

LEAGUE OF NATIONS.

Communicated to the
Members of the Council.

C.110.1930.I.

Geneva, January 30, 1930.

PROTECTION OF MINORITIES IN GERMAN UPPER SILESIA.

Petition from the "Union of Intellectuals from the district of Neustadt", and from the "Union of Intellectuals from the district of Leobschütz".

(Document C.196.1929.I.)

Note by the Secretary-General.

Under the Council resolution of June 13th, 1929, paragraph 4 (i), the Secretary-General has the honour to circulate for the information of the Members of the Council, a letter addressed to him by the Representatives of Italy, Persia, and Spain, with reference to the examination of a petition from the "Union of Intellectuals from the district of Neustadt", and from the "Union of Intellectuals from the district of Leobschütz", relating to the language used in teaching members of the minority and at divine service in these districts. In accordance with the Council resolution, the documents concerning this question are kept in the archives of the Secretariat at the disposal of the Members of the Council.

LETTER FROM THE REPRESENTATIVES OF ITALY, PERSIA AND SPAIN.

Geneva, January 16th, 1930

To the Secretary-General.

(Translation)

Sir,

Under the Council resolution of October 25th, 1920, a Committee of Three of which we have had the honour to be members, was called upon to examine a petition dated December 10th, 1928, from the "Union of Intellectuals from the district of Neustadt" and the "Union of Intellectuals from the district of Leobschutz", concerning the language used in teaching members of the minority and at divine service in these districts, together with the German Government's observations thereon (Doc. C. 198.1929.I).

The Committee, which had already come to a decision on the basis of the information which the German Government was good enough to supply on the first point - viz, the use of the Polish and Moravian languages in the districts of Neustadt and Leobschutz, informed the petitioners on September 5th, 1929, through the Secretariat, that, according to the information communicated by the German Government, an application would have to be made by the members of the minority themselves before a minority school could be set up.

As regards the districts where the number of Polish services has been reduced, the Committee, after taking note, at the meeting held on the 14th January, of the information

communicated by the German Government in its letter of November 11th, 1929, decided that it was not essential to continue its examination of the question.

The Committee, having thus concluded its consideration of the two points dealt with in the petition of the priests Robota and Koziolok of Kattowitz, has decided that there is no need for any of its members to draw the Council's attention to the matters in question.

In terminating its examination of this petition the Committee expressed the wish that the competent authorities should allow the majority language to be substituted for the minority language at divine service only in cases where, as at Olbersdorf, this was the express desire of the congregation.

As the Council resolution of June 13th, 1929, 4 (i), provides that, when the members of a Minorities Committee have finished the examination of a question without asking that it be placed on the Council's agenda, they will communicate the result of their examination by letter to the other members of the Council for their information, we have the honour to ask you to be good enough to communicate the contents of this letter to the other Members of the Council for their information.

(Signed) PILOTTI

QUINONES DE LEON

M.A. FOROUGHI.