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IX. DISARMAMENT

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The Rules of Procedure adopted by the Conference for the Reduction and Limitation of Armaments on February 4th, 1932, contain the following stipulations in Chapter III :

“(1) The Bureau of the Conference shall consist of the President, the Vice-Presidents, and the Chairmen of the Commissions, on which all the delegations are represented. The Honorary President shall be a member of the Bureau *ex officio*.

“(2) The Bureau shall assist the President in the general direction of the work of the Conference”.

The Bureau was accordingly constituted on February 5th, 1932, after the election of the fourteen Vice-Presidents of the Conference—namely, the representatives of the following countries : Argentine, Austria, Belgium, United Kingdom, Czechoslovakia, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Poland, Spain, Sweden, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United States of America—to which were added, on February 27th, the Chairmen of the Land Commission, the Naval Commission, the Air Commission and the National Defence Expenditure Commission, and M. Politis (delegate of Greece), Vice-Chairman of the General Commission.

On several occasions the President of the Conference, the Vice-President, the Rapporteur of the General Commission and the Secretary-General of the Conference met in private as the officers of the Bureau.

The Bureau held its first meeting on February 5th, 1932. Until September 21st of the same year, its meetings were private and no Minutes were kept. On that date, the Bureau decided that, in order to give effect to the resolution adopted by the General Commission on July 23rd, 1932,¹ Minutes should be kept of its meetings and should be communicated to the members of the Conference. The present volume therefore contains the Minutes of the fourteenth to forty-sixth meetings, covering the period from September 21st, 1932, to June 27th, 1933.

The Minutes of later meetings will be published in Volume II of Series C.

¹ This resolution said, *inter alia* : “ Pending the resumption of the meetings of the General Commission, the Bureau will keep the delegations informed of the progress of the work ”.

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