

decisions. In particularly painful circumstances, my country had occasion to give proof at the Council table of its attachment to the principles of which the Council is the guardian. The measure of our co-operation on that occasion is the measure of the collaboration we now bring to our task, inspired as we are by an active faith and a goodwill that does not fear any sacrifices.

I should especially like to thank our President for the very flattering welcome you were good enough to extend to me. I appreciate your words all the more because you have united in one thought our two countries, which are so cordially and so closely attached one to the other.

I can assure you that you may continue to count upon my cordial and loyal collaboration.

M. SANDLER. — I should like to express my sincere thanks to the President for his kind words of welcome to the country I have the honour to represent.

You have evoked the memory of my great fellow-countryman, Hjalmar Branting, that loyal worker in the cause of the League of Nations. I deeply appreciate our President's words and desire to express to him my sincere thanks.

Mr. JORDAN. — I thank the President for his welcome to me as representative of New Zealand, and for his kind reference to my predecessor, Mr. Bruce. I am fully conscious of the responsibility that falls upon me as a member of the Council, and I hope I shall be strengthened to be a useful member of the Council as well as a worthy representative of my far-distant country

SECOND MEETING (PUBLIC).

Held on Monday October 5th, 1936, at 7 p.m.

President M. RIVAS VICUÑA.

The Members of the Council were represented as follows.

<i>Bolivia.</i>	M. COSTA DU REIS.
<i>United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland</i>	LORD CRANBORNE.
<i>Chile</i>	M. RIVAS VICUÑA.
<i>Ecuador</i>	M. ZALDUMBIDE.
<i>France</i>	M. DELBOS.
<i>Italy</i>	—
<i>New Zealand</i>	MR. JORDAN.
<i>Poland</i>	M. KOMARNICKI.
<i>Roumania.</i>	M. ANTONESCO.
<i>Spain</i>	M. OSSORIO Y GALLARDO.
<i>Sweden</i>	M. SANDLER.
<i>Turkey</i>	M. SADAK.
<i>Union of Soviet Socialist Republics</i>	M. LITVINOFF

Secretary-General M. J. AVENOL.

3809. Free City of Danzig Situation at Danzig Report of the Council Committee.

Mr. Lester, High Commissioner of the League of Nations at Danzig, came to the Council table.

Lord CRANBORNE presented the following report and resolution. ¹

“ The Committee of Three was appointed by the Council on July 4th, 1936, for the purpose of following the situation at Danzig.

¹ Document C.427.1936.VII.

“ Several reports from the League High Commissioner on this subject have been communicated to the Committee. These documents are annexed to the present report (Annex 1624, page 1359). The Committee draws the attention of the Council to Mr. Lester's general report, dated September 12th, 1936,¹ which gives a summary of the present situation.

“ It is clear from these reports that the Council and the High Commissioner are at the present time meeting with systematic obstruction from the Senate in carrying out the functions accepted by the Council of guaranteeing the Constitution of the Free City. The Senate, in particular, has failed to furnish the information which it is bound to supply under the provisions of Article 42 of the Constitution and in accordance with the Council decision of May 22nd, 1931.² Furthermore, the Senate has issued several decrees whose compatibility with the terms of the Constitution is open at least to grave doubt.

“ It would have been possible for the Committee to suggest that the Council should take legal advice in regard to this matter. If the Committee has not done so, it is because it is of the opinion that the situation requires to be considered as a whole and therefore calls for a fuller and more general examination, and that it is only in the light of that examination that the Council will be able to decide on the course which should be followed.

“ The Council will certainly have been struck by the vexatious measures taken in regard to the High Commissioner's residence. The gravity of the question with which the Council has to deal may be judged from the fact that such treatment should be meted out to a representative of the League whose actions have been strictly limited to the carrying-out of instructions given to him by the Council with the full agreement of the Danzig Government.

“ The Committee is convinced that the Council can count upon the full assistance of the Polish Government in dealing with the situation. It is of opinion that that Government is particularly well placed to undertake the examination which the Committee considers should now be initiated with a view to enabling the Council to determine its future course with a full knowledge of the situation.

“ Accordingly the Committee submits to the Council the following resolution.

“ The Council,

“ Having taken note of the report submitted to it by the Committee of Three;

“ Considering that it is necessary to seek a means of putting an end to the obstruction offered by the Danzig Government to the High Commissioner in the exercise of his functions and to render fully effective the guarantee of the League of Nations;

“ Considering on the other hand that the Statute of the Free City was conceived in order to ensure in the best conditions possible the well-being of Danzig and the maintenance of the rights accorded to Poland by the international instruments in force:

“ Invites the Polish Government to seek, on behalf of the Council, the means of putting an end to the situation described in the general report of the High Commissioner and thus of rendering fully effective the guarantee of the League of Nations and to make a report on this subject at its next session,

“ Requests the Committee of Three to continue to follow the question,

“ Declares its readiness, in view of the importance of the question, to hold a special session, in case of need, to deal with it. ”

Lord Cranborne had little to add to the report. His colleagues would have seen from the report and the documents attached thereto, that the situation at Danzig, in so far as the connection of the Free City with the League of Nations was concerned, left very much to be desired. In those circumstances, the Committee suggested that the Council should request the Polish Government to undertake, on its behalf, the task of finding some means of putting an end to the present unsatisfactory situation and of rendering fully effective the guarantee of the League of Nations. Lord Cranborne had reason to believe that the Polish Government would accept that difficult and delicate task, and he was sure he was expressing the views of his colleagues in saying that the Council much appreciated the attitude of the Polish Government in thus consenting to act on its behalf in the matter. He was also sure that any support or assistance which the members of the Council could properly give to the Polish Government in the execution of its task would not be lacking in case of need.

M. DELBOS gladly associated himself with the remarks of the Rapporteur. The French Government had frequently given expression to the anxiety with which it had followed events in Danzig and, in particular, the obstruction with which the High Commissioner had met in the exercise of his duties.

It was necessary to put an end to that obstruction and thereby to render fully effective the guarantee which the League of Nations had accepted with a view to ensuring respect for the Constitution of the Free City. Hence the importance which the French Government attached to the task that the Committee of Three invited the Council to entrust to Poland, and which the latter was good enough to accept. France appreciated to the full the difficulties involved, and she was grateful to the Polish Government for the efforts it had agreed to make in this useful and high-minded endeavour. The Polish Government could therefore count on the French Government's full co-operation in its efforts to promote respect for international acts.

M. SANDLER associated himself entirely with the Rapporteur's proposal. He also was glad to see Poland assume the task which the Committee proposed should be entrusted to that country. M. Sandler earnestly hoped shortly to see normal conditions restored in Danzig, in conformity with the Statute of the Free City.

¹ See page 1359.

² See *Official Journal*, July 1931, page 1135.

M. KOMARNICKI desired, while taking note of the report of the Committee of Three and accepting the proposed draft resolution, to say that the Polish Government regarded the proposal which the Council was now called upon to adopt as a serious effort, inspired by a legitimate concern for the maintenance of the dignity of the Council and the interests of the Free City to overcome the difficulties that had arisen within the territory of the Free City

The Polish Government earnestly hoped that, in the fulfilment of the task to be entrusted to it by the Council under the proposed resolution, it could count on the co-operation of the Senate of the Free City in its endeavour to find means of easing the situation in a manner satisfactory to all parties concerned. In such action as it might take in the matter, the Polish Government would spare no effort to clear up the situation without any need for a special meeting of the Council.

In conclusion, M. Komarnicki expressed his sincerest thanks to the Rapporteur, the representative of the United Kingdom, who—with the valuable aid of the representatives of France and Portugal in the first instance, and subsequently of the representative of Sweden, and supported by the high authority of the Council—had done a great work in preparing the report and draft resolution.

The resolution was adopted.

Lord CRANBORNE pointed out that the vacancy caused by the appointment of Mr. Lester to the post of Deputy-Secretary-General of the League of Nations rendered necessary the early appointment of a new High Commissioner. He intended, if the Council agreed, to proceed without delay to the necessary consultations in order to lay proposals before the Council in due course.

The suggestion of the United Kingdom representative was approved.

The PRESIDENT before closing the meeting, thanked, on behalf of the Council, the Rapporteur and the members of the Council Committee, as well as the representative of the Polish Government, for their valuable co-operation in this matter.

THIRD MEETING (PRIVATE).

Held on Thursday October 8th, 1936, at 6.30 p.m.

President M. DE PORTO SEGURO.

The Members of the Council were represented as follows.

<i>Bolivia</i>	M. COSTA DU RELS.
<i>United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland</i>	Lord CRANBORNE.
<i>Chile</i>	M. DE PORTO SEGURO.
<i>China</i>	M. QUO Tai-Chi.
<i>Ecuador</i>	M. ZALDUMBIDE.
<i>France</i>	M. PAUL-BONCOUR.
<i>Italy</i>	
<i>Latvia.</i>	M. MUNTERS.
<i>New Zealand</i>	Mr. JORDAN
<i>Poland</i>	M. KOMARNICKI.
<i>Roumania</i>	M. ANTONIADE.
<i>Spain</i>	M. OSSORIO Y GALLARDO.
<i>Sweden</i>	M. SANDLER.
<i>Turkey</i>	M. RUSTÜ ARAS.
<i>Union of Soviet Socialist Republics</i>	M. LITVINOFF

Secretary-General M. J AVENOL.

3810. Appointment of Rapporteurs for the Year 1936/37

The SECRETARY-GENERAL submitted, in accordance with Article III of the Rules of Procedure of the Council, a scheme for the allocation of questions among the different representatives for the year 1936/37

*The following list of rapporteurs for the year 1936/37 was adopted*¹

¹ Document C.434.1936.