

Lord Curzon said that the agreement reached with M. Millerand at San Remo was not in his view confined to Palestine. This question must, however, be reserved, and he had no intention whatever that his present proposal with regard to the Capitulations should be regarded as affecting the question of the protectorate one way or the other.

M. Poincaré suggested that the phrase should be modified to read simply "compatible with existing rights."

Lord Curzon enquired whether the difficulty would be met by the substitution for the words "their nationals" of the words "foreign subjects."

M. Poincaré explained that Turkish subjects of the Catholic faith also came in question. He did not want the matter to be settled in advance against France.

Signor Schanzer said that on the question of the religious protectorates each of them must reserve his point of view, and it should be made clear that the present formula did not relate to this question at all. The present statement dealt with economic and judicial matters, while M. Poincaré's point related to religious matters. It appeared to him that provided the position was rendered perfectly draft before them related only to matters fiscal and judicial ("fiscales et judiciaires").

Lord Curzon said that he had not the slightest desire or intention of raising in these discussions the question of the religious protectorates, upon which there was disagreement between the Governments and on which he thought the Italian Government were of the same opinion as the British.

M. Poincaré replied that he was well aware, of course, that Lord Curzon had not intended to touch this question. He would be satisfied to accept Signor Schanzer's proposal, provided it were made quite clear in the *procès-verbal* that the draft before them related only to matters fiscal and judicial (*fiscales et judiciaires*).

Upon this understanding Lord Curzon's draft was accepted.

Costs of the Armies of Occupation.

M. Poincaré enquired whether the conference wished to consider at this stage the question of the costs of the armies of occupation. It was a large matter to discuss now.

Lord Curzon pointed out that they wished to finish their immediate work to-day, and suggested that this question should be left over.

This was agreed to.

Statement of Conclusions reached.

Lord Curzon informed the conference that he had during the previous night prepared a memorandum setting out in general terms the conclusions which the conference had reached and their reasons for coming to them. He had endeavoured to give a broad, general and fair-minded statement of the terms proposed, with an explanation of each, in a form suitable for publication to the world, so that they might be judged by their work as a whole. He suggested that he should add to this memorandum a note of the results of this morning's discussion, and should bring it before them in the afternoon.

If it were found to be a fair statement, Lord Curzon would suggest that instead of having two documents, one for the press and the other for the Greeks and Turks, his statement, with any modification of wording that might be considered desirable, should be included in the communication to be sent to the latter, as a general declaration of the proposals which they were invited to consider. It could then be published on Tuesday or Wednesday, or whenever the conference chose.

M. Poincaré thought it desirable to make an announcement to the press to-day, if possible, and suggested that they should be given what was being sent to Constantinople.

This point was left over for further discussion.

Place of Meeting with the Greeks and Turks.

M. Poincaré pointed out that there remained the question of the place of meeting with the Greeks and Turks.

Lord Curzon suggested that this should be Constantinople. He did so for several reasons. Constantinople was the only place where the two Turkish Governments could meet together with ease, and it was close at hand for them; the High Commissioners, who had become familiar with the problem to be dealt with, were also available there. The only alternatives were London, Paris or Rome, none of which was so convenient for the purpose as Constantinople; and it had to be borne in mind that if the Turks and Greeks should come to one of those capitals and should then refuse the terms, a much more awkward position would be created for the Allies than if the meeting were held in Constantinople.

M. Poincaré feared that the choice of this city might suggest a preference to one Turkish Government over the other, and might divide the Turks, and he suggested that Brusa would be a more satisfactory place of meeting. But perhaps they need not indicate at present what place within the Turkish Empire would be chosen.

It was agreed that the communication should say that the place of meeting would be fixed later.

The conference rose till 4 o'clock in the afternoon, when Lord Curzon's statement of the results of their work would be considered.

ANNEX I.

AVIS des Experts militaires.

Première Question.—Au bout de combien de temps la suppression du service obligatoire peut-elle être imposée à la Turquie?

Etant données les difficultés actuelles du Gouvernement turc pour assurer le paiement de la solde des troupes et de la gendarmerie, comme aussi les frais élevés qu'entraînera le recrutement par engagement volontaire, il ne paraît pas possible d'indiquer maintenant une date précise à partir de laquelle le recrutement par engagement volontaire peut efficacement être imposé à la Turquie.

C'est seulement lorsque sa situation financière le lui permettra que la Turquie pourra recruter son armée et sa gendarmerie par engagement volontaire.

Deuxième Question.—Quels effectifs est-il possible d'accorder à la Turquie pour son armée et sa gendarmerie?

Le Traité de Sèvres a fixé les chiffres de :

35,000 hommes pour la gendarmerie.
15,000 hommes pour l'armée.

50,000 hommes au total.

A Londres, en mars 1921, on a estimé possible de porter ces chiffres à :

45,000 hommes pour la gendarmerie.
30,000 hommes pour l'armée.

75,000 hommes au total.

Après un nouvel examen, les chiffres suivants semblent pouvoir être atteints :

45,000 hommes pour la gendarmerie.
30,000 à 40,000 hommes pour l'armée.

75,000 à 85,000 hommes au total.

L'artillerie de l'armée ne devra comprendre que des canons de montagne et de campagne, à l'exclusion d'artillerie lourde.

La proportion de la cavalerie devra être largement augmentée par rapport à celle qui était prévue dans le Traité de Sèvres; elle pourra comprendre 4,000 hommes pour une armée de 30,000 hommes. La cavalerie devra également entrer pour une très large proportion dans la composition de la gendarmerie.

Troisième Question.—Est-il indispensable de placer dans la gendarmerie turque des officiers alliés pour y participer à l'organisation, au commandement et à l'instruction?