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Appendix C

HOW THE TREATY WAS NEGOTIATED

(From a Statement by Secretary Hughes, August 7, 1923)

Diplomatic relations between the United States and Turkey were severed on April 20, 1917. Although no declaration of war followed, there have been no official relations between the two countries from that date. Since 1919 the interests of the United States have been protected by an American High Commissioner at Constantinople.

Peace negotiations between the allied powers and Turkey were instituted early in 1920 and resulted in the signing of the Treaty of Sèvres on August 10, 1920. This treaty was not ratified by Turkey. The United States was not a party to the treaty.

The allied powers subsequently invited Turkey to a conference which assembled at Lausanne on November 20, 1922, for the purpose of establishing peace in the Near East and to revise the Treaty of Sèvres. The Governments of Great Britain, France and Italy having informed this Government that they would welcome American representation at the conference, this Government sent to Lausanne Richard Washburn Child, the American Ambassador at Rome; Rear Admiral Mark L. Bristol, the American High Commissioner at Constantinople, and Joseph C. Grew, the American Minister at Berne.

The American representatives followed the proceedings of the conference and expressed this Government's position in matters of direct American interest and of general humanitarian concern. As the United States had not been at war with Turkey and was not negotiating a treaty of peace with that country, this Government did not become a party to the allied treaty.

On February 4, 1923, the conference was suspended owing to the rejection by the Turkish delegates to certain clauses in the proposed allied treaty. A second session of the Lausanne conference began on April 23, 1923, and continued until July 24, when a treaty of peace between the allied powers and Turkey was signed. During this second part of the conference Minister Grew was the American representative.

The prospective conclusion of peace between the principal Allied Powers and Turkey made it appear advisable, in order appropriately to protect American interests, that the relations between the United States and Turkey be regularized at an early date. This appeared all the more necessary in view of the fact that in the course of the Allied negotiations with Turkey the abrogation of the Capitulations had been agreed to.

THE TREATY WITH TURKEY

On May 5, 1923, Ismet Pasha, the principal Turkish delegate at the Lausanne conference, wrote to Minister Grew proposing the negotiation of a treaty of amity and commerce. The Department of State thereupon authorized Mr. Grew to begin informal conversations with the Turkish delegates to ascertain whether a proper basis for negotiations could be found. These conversations were followed by formal negotiations, and full powers were sent to Mr. Grew. A treaty of extradition was also negotiated.

After almost three months of negotiation, the department on the afternoon of August 2 authorized Mr. Grew to sign the Treaty of Amity and Commerce and the Treaty of Extradition. The department is now informed that these treaties were signed at Lausanne today.

The Extradition Treaty contains the usual provisions of such treaties and calls for no special comment.

Ismet Pasha has also communicated to Mr. Grew copies of the Turkish declaration with regard to the designation by the Turkish Government of Foreign Judicial advisers and a communication with regard to foreign schools and institutions in Turkey, assuring to such American institutions the same treatment as enjoyed by the like institutions of any foreign power and defining in some detail the rights and privileges to be accorded these institutions.

from: General Committee of American Institutions and Associations
in favor of Ratification of the Treaty with Turkey, The Treaty With
Turkey: Statements, Resolutions and Reports in Favor of Ratification
of the Treaty of Lausanne, 1926, pp. xxi-xxii

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