

freedom and in view of its location between Europe and the Pacific countries would provide the best choice. The League of Nations had failed despite the fact that it was located in Europe. A new start toward world peace should be made in a new atmosphere.

In answer to the contention that the headquarters should not be located in the territory of a major power, lest one of them gain greater influence and prestige than the others, it was pointed out that this argument was based on the old concept of balance of power, while the concept underlying the establishment of the United Nations was that of collective security. The United Nations should be international in spirit and action, wherever its headquarters were located. Finally, the location of the headquarters of the United Nations in the United States would help to ensure the support of the American people for the United Nations, which was an important factor in its success.

At its meeting of December 15, 1945, an amendment to the Executive Committee's report recommending Europe in place of the United States as the site of the permanent headquarters was defeated by a vote of 25 to 23, with 2 abstentions. Following the defeat of this amendment, the recommendation of the Executive Committee was carried with a vote of 30 in favor and 14 against, with 6 abstentions. The recommendation having been passed by a two-thirds majority, it was decided that the vote be made unanimous.

On December 22, 1945, Committee 8 voted 22 to 6, with 12 abstentions, against a motion that the site should be located in the west of the United States. The Committee then approved an eastern site by a vote of 25 to 5, with 10 abstentions.

On December 20 the Sub-Committee charged with taking evidence from deputations which had come to invite the United Nations reported to Committee 8 that it had received deputations from some fifteen communities in the United States, but that more time was required to make a satisfactory report concerning a specific site for the United Nations headquarters. Committee 8 therefore decided that the Sub-Committee should close its hearings and that an interim committee be appointed to start functioning upon the close of the Preparatory Commission's session. The interim committee composed of twelve members would determine the exact requirements

for a United Nations site and would examine specific sites in the light of these requirements. The Preparatory Commission on December 23 approved the recommendations of Committee 8.

On December 28 the Interim Committee approved as a location for the site the following areas: within 50 to 60 miles from Boston, Massachusetts; east of the Hudson River in New York or Connecticut, between 25 and 80 miles from New York City; or the Princeton, New Jersey, area. The Committee appointed an Inspection Group of seven members, who left London on January 4, 1946, and arrived in New York on January 5; then proceeded to study areas near Boston, Princeton and New York; and departed for London on February 2. The Inspection Group recommended that the permanent headquarters should be established: (1) near to New York City, and (2) in the North Stamford - Greenwich district.

k. League of Nations

Representatives to the Executive Committee and the Preparatory Commission agreed that it was desirable that the United Nations should take over certain of the functions, powers, activities and assets of the League of Nations. Opposition was expressed, however against assumption by the United Nations of political functions exercised by the League of Nations under international agreements. Some representatives opposed the transfer even of certain non-political functions of the League. The Preparatory Commission therefore recommended that the United Nations take over only custodial, technical and non-political functions belonging to the League under international agreements, and that the General Assembly reserve its right, after due examination, not to assume any particular function and power. Concerning non-political activities performed by the League of Nations other than those arising from international agreements, the Preparatory Commission recommended that the Economic and Social Council survey these functions to determine which of them should be assumed by the United Nations. Pending the conclusion of this survey the Economic and Social Council should provisionally continue certain of these functions. The Preparatory Commission's recommendations were put in the form of a draft resolution for adoption by the General Assembly.