

LEAGUE OF NATIONS.

Communicated to the  
Council and to the  
Bulgarian and Greek  
Governments.-

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Geneva, September 2nd, 1927

REPORTS ON THE PROGRESS MADE IN THE EXECUTION OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS  
of DECEMBER 14th, 1925, REGARDING THE PROPERTIES OF REFUGEES FROM  
BULGARIA AND GREECE.

Report by Sir Austen Chamberlain.

The Commission sent by the Council to Bulgaria and Greece in 1925 reported amongst other things that it had learnt that the work of liquidation of the properties of refugees who were being exchanged under the Emigration Convention between Bulgaria and Greece was progressing slowly, that a very small number of emigrants had received the compensation to which they were entitled, and that in consequence an excusable feeling of discontent had arisen.

At its meeting in December of that year the Council was informed by the representatives of Bulgaria and Greece that their Governments desired to hasten the liquidation of the properties of emigrants. Since then at its successive meetings the Council has been informed by the Bulgarian and Greek Governments and by the President of the Mixed Commission of the progress achieved.

The work of valuation or liquidation is proceeding. At the last meeting the number of liquidations was some 7,600. It now amounts in round figures to 10,600, and we are informed that the rate of progress will henceforward be rapidly increased. This is certainly to be desired, for the total number of claims is in the neighbourhood of 40,000.

The question of compensation to the emigrants presents greater difficulties, which would seem however to be rather of a technical and a financial than of a political character. The commitments which will arise for the two Governments out of the liquidations are expected to amount to considerable sums. The question as to how these obligations are to be met is still under consideration, and negotiations are proceeding between the Bulgarian and Greek Governments and the Commission. In view of the difficulties which have arisen, it would be of value for the Council to request the Financial Committee to be good enough to give advice on any technical aspects of the problem as to which the President of the Commission may wish to consult them now or in the future. The Council would be informed of the results by the Financial Committee and unless new difficulties arise I should hope that it would no longer be necessary for the Council to occupy itself with this question.

Resolution.-

The Council approves the report of its rapporteur.