

Geneva, May 13th, 1930.

M A N D A T E S.

PALESTINE: DESIGNATION BY THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT OF
THE MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION ENTRUSTED WITH THE FINAL
SETTLEMENT OF THE QUESTION OF THE WALLING WALL.

Report by the Representative of Finland.

At its meeting on January 14th, 1930, the Council, being anxious to place the British Government in a position to carry out the responsibilities laid upon it by Article 13 of the Mandate under the most favourable conditions for safeguarding the material and moral interests of the populations placed under its mandate, and wishing not to prejudge, in any way, the solution of the problems relating to the question of the Holy Places of Palestine, resolved that a Commission should be entrusted with the final settlement of the question of the rights and claims of the Jews and Moslems with regard to the Walling Wall at Jerusalem.

The Council decided that:

1) This Commission should consist of three persons who should not be of British nationality and at least one of whom should be a person eminently qualified for the purpose by the judicial functions he had performed:

2) The names of the persons whom the mandatory Power intended to appoint as members of the Commission should be submitted for approval to the Council, whose members should be consulted by the President if the Council was not in session;

3) The duties of the Commission should cease as soon as it pronounced on the rights and claims mentioned above.

In a letter dated May 12th, 1930, addressed to the Secretary-General⁽¹⁾ the British Government has communicated to us the names of the gentlemen selected by it to form this Commission. They are:

- M. Eliel Löfgren, former Swedish Minister for Foreign Affairs (as Chairman),
- M. Charles Barde, Judge at the Court of Justice, at Geneva,
- M. C.J. Van Kempen, formerly in the Colonial Service of the Netherlands.

As the Council is at present in session it is, of course, unnecessary to resort to the special procedure I mentioned above.

I desire to congratulate the mandatory Power on choosing gentlemen of such distinction as members of the Commission. I would therefore propose that the Council should approve this choice and express its hope that the work of the Commission on the Wailing Wall may help towards a happy solution for the problems in Palestine.

(1) Document C. 294. 1930. VI.