

M. MOLLOFF representative of Bulgaria, expressed the gratitude of the Bulgarian Government at the interest taken by the Council of the League and the Rapporteur in this international work.

On behalf of the Bulgarian Government, he associated himself with the expressions of appreciation contained in the first part of the Rapporteur's report. The Bulgarian Government had also been very disappointed at the results obtained. M. Molloff, however, would point out that at the end of the last session of the Council he had only had a few days in which to take the necessary measures. These measures had been taken by telegraph. At the end of the period no desire had been expressed to set up a new procedure or to take any decision concerning a further prolongation of the period of delay granted by the Mixed Greco-Bulgarian Commission.

M. Molloff noted with satisfaction that the work of the Mixed Commission had made marked progress and that the two Governments concerned had shown much good will.

The Bulgarian Government had granted additional credits amounting to almost double those which had been expended in the previous year in order to strengthen the organs of the Commission and to accelerate the liquidation of property as regarded both Bulgaria and Greece.

The Bulgarian representative thought that the position would be very sensibly improved by the next session of the Council and that it would be possible for him shortly to announce that the work undertaken had been carried through to a conclusion.

M. DENDRAMIS, representative of Greece, thanked the Council and the Rapporteur for the unvarying care with which they had dealt with this question.

The fact that so few persons had availed themselves of the prolonged period and that, as the Rapporteur had pointed out, the results were disappointing could not be attributed to the Greek Government. The Bulgarian authorities must be held responsible, for they had failed to carry on a publicity campaign on a large scale with the object of bringing these provisions to the notice of persons desiring to avail themselves of them.

The Greek Government had been asked to grant a period of delay. It had granted that period. It had been asked to grant a prolongation of that period. It had done so. Happily as M. Molloff had pointed out, the work of the Commission was being very actively continued, and M. Dendramis felt sure that at the next session of the Council, when the two Governments would submit their report on the position, the Council would find the results satisfactory and would thus be able definitely to withdraw this item from its agenda.

Sir Austen CHAMBERLAIN said that he had listened with great satisfaction to the declarations made by the Bulgarian and Greek representatives. He shared their hope that when the Council met again in June great progress would have been made, not only with regard to the settlement of the terms of liquidation but also with regard to the actual payment of the sums due in respect of liquidated properties. The Council had reason to follow this question with continued interest, because the representatives of both countries would remember the painful and difficult situation which existed when the matter was first brought before it — a situation which had made it imperative for the Council to urge upon the representatives the necessity for completing the work undertaken.

The PRESIDENT noted that in his report the British representative had stated that the Council would be glad to receive at its next session a report on the progress made. The President personally joined in the hope that progress would be achieved in the future.

*The resolution was adopted.*

M. Molloff and M. Dendramis withdrew.

#### 1907. Danzig Municipal Loan.

Dr. Sahm, President of the Senate of the Free City of Danzig, and Dr. van Hamel, High Commissioner of the League of Nations at Danzig, came to the Council table.

M. VILLEGAS read the following report <sup>1</sup>.

" On March 14th, 1925 <sup>2</sup> the Council, on the Financial Committee's recommendation, authorised the Danzig Municipality on certain conditions, to issue a loan under the auspices of the League of Nations. According to the arrangement between the Danzig Municipality and the lenders, the sum of £125,000 was to be employed in the building of houses at Broesen.

" In a letter dated March 4th, 1927 which has just been circulated to us, the Danzig Senate asks the Council for authority to take from this sum of £125,000 a sum of £16,000 for the lengthening of the Kaiserhafen municipal wharf.

" According to the stipulations of the loan contract and of the Council's resolution of March 14th, 1925, the Council has to approve the employment of part of the loan for objects other than those laid down in the programme of expenditure approved by the Council.

<sup>1</sup> Document C.150.1927.I.

<sup>2</sup> See *Official Journal*, April 1925, page 491.

" I imagine that before reaching a decision the Council would like to have the Financial Committee's opinion on this question."

*The report was adopted.*

Dr. Sahm and Dr. van Hamel withdrew

The Council went into private session.

#### 1908. Appointment of the President of the Conference of Press Experts.

On the proposal of M. VANDERVELDE, Rapporteur, *the Council decided to invite Lord Burnham to preside over the Conference of Press Experts.*

#### 1909. Banking and Monetary Reform in Estonia Appointment of an Adviser to the Bank of Issue.

General Laidoner, representative of Estonia, came to the Council table.

M. VANDERVELDE, Rapporteur, read the following report <sup>1</sup>.

" In conformity with Article 6 of the Estonian Protocol signed at Geneva on December 10th, 1926 <sup>2</sup> for a period of three years the Estonian Government shall appoint as Adviser to the Bank of Issue such persons as may be nominated by the Council of the League of Nations The powers of the Adviser are defined in the Statutes of the Bank.

" On the recommendation of the Financial Committee, I propose that the Council should choose for this post Sir Walter Williamson, K.C.M.G., who has been acting as Adviser to the Estonian Ministry of Finance since last May Sir Walter Williamson was for many years Financial Adviser to the Government of Siam."

*The Council nominated Sir Walter Williamson.*

General Laidoner withdrew

#### 1910. Preparation and Communication of Documents to the Council Members.

After an exchange of views, *the Council decided to request the Secretary-General to draw the attention of the Committees to the fact that it was desirable for them to meet at as early a date as possible before the sessions of the Council.* The members of the Council who were appointed Rapporteurs for the various questions should have sufficient time in which to study the proposals of the Committees on which the reports to be presented to the Council would be based.

It was desirable also that the draft reports sent for revision and approval to the members of the Council acting as Rapporteurs should be approved by them as soon as possible and returned urgently to the Secretariat, which was responsible for distributing them to the other members of the Council.

#### 1911. Resignation of M. Botella, Member of the Committee of Experts on the Progressive Codification of International Law

M. ZALESKI read the following report <sup>3</sup>.

" The Secretary-General has informed the Council that M. Botella, member of the Committee of Experts for the Progressive Codification of International Law wishes to tender his resignation.

" The Council, in accepting M. Botella's resignation, will no doubt regret that he does not find it possible, owing to his duties as President of the Franco-German Mixed Arbitral Tribunal, to take part any longer in the work of the Committee of Experts.

" As regards the appointment of a successor to M. Botella, it would seem to me that, as the Committee is meeting again on March 22nd, it would hardly be practical for a new member to make himself acquainted in time with the work of the Committee so as to participate usefully in its next session. " I therefore venture to suggest to my colleagues to accept with regret M. Botella's resignation and to adjourn the question of the appointment of a new member of the Committee until the next session of the Council. "

*The report was adopted.*

<sup>1</sup> Document C.151.1927.II.

<sup>2</sup> See *Official Journal*, February 1927, page 185.

<sup>3</sup> Document C.83.1927.V