The report in the November issue presented a résumé of the work done up to approximately the end of October. Progress during November has been very slow and wearisome, and much time has been occupied in discussing broadcasting problems. At one time it hardly seemed possible to effect a compromise, so many and varied were the views of the different countries. Mr. K. B. Warner has given me the latest news every few days by telephone, and I am very grateful to him for this and for the trouble he took to make sure that the minutes of meetings were sent to me every week. These now make a pile about four feet high, which gives some idea of the work involved in an international conference.

I will now give details of the decisions reached during November which have a bearing on amateur radio, but let me again mention that they cannot be regarded as final until ratified by plenary sessions. This has been clearly demonstrated during this month, the alteration to Article 6 mentioned below being made almost at the last minute in plenary session.

Article 1.—Definitions: Nothing further to report.

Article 5.—Paragraph 7: After protracted negotiations, Sub-committee 1 of the Technical Commission (chairman, Colonel Angwin) has agreed that the 1.7 mc. band shall, so far as amateurs are concerned, remain as now. The British Delegation has supported us well, and though several European countries wanted to take this band entirely for small boats, we have won the day in this Sub-committee. The R.S.G.B. may justly take some of the credit for this as we have urged all along the importance of this band to us at our meetings with the G.P.O. and I do not think it an exaggeration to say that but for the British Delegation the 1.7 mc. band would have been lost to amateurs in Europe. We must not lose sight of the fact, however, that Sub-committee 1 is the second hurdle; there are three or four more. The allocations for this band read as follows:

General allocation (not including Europe):—
1,715-2,000 kc.—mobile, fixed, amateurs.

Allocation for Europe:—1,715-1,925 kc.—mobile, fixed, amateurs; 1,925-2,000 kc.—mobile maritime, amateurs.

From this it can be seen the importance attributed to small ships in that 1,925-2,000 kc. has been reserved to them and to amateurs, to the exclusion of other mobile and fixed services.

Article 5.—Paragraph 18 has been altered to read: Each administration may assign to amateur stations bands of frequencies conforming to the table of allocations (paragraph 7, above). This wording is better than that in the Washington Convention, and the general practice is, of course, as now stated.

Article 6.—This article was adopted by the Regulations Commission in the form reported last month, but on its being presented to the Plenary Session the Delegations of Italy, Germany, France, Belgium, Netherlands, E.S.S.R. pressed for additions to be made to paragraph 2 so that it now reads:

Paragraph 2.—When such exchange is permitted the communications must, unless the countries concerned have otherwise agreed among themselves, be conducted in plain language and must be limited to messages relating to the experiments and to remarks of a personal character for which, by reason of their unimportance, recourse to the public telegraph service would not enter into consideration. Owners of amateur stations are absolutely forbidden to transmit messages emanating from third parties.

The portion in italics is the addition and Article 6 has now passed its first Plenary Session reading.

Paragraph 1 should be read in conjunction with paragraph 2 and is as follows:—Paragraph 1: The exchange of communications between amateur stations and private experimental stations in different countries is forbidden if the administration of one of the countries concerned has notified its objection to such exchange.

Article 17.—The frequency of 1,650 kc. has been fixed as a calling wave for radiotelephony for small ships. This is not fixed as an obligatory wave, but may eventually become so. While at Madrid I pointed out to the British Delegation the advisability of this.
ability of this wave being outside the band used by amateurs and suggested 1,666 kc. It should be noted that there are in existence in Europe alone about 600 small ships using frequencies around 1,500-2,000 kc. and about 36 coast stations, and these numbers will probably be increased considerably in the near future. Of the figures given, Great Britain has about 180 small ships and 11 coast stations.

**Article 33.**—The request that the I.A.R.U. should be officially invited to take part in future C.C.I.R. meetings was agreed by the Committee dealing with C.C.I.R. matters and has also passed its first Plenary Session reading.

The Conference is now drawing to a close and there are not many matters affecting amateurs still outstanding. Mr. Segal has returned home, Mr. Warner expects to be leaving shortly, and I hope to be able to report in the next issue that the Conference has finished its work.

The following further information has come to hand just as we are about to go to press.

All the commissions have finished their work with the exception of the Editing Commission.

**Article 1 (definitions)** has been left until the end as it could not be completed until all the others were settled.

**Article 5.**—*Frequency Allocations* have been adopted by the Technical Commission and have been through their first Plenary Session reading. I understand, however, that reservations by many countries concerning broadcasting in Europe are very complicated and a further conference may be held in June, 1933, in Switzerland to deal specially with this. Apparently many delegations wanted to make reservations regarding broadcasting that no comments were made on the other bands at the first Plenary Session reading!!