M. LECUYER (France) explained why this matter had been placed on the agenda and was now being withdrawn. It arose following negotiations undertaken with the United States Government at Geneva and Torquay which had resulted in the binding of a certain number of duties in the special tariff of French West Africa. Later investigation into the economic conditions of that territory had shown that such binding of duties was not yet timely and the French Delegation intended to ask the Contracting Parties for the authority to undertake new negotiations with the United States with a view to possible future release from these obligations. As a result of informal conversations with the United States Delegation, however, certain points requiring further clarification had been raised. He therefore informed the Contracting Parties that it would probably not be before the Seventh Session that France would ask for authority to renegotiate with the United States. In the meantime the two Governments would try to make some progress in this matter by means of bilateral conversations during the intersessional period.

Mr. THORP (United States) took note of the French delegation's intention to place the matter on the agenda for the Seventh Session and stated that his government would be prepared to study the question after it received the more detailed information which the French Government proposed to submit following the close of the Sixth Session.