

Down. Those opposed will raise their right hands and keep them raised until counted.

[Votes counted.]

[Baron Mayor des Planches (Italy) rises.]

The PRESIDENT. The president will not entertain discussion during a vote.

Baron Mayor des Planches (Italy). We want enlightenment on the vote. What are we going to vote on? Is it the elimination of article 8 or the retention of article 8?

The PRESIDENT. The vote is to delete; that is, to cut out of the convention, to take article 8 out of the convention.

As many as favor the deletion of article 8 from the convention will raise their right hands and keep them raised until counted.

[Votes counted.]

Down. Those opposed will raise their right hands and keep them raised until counted.

[Votes counted.]

Down. By a vote of 54 to 29 the motion is not agreed to. The question now recurs upon agreeing to article 8.

As many as favor agreeing to article 8 will raise their right hands and keep them raised until counted.

Let the Chair explain. The motion made by Miss MacArthur was to leave article 8 out of the convention. That motion was lost. Negatively, that would be equivalent to agreeing to article 8; but affirmatively, it is not as yet agreed to, and it is necessary to have an affirmative vote before it can be considered agreed to. Hence, the Chair is putting it into the affirmative form.

As many as favor agreeing to article 8 will raise their right hands and keep them raised until counted.

[Votes counted.]

Those opposed will raise their right hands and keep them raised until counted.

[Votes counted.]

The motion is agreed to by a vote of 56 to 20. Without objection the convention will be referred to the drafting committee for final report. The Chair hears none.

Mr. MERTENS (Belgium). I rise to inquire whether or not the motions which follow the articles are to be adopted. I should like a vote on that.

The PRESIDENT. The attention of the Chair is called to the fact that there are two motions still pending in connection with this report. A vote will be taken without debate upon the first of these motions.

The first motion is that the Indian Government be requested to make a study of the employment of women before and after confinement and all maternity benefits before the next conference and to report on these matters to the next conference. The question is on agreeing to that motion.

Those in favor of the motion will raise their right hands.

[Hands raised.] Down. Those opposed will raise their right hands and keep them raised until counted.

[Votes counted.]

The motion is agreed to. The question now recurs on the second of these amendments, which is as follows:

The committee recommends to the conference that the Governments be requested to study the question of giving every working woman the right to remain away from work after the birth of a child for a longer period than that fixed in the draft convention and to receive certain benefits during her absence for the purpose of enabling her to remain with and to nurse her child. This subject will be placed upon the agenda for the next conference.

As many as favor the motion will raise their right hands.

[Votes counted.]

Down. Those opposed will raise their right hands.

[Votes counted.]

The motion is agreed to.

Without objection the report will be referred to the drafting committee for the preparation of a draft.

The Chair hears no objection. It will be so referred.

The report of the drafting committee. Mr. Hudson, in behalf of the drafting committee.

Mr. HUDSON (legal adviser of the conference). The drafting committee presents the text of five draft conventions which have been adopted by the conference. In so far as possible these conventions have been drafted along uniform lines. The formal parts of the convention follow one standard which has been carefully worked out by the drafting committee to accord with the provisions of the labor part of the treaty of peace, and which it is hoped may serve for draft conventions in the future.

In drafting the substantive parts of the various draft conventions the drafting committee has employed standard expressions whenever the use of these expressions has not interfered with the meaning of the report or the draft referred to this committee by the conference. The drafting committee wishes to suggest to the conference that it is of the highest importance that such uniformity should be observed as far as possible in order that there may be no confusion in the future concerning the legal results which flow from these draft conventions.

Will each of you have in his hand the printed text of the drafting convention fixing the age for admission of children to industrial employment? We desire to illustrate by that convention what is being said in this report.

In the substantive articles of the draft convention it has been possible to incorporate a uniform definition of the term "industrial undertaking," and this convention is article 1 in all five of the draft conventions. You will see the article 1 in this draft convention which we have printed.

In the formal parts of the draft conventions the preamble is the same for all of them, and it is designed to bring clearly the adoption of the draft conventions within the requirements of the treaty of peace concerning the agenda in each case.

The next formal article, which is the same for all of the draft conventions, and which is article 7 in this draft, merely states the provisions of the treaty with reference to ratifications and their communication to the League of Nations.

The next article, article 8, repeats the treaty provision for application of the draft convention to colonies, possessions, and protectorates.

The next two articles, articles 9 and 10, of this draft relate to the dates on which the draft convention will come into force as a convention in international law. It is necessary to set a definite date. Clearly one country should not be bound internationally by a draft convention unless it is ratified by other countries.

The next article sets the latest date upon which the provisions of the draft convention are to be brought into operation in the domestic legislation of each of the countries which ratify it. It is possible for any country to enact the necessary legislation in advance of this date, and the drafting committee has followed the wishes of the various commissions in fixing the date named as the latest date upon which the legislation must come into operation. As an international obligation the draft convention may have come into force before this date, and this date merely expresses the time allowed to each country for fulfilling its international obligation.

In some cases the members of the labor organization may be unwilling to ratify the draft convention apart from action by other members of the labor organization. Of course, any member may refrain from communicating its ratification to the secretary general of the League of Nations until it has ascertained that certain other members are willing to ratify it. Or it is possible that a member may condition its ratification upon the ratifications of other members of the labor organization. In such a case it is well understood that such a conditional ratification will become effective and should be registered by the secretary general only when the conditions are fulfilled.

The next article, article 12, relates to denunciation. Such an article is ordinarily inserted in every international convention, and the article here proposed by the drafting committee has been arrived at after consultation with the various commissions.

The next article, article 13, directs the governing body to consider, at least once in 10 years, the desirability of placing on the