

Chairman (elected on Ben Tillett's proposal) provisionally Jan Kat of the Dutch Seafarers and Inland Nav. Workers' Union.

He welcomes delegates and apologises for his Union which is not as strong at the time of the Congress as it used to be. A.C. Wessels has been in prison since 14 August.

He considers as the most important task the creation of an international wages standard to avoid competition amongst workers. A further task is work for peace. He reminds the meeting of the Boycott during the Boer War and says that the forthcoming Soc. Congress to serve peace and not war.

Paul Mueller (Hamburg) thanks on behalf of delegates from abroad and re-members Wessel. The effort to make this Congress fail will not be successful. Even in heated discussions the great aims should not be forgotten. He hopes that they will manage to further the workers' cause against the capitalists.

Ben Tillett proposes to send a telegram to Wessel. Proposal adopted.

Elected Chairmen Lindley (Sweden) and Millio (Ghent); secretaries Paul Mueller and Harry Orbell (Gr. Britain).

Attending are: ~~Toledo~~ ~~(Holland)~~, J.M. van Oogen and E. Houben for Holland; (2000 members); Angiole Cabrini and B. Tillett for Italy (65,000 m.); Albert Sauvaga for France (5000 m.); Millio for Belgium (600 m.); B. Tillett, Jackson, H. Orbell and Robert ~~Dommett~~ Dommett for Gr. Britain (30,000 m.); Paul Mueller, Adolf Decker, J. Doering, E. Jochade, Klein and Schumann for Germany (53,000 m.); B. Tillett for Portugal (60,000 m.); Lindley for Sweden (4500 m.).

Not attending are Sexton (Liverpool), Thomson (Australia) and John ~~Mick~~ Mitchell (America), the latter being at the Paris Mine Workers' Congress. There are 18 delegates with 20 votes for 206,250 members.

The Austrian delegate Tomschick (23,500 members) arrived during Congress.

On behalf of the Credentials Committee Paul Mueller reports that certain organisations give specially high membership figure as for instance Italy which gives 85,000; thereagainst Italy has not paid a penny yet.

~~It was decided that over important questions votes should be as to national Organisations voting.~~

Cabrini (Italy) who represents Railwaymen and Dockers, says that the latter have been exhausted by the recent great strike; the first have been reorganised by other events. Both will fulfill their obligations, however, Cabrini, will abstain from voting.

Corrected: Jackson yet.
Sexton reports on behalf of the Manchester Trammes why they have not paid
Mueller proposes to give the vote to all Organisations. Adopted. The Germans
suggest that everyone delegate should pay a 10 Mark to cover expenses.
Toledo (Holland) says they could not pay for three delegates.
Orbell mentions that foreigners had higher expenses than Dutch delegates.
Lindley says that the Stockholm Conference expenses of fl. 2400.-- were all
paid by the Swedes. Mueller says that the ITF should pay for all but that
every delegate should deposit 10 Mark. Tillett protests against using up
~~the available money.~~ A communication of sympathy was received
from the Goteborg seafarers ~~and~~ and applauded.

After an interval Tillett presents his Report on Activities. He mentions
that owing to Chambers', the last Secretary's fault a lot of damage was
caused. The income of the Federation amounts to fl. 1428.25, expenses
962.20. Tillett offers to remain Secretary at fl. 12.-- per week as long
New affiliations Amer. Dockers Austral. Dockers, a Portuguese Organisation.
as the Federation is not in a better financial position. Sauvage protests
because during the French translation of the Report the participants did
not keep quiet. Mueller proposes that the introductions on Trusts and Cartels
(presented by him himself) and on labour legislation, as presented
by Schuman, should ~~not~~ be taken off the agenda. He suggests that a Reso-
lution be worked out on which a direct vote could be taken. He considers
agitation and organisation to be the most important points. He would propose
to have a Committee set up which would deal with the reorganisation of the
Federation. No vote was taken as the meeting wanted to deal with the Report
on Activities first.

Mueller says he is not criticising Ben Tillett; however neither Chambers nor
Havelock Wilson ~~are~~ are attending. The first being paid Secretary and
Treasurer has not kept any books: they are an awful disorder. Wilson, as
the President, should have attended and given the necessary information.
Ben Tillett started under appalling circumstances; however he forgot to
mention that the last Conference in London was organised by Germany only
as all international links had been broken. Not Tom Chambers only but the
whole London Management ~~were~~ were to blame. Germany has not more confidence
in them. For months letters were not opened. No replies were received to
enquiries from national Organisations. It was not surprising that no aff.
fees were paid. America decided to affiliate three years ago. They never re-
ceived any reply, not even from Tillett and following this they did not
send any delegate. The circumstances under which the international Organisa-

tion works are more unfavourable than in 1900. A Constitution must be worked out, but there is still the ~~International~~ International Organisation or not? Germany wants a Common Rules Committee which would also find out what means there are to enable an international Organisation to function. By all respect for Tillett and Orball the Management can not be left with England; while it is there the Americans refuse to join. ~~Thomas Toloso~~ says Holland will pay ~~something~~ ^{up} during the Conference.

Ben Tillett reads a letter from the American Organisation saying that Mitchell will attend as a delegate to the Amsterdam Conference. He also reads a letter from ~~the~~ Keefe, the President of the Amer. Organisation wherefrom it can be seen that relations are friendly. Every Department of the American Organisation has received a copy of the Report/Activities.

Mueller says there were no complaints against Tillett.

Basini (Germany) explains that the Report was not ^{sent out} at least 6 weeks before the Conference. The Germans were in continuous correspondence with the American Dockers' Organisation and with the Hoboken Branch and are asked to say whether there is still an international Organisation. The last letter from America, written in July, regrets that no delegation will attend ^{the} Conference owing to the ~~negligence~~ negligence of the English. Mitchell would attend if possible, but he would go to Paris for his own Organisation.

The Financial Report too was very incomplete. There was no information of the debts of the Federation. Chambers did not know which Unions were affiliated and ~~minimum~~ how many members they had. The London Management was satisfied with any information on membership and with any payment made by Affiliates. There used to be a set of Rules; it was forgotten. Decisions were taken in Paris and Stockholm. They were not taken down. There must be an end to all that. Tillett would conduct affairs for £12 a week. One could not live on that in London. He would have to manage the Secretariat on a part time employment basis while it requires a whole man. Germany refuses to go on like that. Chambers made the greatest promises in Paris and Stockholm, but ~~nothing was~~ ^{none were} kept. The re-affiliation of the Austrian Railwaymen and the American Dockers is solely due to the efforts of the German Organisations.

Donsett and Jackson (both England) propose to postpone the discussion to the time when the German proposal on moving the seat of the Federation will be debated.

Lindley (Sweden) admits that the Germans have much reason to complain; the Report is incomplete and does not say anything about the work of the International Secretariat in London. Not only Chambers and Wilson but also Orbell is o blame. Any member of the Management should have asked why there were not meetings of the M.C. He cannot see what improvement the German proposal could bring. The job of the Conference is to approve or disapprove of the Report. He is in favour of the first.

Orbell (England) says that the criticism of the Germans is directly against the members of the Secretariat. Every fortnight he went to see Chambers and to ask him whether everything was alright. Always the answer was in the affirmative. The Germans want to ~~put~~ make Tillett responsible for Chambers faults ~~an~~. Can the Germans guarantee that they would do the job better? Is the complaint that Tillett did not answer letters? No, ~~ix~~ Tillett is reproached for Chambers' omissions. That is unfair and dishonest. The Germans came to England, found things in disorder, returned to their country without seeing him (Orbell) or sending a warning. That too is negligence. As soon as he, Orbell, read a letter sent by the Germans saying that things went the wrong way, he asked for a Management Committee meeting and a full answer from Chambers. In consequence Chambers was dismissed. The Germans say that the ^{American,} Germans do not want to join, but the letter says the opposite. Keefe's letter sent to Germany and enquiring whether the Federation still exists was written in December. The tactic is not fair, not straightforward, not what one should expect from Germany. A Committee of three had the job to watch over Chambers' work. Two of the members, Wilson and Cathery worked in the same office. One wants to condemn Tillett for Chambers' errors. There is no fraternal behaviour in this. Chambers is being run down in his absence, but he did inform the Americans completely about the terms of affiliation. Keefe's letters and his Reports are not in agreement. He, Orbell, proposes to adopt the Report on Activities.

2nd Day.

Wilson and Cathery write to say that for unforeseen reasons they cannot attend.

The debate on the Report/Activities continues.

Tillett says that when he started work he found a Secretariat in a state

of bankruptcy, a negligent and hard to deal with Secretary, a negligent and hard to deal with Management. In the few months ~~in~~ he has been the Secretary more work has been done therein all the years before.

Speaker expected criticisms but not against his own work. The critics have not done anything to improve organisation or ~~work~~ management. The Re-Speakers speaks about the financial difficulties when the Report had to be worked out. He was in the position to work for fl. 12.- a week because he was paid by his own Organisation. The English Dockers' Organisation was the only one that paid its dues. He, Speaker, had fully informed the Americans and done his best to bring about their affiliation. He speaks about the way the work of the Secretariat would have to be organised from now onwards.

There was not letter the speaker received which was not answered immediately. He had never seen an Organisation in such a state of neglect as the one of Chambers and his Management. "For 3 1/2 years the books had not been audited. He hoped to make a living organism out of the Federation.

Transport was the most important branch of the economy the world over and it was Transport which could better than any other branch further international unity and ~~which would~~ be strong internationally. The Federation was

one of speaker's special ideal; he had devoted himself with love to this work. However as long as there were not sufficient means available, one could not make requests on the Federation which otherwise would be legitimate.

Doering believes Wilson should have attended even ~~in~~ if there had been a much bigger strike in London. Orbell cannot hide behind Chambers.

A sensible T.U. leader would not allow himself to be deceived by an Executive. Twice the Germans sent two people to London at their own expense to bring order into things. If they had not taken the initiative this Conference would not have taken place and the Federation would be buried by now. The Germans had agreed amongst themselves that should things in London remain unchanged they would take care of the Secretariat gratuitously up to this Conference. Wilson and the Secretary were upset that Germany wanted to take charge of the Secretariat. In that moment Tillett offered to take charge gratuitously. He did what he could do, but not more than ~~his duty~~. An international organisation of Transport Workers is absolutely necessary for standing up to the powerful steamship companies. For this reason the Germans have taken so much trouble to bring the Americans in.

→ The English have not yet proved their ability to conduct the affairs of such a big Organisation.

~~Germany~~ Germany has not yet paid contributions because Tillett has not yet laid accounts. He does not doubt the ability of English T.U. leaders but he doubts their good will. The Report cannot be adopted because the Germans do not know what is in it. If they had received it in time they would have had a translation made of it. The Germans were not out to hit persons but to bring about an improvement of things. In Stockholm it was decided that the Secretary should report to the Management Committee every month. Tillett cannot do that even with the best will ~~possible~~. It would be sensible of the English themselves to support the move of the seat of the Secretariat. The circumstances under which the Secretariat should move are very uncomplimentary indeed for the English but there is no way out. What Tillett promised, Chambers promised too; how much store could one set by such promises. What justification could there be if things went wrong once more. He proposed to debate the move of the Secretariat.

Mueller (Germany): it looks as if that was a fight between Germany and England. He was against the whole Management Committee: not only against Chambers, but also against Orbell, Wilson and Cathérey, against their curious neglect of the affairs of the Federation. The job of this Conference was to bring order again into ^{the} ~~Federation~~ affairs of the international Organisation.

→ The Germans were prepared to work out a Draft ~~proposals~~ proposals for Rules within the hour. They would not have any interest in the further existence of the Federation, if this Conference would not lay a sound organisational basis.

Tillett says he did not state that the Germans had not paid. He proposes to appoint a Committee which would find out how much individual Organisations had paid and how much they had been supposed to pay. Proposal adopted
Toledo is for an end to useless debates. Everybody was convinced of Chambers' negligence. He regrets that he did not receive the Report earlier. But there were not any forms for Credentials sent by Tillett either.

Tomschick (Austria) proposed the adoption of the Report/Activities with a rider that ~~Tillett~~ Tillett cannot be made responsible for Chambers' negligence. The only complaint of the Railwaymen against the Federation were the expenses. They were not asking for support during strikes. Not that they lacked a feeling of solidarity; they had sent krö 5,000.- to the Dutch. The community of railwaymen and port workers is ~~an~~ in fact only a matter of idealism. The only advantage for them was that through the Federation they learnt about the situation of Railwaymen in other countries.

Sauvage (Italy) had proposed a Resolution of the same tenor as the one of Tomschick. He now signs the proposal together with Germany (Tomschick's proposal? - the Abstractor).

Tillett protests that in all the time of the debate nothing was said about the Report itself. Personally he has no objections against the Secretariat being moved to Germany.

→ There is an interval which will give the French, German and Austrian a chance to work out a Draft Resolution.

Orbell reports on a strike at Messrs. Lysaght in Bristol who dismiss workers of 10 and more years' service for their membership to Trade Unions. This firm works for the English, German, Dutch and for all other Government in Europe. It pays the lowest wages in the whole of England. A question has been asked by Hobhouse in the House of Commons about the possibility to induce the firm to change their ways. He asks delegates to have the same done elsewhere and requests the Conference to protest against the behaviour of the firm. This is done.

The ~~ex~~ joint French-German-Austrian Resolution accepts the Report/Activities and deplores the negligence of the Management Committee. It ~~was~~ is adopted by 10 to one (Dutch) vote with 7 abstentions. Before Orbell-Lindley withdraw their proposal. Cabrini (Italy) declares that his Organisations would not vote.

The Germans declare not to insist on the arrears-investigation Committee.

Tomschick proposes to appoint the Reorganisation Committee: are appointed members Mueller, Doering, Schumann, all Germany, Toledo from Italy, Sauvage from France and Tillett and Orball (both England).

Cabrini suggests the Committee should specially deal with the relationship of the Railwaymen to the Federation. Doering suggests that Agenda item 15 (organisation and propaganda in other countries should be taken off to make it possible to deal with reorganisation more extensively.

Mueller suggests the same as to Agenda item 16 (Trusts, Cartels and Employers' Associations). He proposes a Resolution where Trusts are defined as a consequence of capitalism. There is no complaint against their economic function however workers cannot look on with indifference because Employers' Unions have the special function of weakening Workers' Organisations and to exhaust them financially. They provoke strikes and lockouts and are under the protection of the Authorities. Against this a strong national and international union organisation is required. Collective agreements between Workers and Employers are a thing to be welcomed provided

Workers' Organisations do not lose their freedom of action by them. The Resolution was adopted unanimously.

Legislation.

Schumann (Germany) presented a Draft Resolution wherein the following demands were made for a legislative Programme: Definition of the normal working day; protection of workers against occupational disadvantages and risks; control on the compliance with safety and accidents laws by way of nominating workers to assist inspectors of work; ~~insurance institutions~~ Assurance institutions set up on a public law basis, with prestations not only in case of fault on the ^{part} ~~risk~~ of the employer, and according to a firmly established international pattern providing for full indemnification for loss of wages caused by accident a.s.o.; insurance against temporary or permanent disability to work; abolition of all rules discriminating against Seamen. It would be the job of the Federation to assist national organisations in their propaganda efforts. He further proposed to have a survey on labour legislation in the various countries prepared for the next Conference. Hoeben (Holland) says that there are two political parties cooperating inside his Organisation. Therefore he tries to avoid debates on legislation, especially so where it concerns a programme for international legislation. As the Agenda arrived only late delegates could not deal with the question inside their Organisation, have no mandate and can therefore not cast a vote.

Gabrini: the need for legislative reforms is so obvious that in the Italian Organisation, where there are also Anarchists, there is unanimous support for such work; one member of the Management is a member of the governmental Commission dealing with the reform of social legislation. He asks Schumann to publish his speech in ~~the~~ his T.M. paper.

Tillett asks the Dutch to co-subscribe Schumann's demands against which no one can have any objections. Comes to it that differences of opinion can always be respected.

Schumann cannot understand what objections one could have against his proposals. Conservatives, Socialists, Anarchists are all in danger of dying from starvation when they lose an arm at work. The Dutch Transport Workers themselves have asked for Inspectors of Port Work to supervise the provision of tools. Who asks for that can also ask for Assistance from the State in case of accident. He asks for unanimous support for his demands as it would make a better impression.

Toledo there is no use in efforts to convince us; our mandate does not

cover the point; we shall abst

Sauvage thinks the Resolution is in the interest of the workers; although he is against politics in Trade Unions he will vote for it.

The Motion was ^{adopted} ~~66666666~~ the Dutch delegates abstaining.

Conflicts.

(1) Lindley defends the principle in case of conflicts not^{to} let the ships unloaded or fully loaded (~~boycotts~~) but to ask for wages 50% higher for loading or unloading such ships. It would be impossible to arrive at agreements with employers if one refuses to work ships in conflict. The system was being applied successfully in America.

Doering: in Paris it was decided that in certain cases boycott action can be applied. No use has been made of it up to now. Now the Swedes try to introduce an other solution which speaker considers inapplicable. It was always easier to keep unorganised workers from working a ship than to induce them to ask for a 50% higher wage. -- In Hamburg port fees have been increased substantially; owners agreed to charge merchants pro rate; the same was done in case of strikes and no doubt will be done again in such a case.

Tillett thanks v.d.Voer who must leave for his services yesterday as interpreter and for the realness with which he has helped the International Secretariat. (Applause).

Lindley considers his proposal practical. Owners would prefer to grant a 25% increase ~~than~~ than to be put up to ridicule when they have to pay 50% more for ships they otherwise could not have worked at all.

Tillett suggests that no vote should be taken on this question but that a recommendation should be made to Affiliates.

Lindley agrees. The proposal should be sent to the Management Committee (or Executive Committee?) for further consideration.

Meeting adjourned.

Third Day.

Polato asks to have the reporter of the boycotted Telegraaf expelled.

Lindley refuses.

(1) Lindley then defends a Swedish proposal the Federation should elaborate a set of rules on the financial assistance for Organisations in conflict once 25% of the members are concerned.

Tillett considers it impossible to fulfill the task of an international Organisation without a contribution of at least sh 1/- per year and member. Up to now the English Dockers' Union has paid about half of the amount of assistance money paid out by the Federation, i.e. fl. 1700.-- out of 3450.--

That can not go on any longer. The English Dockers will not pay a penny as long as the other Organisations will not pay defined and increased contributions.

Tomachick thinks that first of all there must be a proper Federation and proposes that the question should be dealt with at the next Conference. The delegates from the other countries agreed with this proposal.

① Houden (Holland) presents a proposal whereby every Affiliate assumes the obligation not to contract with employers nor employers' associations by which assistance to colleagues in conflict would be made impossible.

Lindley: in the cases in which the employers are stronger we shall not be able to force our point. The Swedes have a tacit agreement with owners that they are not expected to load or unload ships manned by blacklegs. Would it not rather do better to ask for 50% more wages for ships in conflict?

Cabrini: in the Geneva agreements there is a clause that in case of strike the agreements shall not apply. Overmore there is an Arbitration Committee which decides whether the clause can be invoked or not.

Decker (Germany): in no case must work be done that other countries have refused to do.

Horben: the only solution is general strike as to ships in conflict.

Sauvage suggests an agreement clause whereby the agreements ~~cannot~~ cannot be applied in case of strikes.

Lindley: the consequence will be that the employer will look out for blacklegs. In Sweden is a boycott action possible, but the Dutch are unable to stage it.

Dommett: the English Dockers are in general agreement with the Dutch proposal and shall do their best to have the clause adapted. Houden does not yet go as far as to speak of positive strike support but only of the exclusion of agreements which would make impossible help. Speaker reminds the meeting of the assistance given by the Dutch to stop the Swedish ship "Venus".

Germany and England propose to have the proposal sent to the Management Committee. Adopted. Adopted. ~~Adopted~~ same procedure for ~~xxxx~~ support of v ~~partial strikes~~ and against partial lockouts.

② General strike

France presents a Draft Resolution making a general strike dependant on the strength of the Organisations and on the support by international sentiment.

Tillett: nothing will come out of this Resolution. Let the Management Committee deal with it. Decided accordingly with all votes against the one of Schumann. Also agreed to a Dutch proposal asking the General Secretary to work out a table of working hours and wages of all Port and Transport Workers with the help of all Affiliates.

→ Dutch enquire: what can be done against the introduction of machinery which takes work out of ~~max~~ the hands of the workers immediately.

President: I suggest we take the proposal off the agenda. No one can fight against machines.

Hoeben protest ~~xxxxx~~. It is on the meeting to answer. The meeting has been asked for it. In Holland too one cannot fight against machines. Remains however the problem: how can the advantages of machines be used more ~~immense~~ to the advantage of the workers.

Dommett does at the moment not see any other means than political action. Sauvage does not know any other means than ^{the} strengthening of solidarity to prevent the introduction of such machines.

After an interval the debate started on the ~~question~~ question of the introduction

~~of~~ Machines (Dutch proposal).

Decken speaking for the German delegation ~~xxxxx~~ considers it impossible and inadvisable to fight against the introduction of machines. There ~~again~~ against is he of the opinion that the advantages of machinery should be shared by the workers in the form of reductions of working hours and wage increases. That the workers should break machines into pieces has been an outdated opinion for one hundred years.

Orbell is surprised that there is still opposition against the improvement of tools. Machines must be brought under the control of ~~the~~ ^{yet} the community. What should be done in the time when this is not possible? Elevators reduced work places down to 35 from 300; the London T. U. made 50 out of it, mostly for old workers who work 8 hours instead of 12 and earn fl. 7.50 instead of 3....

Tillett: the workers must not stand in the first place on their right to work, but on their right to live. When they are working satisfactorily, the introduction of machines works out to the advantage of the workers all the time.

Lidley: we must not go after the most primitive tools, but after the ones that make work the easiest. By political action the workers must bring the machines in ~~their~~ their own hands. In Sweden every T.U. member is

a Social Democrat. He, Lindley, was surprised to see in Holland grain porters who had a sack on their head and climbed a narrow ladder. The fact that their work is not done by machines is due to the low wage and is based on sharp exploitation.

Houben states that by economic action too something can be won. In 1896 the Trade Unions managed to keep almost all workers in ~~xxxx~~ work at the time when machines were introduced. Discussion closed.

→ The workers' solidarity against militarism on the increase (Dutch Dr. Resol. Mueller, speaking on behalf of the German and Austrian delegations, is surprised that a T.U. Conference should deal with such a highly political question, moreover the proposal coming from ~~xxx~~ people who only yesterday refused to vote for T.U. demands for social legislation. He advises the Dutch to send the Draft Resolution to the International Congress of Socialists. Personally he is against the anarchist overtones of the Resolution. Some anarchist Tr. Union enjoy bringing up militarism. The Transport Workers make themselves ridiculous if ~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~ they as such a small group start to debate such a big question.

Lindley misses a representative of the Intern. Socialist Congress.

Sauvage takes the side of the Dutch; he thinks the army is a tool in the hands of the bosses. A French T.U. Congress accepts and adopts Resolutions against militarism.

Gabrini sees in the fight against militarism not ~~ax~~ party but class politics. In Italy the T.U.'s which mostly are under soc. dem. influence, conduct antimilitarist propaganda. Countries which are suppressed by militarism, impoverish. The matter therefore has its economic side too.

Milio (Belgium) agrees with France.

The Resolution is adopted by 8 to 7 votes, the English Dockers voting in favour.

Draft Constitution.

Tillett declines responsibility for the Draft; the three Germans have not sufficiently taken into account the wishes of the others.

Mueller & Tillett makes things very easy to himself. He did not supply an interpreter yesterday and went home after he had spoken out certain demands. As far as possible they have been taken into account.

Stahl: After some discussion the Germans withdrew their proposal that the seat of the Federation should be in Germany and it was ~~decided~~ ^{agreed} to leave

the decision on this problem to the Conference which would be called to decide on it at everyone of the biennial Conference in the future.

Mueller then defended the proposal on aims and ways that the ITF endeavour to reach its aims 1) by supporting the affiliated Organisations in their efforts to improve wages and working conditions, 2) by collecting of information ~~in all countries and branches of transport~~ on wages and working conditions in the various countries and branches of transport, 3) by collecting informations in Statutes and Ordinances on the protection of life and health of transport workers, 4) by furthering and helping in broadening social legislation 5) by furthering international solidarity and cooperation.

Shall be eligible for affiliation all organisations of transport workers 1) railwaymen; 2) tramwaymen; 3) forwarding and transport workers; 4) port workers; 5) seamen; Inland Waterways workers and raftsmen; 7) engine personnel and stokers etc.

Contributions are fixed with 3 Pfennige per year for railwaymen and 6 Pf. for the other transport workers.

The distinction between railwaymen's and other transport workers' Organisations is made because the former do not need strike support, further because there is the risk that the Austrian, Italian and ~~and~~ other railwaymen could be induced ^{by} ~~to~~ too high demands on them to disaffiliate and to join the Organisation Guérard tries to set up in Paris which openly admits that it is influenced by the propaganda for general strike tactics. Organisations in arrear for more than two quarters loose all rights coming from ITF-affiliation. An extension can be granted by the ITF-Management. The direction of ITF affairs is in the hands of the Central Council of 5 members, consisting of the President, the Vice-President, Secretary of the Council, two Controllors (Auditors?). The system of a paid Secretary and honorary members forming the Central Council is discontinued. The Central Council is appointed from members of the Management of Organisation in the country where the ITF has its seat. The Federation Management to be ~~managed~~ controlled by a 3-men Committee appointed by the Conference from an other country than the one ~~management~~ where the ITF has its seat. The Federation Management will be held to send round ~~half~~ monthly Reports and half-yearly financial Reports.

Meeting adjourned to enable foreign delegates to speak on a Wessel-meeting (the Germans and English being in agreement).

Fourth Day.

After the reading of the Minutes the debate of the Constitution is continued. Ben Tillet having worked out another Draft Constitution a long ~~minutem~~ and heated debate ensues on the question of priority in the debate.

Chairman Lindley denies the right of any Commission to turn up with an entirely new Draft Constitution and to ask for its ~~adoption~~ without ~~giving~~ giving Organisations a chance to consider it.

Mueller says the Germans declared on the very first day that they ~~would~~ ^{would} continue membership if the Constitution would not be ^{thoroughly} amended. That was the reason for setting up the Committee on amending the ^{old} Constitution. As they did not see the possibility to go through with ~~amending~~ amending, they worked out a new Draft. Constitution.

Schumann says that yesterday already the debate on the Constitution was opened and that today there is question of continuing it only.

Tillett is against such a diversion from the agenda of the Conference. Such a revolutionary way cannot be approved by any Organisation. In all his 25 years of Union work he has never come about such a thing. In the end it was decided with all against the English votes to make the German Draft the one to be debated.

→ Lindley wants to ~~vacate~~ vacate the chair.

Millio, the Second President, refuses to accept the Chairmanship ~~under~~ under these circumstances. He declares on behalf of the French, Italian and Dutch members of the Committee that the German Draft should not be considered as the proposal of the Germans only but as the work of the whole Committee.

Lindley speaks of an unconstitutional decision and keeps his Chairmanship, but under protest.

England proposes that amongst the means to be used by the ITF should be mentioned in the first place conciliation as the way to remove and arrange all differences between employers and workers in Transport, and in case ~~of~~ ^{in case of} failure ~~xxxxxx~~ strike or strike of all transport workers ~~xxxxxxx~~ if necessary.

The reason for the proposal is to give the Federation a certain influence in case of conflicts. This is against the wishes of the Germans although also in their Draft the Federation Management is asked to take notice of all conflicts. If the Management decides :

in the negative, naturally nothing will be done. The Germans do not consider a general strike even in their dreams.

The amendment was rejected.

As to social legislation as it was decided on an English proposal it is added that the ITF should exercise a close supervision of its implementation.

Cables were received from the Hungarian Railwaymen and the Swedish Transport Workers.

About the last day the following has to be reported:

It was decided that ^{v an Ordinary} Congress should take place every second year. As to the Federation Management the English want it to be chosen by Congress and supervised by a Committee of representatives of all nations. The Germans are in favour of a Management Committee out of one nation and of a supervisory body constituted of members from one other nation.

Mueller: there has been an international supervisory Committee, but it has never met for lack of means. What Tillet wants to avoid, the hegemony of one nation, will be brought about practically by his proposal.

Decided the Management should be constituted from ~~national~~ nationals of the country where the Federation has its seat. Against vote Italy, England and Portugal (through proxy Tillet).

Again 3 to 7 for a Supervisory Committee from one other country.

Schumann proposes to choose the countries concerned and to submit the proposal to a referendum of Organisations.

Tillet asks whether Germany can accommodate the Federation. He and Tom Mann are on the list of the German police and should have difficulties to get in to Germany.

Schumann: you will not leave a visitor's card with the police?

Toledo withdraws the proposal concerning the seat of the ITF in favour of Germany as there is not a sufficient number of suitable persons (~~national~~ as required by the Constitution) in his country.

