

Council as inconvenient—though it had usually been the custom of the Council to accede to such suggestions—he would be obliged to make a statement on the question at the public meeting, which would, he feared, not be helpful.

M. ALVAREZ DEL VAYO did not want to give the impression that the situation might change as a result of the adjournment of the meeting. The Spanish Government, which had clearly defined its attitude, was prepared to deal separately with each Government. He did not see how the situation could be modified in twenty-four hours.

Mr. EDEN said it was clear that any Member of the Council had the right to ask for a meeting. If, therefore, the representative of Chile wanted a meeting on the following day, whatever inconvenience might be caused thereby, the Council ought to accede to his request. But Mr. Eden had a practical suggestion to make. There was a rather long agenda before the Council. Would it not be well to deal with it in public session, and then discuss again, in private session, the question of a further meeting in regard to this particular item?

M. EDWARDS said he would gladly accept Mr. Eden's suggestion.

Mr. Eden's proposal was adopted.

3869. Date of the Next Ordinary Session of the Council.

The PRESIDENT proposed to fix the opening date of the next ordinary session of the Council on Monday, May 24th, 1937.

The President's proposal was adopted.

3870. Letter from the International Association of Journalists accredited to the League of Nations.

The PRESIDENT informed the Council that, on January 21st, he had received a letter from the International Association of Journalists accredited to the League of Nations, copies of which, he understood, had also been received by his colleagues. The Association raised certain issues, the importance of which would be understood by the Members of the Council, in view of the generally admitted necessity of close collaboration between the League of Nations and the Press. Instead, however, of proposing that that question should be inscribed on the agenda of the Council, he thought it would be desirable, as a first step, to obtain certain further information and proceed to a preliminary enquiry, in order better to determine the scope of the problem. If the Council so desired, he was ready to undertake the preliminary enquiry in question, provided he could rely on the assistance of certain Members of the Council.

The President's proposal was adopted.

3871. Free City of Danzig: Question of the Appointment of a High Commissioner of the League of Nations at Danzig.¹

M. Greiser, President of the Senate of the Free City of Danzig, came to the Council table.

Mr. EDEN, Rapporteur, said that the Committee of Three, after consultation with the Polish Government, had taken it upon itself a few days previously to approach Admiral de Graaff (who was until recently Chief of the Naval Staff in the Netherlands), with a view to his acceptance of the post of High Commissioner in Danzig. The Committee had as yet received no reply; but it had every hope that Admiral de Graaff would accept, if an official invitation were sent to him. If by any chance—Mr. Eden hoped it would not be the case—Admiral de Graaff should be unable to accept, he asked the Council to leave the appointment of the High Commissioner in the hands of its President, in consultation with the Committee of Three dealing with Danzig matters, and with the representative of Poland.

M. KOMARNICKI said that it was only a question of waiting a few days. It was probable that Admiral de Graaff would see his way to accept the Council's proposal. If not, the Polish Government was ready to co-operate with the Committee of Three for the purpose, and that procedure would render a special meeting of the Council unnecessary.

The Rapporteur's proposals were adopted.¹

(The Council went into public session.)

3872. Free City of Danzig: Situation at Danzig.

M. Greiser, President of the Senate of the Free City of Danzig, and Mr. Lester, High Commissioner of the League of Nations at Danzig, came to the Council table.

¹ See also Annex 1647, page 240.