

to the principles for which it stands, and to the organisation of peace and collective security, is certainly a great success for the cause of peace itself.

I also wish to congratulate personally my friends the French Minister for Foreign Affairs, M. Delbos, and the Turkish Minister for Foreign Affairs, M. Rüstü Aras, together with their immediate collaborators, M. Viénot and M. Menémencioglu, and all the others whose collaboration has contributed to the successful outcome of this controversy.

M. SANDLER. — The mission with which the Council entrusted me in appointing me Rapporteur in the matter of the Sanjak of Alexandretta is now at an end. While it may have given me a few difficult moments, it also gave me some pleasant and extremely interesting hours. During the final stage, my task was greatly facilitated by the preparatory work done by the Committee of Experts. Thanks to this Committee, over which M. Bourquin so ably presided, I have been able to confine myself in the past few days to a small number of points still outstanding. Agreement on these points was reached by the Powers mainly concerned, as you will have realised from the statements just made.

I should like to take this opportunity of paying tribute, as I had the pleasure of doing last January, to the spirit of conciliation and wise foresight displayed by all concerned; it never failed at decisive moments.

I am very grateful to my French and Turkish colleagues, and to their highly qualified collaborators, for their invaluable contribution to our work.

I am deeply moved by the remarks my colleagues have been good enough to address to me. As far as I personally am concerned, it is my very pleasant duty to thank the services of the Secretariat which assisted in this work for their efficient, indefatigable and well-informed contribution. There were many practical problems which had to be settled.

If my colleagues adopt the report I have the honour to present to them, we shall have reached the final settlement of the Alexandretta affair.

The PRESIDENT. — It is my duty as President of the Council — a most pleasant duty—to congratulate the Governments of France and Turkey most sincerely on behalf of the Council. We thank the Rapporteur, the Swedish Minister for Foreign Affairs, who with his foresight and wisdom contributed to the great success which the League of Nations has achieved, and also the Secretariat and the Committee of Experts for their very valuable collaboration in the settlement of this affair. The fact that the problem was a most difficult one makes the League's success even greater. The mutual understanding and the friendly attitude prevailing between the parties throughout made it possible to settle this matter in the spirit of the Covenant and within the framework of the League of Nations.

The resolution was adopted.

M. DELBOS. — France has just voted in favour of the resolution adopted by the Council. She accepts the settlement laid down therein as constituting the final solution of the question, and undertakes the special obligations which devolve upon her from the texts established.

M. RÜSTÜ ARAS. — Turkey has just voted in favour of the resolution adopted by the Council. She accepts the settlement laid down therein as constituting the final solution of the question, and undertakes the special obligations which devolve upon her from the texts established.

3919. Appeal by the Spanish Government (continuation).

The PRESIDENT presented the following resolution: ¹

“ The Council,

“ After hearing the observations made before it: ²

“ I.

“ Confirming the principles and recommendations set forth in its resolution of December 12th, 1936,³ and, in particular, the duty of every State to respect the territorial integrity and political independence of other States, a duty which, for Members of the League of Nations, has been recognised in the Covenant:

“ (1) Observes with regret that the development of the situation in Spain does not seem to suggest that the steps taken by Governments on the recommendations of the Council have as yet had the full effect desired;

“ (2) Notes that an international scheme of supervision of the non-intervention undertakings assumed by the European Governments is now in force;

¹ Document C.269(x).1937.VII.

² See pages 317 *et seq.*

³ See *Official Journal*, January 1937, page 18.

" (3) Notes with very great satisfaction the action taken by the London Non-Intervention Committee with a view to the withdrawal of all non-Spanish combatants taking part in the struggle in Spain;

" (4) Expresses the firm hope that such action will be taken in consequence of this initiative as may ensure with the utmost speed the withdrawal from the struggle of all the non-Spanish combatants participating therein; this measure is at present, in the Council's opinion, the most effective remedy for a situation the great gravity of which, from the standpoint of the general peace, it feels bound to emphasise and the most certain means of ensuring the full application of the policy of non-intervention;

" (5) Urges Members of the League, represented on that Committee, to spare no effort in this direction;

" (6) Expresses the hope that the early success of these efforts will lead without delay to the cessation of the struggle and give the Spanish people the possibility of deciding its own destiny;

" II.

" (1) Profoundly moved by the horrors resulting from the use of certain methods of warfare, condemns the employment, in the Spanish struggle, of methods contrary to international law and the bombing of open towns;

" (2) Desires to emphasise its high appreciation of the efforts of unofficial institutions and certain Governments to save civilians, especially women and children, from these terrible dangers."

M. ALVAREZ DEL VAYO. — In accepting the resolution just proposed, I should like to thank the Council for the consideration devoted to the appeal of the Spanish Government, particularly in the matter of the withdrawal of non-Spanish combatants.

I should now like to be allowed to add two observations concerning yesterday's meeting.

The first relates to the progress made in the policy of non-intervention since last December, which was referred to in yesterday's discussion. I feel bound to point out that that progress has not prevented Italian and German intervention from becoming a veritable criminal aggression—the introduction into Spain of contingents and material in a proportion far exceeding many of the highest estimates.

My second observation is of a slightly different character. On several occasions during yesterday's discussion, use was made, in connection with the position in Spain, of the term "two parties". The Government of the Republic which I have the honour to represent instructs me to inform the Council that in no circumstances can it agree to the official use of this expression to describe, on the one hand, the legitimate Government of Spain, and, on the other, those directly and immediately responsible for the military rebellion, aided by foreign support, which has plunged Spain into her present situation.

The resolution was adopted.

3920. Close of the Session.

The PRESIDENT. — I declare closed the ninety-seventh ordinary session of the Council.