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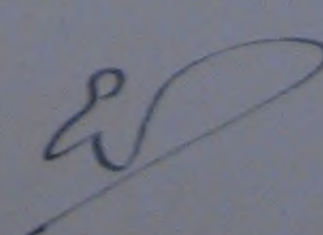
The Council held a secret meeting this morning. It approved of the appointment of the four gentlemen mentioned in the Chinese Representative's Report, and of M. Jancovici, to form the Committee dealing with the Allocation of Expenses of the League, which it decided ^{shall} to continue.

M. Hanotaux stated that he had received a telegram from Paris to the effect that M. Réveillaud thought that two sessions of the Committee would be sufficient instead of three. He, therefore, proposed that the estimates should be reduced from 15,000 to 10,000 Gold Francs.

The Council approved of this proposal, on the understanding that should three sessions become necessary, the Secretary-General would be authorised to ask for a supplementary credit.

M. Hanotaux stated that he had received from the Secretary-General a memorandum on the question of the retroactivity of the new barème. He said that he could not discuss it until it had been considered by his Government, and he asked the Secretary-General whether he would forward copies to the Governments Members of the Council.

The Secretary-General replied that he preferred that the Members of the Council should themselves communicate this memorandum, - which had been prepared for their confidential information, - to their Governments, as he was not anxious to circulate it at present to all the Members of the League.


January 13th, 1922.



The Council held a secret meeting this evening. The Secretary-General placed before them the list of new appointments and resignations. He explained that the first page of that list referred to what might be called the political appointments, and the rest of the document to administrative posts. As regards the latter, the Assembly had recognised that these should be drawn mainly from the French and English speaking countries, and that, therefore, the question of nationality only arose with regard to the political posts.

He added that he wished the advice of the Council on a further point, namely, as to whether those members of the Secretariat who were United States citizens should be offered contracts for 7, 14 or 21 years, in accordance with the decision of the Assembly. In his view it would be a grave mistake to make any distinction between United States citizens and the rest of the staff.

The Council agreed with the Secretary-General's opinion on this point.

The Italian Ambassador took the opportunity of stating that considerable dissatisfaction was felt in the Italian Parliament and in Italian public opinion with regard to the number of members of the Secretariat of Italian nationality. He pointed out that the Secretary-General had already been informed of this state of affairs on his visit to Rome, and he expressed the hope that he would do his best to remedy the present position. 1.

The Spanish Ambassador said that he had instructions to speak in the same sense.

The British Representative stated that he felt that

that there was considerable force in the remarks of his Italian and Spanish colleagues, and hoped that the Secretary-General would give careful attention to them.

M. Hanotaux associated himself with what his British colleague had said.

The Brazilian Representative then stated that he saw with great regret that there were no Brazilians on the Secretariat. He complained that the Assembly had suppressed the post of Under-Secretary, but that, in spite of such suppression, it had been revived. He said that Brazil, which made such large contributions to the League, was entitled to be represented on the Secretariat, although she made no claim at the present moment.

The Secretary-General replied that the statement made by the Brazilian Representative as regards the suppression of an Under-Secretaryship by the Assembly was not in accordance with what had happened. The Assembly had not suppressed an Under-Secretaryship. It had deliberately maintained it. It had suppressed a post of Director, which had not been filled.

As regards the question of there not being any Brazilian on the Secretariat, he had endeavoured lately to secure the services of a young Brazilian lawyer, but the salary now offered in accordance with the Assembly resolutions was small, and it was very difficult to secure the services of a really competent man from ~~such~~ ^{countries like} a country as South America in present circumstances. < <

As to the general question, he pointed out that he was subject to considerable pressure from the various States Members of the League to make appointments. On the other hand there was the question of economy, and he thought the latter to be the paramount consideration at the present time. The whole question of nationalities



had been very carefully studied at the Assembly. He had recognised that there was an undue predominance of British and French in the higher posts of the Secretariat. He had given to the Assembly a pledge that when the opportunity arose, he would remedy this. He repeated this pledge at Rome, and meant to stand by it. But it could only be done gradually, since he felt sure the Members of the Council would agree that it was not possible to dismiss efficient members of the Secretariat on the ground of nationality.

The Italian and Spanish Representatives took note of this reply, and thanked the Secretary-General for it.

The Japanese Ambassador then said that he did not wish his silence to be taken as meaning that he did not think Japan should be adequately represented in the Secretariat. He trusted to the Secretary-General to watch over the matter in this respect.

The Belgian Representative associated himself with the remarks of his Japanese colleague.

The Secretary-General added that his difficult position would be clear from the exchange of views which had taken place between the Members of the Council. He would take careful note of these views, and remember them when the occasion arose.

The list submitted was approved.

E.D.

January 13th, 1922.