing the report of the International Cooperative Banking Committee, stressed the assistance given by the Committee in the creation of new cooperative banks in all parts of the world. The Banking Committee, at its meeting in Tel-Aviv, expressed interest in the resuscitation of the work of the International Cooperative Bank established at Basle a few years ago. It was hoped that the Bank in Basle would have powers to borrow on a substantial scale if the requisite initial capital were made available by cooperative financial institutions. It was hoped that the Bank could then be the means not only of effective lending, but of channeling the flow of cooperative monies from different parts of the world to where it was most needed.

International Committee on Agricultural Cooperation

Mr. Drejer, Denmark, introducing the report, recalled that since the Lausanne Congress, the most important question studied was the report on "Cooperation in a Changing World", on which Mr. Davidovic prepared an excellent paper. His was a most valuable contribution and the paper provided a basis for the promotion of this whole problem of agricultural and cooperative development in collaboration with the FAO. Promotion of relations between cooperative societies of producers and consumers was another matter considered. Mr. Drejer also reported on the Conference in Bournemouth, which specially dealt with agricultural integration. He was happy to state that Mr. Norman Wood, Great Britain, was elected as the new Chairman of the Committee.

Various speakers followed this report.

The Chairman pointed out that there is nothing at all which prevents the national cooperative movements from taking part in the work of an Auxiliary Committee and this applies as well to the Agricultural Committee on which every national movement is very welcome to be represented. "

The Chairman paid tribute to the work of Mr. Drejer as Chairman of the Committee since its establishment.

International Cooperative Housing Committee

The report of the Housing Committee was presented by Mr. Kypengren (H.S.B., Sweden), its Chairman, who stated that the work of the Committee has been considerably extended since the last Congress and its constitution revised and adjusted to deal with the new tasks which it has decided to undertake. This has also obliged the Committee to set up a special technical Secretariat with its own budget; the Secretariat is located at Stockholm with H.S.B. The Committee was aware of the paramount problem of the provision of housing, and bearing in mind the growth of population, it felt that housing is a problem as serious as that of hunger in the world today. The building of new houses and the administration of existing ones make Cooperation in the housing field a problem requiring a high degree of skill. He also reported on collaboration with the United Nations and the action of the I.C.A. in pressing for a Special Housing Agency.

Cooperative Wholesale Committee

The report was presented by Mr. Meins, Germany. The permanent Working Groups of this Committee had enabled leading members to learn a great deal from each other's experience, and collaboration has been valuable in the field of production as well as in that of trade. The Committee would not engage in commercial activity of its own, yet would nevertheless put forward recommendations to its members. The member societies have promised to do their utmost to see that these recommendations will be implemented in their organisations. The C.W.C. would take over the Economic Secretariat from the Scandinavian N.A.F., and on the retirement of Dr. Keler, a new General Secretary from Scandinavia would be appointed. The C.W.C. fully realised that trade with cooperative organisations in the developing countries should be promoted, but it encountered restrictions on international trade in general, and not only international cooperative trade. The wholesales can only try to see these restrictions are reduced in favour of world-wide international trade.

International Cooperative Petroleum Association

Mr. H.A. Cowden, President, reported on the activities of the I.C.P.A. Since Lausanne, I.C.P.A. has continued to make new progress. Its membership is now 33 organisations doing a considerable amount of petroleum business in 24 different countries. Compared with 1962, the volume of business was 300 per cent greater, and the figure for savings or profit higher by

400 per cent. One reason for this progress had been an increase in membership. Another was the manufacture of lubricating oils. The new plant at Dordrecht proudly flew the rainbow flag and was the first cooperative oil plant operated on an international basis. Negotiations were going ahead with the Indian Oil Company with the aim of establishing a blending plant in India. There were also negotiations in progress with Pakistan and Egypt for a similar plant establishment.

Press and Education Conference

Mr. Barbier, Switzerland, reported on the important Press and Education Conference held at Bournemouth on 9th and 10th October, 1963, over which he had presided. The Conference had considered what should be the message of the cooperative press and how it should be conveyed to the public, but it had not time to complete its agenda. In particular it had not discussed the position of the cooperative official who was a journalist. Such questions would be taken up by the I.C.A. Press Committee.

RESOLUTIONS ON THE REPORT OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE

Resolution on Disarmament and Peace

The President moved, on behalf of the Executive and Central Committees, the resolution on disarmament and peace, pointing out that the words "under effective and practical international control", omitted in the English and French texts, should be added. The basic text for the declaration was provided by Mr. Klimov on behalf of Centrosoyuz. The resolution was seconded, first by Mr. Klimov and then by Mr. Southern, the two Vice-Presidents of the Alliance, and was carried unanimously with prolonged applause.

AMENDMENTS TO THE RULES OF THE I.C.A.

The President's next business was to deal with amendments to the Rules of the I.C.A., taking first the amendments arising out of the decisions taken by the Executive and Central Committees to make changes in the leadership of the I.C.A. Mr. Alexander, the Director Designate, will have vested in him the control of the leading functions of the I.C.A. and he will delegate some of them to different collaborators in different departments of the I.C.A. In the main the present words "General Secretary" disappear from the Rules, and the functions exercised by the General Secretary will in the main be conferred on the Director.

After one speaker, the President asked Congress for agreement that all these changes should be put to the vote together. The Congress agreed, and a vote was taken by show of hands, and the amendment was carried.

Mr. Serwy, Belgium, proposed changes to Article 8, dealing with the eligibility for membership. Mr. Southern, Great Britain, pointed out that the words "physical and moral" in the amendment have little meaning in the English language, and would demand a careful translation from the French before the new Rules can be printed. Mr. Serwy's proposal to enable certain types of cooperatives to be admitted under Article 8 is the important part of his proposal. A vote on this was taken by show of hands and Mr. Serwy's proposal was carried.

Various speakers followed.

A full discussion evolved around Article 14, associate membership. Mr. Pedersen, Denmark, recommended that Congress should ask for the opinion of the Executive and Central Committees on this matter. It was difficult to know from the floor what its content was.

The President said that the Executive should be entitled under the Rules of Article 14 to review the situation if changes have been taking place in the status of an associate member which would call for certain consideration by the Executive. There was also a motion which proposed to delete Article 14 entirely, and discussions on Article 14 should cover this motion also in order to avoid repetition.

Mr. Utkin, U.S.S.R., moved the proposal of Centrosoyus that Article 14 should be deleted.

Mr. Voloshin, on behalf of the Soviet delegation, was for establishing a single system of membership, saying that various categories of membership bring about strange situations and great inequalities in representation.

Mr. Nepomucky, Czechoslovakia, and Mr. Mateesco, Roumania, spoke of their delegations being in favour of deleting Article 14.

The President, after recalling the circumstances in which Article 14 came to be embodied in the Rules, announced a card v vote on the amendment.

The vote was then taken, and Congress rose.

(End of fourth session)

Opening the session's proceedings, the President announced the result of the card vote on the amendment dealing with associate membership proposed by Czechoslovakia and the U.S.S.R. - for the amendment, 122, against, 355. The amendment was lost.

The President also extended a welcome to Mr. Edmondstone, fraternal delegate of the International Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. Serwy then proposed the Belgian amendment to Article 14, the operative part of which consisted of the words "and shall be revised periodically by the Executive". A vote was taken by show of hands with only one vote against. The amendment was accordingly adopted.

"LONG-TERM PROGRAMMES OF COOPERATIVE PROMOTION AND THE CONDITIONS OF THEIR REALISATION"

Mr. W.P. Watkins, Director of the I.C.A., presented his paper and moved the appended resolution. He stressed the necessity of planning cooperative development for longer periods ahead than has been done in many countries hitherto. Whilst there were no absolutes in this matter, experience showed that unless one is prepared to take the necessary time, one is unable to build up institutions which will endure. In all cooperative problems we came back in the end to the fact that cooperative societies consist of people, and their problems were concerned with the mutual relations of people. Institutions react on the people and people on the institutions. In the beginning however, we must have the people - the co-operators - who are prepared to observe the principles and to practise the various skills and techniques involved in cooperative development.

Planning itself must be done to a large extent by the people whose cooperative development it is desired to assist. The essential element was that in all Cooperation there is self-help, and the beginning of self-help in our sphere of reference is the endeavour to think out a plan of development which will lead from the foundation of individual primary cooperative societies to the growth in each national economy of that system of institutions which we are accustomed to call a cooperative movement. In a sense, in each national economy the Cooperative Movement has to be born anew according to the traditions of the country, and grow up in accordance with them.

The question of the starting point in cooperative planning was enormously important because it led on to the second feature which one might call the sequence, the starting of a kind of chain reaction in cooperative development, so that the

achievement of one particular cooperative aim leads on practically and logically to the introduction of another. As an example, in quite a number of Asian and African countries in the course of development, the choice of starting seemed to be between two things: either you aimed at credit organisations in order to add to the cultivator's capital resources, economising his outgoings in respect of interest and teaching him the art of saving and the general management of money, or you aimed at something like an immediate increase in his income by helping him to market his produce at less cost and at higher prices.

The great need was the introduction of an appropriate educational system by a government, by special bodies with national aid at the very beginning. We could not depend on the execution of any plan, however well drawn up, unless we had the people capable of doing the job required. Certain conditions favour cooperative development. The absence of these conditions can be a very grave hindrance to it: absence of a certain degree of personal freedom, absence of a certain level of general education, absence of efficiency and honesty in public administration, a certain laziness in the state of the general economic development. There was a close correlation between the level of general education, and especially adult education, in any country, and the level of its cooperative achievement and the capacity of cooperators to reach even higher levels.

There were two categories of international aid in the early stages: imparting the know-how, and tools for the job. Tools for the job are international aid given to any country where cooperators know very well what they want, how they wish to achieve it, and the road which they wish to travel, but who nevertheless lack the material resources which give them the proper equipment. That equipment can safely be supplied, and the Technical Assistance Sub-Committee of the I.C.A. has at present, in Africa alone, three or four projects relating to tools for the job. Nigeria has received useful tools in the shape of mobile audio-visual units; printing presses are also essential to its tools, and the other is education - education supplemented and supported by practical work which demonstrates the efficiency of the education.

Economic relations are essential but there must also be the individual and spiritual links between the cooperative movements and between them and the International Cooperative Alliance. There must be the practical demonstration that Cooperation is not simply a beautiful idea but a very tough, practical system which is capable in the material sphere of giving better results than some other economic systems.

Twenty-five speakers spoke on Mr. Watkins' paper.

Congress adjourned.

(End of fifth session)

In reply to the many speakers, Mr. Watkins amplified that he would like to make it clear that he has no objection to speed, but speed is not equivalent to haste. The important thing was the competence of the driver. Mr. Watkins was glad that many of the speakers realised the necessity for coordination between the different agencies, governmental and non-governmental, in research as well as technical assistance. In spite of extensive development in cooperative insurance, no one agency was in a position to publish a comprehensive handbook on cooperative insurance at the present time. No book of any wide scope on this subject has been published since Dr. Baron wrote his book thirty years ago. All wake up now to the fact that Cooperation is a much bigger thing and of very much greater potential importance than we have been accustomed to regard it. It was essential that intergovernmental bodies should reshape their budgets so as to allow their cooperative departments to engage a larger personnel and to continue to expand their important work of aiding the progress of Cooperation, whether in the world as a whole, or in its different branches. Mr. Watkins was glad to have support for more careful training of the front line troops of the cooperative army - the field workers who convey cooperative ideas and suggestions and get the minds of the people moving.

The resolution on behalf of the Executive and Central Committees was passed unanimously.

"ECONOMIC INTEGRATION AND COOPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT"

Mr. Thorsten Odhe, Sweden, introduced his paper with a commentary read on his behalf by Mr. Lars Eronn.

Efforts made to achieve unity and economic solidarity in different parts of the world can be traced far back in history. Since the Cooperative Movement has grown into a powerful factor in economic development, the achievement of economic solidarity has been on the agenda of almost every Congress of the I.C.A. Unfortunately these and other efforts to the same end had very little effect on statesmen or national egotism. The consequences of two world wars made economic collaboration and the creation of economic communities of one kind or another necessary to restore relative prosperity in favoured parts of the world, Europe in the first place, but those parts are small in comparison with the enormous areas of population where acute poverty makes life scarcely worth living.

The first part of Mr. Odhe's paper sketched the endeavours made after the second world war to create large zones for the liberation of trade within them. The creation of those zones, protected by common external tariff walls or national customs duties against the outer world, cannot be the ultimate goal of

achieving an economic order which will make possible a rising standard of living for all peoples of the world. The paper pointed out that planning was increasing in the free economic sector, mostly in the group of states called "social welfare states". Economic freedom in this sector was constantly being subjected to serious strains from private interests and monopolistic cartels and other concerns. The Cooperative Movement and other democratic forces are combating them, not infrequently with notable success. If by socialism is meant an economy guided by social responsibility, a sense of social justice and social solidarity, it is by no means a prerogative of the socialist-communist economic system.

The second part of the paper dealt with the important task of the Cooperative Movement in connection with the zonal integrations already established. The structural reforms, of which Mr. Odhe gave a systematic survey, were necessary to keep pace with the expansion of private large-scale enterprise and big agricultural concerns, in commodity distribution as well as in industry, and to create possibilities for the cooperative organisations to keep ahead of them. Reforms, as well as the rapid adoption of technical novelties, systematic research and control in the interests of the consumers, have already been put into practice in many movements. Zonal integration makes it possible for the national cooperative organisations to accept practical economic collaboration across national boundaries.

The most serious handicap to progress in the development of world economy is caused by the world-wide division into the free economy and the great planned economy sector, consisting of the socialist-communist states, because it prevents the coordination of the resources of the world and the division of labour on a universal scale. The socialist-communist states have achieved economic progress and attained a considerable improvement in their standard of living. Their share of world production covers nearly all the important branches of production. It is important in the first place to remove the obstacles to what we now call east-west trade. There is no reason why the western countries should hamper the development of this trade with the eastern states. Participation of all cooperative wholesales affiliated to the C.W.C. in the new organisation leads us to hope that at last a firm foundation has been laid for an All-European consumers' cooperative society. European consumer cooperation has succeeded, where political forces have failed, in uniting in a common framework both in the E.E.C. and the EFTA countries. Powerful monopolies exert great pressure on the economy on both the export and import side.

The trade deficits of the developing countries, calculated by the United Nations, amounted to the enormous figure of \$2.3 billion. The deficits during the last twenty years can be

assumed to have outweighed the total value of the economic aid given to these developing countries over the ten-year period.

Mr. Odhe concluded by emphasising that the movements of all countries represented in the Congress should do their full share in influencing the development of their national trade policies towards economic and social solidarity all over the world.

Mr. Klimov, U.S.S.R., stated that it is not possible to make a single evaluation of integration. He thought the Common Market to be a new means devised by capitalist monopolies in order to improve the conditions under which they work. An economic bloc of monopolies concerned with competition and the fight for markets had come into existence, whilst a free trade area had been established as a means of fighting attacks. Mr. Klimov thought that there is a danger for the developing countries in the existence of the Common Market. As far as the I.C.A. is concerned, we should support measures aimed at economic cooperation with, and in particular help in promoting, such organisations in the Afro-Asian countries. The only final solution was a trading system, without barriers and without blocs, on a world-wide basis.

Mr. Klimov asked Congress to look at the wording of the resolution on page 138 of the Congress agenda, the first paragraph of which reads "considering the efforts to accomplish the freedom of international trade by zonal economic integration in Europe and elsewhere". Instead of that wording he would like to say "considering the efforts to create zonal economic integration in Europe and elsewhere". On page 139, he would delete the words "for zonal economic integration also", so that the paragraph would read "to keep in mind the ultimate goal within different economic systems to bring about..."

Mr. Korp, Austria, stated the reasons for the opposition of the Austrian delegation to the amendment, as Mr. Odhe, on page 106, had put it quite plainly that we should evaluate integration in one definite way. He says "zonal integration should be one step towards the restoration of international free trade", and that "economic integration internationally is a purely transitional phase"; in other words, we are in favour of zonal economic integration as long as this helps us to get closer to the ultimate purpose of international free trade.

Mr. Voorhis, U.S.A., stated the importance of international trade, not just for its economic effects, but also as one of the greatest forces making for peace. When the amendment was before the Central Committee, the United States members had voted for it, but he personally thought that was the wrong thing. At the

time they were persuaded that this was a matter of no great consequence and wished to promote a cooperative spirit at the Congress, and to demonstrate that the U.S.A. is not necessarily opposed to any proposal which comes from the U.S.S.R. If an explanation had been given as to why this language was in the resolution in the first place, they would never have voted as they did. It seemed to him that they could not afford to delete the language as proposed by this amendment. It was certainly true that the ultimate purpose of zonal economic integration was the promotion of broader and freer international trade. They supported the position taken by Mr. Korp and other speakers in this debate and would vote accordingly.

Mr. Van Netten, Holland, briefly drew attention to a few aspects of the problems Mr. Odhe put before Congress. He also made it clear that the Dutch delegation shared the point of view of the Austrian delegation. On Mr. Odhe's paper, Mr. Van Netten remarked that the organisational aspects of international Cooperation were rather important to them. There were practical difficulties as long as the E.E.C. and EFTA zones were not united. For instance, margarine production in the E.E.C. cooperatives was not feasible as long as they remained dependent on raw materials from private origins, and in this respect they would urgently need the help of their Scandinavian friends. European cooperative integration would mean that the smaller countries would have to give up their own production, and care should be taken that when this was done, the interests of the smaller countries with regard to the specific conditions in their national markets were safeguarded. He also stressed the aspect of management; they would have to obtain the best people and develop a long-term management training plan. It was necessary to put the conclusions of Mr. Odhe's paper and the observations from the C.W.C. as soon as possible before all respective Boards of Directors, and before the next Congress, as, because of the far-reaching consequences of what had been said, policy decision had to be made nationally before the time-absorbing work of working out the plans for the future could be started.

Mr. Thorsten Odhe, in replying to the discussion, expressed great hopes for the forthcoming UN International Conference on Trade and Development. He stressed that in his paper he had pointed out the dangers inherent in the integration zones and he appreciated very much the moderate way in which Mr. Klimov made his remarks on the general issues of his paper. To the Lega Nazionale's speaker he would like to point out that the problem of education about cartels and of propaganda against monopolist cartels is being dealt with in the resolution to his paper. He also stressed the significance of his use of the word "planning" in connection with the so-called free market economy countries. It was not central planning that he had in mind, but

framework planning, such as is practised in Sweden and in other Scandinavian countries. It consists in a coordination of economic policies of all kinds with a view to promoting social progress, but it does not imply any centralised direction of the various forms of enterprise in the national economy as a whole.

Congress then adjourned.

(End of sixth session)

The President said that the first item to be dealt with was the text of the resolution attached to Mr. Thorsten Odhe's paper (page 138). This matter was referred to the Congress Committee and the new text proposed by the Congress was to be circulated.

Mr. Banchieri, Lega Nazionale, Italy, moved the amendment proposed by the Lega in the printed agenda.

The President pointed out that the amendment covered a matter which had been fully dealt with at earlier Congresses, and was regularly studied in the review "Cartel".

Mr. Southern, Vice-President, appealed to the Lega to withdraw the amendment as it was not directly related to the paper or to the resolution, but Mr. Banchieri declined.

Mr. Rondeau, U.S.A., pointed out that the Lega amendment did not belong to any part of the resolution on Mr. Odhe's paper and proposed that if Congress agreed, it could be considered separately after the resolution on Mr. Odhe's paper.

On the President putting the question, Congress indicated assent.

The President then stated the Congress Committee agreed to accept the amendments proposed by Mr. Klimov and recommended to Congress by a majority vote in the Central Committee. Taking the first paragraph of the resolution as it appeared in the printed agenda, the words "accomplished the freedom of international trade by" would be deleted, and also the words "as a transitory stage in the development towards this end", so that the text should then read instead "considering the efforts to create zonal economic integration in Europe and elsewhere". The second amendment proposed by Mr. Klimov and endorsed by a majority vote in the Central Committee was the last of the eight paragraphs, under the heading "Recommends to member organisations". It was proposed to delete from that eighth paragraph the words "for zonal economic integration also" in the first line. The Congress Committee recommended the adoption of the two amendments proposed by Mr. Klimov and recommended by a majority vote in the Central Committee. On condition that a fourth paragraph was added to the preamble beginning

with the words "the 22nd Congress of the International Cooperative Alliance", the fourth paragraph would read "expresses the view that the process of regional economic integration should be a transitional stage towards universal free trade".

Congress indicated assent with none against, and the resolution as amended was adopted.

Mr. Banchieri, on behalf of the Lega delegation, withdrew its amendment and was thanked by the President.

RESOLUTIONS OF AFFILIATED ORGANISATIONS

Resolution by the National Cooperative Union of India on the Promotion of Consumer and Processing Industries in Developing Countries

Mr. Brahm Perkash, India, introduced the resolution by the National Cooperative Union of India to Congress. He stressed that in India Cooperation is the readiest means of building a democratic and socialist society, although the state and capitalist sectors were making the most rapid progress.

There were a number of other speakers on the resolution which was supported whole-heartedly by Mr. Riazuddin Ahmed of the Pakistan delegation, and Mr. Hettiarachchi, Ceylon.

The Congress adopted the resolution.

Resolution from the National Cooperative Union of India on the Distribution of Cooperative Literature

The Resolution from the National Cooperative Union of India was moved by Mr. Kaka.

Among many speakers, Mr. Kapinga, Tanganyika, stressed, as all the others before him, the need for setting up cooperative libraries in developing countries, which would provide a quick way of helping them to build their own libraries for reference and the lending of books.

Dr. Saxena, I.C.A. Regional Officer for South East Asia, described work already being done by the Office and Education Centre.

The discussion on the resolution ended with a word from Mr. Watkins, Director, who pointed out that the facilities of the Library at I.C.A. headquarters, London, were at the disposal of anyone for enquiry of books. He noted the appearance of

Mr. Cheesman's book on cooperative organisation, recently published in Arabic, and the appearance of an English life of Friedrich Wilhelm Raiffeisen, published by CUNA, and also available from I.C.A. headquarters in London.

Congress assented to the text of the resolution with a slight amendment.

The Duties of the Cooperative Movement towards Young People

This resolution from the Lega Nazionale delle Cooperative, Italy, was moved by Mr. Vigone, who looked forward to the establishment of a permanent youth committee by the I.C.A.

A number of speakers followed the mover, among them Dr. Vukovich, Austria, on behalf of the Austrian delegation, who cordially supported the motion of Lega Nazionale, and pointed out that efforts were already being made on the international level to achieve closer contact between the cooperative youth organisations and the I.C.A.

The Congress accepted the resolution proposed by Lega Nazionale as it stood in the printed agenda.

Congress adjourned.

(End of seventh session)

Resolution by the Japanese Consumers' Cooperative Union on the Establishment of an Investigation Committee for Membership Eligibility inside the Central Committee

Mr. Nakabayashi, Japan, introduced the resolution by the Japanese Consumers' Cooperative Union as printed on page 70 of the agenda.

The U.S.S.R. delegation fully supported the resolution, and Mr. Kaka, India, accepted the resolution but was doubtful about its framing.

After more discussion it was agreed that the resolution should be referred back for further study and implementation to the Central Committee.

The Japanese delegation agreed with this and Congress approved.

Resolution by the Japanese Consumers' Cooperative Union on the Organisation of Discussion Meetings and Seminars for Strengthening the Cooperative Movement against International Monopolies

Mr. Nakabayashi proposed this resolution which was closely related to Mr. Odhe's paper. The proposal is to establish a cooperative policy to take action to fight against monopolies.

The Soviet delegation supported this resolution.

Mr. Job, Great Britain, stressed the importance of the Japanese resolution and the responsibility of the Cooperative Movement to challenge monopolies. He also paid tribute to the work of the I.C.A. through its publication "Cartel", which gives first class information on the subject.

Mr. Voorhis, U.S.A., on behalf of the American delegation, also supported the resolution.

Mr. Southern, Great Britain, felt it was necessary to recommend Congress not to adopt this resolution in its present form. The resolution asked the I.C.A. to initiate efficient anti-monopoly action, but he was bound to point out that the Alliance has no resources whatever for initiating such action. This type of action rests almost entirely in the economic sphere. He thought that no special committee for this task was needed. The answer would lie in each country conducting the work of information and education, supplemented by the excellent work which the I.C.A. does. He suggested that this resolution should be commended to our member organisations for effective action.

The Japanese delegation was prepared to leave this resolution for the authorities to implement without being bound to set up a special committee.

Congress agreed to this procedure.

Resolution by Centrosoyus on Strengthening Unity and Collaboration in the International Cooperative Movement

Mr. Klimov, U.S.S.R., proposed this resolution in view of the policy of peaceful coexistence and economic cooperation for the good of mankind and the spirit of our Alliance.

The resolution was prepared prior to the treaty banning atomic tests, and the reference to nuclear tests which threaten the health and the life of the people is no longer necessary.

Mr. Klimov's proposal was supported.

Mr. Rondeau, U.S.A., speaking on behalf of the American delegation, felt that they had to abstain from voting on this resolution. In the four pages of the preamble the American delegation found some statements of alleged fact with which they did not feel they could associate themselves.

In order to have the text quite clear, the President said that the drafting change was at the top of page 76. There were the words "that under the conditions of the present tense international situation continuing armament race", and he understood Mr. Klimov would delete the words "and nuclear tests threatening the health and the life of the people".

In the first line on page 76, Mr. Klimov said the words "the present tense international situation" should be deleted, and in the second line "nuclear tests threatening the health and the life of the people" should be deleted.

The other change made was to delete the word "activity" and insert the word "principle", which would then read "to approve the principle of the national cooperative organisations".

By show of hands Congress approved the resolution with a number of abstentions.

Reformulation of the Fundamental Principles of the Cooperative Movement

Mr. Klimov, U.S.S.R., introduced the resolution on the reformulation of the fundamental principles of the Cooperative Movement. He stressed that the Rochdale principles were excellently suited to the conditions of developing capitalism. We have today great respect for the Rochdale ideas, and pay homage to them, and the principles have played and continue to play an important part in the development of Cooperation, not only in Britain, but also in other countries. The Rochdale principles, however, are not universal principles, for various types of Cooperation exist today. The Cooperative Movement has developed according to the country and the conditions prevailing in a given country. The Rochdale principles did not therefore apply to all types of cooperative unions and they cannot be said to possess a universal character. Some of the important principles, however, drawn up by the pioneers are just as strong and important today as they were at the outset, and such principles are being applied by the various cooperative movements in the various countries. He referred to the democratic procedure here laid down for the running of cooperative organisations and their control, free membership and so on, and the right to leave a cooperative. The delegation of Centrosoyus considered that the time

was ripe for the Central Committee and the Executive of the I.C.A. to formulate the fundamental principles of activity in the Co-operative Movement under modern conditions.

Mr. Klimov's introduction brought a great number of speakers to their feet.

Mr. Brot, France, pointed out that the Congress of 1934 had laid down what were the Rochdale principles, and distinguished them from the methods. Mr. Klimov's criticism bore more on the methods than the principles. To meddle with the principles would be a grave error. He suggested that the Congress invite the Executive to appoint a commission charged to examine which are the principles of Rochdale which have conserved their actuality and to make a report to Central Committee.

Mr. Voorhis, U.S.A., wished to have a further number of speakers on this subject, but a motion that the question be now put was submitted by the President to the Congress and carried.

Mr. Klimov, in reply to the discussion, pointed out that the Congress was being asked to accept the resolution and not the motives behind it.

The President reminded Congress that the wording at the beginning of the resolution is not as printed on the agenda, page 77. The first words will be "The Congress requests the Central Committee to constitute".

A vote by show of hands was taken and the resolution carried with an overwhelming majority.

The World Housing Situation and the Role of Cooperation

Mr. Kypengren, Sweden, introduced the resolution, stressing the enormous problems the establishment of housing cooperative organisations had to face during the last decade in the provision of housing after the devastation of the war. At the beginning of the 60's and the development decade, the Housing Committee considered the situation with regard to housing and the international assistance given to the United Nations bodies. It was found that housing, in spite of all efforts made on the national level, was still a serious, if not the most serious, social problem in many countries. The I.C.A. took the initiative to demand the setting up of a special body of the United Nations for assisting in giving the member organisations guidance in the housing field and the efforts of the I.C.A. have to a certain extent been successful. UNO has now established, in its Economic and Social Council, the International Committee for Housing, Building and Planning. Cooperation in housing is one of the most difficult to establish

and to carry out. Land speculation, combined with the shortage of land for housing, everywhere constitutes the most difficult problem for cooperative housing. The Housing Committee will therefore draw attention to the problem of the acquisition of land. Provision for proper housing is a basic human right and the fundamental task of society, and this is the background to the housing resolution.

The resolution was seconded by Dr. Ruf, Switzerland, and supported by Mr. Townsend, U.S.A., who pointed out the need for greater financial means and staff for the work to be allocated by the United Nations.

The Congress adopted the resolution unanimously.

ELECTION OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE

After additional nominations had been made known by the General Secretary, the newly elected Central Committee was approved by the Congress, which also gave authority to the Central Committee to coopt additional members in accordance with the Rules.

I.C.A. JUBILEE TRIENNIAL PRIZE

Mr. Thedin, Sweden, reported that the Committee recommended that as there were only two entries, the prize money be reserved for future occasions, and that in future the Working Party of Librarians would at every Congress recommend an outstanding work of cooperative literature for the award of the Jubilee Triennial Prize.

The President undertook that Mr. Thedin's suggestion would be referred to the Central and Executive Committees.

THE DATE AND PLACE OF THE 23RD CONGRESS

On behalf of the Austrian delegation, Mr. Korp cordially invited Congress to hold the next cooperative Congress in 1966 at Vienna.

Dr. Deshmukh, India, extended an invitation to Congress to hold its meeting in India.

The choice of the meeting place was left to the Central Committee and the Executive for careful consideration.

The President expressed the thanks of the Alliance to the great number of people responsible for the smooth running of the Congress: the British Cooperative Movement for all the work they had been involved in on behalf of the Congress, to the civic authorities of Bournemouth, and to the interpreters, the press, and the staff of the I.C.A. Amid loud and prolonged applause, the President gave sincere thanks to Miss Polley and Mr. Watkins for their devotion to their work for the Alliance and international Cooperation, and introduced the Director Designate, Mr. W.G. Alexander, to Congress.

The 22nd Congress of the International Cooperative Alliance was declared closed.

CONGRESS RESOLUTIONS

Resolution on Disarmament and Peace, originated from Centrosocoyus and proposed by the Central Committee and Executive -

The 22nd Congress of the International Cooperative Alliance declares its belief that one of the most urgent problems of today is to establish lasting peace and security on earth, a world without arms and without wars, and to create among the peoples confidence in their own future and in the future of generations to come.

The Rules of the I.C.A. state as one of its principal aims that it will contribute to the establishment of such a world. This corresponds entirely to the interests and aspirations of all cooperators in all countries, who, like all mankind, demand to be liberated from the horrors of war which still threaten them.

The Congress observes with satisfaction that efforts made at the present time to prevent thermo-nuclear war, to reach general and complete disarmament, and to establish world peace, have attained unprecedented scope in all corners of our planet, and form the essence of the life and activity of peace-loving people.

Every step towards this lofty goal is warmly welcomed by the peoples of the world, who, like millions of cooperators, whole-heartedly welcomed the Treaty banning nuclear tests in the atmosphere, under the ocean, and in outer space, an historic document signed by over 100 nations. The peoples see in the Treaty a real opportunity to ease international tension and to stop the arms race which imposes a heavy strain on their resources. The Treaty will undoubtedly serve as a positive factor in the fight for peace and as a bulwark against the threat of a new war. It is the first step towards the complete banning of tests, production, storage, and use of atomic weapons.



The Congress expresses its hearty approval of the Treaty and calls upon all the cooperators of the world to work for general and complete disarmament under effective and practical international control. It looks forward with confidence to the time when the productive resources now devoted to armaments and warlike preparations will be applied to the constructive tasks of banishing hunger, want, and economic insecurity from the world.

Resolution on Promotion of Cooperation in Developing Countries, on behalf of the Central Committee and Executive -

The 22nd Congress of the International Cooperative Alliance,

noting the progress made since the Congress of Lausanne in implementing the I.C.A. long-term programme of technical assistance,

but also taking account of the rapidly increasing demand for expert advice and guidance for the promotion of Cooperation resulting from the creation of new independent states and the execution of their plans for economic and social development,

appeals to the affiliated organisations of the Alliance,

- i. to arouse and maintain among their own members a well-informed interest in Cooperation in the newly-developing regions by multiplying their friendly and economic contacts with cooperative organisations in these regions;
- ii. to adopt projects and programmes of technical assistance in developing countries for which they will take responsibility while coordinating them with the long-term programme of the Alliance;
- iii. to assist in making good the shortage of cooperative experts by taking all possible steps to recruit and train cooperators suited by character and experience, and to make them available to serve as experts in various branches of technical assistance;
- iv. to provide the I.C.A. with adequate resources for cooperative promotion by continuing to augment its Development Fund.

The Congress, while noting with gratification that the inter-governmental organisations chiefly concerned with the promotion of Cooperation contemplate increases in the personnel of the appropriate departments, expresses the hope that these increases will be adequate, both for the discharge of present and future operational tasks and for the regular collection, analysis and publication of cooperative information from which cooperative workers throughout the world may, as in the past, derive inestimable guidance in solving vital problems of development.

Congress Committee's Resolution on Mr. Odhe's Paper -

The 22nd Congress of the International Cooperative Alliance, considering the efforts to create zonal economic integration in Europe and elsewhere,

considering the prospects for expanding and strengthening cooperative integration at all levels entailed in this development, but also

the danger of the attempts by monopolistic cartels and combines to utilise the larger common markets and integrated economic zones at other stages of development for extending and widening their power,

expresses the view that the process of regional zonal economic integration should be a transitional stage towards universal free trade -

Recommends the member organisations -

to accelerate by all means the accomplishment within the national cooperative movements of the structural reforms needed to attain an overall high level of efficiency in trade and production;

to direct their efforts to this end, and in particular to expand their activities in all fields to the satisfaction of the increasingly diversified needs of the member cooperatives;

to coordinate their efforts within the various zones by creating joint organisations of the national wholesale societies and other central organisations with the object of utilising the advantages of the larger markets in order to counteract the detrimental effects of monopolistic powers, and in other ways to serve the consumers and small producers;

to find appropriate organisational forms for such organisations for joint purchases and sales, and for the establishment of joint productive enterprises to avail themselves of the advantages of large-scale production;

to strive to realise by these efforts, by means of mutual systematic trade interchange within and outside the zones, possibilities of assisting the development countries in their cooperative development, and to contribute to improving the unfavourable terms of trade of these countries;

to provide, by shaping the organisational forms for more effective national structures and cooperative integration within the zones, for the full satisfaction of the fundamental cooperative principles of democratic control;

to bring, by concerted cooperative opinion, pressure to bear on zonal integrations at the developing stage to provide in their structure and fundamental lines of action for the complete freedom of action of the Cooperative Movement, to enable it to maintain effective market competition;

to keep in mind the ultimate goal within different economic systems: to bring about, in the end, the fully accomplished international economic solidarity needed to raise the material conditions and the living standards of all peoples of the world.

The Congress instructs the Central Committee -

to support the implementation of these recommendations at all stages of the organisation of the International Cooperative Alliance, through its Auxiliary Committees and through the services of its secretariat;

to ensure that in carrying out their plans and economic projects, the working groups of national cooperative organisations in the various integration zones employ such methods as will make possible concerted cooperative action on the widest international basis;

to work in close collaboration with the United Nations Organisation, its Specialised Agencies and Regional Economic Commissions, and with international non-governmental organisations pursuing the same aims as the International Cooperative Alliance, to bring about the adaptation of zonal economic integration to the fulfilment of the recommendations of this resolution, and to widen universally the sphere of free international trade toward the accomplishment of a sound world economy, especially stressing the vital importance of abolishing restrictions upon imports from newly developing countries.

Resolution proposed by the National Cooperative Union of India -
Promotion of Consumer and Processing Industries in Developing
Countries -

The Congress calls upon the cooperatives of the developed countries to collaborate with similar organisations in the developing countries in setting up consumer and processing industries in those fields in which the cooperatives of the developed countries have made headway and gained experience, by providing capital and technical know-how.

To this end, the I.C.A. should find out from the cooperatives of the developed countries the areas in which they are interested to collaborate, and the extent of capital and technical know-how they could provide for the purpose.

The I.C.A. Asian Regional Office should undertake a survey for ascertaining the specific fields in which such collaboration is desirable from the point of view of the economics of the industry, the growth of local demand and supply position of the goods, and the possibilities of exports.

Resolution proposed by the National Cooperative Union of India -
Distribution of Cooperative Literature -

The Congress directs the I.C.A. to compile and make available such literature as has already been published by the fully developed cooperative movements and considered useful in its efforts for promoting Cooperation in the developing countries. The I.C.A., after a careful selection made in close consultation with the interested national organisations and in collaboration with the Auxiliary Committees of the I.C.A. shall make available such literature to the national cooperative organisations of the developing countries with necessary finance for translation into national languages and distribution in the respective countries on an extensive scale, as part of its technical assistance programme.

Resolution proposed by Lega Nazionale della Cooperative, Italy -
The Duties of the Cooperative Movement towards Young People -

The 22nd Congress of the I.C.A. emphasises the great importance at the present time of educating the younger generations in order to attract them to the principles and ideals of Cooperation.

The profound changes in the world of today, in the economic and social structures of science and techniques, have brought about great changes in the way of life, the ideals, the cultural interests and the vocational tendencies of the younger generations.

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The efforts of cooperative organisations to adapt themselves to this new reality, in accordance with the recommendations of the Lausanne Congress, inevitably affect the problems which condition their ideal and practical influence on youth, and consequently on the future of Cooperation in the world.

In particular, the necessity is recognised of renewing and adapting the content and form of propoganda and of the education of young people to win their support for the ideal and practical function of Cooperation as a movement which demands and works for a higher social order in the interests of humanity.

Youth must be encouraged to take part in cooperative activity, and also, after suitable preparation, to accept positions of responsibility in cooperative organisations.

To achieve these ideal and practical aims of attracting young people to Cooperation, national organisations are urged to develop their own specific initiatives as regards the problems of youth, and the particular needs of youth in education and vocational training, as well as in cultural and recreational activities.

To create a cooperative consciousness among young people, the promotion of contacts between young cooperators of different countries, thus contributing to the cause of friendship and peace, is of great importance.

The 22nd Congress therefore, with a view to organised and well-oriented cooperative youth work, emphasises the desirability of creating permanent committees for youth activity within the national movements.

Resolution proposed by Centrosoyus -
Strengthening Unity and Collaboration in the International
Cooperative Movement -

The 22nd Congress of the I.C.A. - considering

That, during the last years, serious changes have occurred in the world, which find expression in the creation of states with different socio-economic systems, determining the nature and direction of activity of the cooperative organisations;

That, without an analysis of these changes, it is impossible to determine the aims and methods of the Cooperative Movement under present conditions;

That the cooperatives in different countries face their own problems;

That under the conditions of the continuing armament race it is particularly important to achieve the unity and collaboration of all peace-loving forces in the struggle for the preservation and strengthening of peace and mutual understanding between all the people -

Recognises the important role of the Cooperative Movement under the conditions of all existing socio-economic systems;

Considers that though there are differences, the cooperative organisations of all countries have possibilities for fruitful collaboration in a number of problems both in the economic sphere and in such problems as the development of the Cooperative Movement, improvement of the welfare of the population, actions to defend peace, support of the national independence movement of the peoples, and other problems, in which the whole humanity is interested;

That collaboration on these problems between the cooperatives of countries with different public order is possible and necessary for the cooperatives and the peoples of the whole world;

That the whole activity of the I.C.A. should be directed to the strengthening of the unity of the international Cooperative Movement and collaboration between national cooperative organisations developing under different socio-economic conditions to providing joint action of the Cooperative Movement with other peoples organisations of the toiling masses -

Decides -

- i. To recommend to all national cooperative organisations to display a spirit of collaboration and mutual understanding, to strengthen and develop friendly and business relations on the basis of mutuality.
- ii. To approve the principle of the national cooperative organisations, rendering assistance to the cooperatives of the economically underdeveloped countries without any political and economic conditions.

The 22nd Congress of the I.C.A. expresses the confidence that the national cooperative organisations and the authorities of the I.C.A. will use all ways and means to create an atmosphere of mutual confidence between the cooperatives, and to contribute to the working out of mutually agreed decisions and joint actions in

the struggle for peace and security of the people, for complete universal and controlled disarmament, for the liquidation of the remnants of colonialism in every form, as well as in the basic problems of the international Cooperative Movement.

Reformulation of the Fundamental Principles of the Cooperative Movement -

The Congress requests the Central Committee -

To constitute an authoritative commission to formulate the fundamental principles of activity of Cooperation under modern conditions;

To empower the commission to study which of the principles of the Rochdale pioneers have retained their importance to the present time; which of them should be changed, and how, in order to contribute in the best manner to the fulfilment of the tasks of the cooperative movements; and finally, which of them have lost their importance and should be substituted by others;

To empower the commission to formulate new principles of cooperative activity;

To include in the agenda of the 23rd Congress of the Alliance consideration of new principles for the activity of the Cooperative Movement;

To empower the Executive to request the national cooperative organisations, members of the I.C.A., to send their proposals on this subject;

To ask the Central Committee to consider the proposals of the national cooperative organisations and those of the commission at a meeting preceding the 23rd Congress, and to submit its opinion to the Congress.

Motion from Mr. Kypengren, Swedish Housing Cooperative, H.S.B., endorsed by the Central Committee -

Resolution on the World Housing Situation and the Role of Cooperation

The 22nd Congress of the International Cooperative Alliance - having regard to the fact, which it deeply deploras, that according to reliable estimates over one half of the world's population is under-housed, also to the foreseeable rapid growth of population and the constant movement of peoples from place to place and country to country - declares that adequate provision of housing is a basic task which should be assigned a higher priority than

at present in all countries, especially in the newly developing countries to which more abundant financial and technical aid should be made available.

The Congress welcomes, as a measure helpful to the achievement of this basic task, the establishment by the United Nations of the Standing Committee on Housing, Building and Planning, together with its counterparts under the Regional Economic Commissions, but reiterates the belief of the International Cooperative Alliance that only the creation of a Special Agency of the United Nations for Housing will ensure that the world's housing problems are grappled with on an adequate scale and that the non-profit non-governmental organisations have an essential role in their solution.

The Congress appeals most strongly to the affiliated organisations to seek every opportunity of demonstrating to their home governments -

The invaluable contribution which the application of cooperative methods can make to the provision of housing, to the growth of savings, to the improvement of planning and design, and to education responsibility; also

The urgent necessity of enforcing control of land-use and land-values so that cooperatives and non-profit undertakings may have equal opportunity, in competition with profit-making enterprise, of showing their potential advantages in supplying the housing needs of the community.

