The Council adopted the resolution in the following form:

1. The Council authorises the Committee on Intellectual Co-operation to increase the number of its corresponding members in accordance with the rules proposed by it.

2. The Council instructs the Secretary-General to ask those States which have not yet sent an opinion on the question of scientific property to forward a reply not later than January 1st, 1925.

3. The Council requests the Secretary-General in accordance with the recommendation expressed by the Conference of Genoa in April 1922, with which the Committee concurred, to request those countries which have not yet done so to adhere to the Berne Copyright Conventions.

4. The Council authorises the Section of International Bureaux to open a register for international associations and institutions of a social, scientific, artistic or literary character.

5. The Council approves in principle the draft agreement with the International Institute of Bibliography at Brussels, subject to a reservation on the question of a subsidy and refers it to the Assembly.

6. The Council authorises the Committee on Intellectual Co-operation to convene a meeting of experts to examine the various problems raised by the question of scientific property.

7. The Council requests the Assembly to consider the provision of the funds necessary to carry out paragraphs 2, 5 and 6 of the present resolution.

1275. Foundation of an International Institute of Intellectual Co-operation Offer by the French Government.

M. de Jouvenel read his report (Annex 674) and proposed the following resolutions:

(a) The Council takes note of the French Government's proposal, and thanks it for its generous offer.

(b) The Council accepts this offer in principle, and submits it to the Assembly for consideration of the following points:

1. The functions of the new Institute.
2. The administrative and juridical conditions governing the work of the Institute.
3. Relations between the proposed Institute and the existing international institutes, such as the Union of International Associations, the International Office of Bibliography, the International Council of Research, the International Academic Union, which are established at Brussels and the autonomy of which it is important to maintain.

M. de Jouvenel wished to add a few words to explain the intention of the French Government. M. François Albert, Minister of Education in France, who had come to Geneva to make those explanations in person, had been compelled to return to Paris.

In the first report to the Council on Intellectual Co-operation, M. Leon Bourgeois had said that, if there were no intellectual co-operation there could be no League of Nations. The truth of those words was undeniable and they laid down the doctrine of the French Government.

Every day it was evident to all how difficult it was, even at Geneva, to get an understanding between different points of view. Mr. MacDonald himself had recently alluded to this difficulty. It was, consequently, of importance to make international solidarity effective through international co-operation.

Ever since the establishment of the Committee on Intellectual Co-operation, the Committee had been baulked by the question of money. On many occasions the French delegates had asked the Assembly for increased grants which the League had only with difficulty been persuaded to give, and then, as a rule, the League took back with its left hand what it gave with its right. Last year they had seen — and it was a sad thing to see — M. Bergson coming to claim a credit of 14,000 francs.

They had seen the Assembly vote a resolution requesting the Council to ask the Governments Members of the League to be good enough to lend their moral and financial support to the National Committees, if they had not already done so, and to authorise the Committee on Intellectual Co-operation to receive from any institution or private person interested in the work funds destined for this purpose. The French Government had realised, therefore, that if money were to be obtained, it must make an offer. It had, therefore, made this proposal.

M. de Jouvenel reminded the Council that there were a number of questions which, for want of funds, remained in suspense. It was impossible to meet a member of the Committee on Intellectual Co-operation, no matter the country to which he belonged, who did not complain and ask for a little money. Sometimes it was to organise the National Committees on Intellectual Co-operation, sometimes to organise assistance for intellectual life — for instance, to organise immediate assistance in the case of calamities, such as the destruction of the
library of Tokio University. Money was wanted to maintain relations with intellectual associations, to allow the Committee to be represented at meetings, to publish the works of societies and scientific bodies, to establish offices of information, to carry out the proposal of the Russian savants relating to the printing of scientific works, to co-ordinate libraries to carry out the Czechoslovak proposal on research laboratories and the Lithuanian proposal on the exchange of scientific material to carry out the resolution concerning the insertion of scientific articles in reviews and the publication of summaries of works written in a little-known language. He wished to see the proposal of the Institute for Historical Research in the University of London concerning facilities for work on the archives of the different countries, to carry out the proposal of Mr. Hagberg Wright on the publication of lists of notable books, which it would clearly be of advantage to translate into different languages to create international scientific institutes. These were only some of the questions for which money was required, money which was not forthcoming from the League of Nations.

In these conditions, the French Government had felt that it must make an offer, but it wished to make it quite clear that the institute to be founded — if the League of Nations accepted the offer — must in no case injure the intellectual international associations which already existed. It was simply a question of creating an organ of liaison between the Committee on Intellectual Co-operation and the different existing associations, such as those quoted in the resolution, which were doing great services, and were the greatest credit to the Belgian Government, which had taken the initiative.

Moreover, this Institute should be an entirely international office. It must not be in any sense a national office, and, in order that it might be absolutely international, it must be thoroughly understood that it would be directed by the Committee on Intellectual Co-operation, and that the funds given by the French Government would be put at the disposal of this Committee and administered by the Committee.

M. Branting thanked the French representative for having stated so clearly that the Institute would have an absolutely international character. At first, when the terms of the French proposal were not exactly known, doubts had been expressed from certain quarters. Those doubts had been dissipated by M. de Jouvenel, and M. Branting was glad to give his full support to the proposal before the Council.

The President said that he had very naturally felt the greatest admiration and indebtedness to the French Government for its magnificent offer. At the same time, he had been somewhat anxious, because, immediately after the war, two very valuable organisations had been set up at Brussels — the International Council of Research and the International Academic Union. They were scientific organisations pursuing an object of intellectual co-operation, but, of course, they did not cover so wide a field as the Committee, since they were organisations created immediately after the war.

He had, therefore, felt a little anxiety lest these institutions should be threatened. However, the conversations which he had had with the French representative had entirely reassured him, and he was ready to give, without any hesitation whatever, his approval to the resolution submitted to the Council.

Lord Parmoor, on behalf of the British Government, expressed his great appreciation of the very generous offer which had been made by France to further the cause of intellectual co-operation. The international character of the new institution should be carefully preserved. He was entirely in accord with what M. de Jouvenel had said on behalf of France, and, therefore, on behalf of Great Britain, he desired to do nothing more than thank the French Government for its very generous gift.

M. Octavies de Léon wished to add his thanks for the offer, which, as it came from France, would cause no surprise.

M. Salandra also added his thanks, and asked that the Minutes should indicate that this feeling of gratitude was shared by all the Members of the Council.

M. Guani wished to associate himself, in the name of his Government, with the gratitude which had been expressed to France.

The President declared that the whole Council thanked the French Government for its generous offer.

M. de Jouvenel thanked the Council for the manner in which it had received the French Government's proposal.

M. Bergson, in the name of the Committee on Intellectual Co-operation, expressed his gratitude to the Council for the approval which it had given to the report, and for the words of great encouragement to the Committee which had been spoken by all the members.

The President said that the Council felt no doubt that the Committee on Intellectual Co-operation, under the eminent direction of M. Bergson, would carry out in the best manner possible the work entrusted to it by the League he thanked M. Bergson in the name of the Council.

The Council adopted the draft resolution proposed by M. de Jouvenel, and decided to forward it to the Assembly, together with the Minutes of the discussion.

[The Council went into private session.]