

13. The proposed meeting of the Greek Committee (that is the Committee to consider and report upon the territorial claims of Greece) which was arranged for Saturday last [February 15] was not held, owing to the illness of some of the delegates. Meetings were held during the forenoon of Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. The Italian delegates wasted the whole of Wednesday's meeting in putting forward argument which was either irrelevant or unnecessary. However, good progress was made on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, with the result that all questions respecting the Epirus, Western Thrace and Eastern Thrace have been practically settled so far as the Committee is concerned, and the question as to Asia Minor has been discussed at some length.

14. On Monday [February 17] Sir Robert Borden had an interesting conference with Mr. W. A. White, one of the American delegates to the proposed Conference at Prince's Island, and was glad to find that Mr. White is in thorough agreement with the views which Sir Robert Borden entertains as to the Russian situation.

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19. The Naval and Military Authorities are strongly of opinion that the present disposition of the Germans is to accept whatever terms may be imposed unless, of course, those terms are so oppressive as to drive them absolutely to desperation, in which case they may possibly throw up their hands, decline to sign peace on the terms proposed, and inform the Allies that they are at liberty to occupy Germany and to take such other steps as they may deem proper. On the one hand there is the danger that Germany may become reorganized so quickly as to create a menace in the early future, especially if her government should establish a *rapprochement* with a new and stable democratic government in Russia. On the other hand there is the danger that Germany may become so disorganized as to yield to the influence of Bolshevism and imperil the future of the other European Nations and possibly of the world.

20. The French and Italians are very insistent in maintaining territorial claims which will possibly create difficulty. Friction may also develop with respect to the claims for an enormous indemnity upon which a strong difference of opinion is likely to arise.

21. On Thursday afternoon, the 20th instant, Dr. Robertson reported to Sir Robert Borden that he had just come from conferences with Sir John Beale<sup>1</sup> and then with Mr. Hoover,<sup>2</sup> both of whom were greatly concerned as to the food situation in Central Europe. Each of them at separate interviews informed Dr. Robertson that in his opinion the situation was very grave and that the people of Germany, Austria-Hungary, Serbia and Roumania would

<sup>1</sup> Premier secrétaire du ministère du Ravitaillement de Grande-Bretagne en 1918; représentant de la Grande-Bretagne au Conseil allié suprême du Ravitaillement et du Secours en 1919.

<sup>2</sup> Chef de l'administration alimentaire des États-Unis de 1917 à 1919; conseiller de la délégation des États-Unis à la Conférence de la Paix relativement aux questions de vivres et de secours; président de la Commission de secours en Belgique de 1914 à 1919; président du Conseil économique suprême.