

## FIRST MEETING (PRIVATE).

*Held at Geneva on Thursday, September 16th, 1926, at 5 p.m.*

Present: All the representatives of the Members of the Council, and the Secretary-General.

## 1792. Presidency of the Session.

The SECRETARY-GENERAL reminded the Council that, according to its Rules of Procedure, the Presidents followed in the French alphabetical order of the States represented on the Council. Since the alphabetical list of the States had been exhausted at the last session, the Presidency for the present session would, according to the Rules of Procedure, fall to Germany.

Dr. STRESEMANN said that, since the Council comprised a fairly large number of members who were taking part in its work for the first time, he thought it would be necessary to choose a President possessing great experience of all the questions of interest to the League of Nations and its Council.

He proposed therefore that M. BENEŠ, who had presided over the Council during the past few weeks, should be President during the present session. It would, he thought, be a good omen for the new Council if it were unanimously to decide to offer the Presidency to M. Beneš, if M. Beneš would accept it.

M. BENEŠ sincerely thanked Dr. Stresemann for the proposal which he had put forward. If his colleagues agreed, he would accept the agreeable duty imposed on him.

*M. Beneš took the Chair*

## 1793. Adoption of the Agenda of the Session.

The PRESIDENT reminded the Council of its custom, at the beginning of each new session, to sit in private with the object of examining its agenda.

He proposed to add the following question to the agenda.

“Expenses of the Commissioner of the League of Nations for the Establishment of Bulgarian Refugees”

The Council had dealt with the question of the establishment of the refugees at its preceding session. In order that its resolution might be put into force, it would be necessary for it to take a decision concerning the expenses of the Commissioner.

*The Council decided to place this item on its agenda, to be dealt with at one of its later meetings, and adopted its agenda.*

## 1794. Appointment of Rapporteurs for Questions submitted to the Council.

The PRESIDENT said that, in view of the changes made in the composition of the Council, it had become necessary to make certain changes in the list of Rapporteurs drawn up three years previously for questions regularly placed on the agenda.

He proposed that the Council should instruct the Secretary-General to submit a new list for discussion at a later meeting.

*This proposal was adopted.*

In the meantime, he would ask some of his colleagues to act as Rapporteurs for certain questions on the agenda of the present session.

He proposed to appoint as Rapporteurs:

For the question:

Changes in the Composition of the Preparatory Commission for the Disarmament Conference in view of Changes in the Composition of the Council: *the representative of Czechoslovakia*

For the question:

Loan for the Establishment of Bulgarian Refugees. Question of a Railway for the Transport of Refugees: *the representative of Belgium*

For the question:

Counterfeiting Currency. Report of the Financial Committee: *the representative of Belgium*

For the question:

Armenian Refugee Settlement Commission. Report of the Financial Committee: *the representative of Czechoslovakia*

For the question:

Letter and Memorandum from the Diet of Memel. Report of the Jurists: *the representative of Salvador*

For the question:

Communications from the Swiss Federal Council concerning the Diplomatic Immunities to be accorded to the Staff of the League of Nations: *the representative of Roumania*

For the question:

Reorganisation of the Arad-Csanad Amalgamated Railways in accordance with the Terms of the Treaty of Trianon: *the representative of the Netherlands*

For the question:

Request from the Maramarosi-Tarsasag Railway Company: *the representative of the Netherlands*

For the question:

Report of the Salaries Adjustment Committee: *the representative of Chile*

For the question:

Financial Situation of the Free City of Danzig: Reports of the Financial Committee and of the High Commissioner of the League of Nations in Danzig: *the representative of Belgium.*  
*These proposals were adopted.*

1795. Amendment to Article 6 of the Regulations of the Staff Provident Fund Report of the Governing Body of the Staff Provident Fund approved by the Supervisory Commission.

Sir Austen CHAMBERLAIN, on whose proposal, at the March session of 1926, the question had been submitted for examination to the Governing Body of the Fund and to the Supervisory Commission, said that he was ready to accept the conclusions of the report.

*The report was adopted (Annex 908).*

1796. Offer of a Bust of President Wilson.

The Council took note of the following report <sup>1</sup> which was submitted to it by the Secretary-General:

"The Secretary-General has received an offer from Mr. and Mrs. R. J. Caldwell to present to the League of Nations a bust of President Wilson. Mr. Caldwell proposes to arrange for the bust to be executed by Mr. Bryant Baker, and it is agreed that the work shall receive the approval of Mrs. Woodrow Wilson before presentation.

"The Secretary-General would be glad if the Council, should it see no objection to such a course, would authorise him to inform Mr. Caldwell of its willingness to accept his gift under the proposed conditions."

*The Council asked the Secretary-General to express its thanks and gratitude to Mr and Mrs. Caldwell and to inform them that the Council was willing to accept this offer under the proposed conditions.*

## SECOND MEETING (PUBLIC).

*Held at Geneva on Thursday, September 16th, 1926, at 5.45 p.m.*

Present: All the representatives of the Members of the Council, and the Secretary-General.

1797. Opening Speech by the President.

The PRESIDENT spoke as follows:

Gentlemen — Before beginning the work of the first public meeting of the forty-second session of the Council of the League of Nations, it is my pleasant duty to express my feelings on the subject of the new composition of the Council, feelings which my colleagues will, I am sure, share with me. I feel it an honour to be able to speak on behalf of them all.

<sup>1</sup> Document C.536.1926.