

COMMISSION ON NARCOTIC DRUGS

THIRD SESSION

APPLICATION OF ARTICLE 15 OF THE 1931 CONVENTION FOR LIMITING
THE MANUFACTURE AND REGULATING THE DISTRIBUTION OF
NARCOTIC DRUGS AS AMENDED BY THE PROTOCOL OF
11 DECEMBER 1946

(Item 20 of the Provisional Agenda)

Note of the Assistant Secretary-General in Charge of the Department of
Social Affairs

At its first session (27 November to 13 December 1946), the Commission on Narcotic Drugs instructed the Secretariat to obtain from the Governments concerned particulars regarding the organization and functioning within their territories of the special national administrations provided for in Article 15 of the Convention of 13 July 1931 for limiting the Manufacture and regulating the Distribution of Narcotic Drugs.

On 9 July 1947, the Secretary-General addressed a circular note to the Governments concerned requesting full information and, if possible, texts of the legislation concerning the special administrations in their respective countries, so that he could submit, as soon as possible, a report on this question to the Commission.

A number of Governments have furnished statements giving information on the organization and functioning of the special administrations; other Governments have supplied the relevant legislative texts with their statements. From some Governments only acknowledgements of the circular note of the Secretary-General have been received.

The texts of legislation which have been received are available in the archives of the Secretariat; they will be summarized and analyzed in the Digest of Laws which will be sent to Governments as soon as it is ready.

The following Governments have replied to the circular note giving

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UNITED NATIONS

/information on

information on the organization and functioning of their national administrations:

Afghanistan (10 March 1948)	Greece (3 September 1947)
Albania (22 September 1947)	Honduras (2 August 1947)
Argentina (10 March 1948)	Hungary (21 November 1947)
Australia (15 January 1948)	India (29 March 1948)
Brazil (11 August 1947)	Iran (13 January 1948)
Bulgaria (30 October 1947)	Iraq (22 December 1947)
Burma (31 December 1947)	Ireland (4 October 1947)
Canada (16 October 1947)	New Zealand (14 August 1947)
China (31 October 1947)	Norway (2 October 1947)
Costa Rica (25 July 1947)	Paraguay (18 November 1947)
Cuba (22 October 1947)	Philippines (20 August 1947)
Czechoslovakia (11 February 1948)	Syria (21 December 1947)
Dominican Republic (4 October 1947)	Switzerland (28 August 1947)
Egypt (31 January 1948)	Liechtenstein (5 December 1947)
El Salvador (9 September 1947)	United States (29 September 1947)
Finland (12 August 1947)	Uruguay (17 February 1948)

The following Governments have merely acknowledged the Secretary-General's circular note:

Bolivia (29 July 1947)
Ecuador (15 July 1947)
Guatemala (23 July 1947)
Mexico (16 July 1947)
Nicaragua (23 July 1947)
Venezuela (5 August 1947)

SUMMARY OF REPLIES

Afghanistan (10 March 1948)

The Ministry of Public Hygiene, and in particular its Department called the General Office for International Affairs, is responsible for the implementation of the obligations under the international Conventions relating to narcotic drugs. This Department has submitted statistical information required to the Permanent Central Opium Board and in the past, except during the last two or three years when the war prevented the import of narcotic drugs, has submitted the annual reports. The Ministry of Public Hygiene is also responsible for the control of the import and distribution of narcotic drugs and campaign against drug addiction.

Before the cultivation and trading in opium was prohibited, the Ministry of Economy, through its Import and Export Department, controlled the export trade through companies which had export monopolies, and was responsible for issuing export permits for raw opium. Since the prohibition of the opium trade, the suppression of the illicit traffic in opium and other narcotic drugs is the responsibility of the Department for the Prevention of Contraband, which belongs to the same Ministry.

The Office of Agriculture in the Department of Agriculture used to exercise control over the cultivation of opium and production of raw opium and "until the years before 1945 when the cultivation of opium was done with the permission of the state, this Office issued to a very limited number of persons the reglementary permits within the prescribed limitations.

"However, we are happy to state that since 1945 its cultivation has been forbidden, and although the right has been reserved to Afghanistan to manufacture narcotic drugs, no definite beginning has yet been made with the cultivation of opium, not even in an experimental way."

Albania (22 September 1947)

The Pharmaceutical Section of the Ministry of Public Health is responsible for questions relating to narcotic drugs, and particularly with the application of the international conventions. The Section regulates, supervises and controls the distribution of drugs. The supervision and control is especially effective because in Albania all the pharmacies are nationalized. The State organizes the sale and distribution of all pharmaceutical products, especially the narcotic drugs. These measures result in the prevention of illicit traffic in narcotic drugs and, for the same reason, drug addiction in Albania.

/Argentina

Argentina (10 March 1948)

The Department of Public Health submits annual estimates of drug requirements for domestic and export purposes, issued import and export certificates, issues licences to manufacture and sell narcotic drugs and controls consumption by pharmacists, doctors, dentists.

The following legislative text was received: Decree No. 3540-44 of 1 February 1944, entitled "Regulation Government Industry, Trade and Use of Narcotic Drugs" published by the Department of Public Health.

Australia (15 January 1948)

The Department of Trade and Customs is the authority responsible for the administration of the provisions of international narcotic drug conventions.

The importation, wholesale distribution, and exportation of narcotic drugs is strictly supervised and controlled. The functioning of the Administration is described in the following summary:

Importation

"The importation of opium prepared for smoking, opium pipes, etc. is prohibited absolutely.

The importation of all other drugs covered by the Convention is prohibited, except with the consent of the Minister for Trade and Customs. The drugs may be imported only by approved importers, who are licensed by the Collector of Customs by the State concerned. Separate import authorizations, issued by the Collector of Customs on behalf of the Minister, are required to be obtained in respect of each importation of drugs.

General supervision and control (e.g. the allotment of import quotas) is exercised by the Central Administration of the Department.

Distribution

Each licensed importer is required to give security to the satisfaction of the Collector of Customs that:

- (a) all importations of the drugs made by him will be disposed of for medical or scientific purposes only;
- (b) he will record, in books kept by him for the purpose, particulars of the drugs received by him and of the persons to whom the drugs are disposed of, and will, on demand, at all reasonable times, produce to the Collector the books so kept and the balance of the importations on hand at the time when the books are produced;
- (c) he will make reasonable inquiries as to the destination of all the drugs imported and subsequently sold by him and the purpose for which those drugs are required, with a view to satisfying himself

/that the drugs

that the drugs are intended for medical or scientific purposes only;

(d) he will, prior to the sale of any of the drugs, obtain from the prospective purchaser an undertaking in writing that none of the drugs proposed to be purchased will be used for other than bona fide medical or scientific purposes, or will be sold under circumstances which indicate the possibility of their use for other purposes; and

(e) he will not sell or otherwise dispose of the drugs except with the consent of the Collector.

By frequent inspections of licensed importers' and wholesalers' records, a continuous supervision of the wholesale distribution of the drugs is maintained. The drugs are required to be kept under lock and key and in the charge of a responsible person. In addition, licensees are required by this Department to restrict sales of drugs, as far as individual chemists, dentists, etc. are concerned, to a specified quantity per annum. Approval of applications for the supply of additional quantities is given only after full investigation.

Exportation

Exportation of the drugs is controlled by the Department of Trade and Customs in a similar manner to that obtaining in regard to importation.

The retail distribution and the issue of permits or authorizations in respect of the sale, use and possession of the drugs is controlled by the several State authorities.

As regards illicit traffic in the drugs, Sections 231 and 233B of the Customs Act, 1901-1947, provide for a penalty of imprisonment for a term of up to two years without the option of a fine for persons convicted under those sections of unlawful importation of the drugs set out in the attached Customs Proclamations Nos. 672 and 673. Every precaution is taken to guard against the illicit entry into or exit from the Commonwealth of narcotics and a close liaison with the several State authorities is maintained covering all aspects of illicit traffic."

Brazil (11 August 1947)

"The Department in charge of controlling the use of narcotics is the Comissao Nacional de Fiscalizacao de Entorpcentes. In every State and territory of the Republic there exists a State or Territorial Commission based on the former and subordinated to it."

The following legislative texts were received:

Decree No. 780 of 28 April 1936

Decree No. 3114 of 13 March 1941

Decree No. 891 of 25 November 1938

/Bulgaria

Bulgaria (30 October 1947)

Cultivation of opium poppy in Bulgaria may be freely pursued by any citizen. The extraction of opium from the poppy capsules is a State monopoly. By means of special contracts with the growers of the poppy, the crop is delivered to the State, that is the Director-General of Supply.

Independently of the above, the administrative organs are charged with the tracking down of smugglers in opium; each case is recorded, the records furnishing a basis for the prosecution of smugglers; the quantities seized are confiscated.

In general, the administrative organs in any given area, more particularly the Supply Control, of which opium is a monopoly, are charged with the control. A special service of the main Supply Control deals with the campaign for the gathering and purchase of the opium and its control. This service has its headquarters in Sofia, with agencies and representatives in the regions where the opium is produced.

In order to ensure the accounting of the full harvest, measures are taken, under contract, by which the cultivator has to send in all his production to the Supply Control. Generally a kilogramme of raw opium is obtained per 1000 sq. m. After the harvest, the accounting varies from 800 to 1600 grammes per 1000 sq. m.

The opium produced is collected in the warehouses of the Supply Control, where it undergoes preliminary treatment.

Packing of the opium is done in little wooden boxes containing about 70 kgr. For export purposes it is packed in tins to protect against moisture.

Clandestine cultivation of the opium poppy is excluded because of the measures taken; it is to the greater advantage of the cultivator to send his crop to the Government.

The system of control presents no difficulties; opium is not used by the population.

Burma (31 December 1947)

Since 1937, Burma has been separated from India and has the status of an overseas territory of His Britannic Majesty.

The suppression of illicit traffic is vested in Excise, Police and Customs staffs. The head of the department preparing annual statistics and estimates is the Excise Commissioner and the competent department of the Government is the Finance and Revenue Department of the Government of Burma. In 1938, the Government of Burma, after separation from India, issued the following revised rules for the purpose of controlling, limiting and regulating the import, export and transport of narcotic drugs:

1. The Dangerous Drugs (Prepared Opium) Rules;
2. The Dangerous Drugs (Import, Export and Transshipment) Rules;

3. The Dangerous Drugs (Manufactured Drugs) Rules; and
4. The Opium Rules.

So far as Burma is concerned, the exports of opium, diacetylmorphine or its salts, or any preparations containing it or its salts, coca leaf and hemp are prohibited. Burma does not manufacture any narcotic drugs except tinctures and extracts of opium and hemp drugs in small quantities for pharmaceutical laboratories instituted for this purpose. Import of narcotic drugs and medicines for use for medical purposes is permitted in accordance with the provisions of the Conventions. Import by means of parcel post is restricted, whereas import by means of air is altogether prohibited. The import of diacetylmorphine and its preparations and salts is also prohibited except from the port of Rangoon and its distribution to the druggists and pharmacists is made by or under the authority of the Excise Commissioner. Possession and sale of coca leaf are prohibited. A limit is fixed for the possession of other narcotic drugs by the medical, dental and veterinary practitioners, pharmacists, druggists, etc. Sales of ganja to Indians under strict regulations were permitted through established ganja shops by the Government from 1939 up to the evacuation. The rules still exist but the sales to them have not yet been made on re-occupation.

There has been no unlawful import of narcotic drugs except cocaine and morphine in small quantities. The Customs Department is taking effective measures to prevent such unlawful imports in Burma. In case of seizures in the illicit traffic, the following procedure is followed:

1. To discover the foreign origin of drugs;
2. To expose the facts and communicate with the country of origin to prevent such exports; and
3. To do everything possible to seize such drugs entering or those which have already reached the interior parts of the country by the Excise and Police Department.

Clandestine manufacture of narcotic drugs is unknown in Burma and hardly any locally manufactured drugs are seized in Burma.

The only illicit traffic prior to the evacuation was that of cocaine and, in small quantities, of morphine. There are a few addicts to these drugs and mostly in large towns or cities... In pre-war days the sources of supply for these drugs were Japan and Germany. "The present rules and regulations provide effective measures for the suppression of this evil and the preventive staffs exercise ceaseless vigilance over the criminals who deal in cocaine, and Magistrates are frequently urged to pass the heaviest sentences in their power when any accused is convicted."

Prohibition and Control

The Government-General in Council has the authority to make rules (1) permitting and regulating the cultivation of the poppy and the manufacture of opium, and such rules may prescribe the form and conditions of licences for such cultivation and manufacture, the authorities by which such licences may be granted, the fees that may be charged therefor, and any other matter requisite to render effective the control of the Governor-General in Council over such cultivation and manufacture; (2) permitting and regulating the sale of opium from Government factories for export or to Local Governments or to manufacturing chemists; (3) permitting and regulating the manufacture of manufactured drugs, other than prepared opium, and such rules may prescribe the form and condition of licences for such manufacture, the authorities by which such licences may be granted, and the fees that may be charged therefor, and any other matter requisite to render effective the control of the Governor-General in Council over such manufacture; (4) permitting and regulating the import into and export from British India and the transshipment of dangerous drugs, other than prepared opium, and such rules may prescribe the ports or places at which any kind of dangerous drug may be imported, exported or transhipped, the form and conditions of licences for such import, export or transshipment, the authorities by which such licenses may be granted, the fees that may be charged therefor, and any other matter requisite to render effective the control of the Governor-General in Council over such import, export and transshipment.

The local Government may, subject to the control of the Governor-General in Council, make rules permitting and regulating:

- (a) the inter-provincial import and export into and from the territories under its administration, the transport, possession and sale of manufactured drugs, other than prepared opium, and of coca leaf; and
- (b) the manufacture of medicinal opium or of any preparation containing morphine, diacetylmorphine or cocaine from materials which the maker is lawfully entitled to possess.

A pamphlet was received embodying the texts of the four rules mentioned above.

Canada (16 October 1947)

"Measures taken by the Government of Canada in order to give effect to the Application of Article 15 of the 1931 Convention for Limiting the Manufacture and Regulating the Distribution of Narcotic Drugs".

"The Opium and Narcotic Drug Act fully provides the necessary legislation in Canada to give effect to the requirements of the 1931 Narcotic Convention. This Act is administered by the Narcotic Division of the Department of National Health and Welfare, with headquarters at Ottawa, Canada. Every effort is made by officials of this Department to ensure that the existing regulations and the necessary control in relation to both the legitimate domestic market and the suppression of the illicit traffic are enforced in every province throughout the Dominion.

The problem of narcotic addiction in Canada is one which is receiving a very considerable amount of attention at the present time. In order that the desired results may be achieved and so that the most careful consideration can be given to all aspects of narcotic drug enforcement and control, there has been established, under the authority of the National Health and Welfare Act, and by means of Order-in-Council, a Technical Advisory Committee on Drug Addiction. This Committee has been given wide terms of reference with respect to the collection and collation of information, the furnishing of advice to the Minister of National Health and Welfare, and the initiation of recommendations on related matters.

At the present, our Research Division is making a complete and detailed survey of criminal statistics from a narcotic standpoint in Canada, and eventually this information will be presented to the Technical Advisory Committee. It is hoped that such Committee will be of very considerable service in assisting to suppress the anti-social use of narcotic drugs in this country, and will in addition, deal with the addiction properties of new synthetic drugs which are beginning to make their appearance on the North American continent. The intention of the Canadian narcotic authorities is to leave no stone unturned in our endeavour to solve the many problems involving narcotics as they affect the young criminal of today and at the same time to continue to press for heavy penalties when members of the old-time criminal fraternity who choose to engage in the traffic of narcotic drugs are apprehended.

The following legislative text was received: "The Opium and Narcotic Drug Act, 1929 (With Amendments made by Chapter 20, 1932, Chapter 9, 1938 and Chapter 11, 1946) and Regulations Made Thereunder (Passed by Order in Council of July 23, 1946)".

China (31 October 1947)

The Opium Suppression Commission of the Ministry of Interior is the Special Administration within the meaning of Article 15 of the 1931 Convention.

/The following

The following legislative texts were received:

1. "Laws and Regulations on Internal Administrations - Opium Suppression";
2. "Regulations Governing the Organization of the Department of Narcotic Drugs Control".

Costa Rica (25 July 1947)

The administrative agencies of control over trade in narcotic drugs in Costa Rica include the following: Department of Public Health and Social Welfare; The Administrative Board, and the Narcotic Drugs Department.

The following legislative text was received: "Regulations Governing the Sale of Narcotic Drugs".

Cuba (22 October 1947)

The special administration in Cuba is the Department for the Control of Narcotic Drugs established on 11 July 1945 by Decree No. 1905. This Department is now functioning under the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare. The laws for the control and suppression of the trade in narcotic drugs are as follows:

1. The law of 25 July 1919;
2. New instructions on narcotic drugs issued by the Director-General of Health on 29 December 1945;
3. Instructions on the completion of forms for the issue of drugs to authorized persons.

The campaign against drug addiction is in the hands of the "Comision Depuradora de Expedientes de Consumo de Grogas" composed of university professors representing the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare in the Medical College. This Commission is empowered to send drug addicts for cure and treatment.

The suppression of illicit traffic is handled by the police called "Narcotics Bureau for the Suppression and Prosecution of Illicit Traffic" with penalties imposed by the judges and courts of the Republic.

The texts of the legislative measures mentioned above were received.

Czechoslovakia (11 February 1948)

The Ministry of Health is the special administration in Czechoslovakia charged to fulfil the requirements of Article 15 of the 1931 Convention, the provisions of which have been put into effect by the following legislation:

1. The Law No. 29 of 27 January 1938;
2. The Ordinance No. 137 of 24 June 1938;
3. The Regulation of the Ministry of Health No. VI/2-13.639 of 14 October 1947.

The above-mentioned texts were received.

Dominican Republic (4 October 1947)

The reply stated that a volume containing texts of health legislation was being sent.

Egypt (31 January 1948)

A new department of the Ministry of Interior was created, "Anti-Narcotics Bureau" to take over the duties of the Central Narcotics Intelligence Bureau, which no longer exists.

El Salvador (9 September 1947)

The Chemical and Pharmaceutical Board is the special administration. The Board is directly under the Ministry of the Interior, Internal Affairs Branch.

The following are some of the Board's duties, according to Pharmacies Law of 30 June 1927:

1. Supervision of druggists' establishments, pharmacies, chemical and pharmaceutical laboratories, herb dispensaries, etc., and doctors.
2. To regulate importation and consumption of opium, morphine, cocaine, their salts and derivatives.
3. To issue permits for imports of narcotic drugs.
4. To prepare draft laws and regulations on narcotic drugs.

El Salvador has organized campaigns against drug addiction and illicit traffic.

The following legislative text was received: "Regulations Governing the Traffic in Opium and other Narcotic Substances".

Finland (12 August 1947)

A Government Decree of 5 March 1937 provides for giving effect to Article 15 of the 1931 Convention, in which it is stipulated that the Assistant Director for Medical Affairs in the Ministry of Interior shall act as the authority provided for in the above-mentioned article.

Greece (3 September 1947)

The special administration in Greece is a Special Commission on narcotic drugs, which is in charge of the application of the international conventions on narcotic drugs. It takes every possible action under Article 15 of the 1931 Convention.

Honduras (2 August 1947)

The following legislative texts were received:

Ley de Farmacie

Decreto Legislativo No. 81 of 12 March 1937, reformatore de

Article 80 de la Ley de Farmacia:

Reglamento de Drogas Heroicas y Estupefacientes, contenido en el Acuerdo del Poder Ejecutivo No. 1816 de 3 de Mayo de 1934.

Hungary (21 November 1947)

On 1 April 1934, the Hungarian Government created a Central Organ for Controlling Narcotics. The main duties of this Organ are:

1. Collection and distribution of statistical material relating to narcotic drugs;
2. Relation with foreign organs controlling narcotic drugs;
3. Control and supervision of inland traffic and foreign trade in narcotic drugs.

India (29 March 1948)

No special administration has been established. The necessary legislation to cover the application of Article 15 was enacted in 1930 through the Dangerous Drugs Act which, together with the Rules and Regulations made thereunder by the Central and the Provincial Governments gives full effect to the provisions of the 1931 Convention.

The following legislative text was received: The Dangerous Drugs Act.

Iran (13 January 1948)

For the purpose of unification of control and centralization of information on opium and narcotic drugs a special agency has recently been established in the Ministry of Finance.

Iraq (22 December 1947)

The Ministry of Interior (Director-General of Health) is charged with the execution of the Dangerous and Narcotic Drugs Law No. 44 of 1938. The Director-General of Health has authority, with the approval of the Minister of Interior, to issue notifications for the better execution of the law in general and for the amending of the schedule (of drugs) appended thereto.

No. 33 of the Official Gazette containing the Dangerous and Narcotic Drugs Law No. 44 of 1938 was received.

Ireland (4 October 1947)

The narcotic laws are administered by the Department of Justice.

The following legislative texts were received:

The Dangerous Drug Act 1934.

The Dangerous Drug Act 1934 (Commencement) Order 1937.

The Dangerous Drugs (Raw Opium, Coca Leaves and Indian Hemp) Regulations 1937.

Dangerous Drugs (Medicinal Opium, Tincture of Indian Hemp, Morphine, Cocaine, etc.) Regulations 1937.

Dangerous Drugs Act 1934 (Application of Part IV to Methylmorphine and Ethylmorphine). Order 1937.

/Dangerous Drugs

Dangerous Drugs (Methylmorphine and Ethylmorphine)

Regulations 1937.

Dangerous Drugs Act 1934 (Collection of fees) Regulations 1937.

Dangerous Drugs (Preparations containing morphine, cocaine, etc.) (Exemption) Order 1937.

Dangerous Drugs (Medicinal Opium, Tincture of Indian Hemp, Morphine, Cocaine, etc.) (amendment) Regulations 1937.

The Dangerous Drugs Act 1934 (Application of Part IV to preparations Ecgonine, Morphine, Methylmorphine and Ethylmorphine) Order 1937.

The Dangerous Drugs Act 1934 (Application of Part IV to Hydrochloride of 1-Ethyl-4-Phenyl-Piperidine-4-Carboxylic Acid Ethyl Ester) Order 1946.

New Zealand (14 August 1947)

Details of organization and functioning of government administration for the control of narcotic drugs are given as follows:

"Creation of Special Administration. In view of the comparatively small trade in dangerous drugs in New Zealand such action was not considered necessary but the control of narcotic drugs in importation and exportation, distribution, sale and consumption is invested jointly in the Ministers of Customs and Health who have delegated certain powers to the Comptroller of Customs and Director-General of Health respectively.

As there is close liaison between the Customs Department and Department of Health, this administration has proved most successful as far as this country is concerned.

Application of the Provisions of the 1931 Convention. By the Dangerous Drugs Act, 1927, the importation, exportation, manufacture, sale, distribution, use and possession of dangerous drugs was subjected to regulation. A minor Amendment to the text was made by the Dangerous Drugs Amendment Act, 1928. The Dangerous Drugs Regulations 1928 set forth the procedure for the issuing of Import and Export Licences, the granting of licences to deal in dangerous drugs, the record to be kept by each licensee, giving prescriptions, supply and possession of dangerous drugs and penalties for breaches of the regulations. There have been minor amendments and additions to these regulations from time to time.

The Customs Department under the direction of the Minister of Customs controls all matters relating to the importation and exportation of narcotic drugs including the issue of licences, while the Department of Health under the direction of the Minister of Health is responsible for the oversight of the manufacture (if any) distribution, sales and consumption of the drugs and the issuing of any licences and regulations

It will be seen that these Acts and Regulations were already in force before 1931 and as the provisions of the Convention were met by them it was not necessary to institute new legislation, beyond issuing an order in Council to bring certain manufactured drugs under control. From time to time additional preparations have been brought under control, the most recent being by Order in Council No. 1946/25 known as the Dangerous Drugs Order 1946 No. 1. All estimates and statistical returns required by the Convention are compiled by the Customs Department in consultation with the Department of Health.

New Zealand is conscious of her obligations under this convention and as many of the provisions as affect this country have been applied and have proved successful over the course of the years.

Regulating, Supervising and Controlling the Trade in Drugs

(a) External. Co-operation is given on an international plane in the issuing and endorsing of licences to import or export dangerous drugs in accordance with the provisions of the Geneva Convention of 1925 and the 1931 Limitation Convention.

(b) Internal. By means of the Acts and Regulations mentioned above, satisfactory supervision and control is maintained over the internal distribution of dangerous drugs. Briefly the method employed is as follows:

- (i) All imports are set out against the names of various importers - principally wholesalers.
- (ii) The records of such importers are checked against the known import figures.
- (iii) Wholesalers are required to submit monthly returns of all sales.
- (iv) A separate account is kept of every individual buyer whether pharmacist, doctor, dentist or veterinary surgeon.
- (v) Every six months the detailed buying of each individual is totalled and posted to a permanent record which is available for observing that individual's business over the years.
- (vi) These accounts are kept at District Offices and are under the eye of a Medical Officer of Health, who by his knowledge of local conditions, is in a position to estimate the probable normal requirements of each buyer.
- (vii) Special cases of doctors, pharmacists or other professional licencees are selected from the observed records and any instance of supposed overconsumption investigated.

- (viii) All professional licencees are required to keep account of their disposal of drugs, purchased, but the books of pharmacists are more particularly observed by regular inspection.

Inspectors have power to "enter the premises of any person carrying on the business of a producer, manufacturer, seller or distributor of any dangerous drugs, and to demand the production of and to inspect any books or documents relating to dealings in any such drugs, and to inspect, weigh, measure and record the stocks of any such drug".

Organizing the Campaign against Drug Addiction. New Zealand is favoured in that drug addiction is practically unknown. There are at present some forty-four persons listed by the Department of Health as drug addicts. This does not include Chinese (or other residents of New Zealand convicted of possessing or dealing in opium (for smoking)) as these are not recorded as addicts.

Provision for dealing with these opium smokers is made in Section 8 of the Dangerous Drugs Act 1927, where such practices are made an offence against the Act.

It has not been found necessary to institute legislation to cover persons listed as addicts. When it is thought by medical officers of the Department of Health that persons known to be addicted to manufactured narcotic drugs would benefit from treatment in an institution then they are urged to enter an institution. Such removal (to a hospital - there are no institutions exclusively for drug addicts) is usually not enforced by legal processes but is, if necessary, backed by the threat of an immediate cessation of supplies of the drug. Such a threat has force in this country where the chances of an addict getting manufactured drugs through illicit channels are so slight as to be negligible. Legal action for the committal of an addict is however possible under the Reformatory Institution Act 1909 in which legislation "habitual inebriate" is defined as including a person who habitually takes narcotic drugs.

Suppression of Illicit Traffic. The illicit traffic in opium and other dangerous drugs in New Zealand is very slight. A careful watch is maintained by Customs and Police Officers who prevent the illicit importation of drugs".

The following legislative texts were received:

Dangerous Drugs Regulations of 24 September 1928

Dangerous Drugs (Amendment) Regulations of 1 July 1929

Dangerous Drugs (Amendment) Regulations of 16 July 1934

Dangerous Drugs (Amendment) Regulations of 27 March 1946

Norway (2 October 1947)

The following legislative texts were received:

Opium Law of 1 June 1928.

Circulars concerning Control of narcotics:

Royal Resolution of 30 December 1930

Notice of 20.3.1944 - Prescription of Narcotic Drugs

Notice of 23.3.44 - Prescriptions for Dolantin

Notice of 21.11.44 - Prescriptions for Narcotic Drugs

Circular to Pharmacists of 9 April 1931

Circular No. 44 of 25.8.1947 - exception of papaverin and
its salts.

Paraguay (18 November 1947)

The Narcotic Drugs Section of the Department of Chemistry and Pharmacy is in charge of the application of the opium conventions.

The following legislative text was received:

Decree No. 8595 of 23 August 1938.

Philippines (20 August 1947)

The so-called Harrison Narcotic Law enacted by the Congress of the United States is still enforced in the Philippines as a special law, pending the enactment of a new law by the Republic. All legal traffic in narcotic drugs, domestic and foreign, is under the direct supervision and control of the Bureau of Internal Revenue, which has charge of the import certificate system. The following Government agencies have control over the illicit traffic:

Bureau of Internal Revenue,

Opium Committee of the Military Police Command,

The Board of Pharmaceutical Examiners and Inspectors,

Chiefs of Police of chartered cities and municipalities,

Secretary of Health and Public Welfare (receiving seizure reports).

The following legislative text was received:

National Internal Revenue Code (Commonwealth Act No. 466):

Title X - Miscellaneous Administrative Provisions,

Sections 339-342.

Syria (21 December 1947)

Decree No. 193/L.R1 of 28 August 1934 (modified by Decree No. 79/LR of 10 April 1934, Decree No. 95/LR of 27 April 1935 and Decree No. 305/LR of 30 December 1935) regulates the manufacture, trade, import and export of narcotics.

The cultivation of Indian hemp, opium poppy and all other plants whose preparations may be used as narcotics, is prohibited.

/The authorization

The authorization to manufacture, convert, extract, distribute, sell, import or export any of these drugs is only given by the Director of the Health Service of the High Commissariat. This authorization is given to persons conforming to the regulations governing the registration of pharmacists, doctors, etc. The quantities allowed such persons are given in the authorization. However, laboratories and similar establishments can obtain larger quantities through written orders signed by the head of the establishment.

A special register is kept of all quantities manufactured. A quarterly statement of the products converted or sold must be sent by all authorized persons, to the authority issuing the permit, together with a statement of the stocks as at 31 December, which is sent with the quarterly statement sent by 1 February of each year.

Decree No. 209/AS of 14 September 1942 deals mainly with the penalties for infractions of the laws dealing with narcotics.

The following legislative texts were received:

Decret Legislatif No. 209/AS of 13 September 1942.

Arrête No. 193/IR of 28 August 1934.

Arrête No. 79/IR of 10 April 1935.

Arrête No. 95/IR of 27 April 1935.

Arrête No. 305/IR of 30 December 1935.

Switzerland (28 August 1947)

Article 1 of the Federal Narcotics Law of 2 October 1924 gives the substances subject to control. The control is sufficiently broad to include all the drugs mentioned in the 1931 Convention.

A unique method of regulation has been devised for synthetic preparations assimilable to narcotic drugs and possessing habit-forming qualities. These synthetic drugs are regulated by cantonal regulations having to do with trade in pharmaceutical products. These prescriptions guarantee that the manufacture and use of synthetic preparations are submitted to official control. When a new synthetic drug appears, each time the Federal Bureau of Public Health draws the attention of cantonal authorities to the necessity for control.

The revision of the federal law is under study and the federal control of synthetic products is envisaged.

The systems of estimates and of limitation of manufacture are applied on the basis of Articles 3, 6 and 7 of the federal law. Manufacture of and trade in narcotic drugs require administrative authorization. Each importation, and each purchase or sale are reported to the authorities. A check is maintained in the control of stocks of drugs manufactured and used.

/Provisions

Provisions relating to import authorizations and export certificates are strictly complied with, especially in respect of diacetylmorphine.

Internal administration is in principle in the hands of the cantonal authorities, while the frontier and international traffic is in the hands of the Federal Bureau of Public Health and of the Swiss Customs. The Federal Bureau of Public Health directly exercises functions of control over manufacture of drugs.

The Federal and cantonal authorities co-operate effectively in the fight against illicit traffic and drug addiction.

Liechtenstein (5 December 1947)

The Swiss Law of 2 October 1924 and all the ordinances and decrees of the Swiss Federal Council implementing said law have been in force in Liechtenstein by reason of the Customs Union accord and by reason of the Law of 24 September 1929.

The Swiss Federal law concerning the manufacture, preparation, custody, transportation, sale and purchase, delivery, import and export of narcotic drugs is valid in Liechtenstein, which, in applying Swiss laws and decrees on narcotic drugs, has the same status as a Swiss canton.

The principal control of traffic in narcotic drugs is exercised either by the Government itself or by the agencies specially authorized for this purpose. The direct control is carried out by the Medecin legiste of the Principality, which exercises control over pharmacies and the trade in narcotic drugs.

The control of markets is exercised by the Inspector of foodstuffs, who has to examine only the authorized drugs. A list of drugs authorized for trade is made up by the Government.

Import control is exercised at the frontier by the Swiss authorities, a separate control of imports and exports does not exist.

The Government can authorize pharmacies to sell medical preparations with opium base only in the following conditions: Tincture of opium, laudanum and Dover Powder with 0.25 gr. of medical opium with special label for the package or bottles and authorizations are given only to firms in the trade register and giving all the guarantees on the subject preparation.

Modifications to laws and decrees in Switzerland are equally valid in Liechtenstein. All the conventions to which Switzerland is a party are applicable in the Principality.

The following texts were received:

Law of 24 September 1929

Law of 26 November 1934

Law of 19 January 1935.

United States of America (29 September 1947)

The Bureau of Narcotics of the Treasury Department is the administrative agency in the United States which complies with the requirement of Article 15 of the Narcotics Limitation Convention of 1931 that the High Contracting Parties each maintain a special administration for applying the provisions of that Convention for regulating, supervising and controlling the trade in drugs and for organizing the campaign against drug addiction by taking all useful steps to prevent its development and to suppress the illicit traffic.

The Bureau of Narcotics was established by the Act of Congress, approved 14 June 1930.

The following legislative text was enclosed:

Act of Congress of 14 June 1930 - An Act to create in the
Treasury Department a Bureau of Narcotics.

Uruguay (17 February 1948)

A volume containing texts of regulations on narcotic drugs was received.
