The first meeting of Committee V of the Preparatory Committee of the International Conference on Trade and Employment, took place at 5 p.m. in the Convocation Hall, Church House, Westminster, on Friday, 16 October 1946.

The Temporary Chairman (Mr. E. Wyndham-White) was happy to declare open the first session of Committee V. He explained to the delegates that the agenda had been given on Page 14 of Journal No. 4, distributed that morning. It gave him great pleasure to introduce to the Committee the members of the Secretariat, Mr. Bruce Turner, Secretary, and Mr. George Klang, Assistant Secretary.

Before proceeding to the agenda, Mr. Wyndham-White desired to call the attention of the delegates to the Rules of Procedure which had been adopted by the Plenary Committee, and especially to Rule 57, which provided that "committees and sub-committees might decide to adopt rules of procedure regarding interpretations or translations of a more simple character than those laid down by these Rules."

The Temporary Chairman stated that the first item on the agenda was the election of a Chairman.
On the proposal of the delegate for Australia, seconded by the
delegate for France, Mr. Lynn R. Edminster (United States of
America) was unanimously elected Chairman of Committee V.

Mr. Edminster then took the Chair and expressed his gratitude
for the honour which had been done to him and to his country.

The Chairman then called upon the Committee to elect a Vice-
Chairman and on the nomination of the delegate for Lebanon, seconded
by the delegate for Chile, Mr. H. Caball (Brazil) was unanimously
elected Vice-Chairman.

Mr. Wyndham White suggested that at this stage it would be
appropriate for the Committee to appoint a Rapporteur, unless it
was preferred to postpone the appointment to a later date.

It was decided to defer consideration of this matter to a later
meeting.

The Chairman announced that with reference to Item 2 of the
agenda, an elaborated draft agenda, covering the Committee's
programme of work, had been submitted by the United States Delegation
and circulated to members. He explained that the agenda headings
had been taken from the "Suggested charter for an International Trade
Organization" prepared by the United States Government. Comments
were invited as to its suitability as a working agenda for the
Committee.

Mr. Bury (Australia) was of opinion that in the form presented,
the prepared agenda was not sufficiently elastic. The Committee
might well discuss the first three items but consideration of the
remainder very much depended on the progress made by other Committees.
For the present the Committee might confine its attention to the
first three items.

Mr. Hawkins (United States of America) thought that there might
be other topics, such as Items 7 and 8, not so closely related to the
work of other Committees. He proposed that the Secretariat conside
the agenda, and suggest an order in which the questions might be taken up.

The CHAIRMAN stated that the Secretariat had already done some preliminary work in this connection, and a suggested order of business would be circulated to the delegates at that meeting. He assumed that they would prefer to consider this matter over the week-end, so that the details of the agenda and the order in which the items might be taken up could be discussed at the next meeting of the Committee.

The SECRETARY (Mr. Bruce Turner) informed the Committee that it was proposed to provide three categories of records. There would, in the first instance, be a verbatim record of the entire proceedings of the Committee. This would be a restricted document, and would be circulated only to delegations and to observers from the Specialized Agencies and countries members of the United Nations. Secondly, there would be a summary record of each meeting, containing the main arguments advanced and decisions taken. This also would be a restricted document. In addition, a very brief summary record would be prepared, to be issued in the Journal of the following day. This would be available to a very much wider public. The SECRETARY would agree the contents of this brief summary with the Chairman who, at his discretion, would consult with members of the Committee. It would, however, contain no attributions of opinions expressed by any particular delegation.

The CHAIRMAN suggested that, subject to the concurrence of his colleagues, the next meeting be held at 5 p.m. on Monday, 21 October. He wished however to add that the hour of 5 p.m. was in no sense to be taken as a precedent for future meetings.

MR. CABAL (Brazil), before the meeting rose, was anxious to convey his heartfelt thanks to the Committee for the honour done
to himself and his country by his election to the post of Vice-Chairman. He would do all that within him lay to further the work of the Committee.

The Committee rose at 5.40 p.m.