

Classement.

LAUSANNE CONFERENCE

1922.

REGISTRY.

Classement

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Sujet.

Lausanne Conference, 1922-1923 -

Record of interview with M. Stancioff, Bulgarian Minister in London and Delegate to the Lausanne Conference, relating to various points engaging the attention of the Conference, and referring also to the possibility of Turkey entering the L.O.N.

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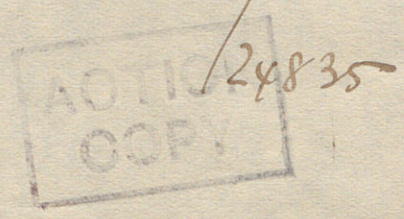
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17. 5. 23

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Secretary-General.

Mr. Stancioff, Bulgarian Minister in London, came from Lausanne this afternoon. He was disappointed not to find you at the Secretariat and wished me to give you his regards.

He came to see me mainly about his son, for whom he is extremely anxious to find a post on the Secretariat. He said that various people, among whom were Lord Robert Cecil, Sir William Tirrell and Sir Robert Horne, had offered to write you personally recommending him, but that he had hitherto not accepted their proffers, as he thought you were sufficiently enlightened on the subject. He repeatedly wished me to assure him that his son could be at least temporarily attached to the Secretariat for the Assembly as an attaché on half pay if necessary.

Enter separately as offer of services file 38/25809/4

I replied:

(1) That I knew that you would be very happy to appoint a Bulgarian to the Secretariat if circumstances allowed and that Mr. Stancioff Junior, on account of his exceptional linguistic abilities, his past experience and his legal training was no doubt in your estimation an extremely promising candidate.

(2) That there was not at present any suitable vacancy, and that on general principles you had never consented to the appointment of any attaches on a semi-voluntary basis.

In brief, I repeatedly declared to Mr. Stancioff that I could naturally give no positive assurances whatever, except that the candidature of a Bulgarian would receive favourable consideration at the earliest possible opportunity and that I knew of no

Bulgarian candidate so promising as his son.

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Speaking of the Conference of Lausanne, Mr. Stancioff was rather pessimistic. The Greeks, he said, were becoming restless and spoke of crossing the Maritza, occupying the ^{Tschataldja} ~~Maritza~~ line and possibly seizing Constantinople if peace was not made soon and if the Turks did not abandon their claims for an indemnity which Greece was both unwilling and unable to pay.

The Turks, on the other hand, were very insistent both on such an indemnity and on the complete abolition of all legal and economic advantages in favour of foreigners. Ismet Pasha, with whom Mr. Stancioff seems to be on rather intimate personal terms, had recently informed him that on this latter point, as well as on that of a Greek war indemnity, Angora was absolutely adamant. Every day, Ismet Pasha added, he was presented by the Allies with a new formula concerning the status of foreigners in Turkey but all these formulae when undressed, as he put it, disclosed the same principle of inequality which was unacceptable to his Government.

As to the corridor and to the part which the Allies had offered Bulgaria, Mr. Stancioff declared that his own Government was unwilling to accept it under the terms offered and that the treaty, if treaty there was to be, would merely register the offer and the Bulgarian refusal, leaving Bulgaria and Greece to settle the matter among themselves.

There was a great deal of talk concerning the transmission to the League of various financial problems. It seemed to be generally agreed that the League was to be entrusted with the study, if not with the settlement, of such questions as that of the payment in gold or paper

francs of the coupons of the Turkish debt.

Ismet Pasha had informed Mr. Stancioff of the firm intention of his Government to seek admission to the League and had asked him for a written exposé concerning the League, its constitution and functions. Mr. Stancioff, as a firm supporter of the League, said that he would very willingly supply Ismet Pasha with such a statement, but he showed no special eagerness when I suggested that the Secretariat would naturally be at his entire disposal if he wished to be supplied with any particular information.

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On departing, Mr. Stancioff again insisted on his son's candidature, which was obviously the sole object of his visit, and stated that he left the matter in our hands with entire confidence.

Na. Wood

15th May, 1923.

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