

TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS:  
"LABREPCOM, PARL, LONDON."

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TRANSPORT HOUSE (SOUTH BLOCK),  
SMITH SQUARE, LONDON, S.W.1.

LMG

18th April, 1934.

A. Aghnides, Esq.,  
League of Nations,  
Geneva.

My dear Aghnides,

The comments in the papers on the most recent Note which has passed between Paris and London have not assisted in clearing up the Disarmament situation. At the speed at which these negotiations are going on, I am not certain that we will be able to resume on the date agreed upon, though I notice that the French are still clamouring for a meeting of the General Commission. If I read their position correctly, it is very doubtful whether we will be able to carry matters very far in the Bureau. They appear to think that a decision on principle with regard to German re-armament must be made at the General Commission before anything else is done. After this letter reaches you on Friday, you might begin to make private inquiries as to whether the French really mean to send someone to the Bureau if it meets on the 30th instant, as I am exceedingly anxious not to depart from this date if it can be avoided. At the same time, we must be clear that when the Bureau does meet there is some possibility of getting on with the work of preparation for the General Commission.

I have not had any talk with the British since the last meeting of the Bureau, but I suppose that when they have had time to consider the French reply some approach will follow.

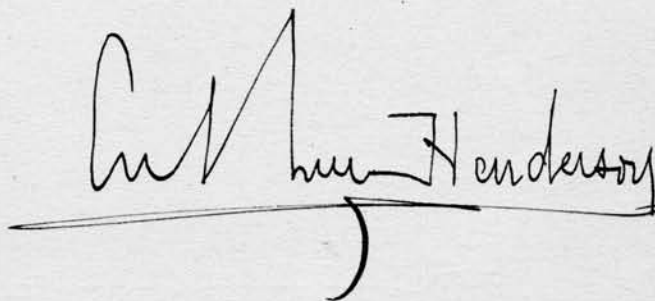
I understand that M. Suvich is coming from Rome at the week-end, and Simon is giving him a dinner to which I am invited. It may be that this will afford the opportunity for a word with him and possibly a word with Grandi. I am afraid this is all the news at present.

Many thanks for sending me a draft which I can use for my Greek correspondent. I was very amused with your letter, with which I agree. I feel that sometimes these young men who have such a lust for study and knowledge should be encouraged, so I propose to send him the letter you have drafted for inclusion in his book.

2.

My family thank you for your kind remembrances which we all reciprocate. I am glad to say we are keeping well.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, which appears to read "Arthur Henderson". The signature is written in dark ink and is underlined with a single horizontal line.

P.S. I am enclosing a copy of a leaflet issued by the National Peace Council in which you will be interested.