

HANDBOOKS PREPARED UNDER THE DIRECTION OF THE
HISTORICAL SECTION OF THE FOREIGN OFFICE.—No. 100

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FRENCH
WEST AFRICA

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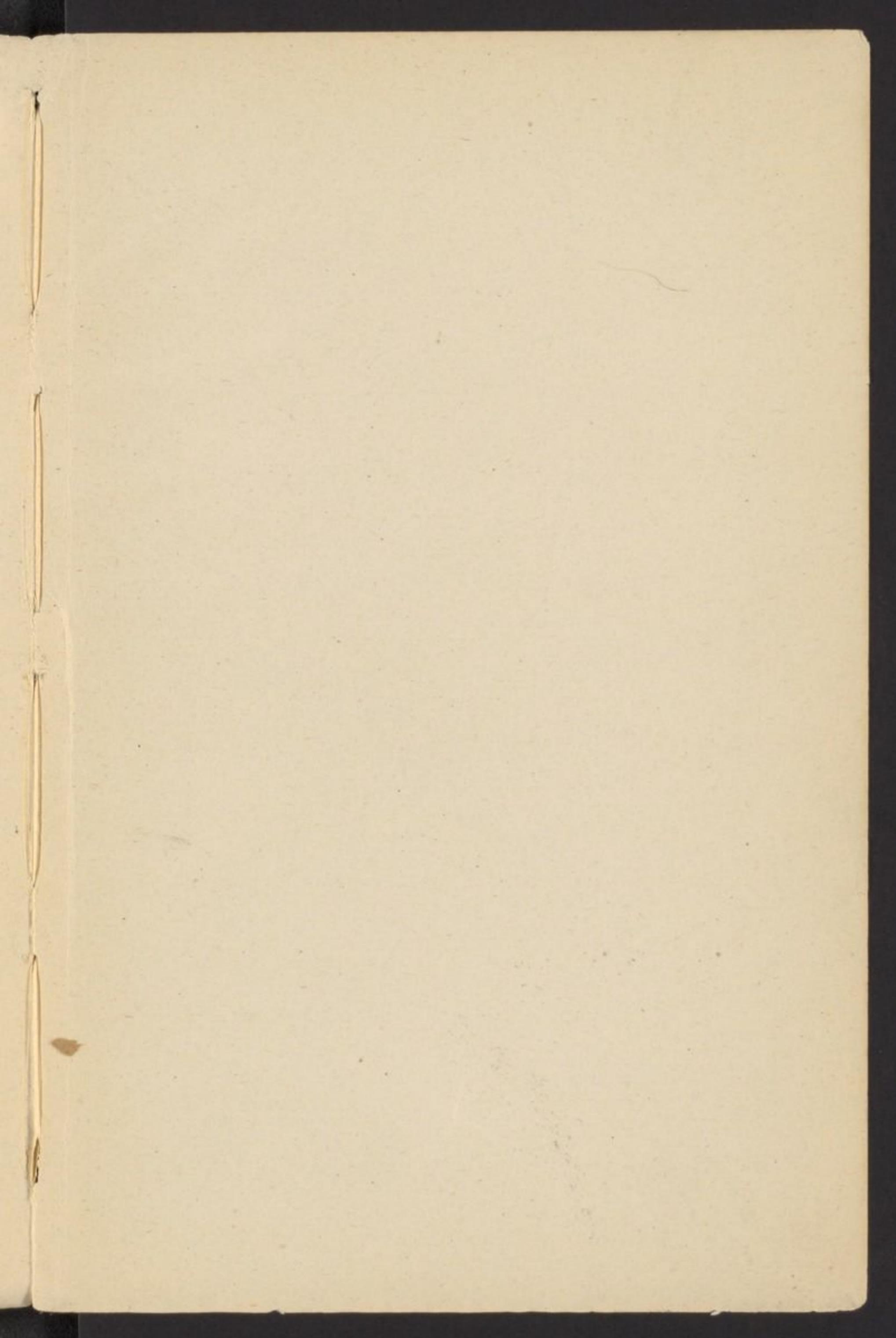
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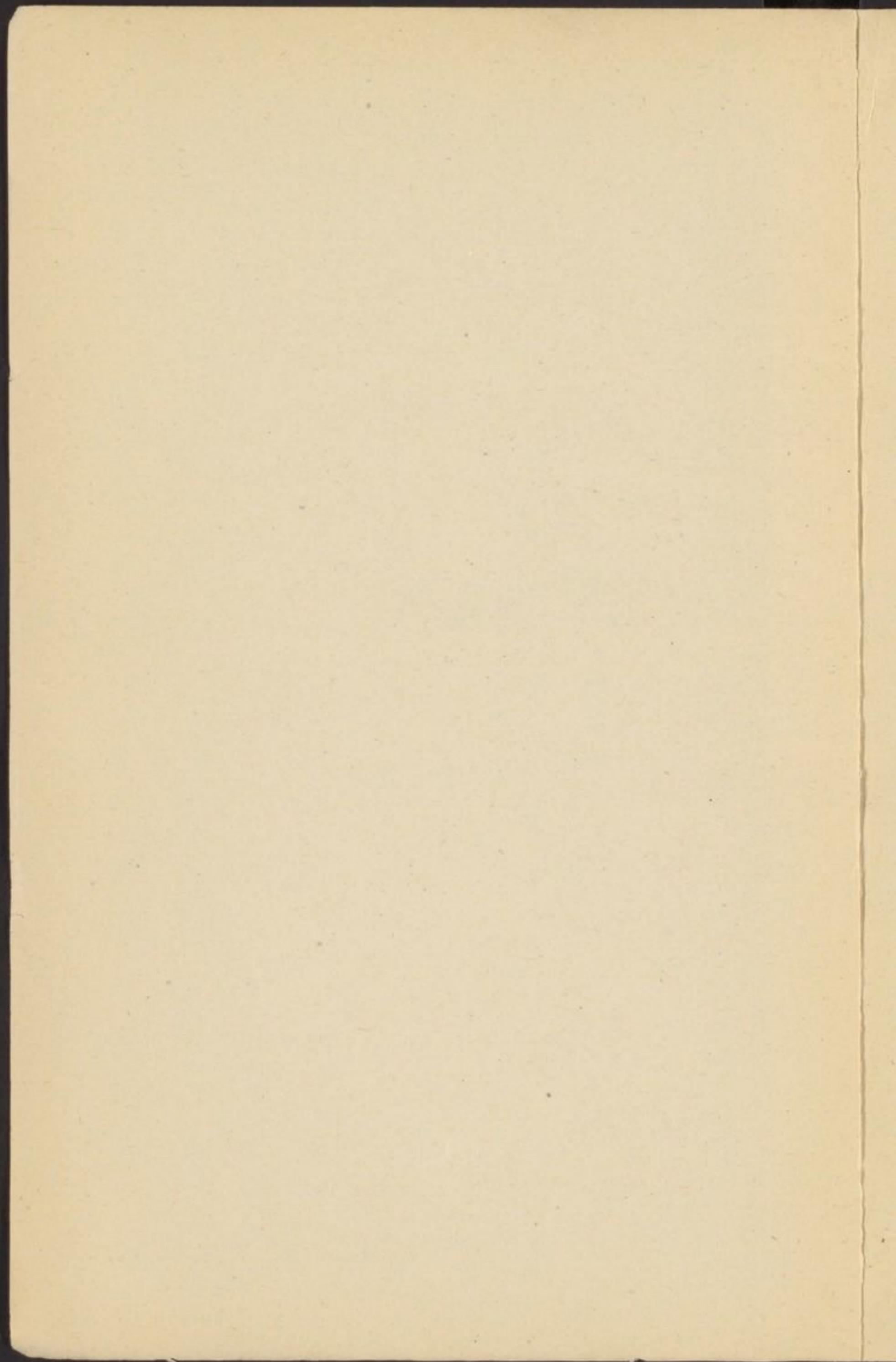


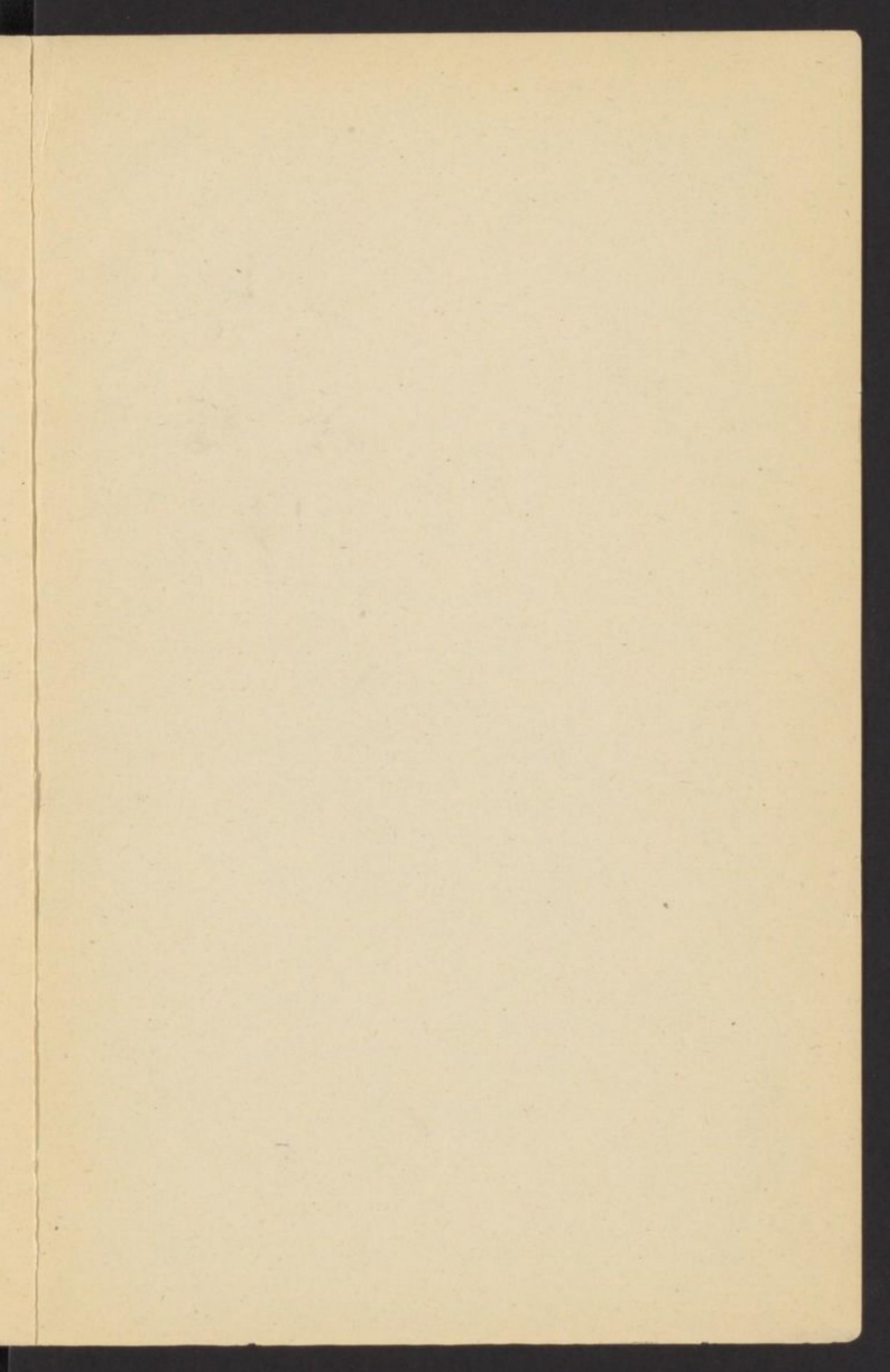


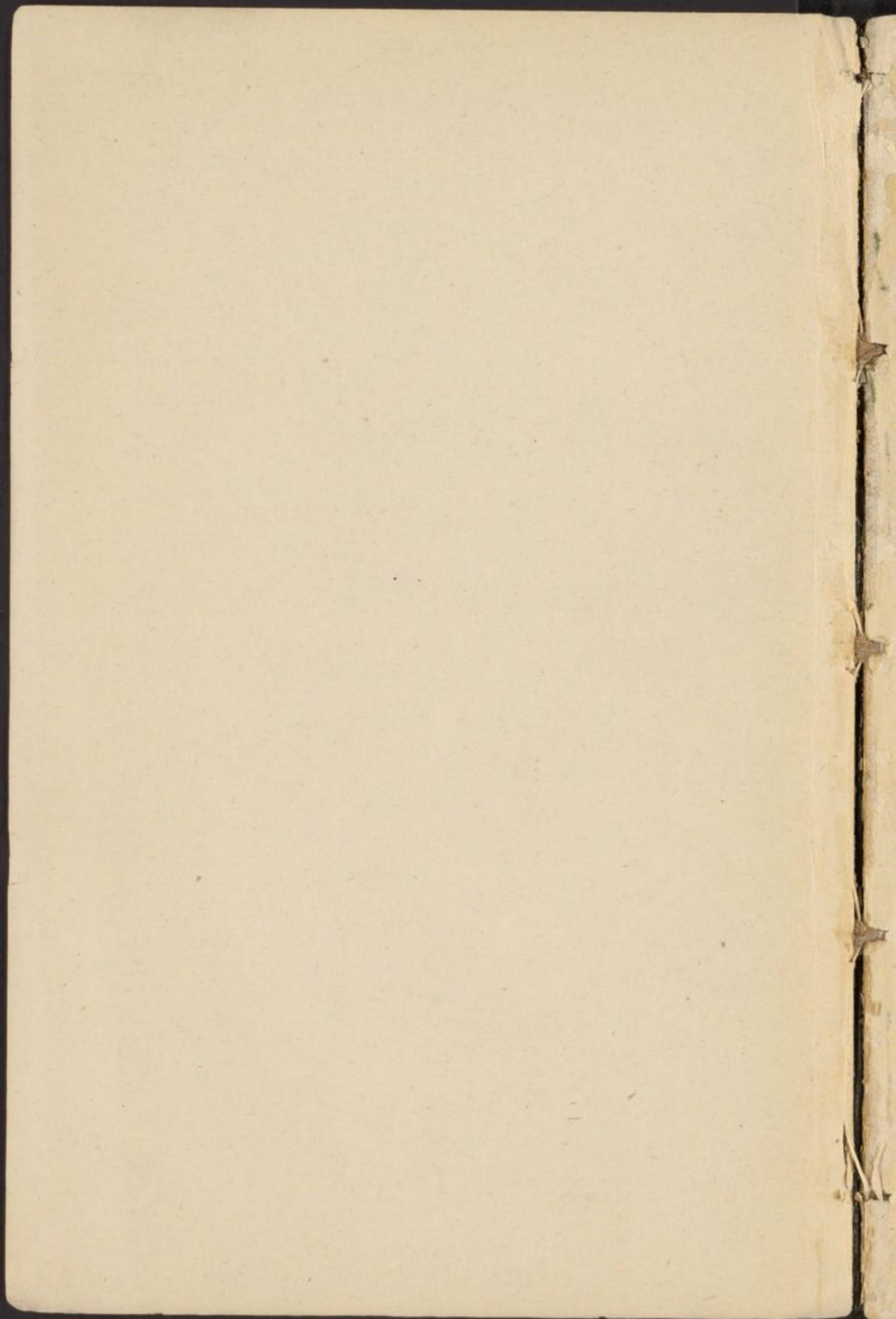
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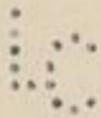
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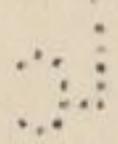
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Editorial Note.

IN the spring of 1917 the Foreign Office, in connection with the preparation which they were making for the work of the Peace Conference, established a special section whose duty it should be to provide the British Delegates to the Peace Conference with information in the most convenient form—geographical, economic, historical, social, religious and political—respecting the different countries, districts, islands, &c., with which they might have to deal. In addition, volumes were prepared on certain general subjects, mostly of an historical nature, concerning which it appeared that a special study would be useful.

The historical information was compiled by trained writers on historical subjects, who (in most cases) gave their services without any remuneration. For the geographical sections valuable assistance was given by the Intelligence Division (Naval Staff) of the Admiralty; and for the economic sections, by the War Trade Intelligence Department, which had been established by the Foreign Office. Of the maps accompanying the series, some were prepared by the above-mentioned department of the Admiralty, but the bulk of them were the work of the Geographical Section of the General Staff (Military Intelligence Division) of the War Office.

Now that the Conference has nearly completed its task, the Foreign Office, in response to numerous enquiries and requests, has decided to issue the books for public use, believing that they will be useful to students of history, politics, economics and foreign affairs, to publicists generally and to business men and travellers. It is hardly necessary to say that some of the subjects dealt with in the series have not in fact come under discussion at the Peace Conference; but, as the books treating of them contain valuable information, it has been thought advisable to include them.

It must be understood that, although the series of volumes was prepared under the authority, and is now issued with the sanction, of the Foreign Office, that Office is not to be regarded as guaranteeing the accuracy of every statement which they contain or as identifying itself with all the opinions expressed in the several volumes; the books were not prepared in the Foreign Office itself, but are in the nature of information provided for the Foreign Office and the British Delegation.

The books are now published, with a few exceptions, substantially as they were issued for the use of the Delegates. No attempt has been made to bring them up to date, for, in the first place, such a process would have entailed a great loss of time and a prohibitive expense; and, in the second, the political and other conditions of a great part of Europe and of the Nearer and Middle East are still unsettled and in such a state of flux that any attempt to describe them would have been incorrect or misleading. The books are therefore to be taken as describing, in general, *ante-bellum* conditions, though in a few cases, where it seemed specially desirable, the account has been brought down to a later date.

G. W. PROTHERO,

General Editor and formerly

Director of the Historical Section.

January 1920.

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I. POLITICAL HISTORY

CHRONOLOGICAL SUMMARY

- 1895 Decree of June 16, instituting a Government-General of West Africa.
- 1902 Decree of October 1, reconstituting Government under a Governor-General.
- 1902-4 Reorganization effected by Governor-General Roume.
- 1904 Decree of October 18, definitely forming Government-General as at present constituted.
- 1909 Modification of central administration by abolition of the Secretariat-General.
- 1910 Extension of civil government to Timbuktu and other territories on right bank of Niger.
- 1910 Modification of government of military territory of Niger.

i. Formation of Government-General

THE penetration of West Africa by the French was carried out from four different bases on the sea coast separated by intervening portions of foreign territory, and it was therefore at first impossible effectively to weld the different colonies into a single whole. A Government-General was indeed nominally created in 1895; but the only result was that the Governor of Senegal was invested with a vague and ineffectual control over the Governors of the other colonies, and over the military and civil officials in the French Sudan. In 1902, however, definite steps were taken to consolidate the Government, a step rendered at once desirable and possible by the conclusion with Great Britain of the Convention of June 14, 1898, and the Declaration of March 21, 1899, which enabled France to link up the whole of her West African territories. By a Presidential decree of October 1, 1902, the colonies of

Senegal, French Guinea, the Ivory Coast, and Dahomey, and the territories of Senegambia-Niger were formed into a Government-General.¹

ii. *Reorganization*

M. Roume, who was appointed Governor-General, devoted the next two years to a careful reorganization of the Government; this was given formal shape by the decree of October 18, 1904, which determines the constitution of French West Africa.² By that decree the Government-General consists of (1) the colony of Senegal, including the territory under direct administration, and the protected territories on the left bank of the Senegal river, up to that time part of Senegambia-Niger; (2) the colony of French Guinea; (3) the colony of the Ivory Coast; (4) the colony of Dahomey; (5) the colony of Upper Senegal and the Niger, made up out of the former territories of the Middle Niger and Upper Senegal and the three military districts, and divided into two parts, one under civil administration, the other the military territory of the Niger; and (6) the civil territory of Mauretania. Early in 1920 an official decree formed the new colony of (7) Upper Volta, separated from the colony of Upper Senegal and the Niger (see *Geog. Journal*, March, 1920). The only other changes of importance which have been made in the position of the colonies are that by two *arrêtés* of June 22, 1910, the district of Timbuktu and those portions of the administrative divisions (*cercles*) of Gao, Tillabery, and Djerma, which lie on the right bank of the Niger, have been placed under civil administration; and the military territory is now restricted to the north and the east. In 1916 the region of Tibesti was added to the military territory.

¹ *State Papers*, vol. XCVI, p. 1270-73.

² *Ibid.*, vol. XCVII, p. 967-71.

II. SOCIAL AND POLITICAL CONDITIONS

(1) RELIGIOUS

THE position of Mohammedanism is one of the most important questions in French West Africa. Despite all the efforts of Roman Catholic missionaries, especially in Senegal and Dahomey, the number of Christian converts is small, and they are of a poor type. Mohammedanism is strongest in Mauretania and Upper Senegal and on the Niger, weakest in the south of the Ivory Coast and Dahomey. Even where it is strongest, however, progress is not unbroken; for in Bamako, where in 1897 there were 1,310 Mohammedans, the total had fallen to 834 in 1908. On the other hand, in Zinder and Segou conversions steadily increase. The fall of the civil power of Mohammedanism has induced some districts, such as Beledougou, to abandon a faith which they adopted under compulsion; and the provision of Government schools has deprived the marabuts of their former monopoly of instruction.¹ But the marabut still excites superstitious reverence, and attracts believers and unbelievers alike, while the *diula*, or pedlar, whose methods are subtler, often ends a wandering life by establishing a mosque in one of the villages which he formerly frequented. The Government encouragement of the *madrasas*² has also doubtless helped to dignify the faith in the eyes of the people, and the action of the Government has, therefore, been severely criticised as well as praised.

To the negro the appeal of Mohammedanism undoubtedly lies in the unexacting character of its

¹ They still, however, teach 50,000 children—four times as many as do the Government schools.

² *Madrasa* (*médersa*)—Moslem college or religious high school.

demands; it does not in practice require him to lay aside many of his superstitious beliefs; it permits and approves polygamy; and it sanctions domestic slavery, an institution so firmly rooted that its abolition by the French Government in 1901 has never been made effective.¹ In both these respects Christianity is at a grave disadvantage; proposals to veil polygamy by recognising only the principal wife as really married, and the rest as concubines, have naturally and inevitably been disapproved; and the native, long accustomed to rely on the labour of his wives, cannot be expected to accept a religion which deprives him of this great economic advantage. Nor can it be denied that the Mohammedans are as a whole superior in moral outlook to the heathen negro; so that adoption of Mohammedanism is a real advance in the scale of civilisation, though probably a bar to further development. On the other hand, it must be remembered that the negro tribes are deeply impregnated with pagan beliefs, which oppose a steady resistance to the advance of Mohammedanism, debasing and confusing it even when it is adopted; it is impossible, therefore, to argue with any certainty that French West Africa will ever be completely Mohammedanized. The attitude of the Government is friendly to Mohammedanism, although in the military territory of the Niger and in Mauretania Mohammedanism is certainly hostile to the Government. The religious centre of Mauretania is at Shingeti in Adrar, the original home of the Faleliye *marabutin*, and still a hotbed of fanaticism.²

¹ Equally great difficulty has been experienced in Nigeria in eradicating domestic slavery; in neither country does the law recognize the status of slavery, but in neither is action taken to break up the system.

² Though the marabut tribes have no special prestige, and are generally oppressed by the warriors, individual friendly marabuts exercised considerable political influence in the pacification of Mauretania, while hostile marabut influence lay at the root of the resistance offered to the French occupation of Adrar in 1909-10.

(2) POLITICAL

(a) *Central and Local Governments*

The Constitution of 1904, which is described by French writers as a model of simplicity, harmony, and balance, is based on the desire to secure effective local action by responsible officials subject to a more complete and real control than can be exercised from France, and to entrust to the supreme head of the administration the duty of securing a uniform policy in matters which require such treatment. The powers of the Republic in the colonies are, therefore, confided to the Governor-General, whose residence is fixed at Dakar, a fortified naval station and seaport on the coast of Senegal, and the official capital of French West Africa. While the power of legislation is retained by the French Legislature, and by the President of the Republic, who, under the *Sénatus-consulte* of May 3, 1854, has power to issue decrees having legal validity, the Governor-General is authorised to issue *arrêtés*, by which—subject to such laws and decrees—many matters are disposed of which in British colonies are dealt with by legislation. The Governor-General has also the right of appointment to all save the more important civil offices, and other officers are appointed on his recommendation, the Treasury officials, however, being excepted from this rule.¹

In the performance of his functions, under the constitution of 1904, the Governor-General was assisted by a Secretary-General, as well as by inspectors charged to report on the operations of the different departments of the local administrations; but, in view of the inevitable tendency for the Secretary-General to encroach on the sphere of activity of the Governor-General, the office was, at the request of

¹ These officials work under the control of the Minister of Finance in Paris, and correspond direct with him; not, like other officials, through the Governor-General (decree of December 30, 1912).

M. Ponty, the successor (1908-15) of M. Roume as Governor-General, suppressed by a decree of July 22, 1909. In place of it a department of finance and accounts, and one of general business, were instituted, whose only means of action are through the Governor-General himself. The constitution also provides a Council of Government, which the Governor-General is required to consult in matters affecting taxation and the budget, the determination of administrative divisions, &c., and which he may consult on any question. Subject to the Governor-General's supreme control, each colony is administered by a Lieutenant-Governor, who has power to issue *arrêtés* on local matters. He is aided by a Council of Administration, or, in the case of Senegal, by a Privy Council, which he is required to consult in financial matters, and may consult on any other questions. In Mauretania the head of the administration has only the rank of Commissioner of the Government-General, while the military territory of the Niger was administered up to 1910 by an officer bearing the title of Commandant, under the direction of the Lieutenant-Governor of Upper Senegal and the Niger, and is now administered by a Commissioner subordinate to the Governor-General.

(b) *Administration*

The section of Senegal under direct administration is the only part of French West Africa which is governed directly and exclusively by white officials. In the greater part of the country, which is divided into about 100 administrative divisions (*circonscriptions* or *cercles*), the numbers and arrangement of which are constantly changing, much use is made of the native chiefs, appointed by the Government for villages and cantons. These chiefs are largely employed in connection with sanitary measures, the raising of porters, the carrying out of road construction, and in the levying of taxes, especially the capita-tion tax, which is the chief form of native taxation.

Natives are freely used to fill subordinate positions in the public service. But, though use is thus made of natives for administrative purposes, the system of government through the organization of former kingdoms is not countenanced by France as it is by Great Britain in the northern provinces of British Nigeria. In the French territories the descendants of former rulers have been reduced to the rank of simple chiefs and deprived of titles of sovereignty.

The head of the division is the administrator, or, in the case of a few disturbed districts, a military commandant; he has under him a large staff of assistants for native affairs, and of clerks. All the civil activities of the district are centred in his hands. In districts where there is a fair number of Europeans the Governor-General is authorised by the decree of May 15, 1912, to establish mixed *Communes*, the administration of which is assigned to the administrator of the division with the aid of a consultative council, nominated for three years, but capable of renomination. One or two of the members of this Council may be permitted to fill the office of deputy to the administrator. Such *Communes* have been created at Louga, Tivaouane, Thiès, Kaolack, Ziguinchor, &c. Ordinary municipalities exist at Konakry and one or two other places, while Senegal has four *Communes* with a developed system of self-government on an elective basis.¹

(c) *The Judiciary*

The judicial system rests upon decrees of November 10, 1903, and of August 16, 1912, the latter of which replaces the system of native Courts provided for in the former enactment. A complete distinction is drawn between the sphere of authority of French and native Courts. The former exercise jurisdiction ex-

¹ The finances of the *Communes* are regulated by decree of December 30, 1912.

clusively in all cases where both parties are not natives of French West Africa or French Equatorial Africa, or of foreign possessions between these limits, and do not enjoy in their native places the rights of Europeans. The cases which affect natives are reserved for the native Courts; but natives may agree to submit their civil actions to the French Courts, in which case French law is applied in determining their rights. If either party is a European, French law is always applied to the exclusion of native law.

The *French Courts* form an elaborate hierarchy of (1) Justices of the Peace with very limited powers; (2) Justices of the Peace with extended powers at Kayes, Bamako, Kankan, and Bové, and Tribunals of First Instance at Konakry, Grand Bassam, Kotonou, Saint Louis, and Dakar, with full powers in civil and commercial matters, and considerable jurisdiction in less serious criminal offences; (3) Assize Courts to deal with crimes proper; and (4) a Court of Appeal, which hears appeals from the Courts of First Instance and from Justices of the Peace with extended powers. Decisions in these Colonial Courts are subject to revision by the Courts of Cassation.

The *Native Courts* are also arranged hierarchically. They comprise (1) village courts consisting of the chief, who may give decisions in any civil and commercial matters submitted to him, but whose decisions are not binding on the parties; (2) the courts of the subdivisions, composed of a native president and two native assessors with deliberative voices, selected by the head of the colony on the recommendation of the head of the division: these courts have full civil and commercial jurisdiction, and criminal jurisdiction in such matters as are not reserved to the tribunals of the divisions, subject to appeal to these tribunals; (3) divisional tribunals, consisting of the chief civil officer, assisted by two native assessors with consultative voices only. The divisional tribunal hears appeals from the courts of the subdivision in all civil and commercial matters, and from decisions in criminal cases of a grave

character, including murder, dangerous wounding, pillage, arson, kidnapping, poisoning of wells, and mutilations; it has also an exclusive criminal jurisdiction in respect of offences of slave dealing, crimes committed by native Government agents or against them in the exercise of their duties, crimes committed by soldiers in union with non-soldiers, usurpation of Government authority, offences against regulations affecting matters specially assigned to these courts, and offences against the safety of the State; and (4) a special section of the Court of Appeal, composed of three councillors, two officials, and two natives, charged with the duties of homologation and annulment. Any decision of the inferior courts may be submitted to it by the Procurator-General; and it deals also with every sentence of over five years' imprisonment or in respect of a slave-trade offence, pronounced by the divisional tribunals, and with sentences exceeding six months' imprisonment or 500 francs fine imposed on native Government agents.

The Native Courts apply native law; in cases where the parties are subject to different laws, they follow the law of the place of conclusion in respect of contracts (including marriage), and in respect of questions of status that of the defendant's tribe. The penalties allowed are death, imprisonment for life or for a term not exceeding twenty years, banishment for the same period, and fines; penalties for breach of contract are permitted if in accord with native law. Europeans who have disputes with natives may submit themselves to the courts, in which case native law is applied. These rules are subject to modification both in Senegal and in certain portions of Upper Senegal and the Niger, in the Niger Territory, and in Mauretania.

(3) MILITARY ORGANIZATION

The conquest of West Africa was effected, and peace has since been maintained, almost entirely by native

soldiers, the first Senegalese troops having been raised in 1823. Until 1912 these were comparatively few in number. Dakar, which is a strong naval base, was protected by a regiment of Senegalese *tirailleurs*, a regiment of colonial artillery, partly white, partly negro, a company of native *ouvriers d'artillerie*, a section of native engineers, and part of a battalion of colonial infantry—the only body of white troops in West Africa—the remainder forming the garrison of Saint Louis. There were also in Senegal and Upper Senegal and the Niger three regiments of *tirailleurs*, three mountain batteries of colonial artillery, and at Saint Louis a squadron of Senegalese *spahis*. There were also battalions of *tirailleurs* in French Guinea, in the Ivory Coast, in the region of Timbuktu, and in the military territory of the Niger.

In 1910, as an outcome of a visit to West Africa by Lieut.-Col. Mangin, who reported that 40,000 men could easily be raised annually by voluntary engagement for four years' service, a law was passed authorising the creation of a corps of 20,000 men, of whom one half would be stationed in West Africa, while one half would be employed in Algiers. This policy was carried a step further by a decree of February 7, 1912, which provides for compulsory enlistment of men between 20 and 28 years of age for a period of four years, as well as for voluntary enlistment for five or six years—the numbers to be determined as may be considered necessary from time to time. Native privates may re-engage up to 15 years in all, and *sous-officiers* up to 25 years, when they become entitled to pension. All the men who have served a period of engagement of less than 15 years pass into a reserve, which is liable to be called up. Native troops so enlisted are liable for foreign service as well as for service in West Africa.

(4) PUBLIC EDUCATION

The system of education, though regulated for each colony by a separate *arrêté*, is essentially the same

throughout West Africa. The system prevailing in French Guinea,¹ the Ivory Coast,² and Dahomey,³ provides for (1) primary elementary education, (2) higher elementary and commercial education, and (3) professional education. *Primary education* may be given either in rural schools, conducted by a native, or in regional schools under a European teacher; in the first the instruction comprises speaking French, reading, elements of agriculture, and (accessorily) writing, arithmetic, and other simple subjects; in the regional schools additional instruction is given in geometry, the history of France and of French West Africa, and in the geography of these places; in the elements of science as applied to hygiene, agriculture, domestic economy, and the local industries, manual work, and practical agriculture. Similar instruction is given in urban schools reserved for European children and the children of natives who have been accorded the status of Europeans, and in schools for adults whose early education has been neglected. *Higher elementary education* is given at the capital of each colony, and is directed to producing either monitors capable of teaching in schools, or youths fit to fill the minor administrative offices or situations in commercial firms. The *professional courses*, which are given either in special schools or in departments attached to regional schools, are intended to turn out practical workers for all forms of industrial activity.

In Senegal,⁴ in the urban schools, advanced elementary education is provided leading up to the work of secondary schools in France, and professional training is not given. Provision is made in all the colonies for special schools for girls, where necessary, the course of instruction including domestic economy. In Upper

¹ *Arrêté* of January 2, 1912.

² *Arrêté* of July 6, 1911. French schools at Bingerville and Bouake are regulated by an *arrêté* of April 12, 1913.

³ *Arrêté* of January 30, 1913.

⁴ *Arrêté* of January 30, 1913; as to agricultural training, an *arrêté* of December 19, 1912.

Senegal and the Niger¹ a simpler classification is adopted, primary education and professional education being the only categories; but the latter is given at a central school, which at the same time serves as a school for the sons of chiefs, and includes training in telegraphy, hospital work, manual work of all kinds, and in typing and teaching. There are also special schools for specific purposes; at Saint Louis, for the preparation of native-European teachers; at Dakar, where the professional school, "Pinet-Laprade," gives advanced instruction, and where there is also a school of mechanics; at Koulikoro, where the agricultural school trains pupils for the agronomic stations of the territories; and at Banfora, where a similar school teaches the proper methods of cultivating rubber.

It must be recognized that so far few of the children receive education; with some 200 schools only 11,000 can be taught out of over 800,000. The aim of the schools is above all to teach the French language—the teachers are compelled to teach in French only, and are forbidden to use the native dialects; and practical teaching, though required in theory, is in practice much neglected. Moreover, in the village schools there are no European teachers, and the teachers (ex-soldiers, or officials) who do the work are often very ignorant. Important work, however, is done in the case of half-castes, for whom orphanages are provided, where they receive professional training. Apart from the education given by the Government, the children of Mohammedan parents receive instruction from the marabouts to the extent of being taught to repeat by heart verses of the Koran, which they do not understand. The Government has also provided in Senegal, at Saint Louis, and in Upper Senegal and Niger, at Djenne, *madrasas*, in which instruction is given in theology, history, and law by Mohammedan professors.

¹ *Arrêté* of November 2, 1912.

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS

The Native Question

IN the case of Senegal proper the situation of the Government is rendered difficult by the existence of institutions which belong to a period when it was thought possible to adopt the policy of assimilation towards the inhabitants of the country. In the rest of West Africa no such policy is now contemplated. It is recognized that for a long period the European Government must provide protection and guidance for the native; and the obligations which thus devolve on the Government are being repeatedly set out by the Governors-General, as in M. Ponty's circular of March 5, 1913, dealing with native land rights. The necessary complement to this policy is the provision of means for enabling natives whose loyalty to the State is undoubted, who can speak French, and who are of good character and means, to acquire the status of French citizens, in which case they become entitled to all the privileges of Europeans.¹

Great progress has also been made in the application to the natives of regular administration; and, though the administrators necessarily retain special powers of taking repressive measures against natives without bringing them before the established courts, the Governor-General² has laid it down that, since the enactment of the decree of August 12, 1912, the use of these reserved powers should be restricted to cases where political considerations render action by the ordinary courts dangerous, or at least highly undesirable. The Governor-General has also made strong efforts to remedy the chief abuse still persisting in the Government, the unsatisfactory method of assessing and raising the capitation tax³; and the administration has undoubtedly reached a condition of considerable efficiency.

¹ Decree of May 25, 1912, and *arrêté* of October 29, 1912.

² Circular of September 28, 1913.

³ Circular of January 30, 1914.

A feature of some interest in recent years has been the influx of Syfian merchants, who have absorbed much of the trade of the territories. Content with small profits, they compete seriously with the French merchants, who prefer business on a larger scale. Measures have been taken by the Government to control the entry of such merchants into the territory and the conduct of their business with the natives.

APPENDIX

I

CONVENTION BETWEEN FRANCE AND PORTUGAL RELATIVE TO THE DELIMITATION OF THEIR RESPECTIVE POSSESSIONS IN WEST AFRICA, MAY 12, 1886

Article I.—In Guinea, the frontier which shall separate the Portuguese from the French possessions, will follow, in accordance with the tracing upon Map I, which is annexed to the present Convention:—

In the north, a line which, starting from Cape Roxo, will keep, as far as the nature of the ground will permit, at an equal distance from the Rivers Casamance (Casamansa) and San Domingo de Cacheu (São Domingos de Cacheu) to the point of intersection of $17^{\circ} 30'$ longitude west of Paris with the parallel $12^{\circ} 40'$ of north latitude; between this point and 16° of longitude west of Paris, the frontier shall be merged in the parallel $12^{\circ} 40'$ of north latitude:—

In the east, the frontier will follow the meridian of 16° west from the $12^{\circ} 40'$ parallel of north latitude to the $11^{\circ} 40'$ parallel north latitude:—

In the south, the frontier will follow a line starting from the mouth of the River Cajet, which lies between the Island of Catack (which will belong to Portugal) and the Island of Tristão (which will belong to France), and keeping, as far as the nature of the land permits, at an equal distance between the Rio Componi (Tabati) and the Rio Cassini, then between the northern branch of the Rio Componi (Tabati) and at first the southern branch of the Rio Cassini (tributary of the Kacondo), afterwards the Rio Grande, until it reaches the point where the 16th meridian of west longitude cuts the parallel $11^{\circ} 40'$ of north latitude.

Portugal will possess all the islands included between the meridian of Cape Roxo, the coast, and the southern boundary formed by a line following the thalweg of the River Cajet, and afterwards turning towards the south-west across the Passe des Pilots, where it reaches $10^{\circ} 40'$ north latitude, and follows it as far as the meridian of Cape Roxo.

II.

CONVENTION BETWEEN FRANCE AND GERMANY FOR
THE DELIMITATION OF THE GERMAN POSSESSIONS
OF TOGO AND THE FRENCH POSSESSIONS OF
DAHOMY AND THE SUDAN, JULY 23, 1897

*Article 1^{er}.*¹ La frontière partira de l'intersection de la côte avec le méridien de l'Île Bayol, se confondra avec ce méridien jusqu'à la rive sud de la lagune qu'elle suivra jusqu'à une distance de 100 mètres environ au delà de la pointe est de l'Île Bayol, remontera ensuite directement au nord jusqu'à mi-distance de la rive sud et de la rive nord de la lagune; puis suivra les sinuosités de la lagune à égale distance des deux rives jusqu'au thalweg du Mono, qu'elle suivra jusqu'au 7° degré de latitude nord.

De l'intersection du thalweg du Mono avec le 7° degré de latitude nord, la frontière rejoindra par ce parallèle le méridien de l'Île Bayol, qui servira de limite jusqu'à son intersection avec le parallèle passant à égale distance de Bassila et de Penesoulou. De ce point, elle gagnera la Rivière Kara suivant une ligne équidistante des chemins de Bassila à Bafilo par Kirikri et de Penesoulou à Séméré par Aledjo, et ensuite des chemins de Sudu à Séméré et d'Aledjo à Séméré, de manière à passer à égale distance de Daboni et d'Aledjo ainsi que de Sudu et d'Aledjo. Elle descendra ensuite le thalweg de la Rivière Kara sur une longueur de 5 kilom. et de ce point remontera en ligne droite vers le nord jusqu'au 10° degré de latitude nord, Séméré devant dans tous les cas rester à la France.

De là, la frontière se dirigera directement sur un point situé à égale distance entre Djé et Gandou, laissant Djé à la France et Gandou à l'Allemagne et gagnera le 11° degré de latitude nord en suivant une ligne parallèle à la route de Sansanné-Mango à Pama et distante de celle-ci de 30 kilom. Elle se prolongera ensuite vers l'ouest sur le 11° degré de latitude nord jusqu'à la Volta blanche de manière à laisser en tout cas Pougno à la France et Koun-Djari à l'Allemagne, puis elle rejoindra par le thalweg de cette rivière le 10° degré de latitude nord qu'elle suivra jusqu'à son intersection avec le méridien 3° 52' ouest de Paris (1° 32' ouest de Greenwich).

III

CONVENTION BETWEEN GREAT BRITAIN AND FRANCE
FOR THE DELIMITATION OF THEIR RESPECTIVE
POSSESSIONS TO THE WEST OF THE NIGER, AND
OF THEIR RESPECTIVE POSSESSIONS AND
SPHERES OF INFLUENCE TO THE EAST OF THAT
RIVER, JUNE 14, 1898

Article VIII.—Her Britannic Majesty's Government will grant on lease to the Government of the French Republic, for the

¹ For details of modification of this frontier effected under the Declaration of September 28, 1912, see *State Papers*, vol. CVI, p. 1001 *et seq.*

objects, and on the conditions specified in the form of lease annexed to the present Protocol, two pieces of ground to be selected by the Government of the French Republic in conjunction with Her Britannic Majesty's Government, one of which will be situated in a suitable spot on the right bank of the Niger between Leaba and the junction of the River Moussa (Mochi) with the former river, and the other on one of the mouths of the Niger. Each of these pieces of land shall have a river frontage not exceeding 400 metres in length, and shall form a block, the area of which shall not be less than 10 nor more than 50 hectares in extent. The exact boundaries of these pieces of land shall be shown on a plan annexed to each of the leases.

The conditions upon which the transit of merchandise shall be carried on on the Niger, its affluents, its branches and outlets, as well as between the piece of ground between Leaba and the junction of the River Moussa (Mochi) mentioned above, and the point upon the French frontier to be specified by the Government of the French Republic, will form the subject of Regulations, the details of which shall be discussed by the two Governments immediately after the signature of the present Protocol.

Her Britannic Majesty's Government undertake to give four months' notice to the French Government of any modification in the Regulations in question, in order to afford to the said French Government the opportunity of laying before the British Government any representations which it may wish to make.

*Article IX.*¹—Within the limits defined on Map No. 2, which is annexed to the present Protocol, British subjects and British protected persons and French citizens and French protected persons, as far as regards their persons and goods, and the merchandise the produce or the manufacture of Great Britain and France, their respective Colonies, possessions, and Protectorates, shall enjoy for thirty years from the date of the exchange of the ratifications of the Convention mentioned in Article V the same treatment in all matters of river navigation, of commerce, and of tariff and fiscal treatment and taxes of all kinds.

Subject to this condition, each of the two Contracting Powers shall be free to fix, in its own territory, and as may appear to it most convenient, the tariff and fiscal treatment and taxes of all kinds.

In case neither of the two Contracting Powers shall have notified twelve months before the expiration of the above-mentioned term of thirty years its intention to put an end to the effects of the present Article, it shall remain in force until the expiration of one year from the day on which either of the Contracting Powers shall have denounced it.

¹ The map referred to shows an area including the Ivory Coast, the Gold Coast, Dahomey, and Nigeria.

IV

CONVENTION BETWEEN FRANCE AND SPAIN FOR THE
DELIMITATION OF THEIR POSSESSIONS IN WEST
AFRICA, JUNE 27, 1900

Article 1^{er}.—Sur la côte du Sahara, la limite entre les possessions Françaises et Espagnoles suivra une ligne qui, partant du point indiqué par la carte de détail (A) juxtaposée à la carte formant l'Annexe 2 à la présente Convention, sur la côte occidentale de la péninsule du Cap Blanc, entre l'extrémité de ce cap et la baie de l'ouest, gagnera le milieu de la dite péninsule, puis, en divisant celle-ci par moitié autant que le permettra le terrain, remontera au nord jusqu'au point de rencontre avec le parallèle 21° 20' de latitude nord. La frontière se continuera à l'est sur le 21° 20' de latitude nord jusqu'à l'intersection de ce parallèle avec le méridien 15° 20' ouest de Paris (13° ouest de Greenwich). De ce point, la ligne de démarcation s'élèvera dans la direction du nord-ouest en décrivant, entre les méridiens 15° 20' et 16° 20' ouest de Paris (13° et 14° ouest de Greenwich), une courbe qui sera tracée de façon à laisser à la France, avec leurs dépendances, les salines de la région d'Idjil, de la rive extérieure desquelles la frontière se tiendra à une distance d'au moins 20 kilom. Du point de rencontre de la dite courbe avec le méridien 15° 20' ouest de Paris (13° ouest de Greenwich), la frontière gagnera aussi directement que possible l'intersection du tropique du cancer avec le méridien 14° 20' ouest de Paris (12° ouest de Greenwich), et se prolongera sur ce dernier méridien dans la direction du nord.

Il est entendu que, dans la région du Cap Blanc, la délimitation qui devra y être effectuée par la Commission Spéciale visée à l'Article VIII de la présente Convention, s'opérera de façon que la partie occidentale de la péninsule, y compris la baie de l'ouest, soit attribuée à l'Espagne, et que le Cap Blanc proprement dit et la partie orientale de la même péninsule demeurent à la France.

V

AGREEMENT BETWEEN FRANCE AND LIBERIA FOR
THE SETTLEMENT OF THE FRONTIER BETWEEN
FRENCH WEST AFRICA AND LIBERIA, SEPTEMBER
18, 1907

*Article 1^{er}.*¹—La frontière franco-libérienne serait constituée par :

1. La rive gauche de la rivière Makona, depuis l'entrée de cette rivière dans le Sierra Leone jusqu'à un point à déterminer à environ 5 kilomètres au sud de Bofosso;

¹ For details of the line agreed on see Agreement of January 13, 1911 (*State Papers*, vol. CVII, 797-800).

2. Une ligne partant de ce dernier point et se dirigeant vers le sud-est en laissant au nord les villages suivants : Koutoumaï, Kissi-Kouroumaï, Soundébou, N'Zapa, N'Zébéla, Koiama, Banguédou et allant rejoindre une source de la rivière Nuon ou d'un de ses affluents à déterminer sur place, au maximum à 10 kilomètres au sud et dans le voisinage de Lola.

Dans cette section de frontière, le tracé à délimiter devra éviter de séparer les villages d'une même tribu, sous-tribu ou groupement et utiliser autant que possible des lignes topographiques naturelles telles que le cours de ruisseaux et de rivières ;

3. La rive droite de la rivière Nuon jusqu'à son confluent avec le Cavally ;

4. La rive droite du Cavally jusqu'à la mer.

Dans le cas où la rivière Nuon ne serait pas un affluent du Cavally, la rive droite du Nuon ne formerait la frontière que jusqu'aux environs de Toulepleu ; à hauteur et au sud de la banlieue de ce village la frontière serait tracée entre le Nuon et le Cavally dans la direction générale du parallèle de ce point, mais de manière à ne pas séparer les villages d'une même tribu, sous-tribu ou groupement et à utiliser les lignes topographiques naturelles ; à partir de l'intersection de ce parallèle avec la rivière Cavally, la frontière serait constituée par la rive droite de la rivière Cavally jusqu'à la mer.

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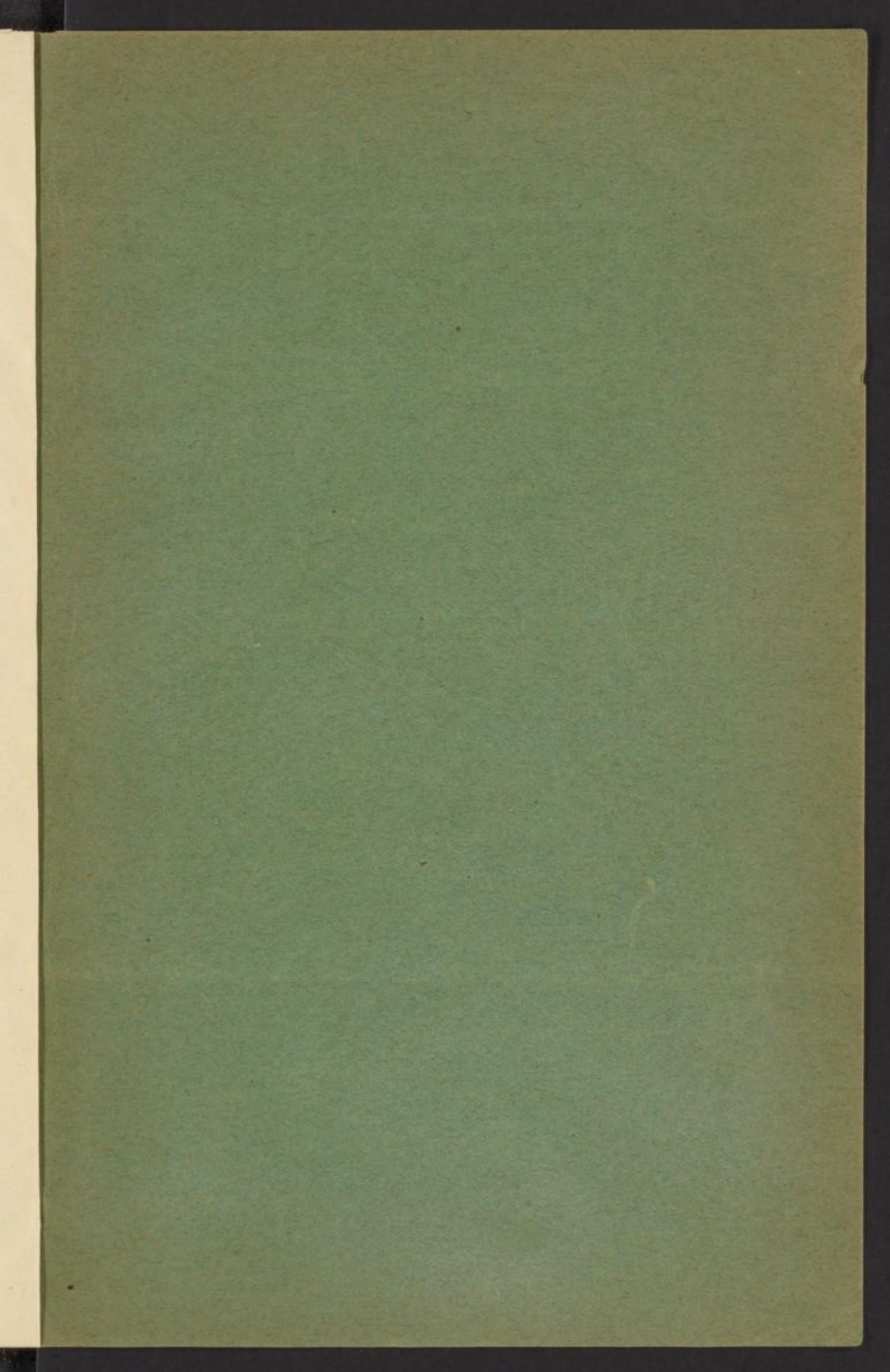
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MAPS

French West Africa is covered by West Africa (G.S.G.S. 2434), published by the War Office, on the scale 1 : 6,336,000; 1903 (additions 1914, boundaries corrected 1919).

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