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"مذكرة بقلم السكرتير السياسي لمكتب الهند، عن رأي الصحافة الألمانية بخصوص الشرق الأوسط"

المكتبة البريطانية: أوراق خاصة وسجلات من مكتب الهند

IOR/L/PS/18/B223a

مارس ١٩١٦ (ميلادي)

الإنجليزية في اللاتينية

ملف واحد (٣ أوراق)

رخصة حكومة مفتوحة

المؤسسة المالكة

المرجع

التاريخ/ التواريخ

لغة الكتابة

الحجم والشكل

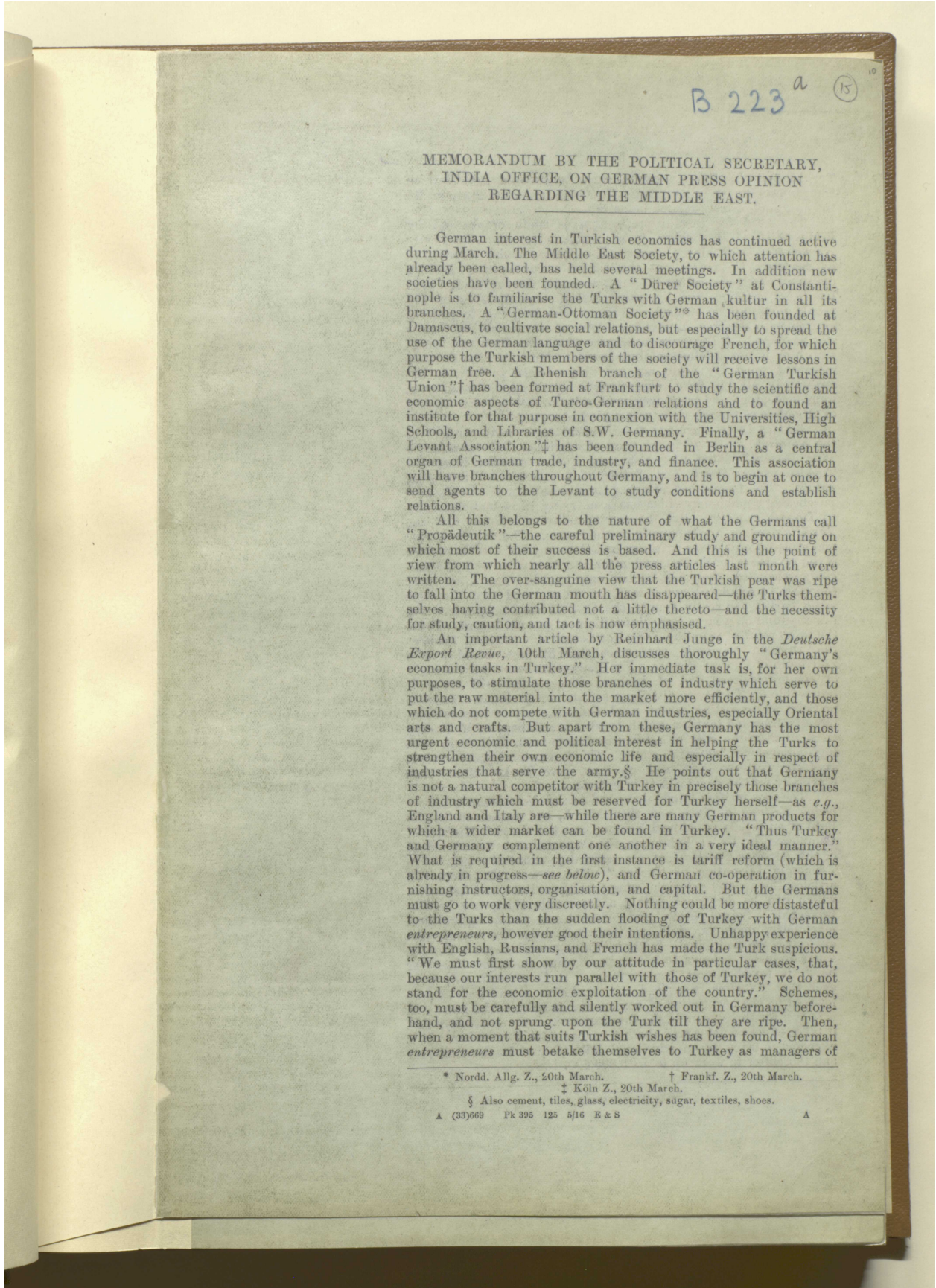
حق النشر



حول هذا السجل

تستعرض هذه الوثيقة نوايا ألمانيا لإجراء تعاملات اقتصادية في تركيا وعلى الأخص في مجال تصدير واستيراد البضائع. يتناول الكاتب، السير فريدريك آرثر هيرتزل، آراء الصحافة حول الطريقة الصحيحة لتنفيذ هذه الإجراءات في تركيا، ويناقش التحول المحتمل في العلاقات الدولية وتوازن القوى (وخاصة بين بريطانيا وروسيا وألمانيا) في حالة نجاح ألمانيا في تحقيق طموحاتها الاقتصادية. يناقش هيرتزل أيضاً التعرف الجديدة التي تم فرضها مؤخراً في تركيا.

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MEMORANDUM BY THE POLITICAL SECRETARY,
INDIA OFFICE, ON GERMAN PRESS OPINION
REGARDING THE MIDDLE EAST.

German interest in Turkish economics has continued active during March. The Middle East Society, to which attention has already been called, has held several meetings. In addition new societies have been founded. A "Dürer Society" at Constantinople is to familiarise the Turks with German kultur in all its branches. A "German-Ottoman Society" has been founded at Damascus, to cultivate social relations, but especially to spread the use of the German language and to discourage French, for which purpose the Turkish members of the society will receive lessons in German free. A Rhenish branch of the "German Turkish Union" has been formed at Frankfurt to study the scientific and economic aspects of Turco-German relations and to found an institute for that purpose in connexion with the Universities, High Schools, and Libraries of S.W. Germany. Finally, a "German Levant Association" has been founded in Berlin as a central organ of German trade, industry, and finance. This association will have branches throughout Germany, and is to begin at once to send agents to the Levant to study conditions and establish relations.

All this belongs to the nature of what the Germans call "Propädeutik"—the careful preliminary study and grounding on which most of their success is based. And this is the point of view from which nearly all the press articles last month were written. The over-sanguine view that the Turkish pear was ripe to fall into the German mouth has disappeared—the Turks themselves having contributed not a little thereto—and the necessity for study, caution, and tact is now emphasised.

An important article by Reinhard Junge in the *Deutsche Export Revue*, 10th March, discusses thoroughly "Germany's economic tasks in Turkey." Her immediate task is, for her own purposes, to stimulate those branches of industry which serve to put the raw material into the market more efficiently, and those which do not compete with German industries, especially Oriental arts and crafts. But apart from these, Germany has the most urgent economic and political interest in helping the Turks to strengthen their own economic life and especially in respect of industries that serve the army. He points out that Germany is not a natural competitor with Turkey in precisely those branches of industry which must be reserved for Turkey herself—as e.g., England and Italy are—while there are many German products for which a wider market can be found in Turkey. "Thus Turkey and Germany complement one another in a very ideal manner." What is required in the first instance is tariff reform (which is already in progress—see below), and German co-operation in furnishing instructors, organisation, and capital. But the Germans must go to work very discreetly. Nothing could be more distasteful to the Turks than the sudden flooding of Turkey with German *entrepreneurs*, however good their intentions. Unhappy experience with English, Russians, and French has made the Turk suspicious. "We must first show by our attitude in particular cases, that, because our interests run parallel with those of Turkey, we do not stand for the economic exploitation of the country." Schemes, too, must be carefully and silently worked out in Germany beforehand, and not sprung upon the Turk till they are ripe. Then, when a moment that suits Turkish wishes has been found, German *entrepreneurs* must betake themselves to Turkey as managers of

* Nordd. Allg. Z., 20th March. † Frankf. Z., 20th March.

‡ Köln Z., 20th March.

§ Also cement, tiles, glass, electricity, sugar, textiles, shoes.

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Turkish factories, German capital must be brought into Turkish companies, German organisations (in Germany) must arrange for the grouping of inter-related industries.

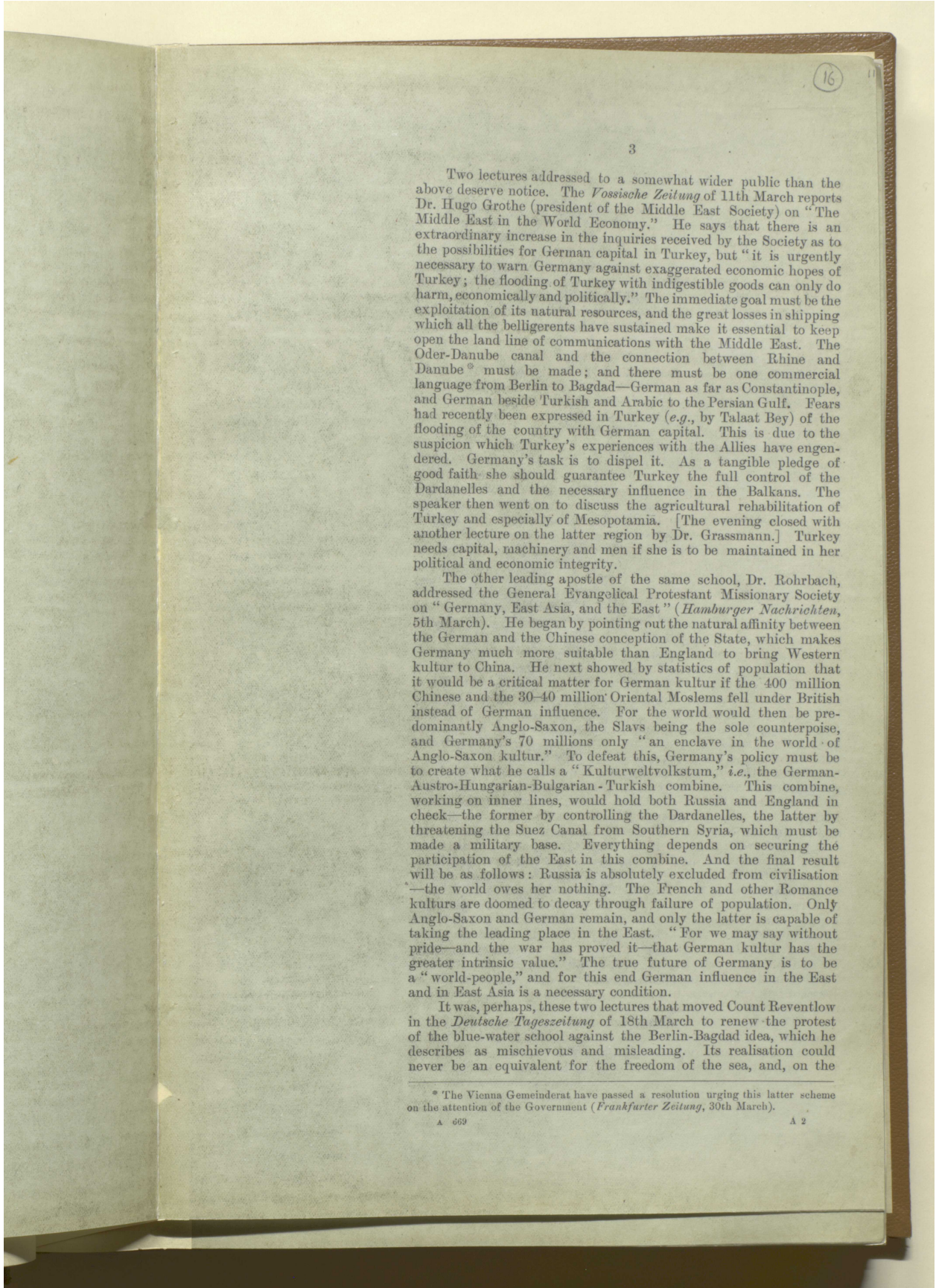
The need for careful preparation is again emphasised by Professor Dr. C. H. Becker, in an article which the *Hamburger Nachrichten* (16th March) commends to the particular attention of its readers. He points out the danger of over-rating Turkish resources and under-rating the work necessary for exploiting them. Language, religion, and the psychological characteristics of the people must all be studied—"Anyone who is going to concern himself with the East, merely from love of adventure, had better stay at home." "The only superiority which the European brings with him is not intellectual but moral." Moreover, the German merchant must lay aside not only his western prejudices, but apparently all his most characteristic qualities. "Smartness, impudence, loud and crude behaviour, self-exaltation, and treatment of Orientals as though they were a kind of nigger"!

Besides these warnings, the Constantinople correspondent of the *Kölnische Zeitung*,* in the third of a series of "Constantinople War Letters," dated 21st February, quotes articles from the Turkish papers *Tasvir* and *Sabach* of a somewhat discouraging nature. The former had attacked the proceedings of the German purchasing commission which has been trying to restock Germany at Turkish expense. But the correspondent points out that the *Tasvir's* remarks apply equally to the future. The supply of raw materials which Turkey produces and Germany and Austria require is the reverse of unlimited, and after the war, when she is financially exhausted, they will be her only wealth. The drain must therefore be regulated, and it must be remembered that the time when Turkey can really benefit the Central Powers by purveying raw material on a large scale lies still in a remote future. From the same point of view the *Sabach* criticised the proposal made at the Dresden economic conference that Turkey should join a Zollverein of Central Powers. For many years to come the absence of communications and of internal development will make it impossible for Turkey to distribute her surplus products. There is no point in exporting wheat, wool and silk only to import flour, biscuits, beer and textiles, which is what would happen if Turkey were to play the rôle of agricultural state in a Zollverein with highly-developed industrial states. This is a natural point of view, says the correspondent, and we must give Turkey time—time especially for the new tariff to bear fruit.

The new tariff is briefly described in the *Norddeutsche Allgemeine Zeitung* of 12th and 28th March, and explained (in the light of an article by Ahmed Nessimi Bey, the Turkish Minister of Commerce) by Dr. L. Feldmann, the Constantinople correspondent of the *Berliner Tageblatt*, on the same day, under the title "The Economic Liberation of Turkey." The new tariff covers 772 articles, the general principle being that agriculture, and industries which can be developed within a reasonable time, are heavily protected. School books and educational plant, agricultural machinery, manures, gold, platinum are duty free; arms and explosives are prohibited. Sugar is lightly taxed, because a Turkish sugar industry belongs to a remote future; flour, on the other hand, is taxed almost prohibitively. It is pointed out, however, that the rates prescribed are maximum rates which may be lowered by the negotiation of commercial treaties. The new tariff is to run for three years in the first instance. One report says that it takes effect on 1st April, another on the 14th September. It is expected to bring in an additional £T 2,000,000 in the first year and thereafter to work up to £T 5,000,000.

* K.Z., 21st March.

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* The Vienna Gemeinderat have passed a resolution urging this latter scheme on the attention of the Government (*Frankfurter Zeitung*, 30th March).

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contrary, would be the death-sentence on Hamburg, Bremen, and the whole future of Germany.

Dr. Grothe's remarks about German as the commercial language of Turkey refer to the new Turkish language law. This is made the subject of a respectful protest in the *Hamburger Nachrichten* of 10th March. It would, of course, be much more agreeable to Germany to associate in the Turkish language with a strong and purely Turkish Turkey than in French with a Frenchified Turkey. But the Turks must keep within the limits of the possible, and it is not possible to learn Turkish in one year; nor is it possible to conduct correspondence exclusively in Turkish. If the Turks want German capital they must reconcile themselves to the idea of so arranging matters as not to drive it away.

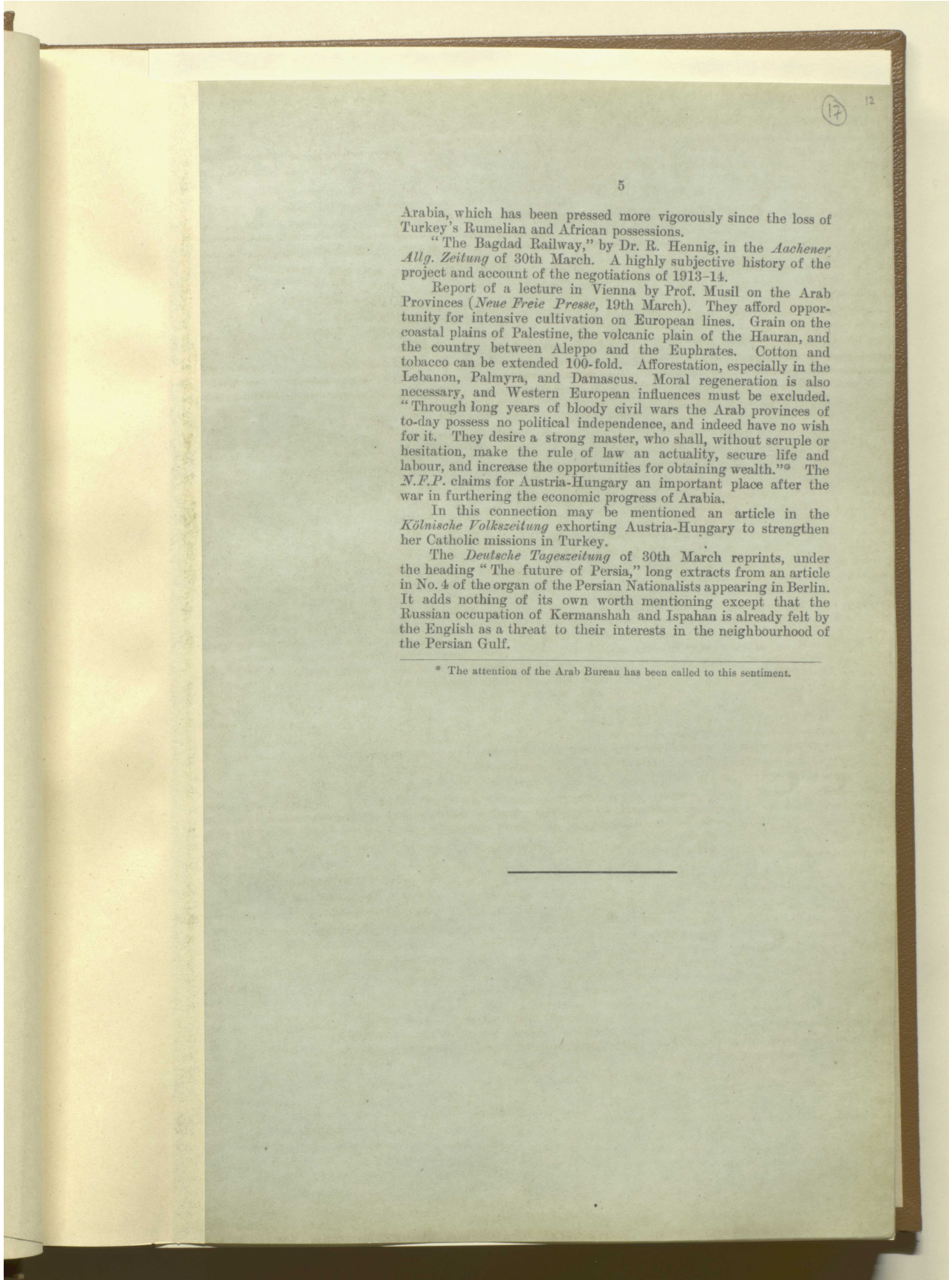
The Russian successes in Western Persia have caused the German press to seek consolation in the supposed English anxiety regarding Russia's southward push and consequent claims in Persia. This line of thought is also reflected in articles on the subject of a separate peace with Turkey. Thus, G. Bernhard, in the *Vossische Zeitung* of 27th March, sees no objection to such a peace, if voluntarily sought by Turkey, because of the discord it will sow between Russia and England, since the latter can hardly be content that Russia should compensate herself in Persia and Turkey for the territory she has lost in the West. To the *Deutsche Tageszeitung* (26th March), on the other hand, a separate peace is unthinkable. Germany requires a strong and independent Turkey, and a separate peace would mean, to-morrow, if not to-day, its partition into spheres of interest, the separation of Arabia, and the loss of the Dardanelles. And in *Rheinisch-Westfälische Zeitung* (25th March) Halil Halid Bey (formerly Turkish consul-general in Bombay) in an article² explaining why the Orient loves the German, rather cruelly pricks the bubble of Anglo-Russian discord. The idea, he says, is preposterous. "Anglo-Russian rivalry in the East is a thing of the past. Both powers are exerting themselves to work hand-in-hand not only to hold the East in subjection, to destroy the possibility of an Islamic renaissance, and to throttle Turkey, but also to close the ring round Germany by blocking the East to her." Dr. Rohrbach, too, in the *Deutsche Tageszeitung* (15th March) insists that Russia must continue to fight for the Dardanelles, and that the idea that she can be satisfied with a harbour in the Persian Gulf is "quite dilettante."

Other articles of interest during the month were: "Petrol and the fighting in Persia," by Dr. L. Sommermeier in the *Kölnische Zeitung* of 12th March. He gives a good account of the distribution of the deposits (mentioning Kishm among other places), and of the Anglo-Persian Oil Co.'s concession. He dwells on the difficulty of getting the oil to the market, and points out that one of the advantages of the Mesopotamian deposits is their proximity to the Bagdad Railway—which makes it clear how important it is in German interests that British influence should not be allowed to cover them also. The deposits in N.W. Persia are jealously kept by Russia in order to give her a hold over the country, but are not exploited by her because she prefers that Persia should be supplied from Baku. So long as there are no railways running N. and S. there can be no competition from Southern Persia. "But if in the future an efficient petrol industry, not controlled by Russian influence, were to grow up in the north also, it would of course eliminate the Russian oil imports."

"The Hejaz Railway," reprinted from the *Archiv für Eisenbahnwesen* in the *Berliner Aktionär* of 25th March. A very interesting and quite objective account of the system, emphasising its importance to the Turkish colonisation policy in Syria and

² Reprinted textually in *Kölnische Zeitung* (31st March).

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Arabia, which has been pressed more vigorously since the loss of Turkey's Rumelian and African possessions.

"The Bagdad Railway," by Dr. R. Hennig, in the *Aachener Allg. Zeitung* of 30th March. A highly subjective history of the project and account of the negotiations of 1913-14.

Report of a lecture in Vienna by Prof. Musil on the Arab Provinces (*Neue Freie Presse*, 19th March). They afford opportunity for intensive cultivation on European lines. Grain on the coastal plains of Palestine, the volcanic plain of the Hauran, and the country between Aleppo and the Euphrates. Cotton and tobacco can be extended 100-fold. Afforestation, especially in the Lebanon, Palmyra, and Damascus. Moral regeneration is also necessary, and Western European influences must be excluded. "Through long years of bloody civil wars the Arab provinces of to-day possess no political independence, and indeed have no wish for it. They desire a strong master, who shall, without scruple or hesitation, make the rule of law an actuality, secure life and labour, and increase the opportunities for obtaining wealth."* The *N.F.P.* claims for Austria-Hungary an important place after the war in furthering the economic progress of Arabia.

In this connection may be mentioned an article in the *Kölnische Volkszeitung* exhorting Austria-Hungary to strengthen her Catholic missions in Turkey.

The *Deutsche Tageszeitung* of 30th March reprints, under the heading "The future of Persia," long extracts from an article in No. 4 of the organ of the Persian Nationalists appearing in Berlin. It adds nothing of its own worth mentioning except that the Russian occupation of Kermanshah and Ispahan is already felt by the English as a threat to their interests in the neighbourhood of the Persian Gulf.

* The attention of the Arab Bureau has been called to this sentiment.

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