

In compliance with Your Highness's wishes, I shall circulate your letter to the Members of the League of Nations and publish it in the *Official Journal*.

As regards the question of registration, however, Your Highness will permit me to observe that your letter, being a unilateral declaration, cannot be regarded as a treaty or international engagement within the meaning of Article 18 of the Covenant, and the practice which has hitherto been followed affords no precedent which justifies me in having your letter registered and published in the *Treaty Series*. A suitable reference will, however, be inserted in the *Treaty Series* at the end of the text of the notes exchanged between the British and Italian Governments.

Further, your letter will be specially forwarded to the British and Italian Governments, which are directly interested.

I feel confident that this course will meet the wishes expressed in your letter of the 30th Nahasié, 1918 (September 4th, 1926).

(Signed) ERIC DRUMMOND,
Secretary-General.

VII. LETTER FROM THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE LEAGUE.

LONDON, October 21st, 1926.

I am directed by Secretary Sir Austen Chamberlain to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of October 8th last forwarding a translation of a note addressed to you by His Royal Highness Ras Tafari, Heir Apparent and Regent of the Empire of Abyssinia, concerning the notes exchanged between His Majesty's Government and the Italian Government on December 14th and 20th, 1925, together with a copy of your reply to Ras Tafari's communication.

2. His Majesty's Government take note of the fact that these documents have been communicated to the Members of the League of Nations and that they will be published in the *Official Journal* of the League.

(Signed) JOHN MURRAY.

VIII. LETTER FROM THE ITALIAN GOVERNMENT TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE LEAGUE.

[Translation from the Italian]

ROME, October 26th, 1926.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 11/54518/52770, dated October 8th, 1926, in which you were good enough to forward me a copy of a note addressed to you on September 4th by His Imperial Highness Ras Tafari Makonnen, Heir to the Throne and Regent of the Empire of Abyssinia, referring to the notes exchanged between the British and Italian Governments on December 14th and 20th, 1925, together with a copy of your reply to His Imperial Highness.

(Signed) MUSSOLINI.