

»THE INTERNATIONAL LIBRARY AND BIBLIOGRAPHICAL COMMITTEE» 67

Edinburgh the following additional nations have joined the newly formed Union and accepted the Edinburgh Resolution: Esthonia, Finland, Japan, Latvia, Mexico and Poland. Negotiations are being carried on with countries not yet associated and, in those lands, where library associations do not yet exist, endeavours are being made to create such.

The object of the Committee is given in § 2 of the Resolution and is as follows: »The duties of the Committee shall be to select the time and place for international library congresses and, with the co-operation of local committees, to prepare programs for such conferences, and to make investigations and recommendations concerning international relations between libraries, organizations of libraries and bibliographers, and other agencies.

In a special paragraph it was settled that international congresses should be held at least every five years, but, that the first congress summoned by the newly created Union should take place in the year 1929 or 1930. It was furthermore decided that the Executive Committee should consist of the delegates from America, Czechoslovakia, France, Germany, Great Britain, Italy and Sweden (chairman). The Secretary, to be chosen later, should not necessarily belong to any national library association. It furthermore stated that the first meeting in plenum should take place within a year of the signing of the Resolution, namely before Sept. 30, 1928.

In accordance therefore, the delegates appointed by the various library associations were called to a meeting at Rome, March 31, 1928 and thirteen of the fifteen nations having then signed the Edinburgh Resolution were represented. At this meeting, held under the auspices of the Italian Ministry of Public Instruction and in the presence of His Excellency, Prof. Bodrero, under-secretary of State and Signor Salvagnini, the general director for Academies and Libraries, it was decided that the next Library Congress should be held the following year, at Rome.

The Italian government kindly offered to take upon itself the duties of host for this congress and appointed a local committee with Senator Count Cippico as chairman. Professor Fago, one of the two vice-presidents of the International Library and Bibliographical Committee, was chosen as General-Secretary. I need not enter into further details concerning the Congress, but will give here only a few statements with regard to the aims and early plans of the newly formed Library Union.

These in reality coincide with the program agreed upon for the Congress, and with the duties prescribed for the sixteen different sections, each corresponding to a sub-commission of the great Union.