

inaugurated in November whereby British troops withdraw to Palestine, French occupy coastal region of Syria and Arabs interior, pending final peace with Turkey.

In regard to Turkish Peace, decided that it was impossible to wait any longer for America, and French and British Foreign Officers are now exchanging views with the object of formulating proposals for discussion at an International Conference at Paris at which Italian Prime Minister will be present in a few weeks time. This conference will also attempt to settle Adriatic question, and France, America and Great Britain have now presented to Italian Government a statement of their views as to a reasonable settlement, couched in most conciliatory language. As regards Russia, Conference was agreed that none of the European Powers could enter into further Commitments for supporting the anti-Bolshevik forces beyond those to which they are already committed. They would, however, continue to maintain their missions with various independent or autonomous Governments who are fighting for their liberty and with armies which are fighting for a democratic Russia.

Siberia was left to be dealt with by agreement between United States and Japan. Conference was agreed that no useful purpose could be served by summoning a general conference of anti-Bolshevik communities at the present time.

It was further decided that the formal Peace Conference should be brought to an end within a fortnight of exchanging ratifications with Germans, and that the rest of the work of the Peace Conference for instance conclusion of Turkish and Hungarian Peaces should be dealt with by occasional conference between principals supplemented by a (pro?) Ambassadorial conference in Paris to deal with questions in detail. Finally the Conference considered situation in America as regards League of Nations. We were advised by Lord Grey¹ that any expression of opinion by Allies against reservations would stiffen attitude of Senate, while any declaration of our willingness to consider reservations would be regarded as a rebuff by the President. In view of fact that Lord Grey is returning to this country in a few weeks time it was decided to postpone action in regard to attitude of America towards the League of Nations until after his report has been received. At the Conference, however, we made it clear we could do nothing in regard to American objections to the voting power of the British Dominions without the consent of the Dominion Governments thereto. Monsieur Clemenceau fully approved of this position.

Conference also dealt with financial and economic questions. With most of these matters I need not trouble you as they concern only Great Britain and France. Most important was that British Government agreed in order to remedy the fall in the exchange to the issue of a French loan in England on conditions to be agreed later. But there is one other point on which I must

¹ Vicomte Grey de Falloden, ambassadeur aux États-Unis de 1919 à 1920.