

DRAFT.
CONFIDENTIAL

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

at the

271ST MEETING

of the

IMPERIAL WAR GRAVES COMMISSION

held at

32, GROSVENOR GARDENS, LONDON, S.W. 1

on

THURSDAY, 19TH JULY 1945.

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PRESENT:

Major-General Sir FABIAN WARE, K.C.V.O., K.B.E., C.B., C.M.G., LL.D.,
Vice-Chairman, in the Chair.

Colonel E.H. JONES, D.C.M., E.D.
Representing the High Commissioner for Canada.

V.C. DUFFY, Esq., M.V.O.
Representing the High Commissioner for Australia.

C. KNOWLES, Esq., C.B.E.
Representing the High Commissioner for New Zealand.

I.T. MEYER, Esq.
Representing the High Commissioner for South Africa.

D. JAMES DAVIES, Esq., C.B.E., J.P.
Representing the Government of Newfoundland.

Sir SAMUEL RUNGANADHAN,
High Commissioner for India.

Lieut.-Colonel S.J. COLE, C.M.G., O.B.E.
Representing the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

General Sir ROBERT GORDON-FINLAYSON, K.C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O.

Admiral Sir MARTIN DUNBAR-NASMITH, V.C., K.C.B.

Colonel Sir JOHN SHUTE, C.M.G., D.S.O., J.P.

Air Chief Marshal Sir ARTHUR LONGMORE, G.C.B., D.S.O., D.L.

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There were also present:

Lieut.-Colonel Sir HERBERT ELLISSEN, C.B.E. (Adviser on Post-War
Organisation and Reconstruction).

Brigadier J.K. McNAIR, C.B.E. (Director of Graves Registration
and Enquiries, War Office).

Major-General J.H. ROBERTS, C.B., D.S.O., M.C. (Chief Administrative
Officer, Central European District).

Lieut.-Colonel H.F. CHETTLE, C.M.G., O.B.E. (Director of Records).

F.C. SILLAR, Esq. (Assistant Secretary, Finance).

Major R.W. MURPHY, M.B.E. (Area Superintendent, United Kingdom).

Captain F. TYRRELL, M.B.E.

Lieutenant O.D. HOLT.

The VICE-CHAIRMAN said that the Minutes of the last meeting had been circulated and if they were approved he would sign them.

The Minutes were agreed and signed.

The VICE-CHAIRMAN said that he had received apologies from Sir John Kennedy, the Adjutant-General, Sir Frederic Kenyon and Sir William Halcrow, who were unable to attend the meeting.

The VICE-CHAIRMAN said that he had asked General Roberts, the Commission's Chief Administrative Officer in France and Belgium, to attend the meeting, and members would be very glad to make his acquaintance. Brigadier Higginson had been spending a few days with General Roberts in France and Belgium discussing outstanding questions on the spot.

REVIEW OF RECENT EVENTS

The VICE-CHAIRMAN said that a further party of ten gardeners had left this country for France on July 6th and yet another party would be leaving in a day or two. The men were being sent over at the rate of about ten a fortnight.

Major-General ROBERTS, in reply to a question from the VICE-CHAIRMAN, said that this was a satisfactory rate of progress and it would be impossible to cope with more for the present.

The VICE-CHAIRMAN said that Ramleh War Cemetery Extension in Palestine, containing 505 burials, had been taken over by the Commission on the 31st May, and Shaiba Indian Cemetery, containing 263 burials, on the 7th June. The necessary documents had been received, together with records of about 240 cremations at Shaiba.

The High Commissioner for Canada had been present at Brookwood Military Cemetery on Dominion Day, July 1st, when the Canadian Branch of the British Legion had made its annual pilgrimage to the Cemetery. Many of those present had waited to take part in the "Last Post" ceremony at 5 o'clock.

A conference of municipal authorities would be held in London in September to discuss general questions of cemetery administration in this country. The conference would conclude on the afternoon of Thursday, September 20th, with a formal visit to the United Kingdom, Dominion and Allied Sections of Brookwood Military Cemetery. The Commission would be meeting that morning in the normal course, and Major Murphy was anxious that one or more of the Commissioners should go down to Brookwood to meet the representatives of the local authorities.

Major MURPHY, in reply to the VICE-CHAIRMAN, said that the last of these conferences of municipal authorities had been held at Portsmouth in 1939. This year they would be joined by municipal authorities from Scotland and Wales, and the conference would be of a much more representative character than any that had been held in the past. It was these authorities who had set aside in so many of their cemeteries plots for Service graves of the present war, in which not only our own men but also those of the Dominion and Allied Forces were buried. Many of them would be seeing a large war cemetery for the first time, and it would be a great encouragement both to them and to

the staff engaged in the work in the United Kingdom if one or more of the Commissioners could be there that afternoon to meet them. More than 100 delegates would be taking part. The conference would open on the 19th, when Lord Chatfield, President of the War Memorials Advisory Council of the Royal Society of Arts, would address them on the subject of War Memorials, and there would be further papers on that afternoon and the following morning; but he believed that the visit to Brookwood was the chief feature of the programme. He hoped that it might be possible for a paper on the Commission's work to be read to them at Brookwood.

The VICE-CHAIRMAN said that he thought that Major Murphy's suggestion was eminently worthy of support and he would like to ask Sir Arthur Longmore if he would be good enough to continue his services to the Commission's work in the United Kingdom by going down to Brookwood that afternoon and talking to the delegates.

Air Chief Marshal Sir Arthur LONGMORE said that he would be very willing to go. He had recently visited one of the Portsmouth cemeteries and had found its condition very different from that of a cemetery like Brookwood. The contrast was startling and he thought that it would be very useful for the delegates to see the standard of maintenance obtained by the Commission.

The VICE-CHAIRMAN asked whether members agreed that Sir Arthur Longmore should represent them on this occasion, and members notified their agreement.

The VICE-CHAIRMAN said that a letter had been received from a British soldier stationed in Italy asking for the location of Tezze-British Cemetery, one of the 1914/18 War Cemeteries. The soldier, after his visit, had written a further letter in which he said that the general condition, tidiness and upkeep of the cemetery were wonderful and a credit to the staff concerned. The gardener in charge was one of those engaged by Count Memmo who had looked after the cemeteries throughout the war.

Captain Vesper, the Commission's Inspector for Northern Ireland and the Isle of Man, had just returned from a short visit to Dublin, where he discussed the graves of the late and the present wars in Eire. Members would be glad to know that the Commission were getting every possible help from the Eire Government, quite outside questions of current politics. Captain Vesper had found a real desire on the part of all the officials whom he saw that the graves should be well and suitably marked and maintained, and he felt that they welcomed his visit as showing that the Commission retained an active interest in the war graves in Eire.

Ceremonies had been held at Arras and Ypres in connection with V.E. Day celebrations. At Arras the Commission had been represented by General Roberts, Wing Commander Greensill, Major Arnott, Captain Grinham and many members of the staff. A reception had been held at the Town Hall when those present listened to the broadcast of General de Gaulle's speech. Afterwards there was a procession to the Town War Memorial, where General Roberts placed a wreath on behalf of the Commission. At Ypres there was a large and representative gathering at the Menin Gate Memorial, when wreaths were laid and the "Last Post"

was sounded by buglers of the Town Fire Brigade. Another impressive Anglo-Belgian ceremony had been held in Ypres on the 17th June.

General ROBERTS, in reply to the VICE-CHAIRMAN, said that the Belgian authorities had been particularly friendly and helpful and had maintained the cemeteries in excellent order. The two organisations concerned were "Nos Tombes" and the "Souvenir Belge", and some of the cemeteries for which they had been responsible were in almost as good condition as they were in 1939. In France, with few exceptions, the standard of maintenance was lower. Much depended on the interest of the Mayor, and when a cemetery was found to be in bad condition it was often necessary to make representations to the Mayor concerned.

Sir Arthur LONGMORE asked whether Belgian women were employed in the work, and Admiral Sir Martin DUNBAR-NASMITH asked what remuneration was paid.

General ROBERTS, in reply, said that both men and women worked in the cemeteries and they were paid by the Government. In France, labour and other conditions were more difficult. It was very desirable that the Commission should be able to employ their own gardening staff in the cemeteries again as soon as possible, but that would involve increasing the clerical staff also; that in turn would add to the problem of rations and accommodation.

General Sir Robert GORDON-FINLAYSON asked whether the French civil authorities regarded this as a matter in which they could assist, and General ROBERTS replied that he had asked for their assistance from time to time.

The VICE-CHAIRMAN asked whether general conditions were more favourable in Belgium than in France.

General ROBERTS said that this was quite definitely the case. The food situation in particular was much more satisfactory in Belgium.

General Sir Robert GORDON-FINLAYSON said that he thought that where the condition of the cemeteries in France was unsatisfactory every effort should be made by the Commission to persuade the Mayors responsible to put matters right.

The VICE-CHAIRMAN said that the cemetery at Hautrage in Belgium, where a number of Germans were buried, had recently been visited by a member of the Commission's staff. It contained about an equal number of British and German graves. This seemed to be the one cemetery in Belgium on which an adverse report had been received. The presence of large numbers of German graves in it probably afforded the explanation.

Captain Grinham had represented the Commission at a French ceremony held on the 17th June to mark the 30th Anniversary of the Battle of Hébuterne. A cross of red roses was placed at the foot of the memorial on behalf of the Commission.

On Anzac Day the High Commissioner for Palestine and other Government officials had placed wreaths on the War Cross in Jerusalem Cemetery. Wreaths were also laid on the Cross by the Greek Community on V.E. Day.

The Admiralty had now agreed to the marking of present war graves at the Royal Naval Cemetery, Capuccini, Malta, by standard wooden crosses. This was a result of the recent visit by Sir Arthur Longmore and Mr. Worthington.

At the last meeting he had mentioned that he had asked the War Memorials Advisory Council of the Royal Society of Arts whether they would be prepared to consider and recommend proposals for the commemoration of the dead of the present war in the manner of the plaques which had been placed in Westminster Abbey and various cathedrals abroad. He was in close touch with the Council, who he understood were proposing to set up a committee to deal with this matter.

He had recently seen the Dean of Westminster in connection with the proposed Memorial to the Civilian War Dead. The Dean had shown him the Memorial, which when lighted and containing the bound volumes was most impressive. He hoped that the new volume containing the names of the casualties suffered since September 1941 would be complete by the middle or end of August, and it would then have to be decided when the appropriate dedication ceremony should be held. The Dean favoured postponing it until the beginning of November, about the time of All Saints' Day.

The VICE-CHAIRMAN said that members would have noticed in the papers that morning the short account which had been sent to the Press about the war graves in the Channel Islands. Reference had also been made to the Inspector's visit in the 8 o'clock news bulletin in the B.B.C. Home Service.

omit [

REPORT OF THE 315TH MEETING OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

The VICE-CHAIRMAN said that he would like to draw members' attention to Item 5, which concerned certain temporary appointments to the staff of the Commission in France and Belgium.

Mr. SILLAR, in reply to the VICE-CHAIRMAN, said that in recommending these appointments he was faced with the usual difficulty of finding suitable men to fill them, and until they were filled the staff required to deal satisfactorily with the maintenance of the cemeteries could not be sent back to France.

Admiral Sir Martin DUNBAR-NASMITH said that he had circularized the departments concerned with demobilizing the W.R.N.S. in the hope that some of the women released might apply for posts with the Commission. He had as yet received no applications.

Colonel COLE said that he could confirm the extreme difficulty of obtaining staff.

Mr. SILLAR, in reply to the VICE-CHAIRMAN, said that the senior appointments were less difficult to fill than those in junior grades. It was appointments carrying salaries of £250 to £350 per annum for which candidates were lacking.

Brigadier McNAIR said, in reply to the VICE-CHAIRMAN, that he did not see any prospects of an improvement in the labour position.

General ROBERTS, replying to a question from General Sir Robert GORDON-FINLAYSON, said that he was very willing to employ women clerks. He was already employing some French girls, but the question of employing British women was complicated by the problem of accommodation.

The VICE-CHAIRMAN said that the appointment of Chief Accountant was now vacant owing to the resignation of Colonel Haworth, and they had one or two candidates in view.

General Sir Robert GORDON-FINLAYSON said that he received a number of letters from Army officers who were leaving the Service at ages varying from 55 to 61 or more, asking about the prospects of employment with the Commission; but in replying he did not give them much encouragement, because he was under the impression that the Commission did not want to employ older men.

The VICE-CHAIRMAN said that the Commission might wish to consider in the exceptional circumstances the desirability of making short-term engagements. Such a policy might provide the Commission with the services of useful men who would be able to give place to younger men later.

General ROBERTS said he thought that this should be done only in cases of necessity. If it was impossible to obtain the proper type of younger men then they would have to fill the gap with older men, but he hoped it would be for as short a period as possible.

Brigadier McNAIR said that he would like to point out that amongst the Graves Registration Services there were at present a number of very keen officers who would like to get appointments with the Commission later on, and who, he thought, would be eminently suitable. One or two had come up for release already and had volunteered to defer their release in order to see their Army work through. He would like to put in a plea to the Commission that the chances of these keen officers should not be prejudiced by the offer of permanent employment to others who had probably much less experience of the kind required.

The VICE-CHAIRMAN said he thought it important that the Commission should try as far as possible to meet Brigadier McNair's suggestion.

Admiral Sir Martin DUNBAR-NASMITH said he presumed that would apply to the Air Force and the Navy as well.

General Sir Robert GORDON-FINLAYSON said that he quite agreed, but that it might be necessary to employ the older men until the younger men were ready.

Mr. DUFFY and Colonel JONES also expressed agreement.

Mr. KNOWLES said he wondered whether it would not be possible to offer posts immediately to men who had reached the demobilization stage if they were suitable, rather than allow them the option of continuing in their present work.

Brigadier McNAIR said that it was not a question of personal preference; the Army was subject to a very severe man-power shortage and even to further cuts in establishments, and anybody who was willing to defer his demobilization was encouraged to do so.

Mr. DUFFY asked whether it was not possible for the work of some of the officers in the Graves Registration Services to be dovetailed with duties under the Commission, so that they would be paid partly by the Army and partly by the Commission.

The VICE-CHAIRMAN thought that should be carefully considered.

Sir Arthur LONGMORE said that he thought that would hardly solve the problem, because in many cases these officers would not be working in the same locality as the Commission.

Mr. SILLAR said he would like to repeat that it was not the higher paid appointments that caused the difficulty but those in the middle and lower ranges.

The VICE-CHAIRMAN said that he understood it to be the view of the meeting that the Commission should do everything that they could to find work for men who had given good service to the Graves Registration Services.

Members notified their agreement.

The VICE-CHAIRMAN said that they would also give careful consideration to the possibility of offering short-term engagements to older men.

It was moved by Sir Samuel RUNGANADHAN, seconded by Mr. DUFFY, and carried unanimously:

2. That the Report of the 315th Meeting of the Finance Committee be adopted.

PRESENT WAR GRAVES IN INDIA

omit [The VICE-CHAIRMAN said that he had submitted the subject of the paper before the meeting to the High Commissioner for India, who had said that he would like to give further consideration to the matter before it was discussed by the Commission. Sir Samuel was obtaining his Government's views as rapidly as possible. The Commission were responsible under their Charter for the maintenance of the graves in India, and it was clear from Brigadier McNair's recent visit and from other sources that the existing Agency was not carrying out the work satisfactorily.]

DEFINITION OF A WAR GRAVE - AUXILIARY ORGANISATIONS

Colonel CHETTLE, in reply to the VICE-CHAIRMAN, said that the recommendations in the paper before the meeting were very similar to those of the inter-Departmental conference held in September 1942 to consider what United Kingdom auxiliary organisations should be accorded war graves recognition. The present paper was the Australian version of the same proposals for Australian personnel. Canada and South Africa had now submitted proposals, which had been agreed; New Zealand alone was outstanding.

It was proposed by General Sir Robert GORDON-FINLAYSON, seconded by Colonel JONES, and carried unanimously:

3. That the Commission having considered a paper reference A/33/5/2, dated the 11th July 1945,

Resolve:

That the recommendations as to certain auxiliary organisations to be accorded war-graves recognition put forward by the Government of the Commonwealth of Australia, particulars of which are set out in the paper before the Meeting, be approved.

BRITISH SEAMEN SERVING IN FOREIGN SHIPS

The VICE-CHAIRMAN said that in this very complicated question the Commission were guided by the Ministry of War Transport and the recommendations put forward had been agreed to by that Department.

Colonel CHETTLÉ, in answer to the VICE-CHAIRMAN, said that in the first line of paragraph 3 of the paper the word "Indian" should be put in after the word "Dominion" in order to make the sense of the paragraph perfectly clear.

Sir Samuel RUNGANADHAN said that the inclusion of the word "Indian" was desirable.

Colonel COLE said that he noted that it was proposed that the Commission should accept for war graves treatment merchant seamen whose deaths were due to enemy action at sea, and he would like to suggest that acceptance should be extended to include all those whose deaths were "attributable" to enemy action. He thought moreover that merchant seamen were just as deserving of full acceptance for war graves as members of the various auxiliary organisations which they had been considering in the previous paper.

Colonel CHETTLÉ, in reply, said that all deaths attributable to enemy action at sea were accepted. The eligibility of merchant seamen had always been considered differently from that of the auxiliary formations. The definition that they were eligible for war graves if they died through enemy action at sea had been agreed by the participating Governments soon after the late war. He was afraid that it would throw things into confusion if the Commission now tried to assimilate all classes of civilian auxiliaries in one definition.

Colonel COLE said that he thought that the status of the Merchant Navy was considerably higher now than it had been in the last war. The Admiralty had been the first to insist that the Merchant Navy should receive equal consideration. He was raising the question now because he had before him two letters pressing him to stress this point very strongly on the ground that the graves concerned were being neglected.

Admiral Sir Martin DUNBAR-NASMITH, in the course of the discussion which followed, said that he agreed with Colonel Cole, but that it was necessary to frame their regulations so that all men entitled to war graves should be accepted. He thought that if the words "at sea" were omitted after the phrase "due to enemy action" in the third line of paragraph 4 it would meet Colonel Cole's view.

Colonel COLE said that he wanted to go a little further. He was worried by the fact that eligibility depended upon death being due to enemy action. Members of the other Services who died at home from illness or accident during their period of service were entitled to war graves. He thought that the Merchant Navy ought to be similarly entitled since he felt that the Merchant Navy was part of the forces of the country.

General Sir Robert GORDON-FINLAYSON said that members of the Navy, the Army and the Air Force had definite engagements with His Majesty, but it was not always possible to say when a man was in the Merchant Navy or not.

The VICE-CHAIRMAN said that he did not think that matters of this kind ought to be left entirely to the Commission to decide. There must be some authority to whom the Commission could appeal, and he thought it was for the Minister of War Transport, who issued directions and framed rules and regulations affecting pensions and other conditions of service, to give the Commission a lead.

Colonel CHETTLE, in reply to the VICE-CHAIRMAN, said that the paper before the meeting had been settled by an official of the Ministry of War Transport. The Commission had not agreed to include merchant seamen unless they died by enemy action at sea. Secondly, the Registrar-General of Shipping and Seamen (who was an Assistant Secretary of the Ministry of War Transport) only accepted for his Roll of Honour those men who had died by enemy action at sea. He (Colonel Chettle) had raised with him the very point mentioned by Colonel Cole, and the reply had been that no other qualification would be accepted. He had also enquired whether the existence of the Merchant Navy Pool did not alter the situation, and he had received a negative reply. He had worked throughout in strict agreement with the Ministry of War Transport.

The VICE-CHAIRMAN said that in the circumstances he thought it would be wise to defer consideration of the paper and adoption of the proposed resolution until a later meeting, in order to give Colonel Cole an opportunity of putting his views to the Ministry of War Transport.

NEGOTIATIONS WITH ALLIED REPRESENTATIVES - NINTH REPORT.

The VICE-CHAIRMAN said that there were a number of interesting matters in connection with the Commission's relations with Allied representatives in this country which were dealt with in the report. He would like to mention that Brigadier McNair, Colonel Chettle and he had recently had an interview with Sir Neville Bland, who would shortly be leaving for Holland as British Ambassador. They had discussed fully with him the question of the acquisition of land for the present-war graves in Holland and other questions affecting the administration of the cemeteries. They had referred to the Anglo-French and other agreements, and had indicated that they would welcome a similar arrangement with Holland rather than accept the offer of the Dutch to look after the graves themselves.

Admiral Sir Martin DUNBAR-NASMITH said that he noticed that lists of officers and men of the Polish Army and Air Force dying in this country had been furnished but that there was no mention of the Polish Navy.

Colonel CHETTLE, in reply, said that the omission simply indicated that no Polish Naval burial in the United Kingdom had taken place during the period under review, or at any rate had been reported to the Commission.

MAINTENANCE OF WAR GRAVES IN THE UNITED KINGDOM - 11TH QUARTERLY REPORT

Major MURPHY, in reply to the VICE-CHAIRMAN, said that he would like to draw attention to the paragraphs relating to the graves in the Channel Islands. He thought that the Commission

might wish to send an expression of thanks to the Bailiff of Jersey for his action in setting aside the war cemetery in the Howard Davis Park at St. Helier.

4. A resolution that a letter of thanks should be sent to the Bailiff of Jersey was proposed by Admiral Sir Martin DUNBAR-NASMITH, seconded by Mr. DAVIES, and carried.

omit [General Sir Robert GORDON-FINLAYSON asked whether the Commission ought not, in cases where German and British burials were mixed up in one Service Plot, to move for the exhumation of the Germans. Similar removals had been undertaken in North Africa, and in this country the mingling of British and enemy burials had caused a good deal of resentment.

Major MURPHY, in reply to the VICE-CHAIRMAN, said that this difficulty had arisen in 1940 during the Battle of Britain, when in Kent alone Germans had been buried in 67 different burial places. There had been no facilities for transport and the Commission's Inspectors had been unable to be on the spot to give advice. The German dead were buried in any graves that happened to be open. Since then it had been possible to exercise much greater control, and at present German burials were made in the Service Plots but in sections specially set aside for them. There had been some difficulty both at Portsmouth and in Northern Ireland, but these were the only two places recently in which any pressure had been brought on the Commission to have the German graves removed.

Sir Arthur LONGMORE said that he had seen some of these Service Plots in which special sections had been set aside for enemy dead, and he did not think this solution was wholly satisfactory, because often the section chosen was considered to occupy a too prominent position. He thought it was difficult to satisfy everybody, and he doubted whether complaints would cease until the extreme bitterness of feeling against the Germans had died down.

Mr. KNOWLES asked whether the German graves were going to be treated in exactly the same way as the British graves. If they were not he wondered whether it would not be better to concentrate them in the first instance.

The VICE-CHAIRMAN reminded members that after the last war a Committee, of which Sir George Macdonogh was a member, had visited Germany and had been greatly impressed by the way in which the Germans had looked after the British graves throughout the war. The Committee had returned to this country and had recommended the Commission to agree to mark the German graves in this country with headstones made in Germany. These headstones had not proved very satisfactory, and shortly before the present war the Commission were in negotiation with the German authorities for their replacement. In France, where a great many of the German graves in British cemeteries were marked only by wooden crosses and had consequently become unsightly, the Commission entered into an arrangement by which the Germans provided headstones of the same size as the British but slightly different in design, and the Commission were responsible for the cost of erecting them.

Colonel CHETPLE, in reply to the VICE-CHAIRMAN, said that he felt it was likely that the German graves of the present war would remain marked by wooden crosses long after the permanent headstones had been erected on British graves.

Major MURPHY, in reply to the VICE-CHAIRMAN, said that there was a definite advantage in having separate plots for German graves, and the municipal authorities had supported the Commission in that policy. It was particularly convenient in a cemetery such as Reading which was situated near a big hospital.

The VICE-CHAIRMAN said that he would take it that the Commission were in favour of the burial of Germans in separate plots and that Major Murphy should do everything he could to encourage such an arrangement.

Brigadier McNAIR said that the Commission might be interested to know that feeling in, for example, Belgium was even stronger than in this country. He had come across instances where the local Mayors had refused to provide land for the cemeteries if German soldiers were going to be buried there. They would give land for British burials, and other land for German burials. In this way separate British and German cemeteries had been formed.

General Sir Robert GORDON-FINLAYSON said that he thought it was important that whatever was done should be done decently. His experience was that in occupied territories the Germans had treated British graves in exactly the same way as their own. He thought that this point should be borne in mind.

Admiral Sir Martin DUNBAR-NASMITH and Sir Arthur LONGMORE said that they agreed with this view.

HEADSTONE BADGE DESIGNS - THIRD REPORT.

The VICE-CHAIRMAN said that members would have found much to interest them in the report. He would like to mention that on page 2, paragraph 3, the words "India Office" should read the "Office of the High Commissioner for India".

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The VICE-CHAIRMAN said that normally the Commission did not meet in August, but he thought it would be desirable to hold a meeting next month in order to consider the Indian question.

It was agreed that the meeting should be held at 11 a.m. on Thursday the 16th August.

The meeting concluded at twenty minutes past twelve.