

15th April, 1954.

My dear Professor Darbois,

Thank you for your letter of April 10th telling me of the meeting of the Bureau at La Haye.

It was kind of you to think of bringing up for discussion the suggestion I made as to increased representation on the Bureau. If I understand the position correctly, only the President and the permanent secretary exercise serious responsibility, while the others are consulted from time to time at such meetings as you mention. At one time I believe the Treasurer was more active, and for that reason I believe he was not liable to a time limit. If his function is now essentially consultative, I should suggest that like the other officers he should be changed at stipulated intervals.

There are two considerations which I think might be borne in mind in regard to such representation; namely that the Institute has always firmly intended, and has gone some way towards implementing the intention to establish membership throughout the educated world, so that our membership will be, and is already to some extent, more diverse than in earlier days. Under our present rules, also, the total number of members will certainly increase.

My second point is that current facilities for aerial transit

make it far more possible than formerly to arrange gatherings of such small executive committees as the Bureau constitutes. Whereas it was once a very rare opportunity to meet colleagues from far afield for discussing the business of a world organisation, it is now done every day with great facility, though perhaps at a high cost to the various International agencies which customarily bear it.

Without giving you as many vice-presidents as I understand is usual in an American bank, would it be unreasonable if the total Bureau were to be enlarged to something like twelve members?

Sincerely yours,