

CORRIGENDUM TO DOCUMENT E/CONF/POST/P.C/W.19

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE NINTH MEETING OF POSTAL EXPERTS

On Page 4, the remarks of Mr. Weightman should be amended to read as follows:

Mr. WEIGHTMAN (UNITED KINGDOM) believed that the establishment of an Administrative Council was a matter for the Paris Congress. It would, however, be helpful to analyze the position at the present meeting. He thought that the need for the establishment of an Administrative Council might be dependent on the retention, or otherwise, of the present system of Swiss control.

In Article II it was proposed to transfer from Switzerland some diplomatic functions concerning application for new membership, but there remained other duties of a non-political character which could continue to be performed by Switzerland, for example supervising the International Bureau, auditing Bureau accounts, staffing, and providing funds.

He pointed out that the checking of equivalents (expressed in gold centimes) adopted by countries adhering to the Universal Postal Union could only be carried out by experts. Such a duty could not be performed by an Administrative Council meeting on rare occasions. He preferred the Swiss to continue that work, especially as they had done so very efficiently in the past.

The Assistant Secretary-General had referred in his opening speech to the statement in the Temporary Transport and Communications Commission's Report that the Universal Postal Union had no permanent organ to act in the intervals between postal Congresses. Machinery

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did however exist under provisions in the Universal Postal Convention allowing for the submission and adoption of proposals between Congresses, but that procedure was exceedingly slow. Present procedure had been laid down in 1891 at the Vienna Congress and had remained unaltered since. Taking into account the facilities of air mail, Mr. WEIGHTMAN believed that the present minimum period of fifteen months for action to be taken could be reduced to about six months.

Mr. Le MOUEL's tentative proposal for the establishment of an Administrative Council provided for geographical representation and rotating membership, but in establishing such a Council one great difficulty was in selecting representatives. The Universal Postal Congress had been reluctant to delegate its functions to a smaller body, which was a fact worth remembering when considering an Administrative Council.
