

## ARCHIVAL RESEARCH TELLS THE BROADER STORY OF ERIC DRUMMOND AND HIS COLLEAGUES



### THE SCOTTISH ARCHIVES

In this introductory presentation we highlight some of the findings we unearthed in various archives.

23 Manchester Square  
London



The Secretariat of the League of Nations started work exactly 100 years ago in May 1919 from 23 Manchester Square, Drummond's home in London. There is an interesting parallel with the UN which also started work in London.

Stobhall Castle, Perthshire

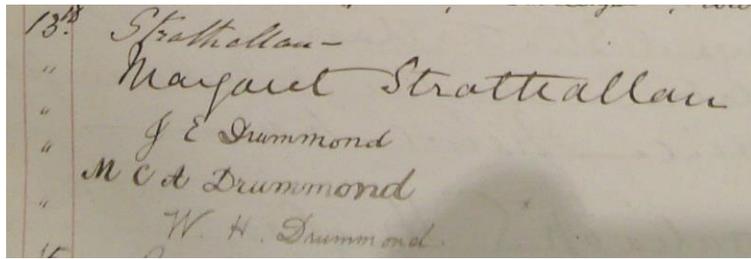


Our primary Scottish source was the Stobhall Archive of the Drummond family, to which we were given exceptional access and for which we thank Lord Strathallan.

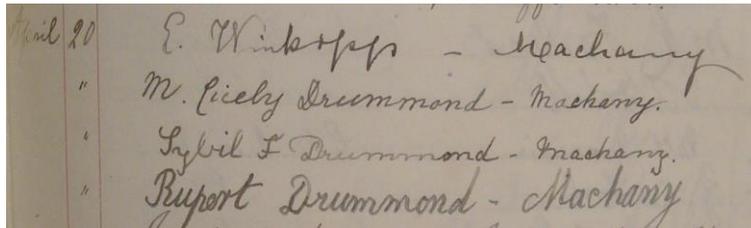
The Archive is named after Stobhall Castle, the Drummond family home, which was sold in 2012 when some of its contents were auctioned by Bonhams such as this glass vase which was presented to Drummond by the Swedish Government and surfaced in a production of the Antiques Road Show.

For more than half-a-century Drummond maintained a 'Sportsman's Record' which is now part of the Stobhall archive. In it he detailed where he fished, what he caught and who accompanied him.

From this, we learned that he had an illness or injury to his foot that ended a potential military career, that he spent several months in Germany between the ages of 20-24 and that he attended the crammer Scoone's before joining the Foreign Office in 1900.



13<sup>th</sup> Strathallan -  
Margaret Strathallan  
J. E. Drummond  
M. C. Drummond  
W. H. Drummond.



April 20 E. Winkopp - Machingy  
M. Pichey Drummond - Machingy.  
Sybil F. Drummond - Machingy.  
Rupert Drummond - Machingy

Drummond was a studious child. Records show him at the age of 14 visiting Innerpeffray, the first lending library in Scotland on Drummond lands in Perthshire.

**The 13 September 1890** entry in the library's Visitors Book shows that as a 14-year old Drummond visited with his father, mother, younger brother Maurice and his step-brother William.

**The 20 April 1894** entry records a subsequent visit led by German governess, Emilie Winkopp. Drummond was a competent linguist. At Eton, he gained the Prince Consort's French prize and by the time he was appointed Secretary-General, he was well-versed in German and French

This is the Code used by Lt. Col. Hon. Arthur Murray, D.S.O. (in London) and Sir William Wiseman Bart. (in New York) M.P. when talking to each - 1 - other - as per cables kept with this code - April to November, 1918. Arthur Murray 14 Feb. 1944

President Wilson .....	COLLIER.
Colonel House .....	BEACH.

Mr. Winston Churchill .....	SURFACE
Mr. E. Montagu .....	CHURCH.
Lord Hardinge .....	SHADE
Sir Eric Drummond .....	BOND.

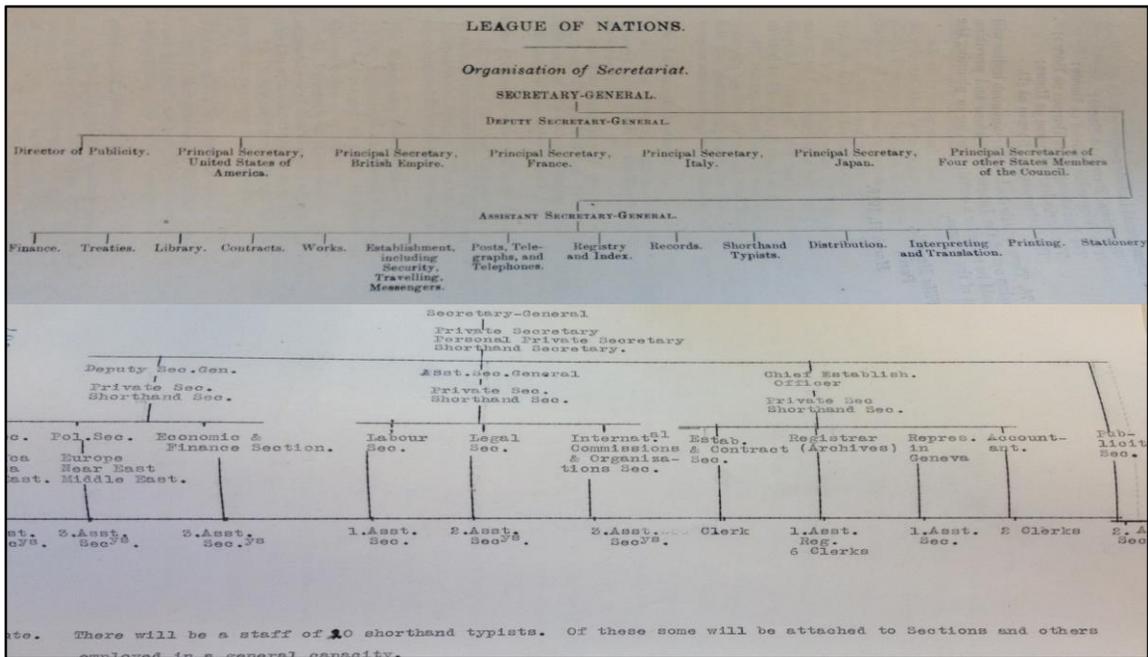
The, Elibank papers are also in the National Library of Scotland. In them we found a list of the code words used to communicate across the Atlantic in the First World War

As Balfour's Private Secretary in the Foreign Office, Drummond kept him apprised of Washington politics through several informants one of whom was William Wiseman, an MI-6 officer and a key person in Anglo-American relations, was passed to Drummond, who was given the codename 'Bond'.

Coincidentally for a short period Ian Fleming worked for the League and one is left to wonder about where he really got the idea for his spy's name

THE ARCHIVES OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS  
GENEVA

A major source for our research was the League's archive in Geneva, which has a fine collection of photographs of the League and its Secretariat



The records of the League commence with the Organizing Committee –the League’s equivalent of the UN Preparatory Committee which met prior to San Francisco. These two organograms show (top) Hankey’s concept for the Secretariat and below Drummond’s. Hankey who was an early candidate for Secretary-General and who was Secretary to the British Cabinet wanted a political secretariat, as can be seen from the positions reserved for each Council Member. Drummond’s idea which won out was along independent functional lines.

Organization Committee  
meeting minutes

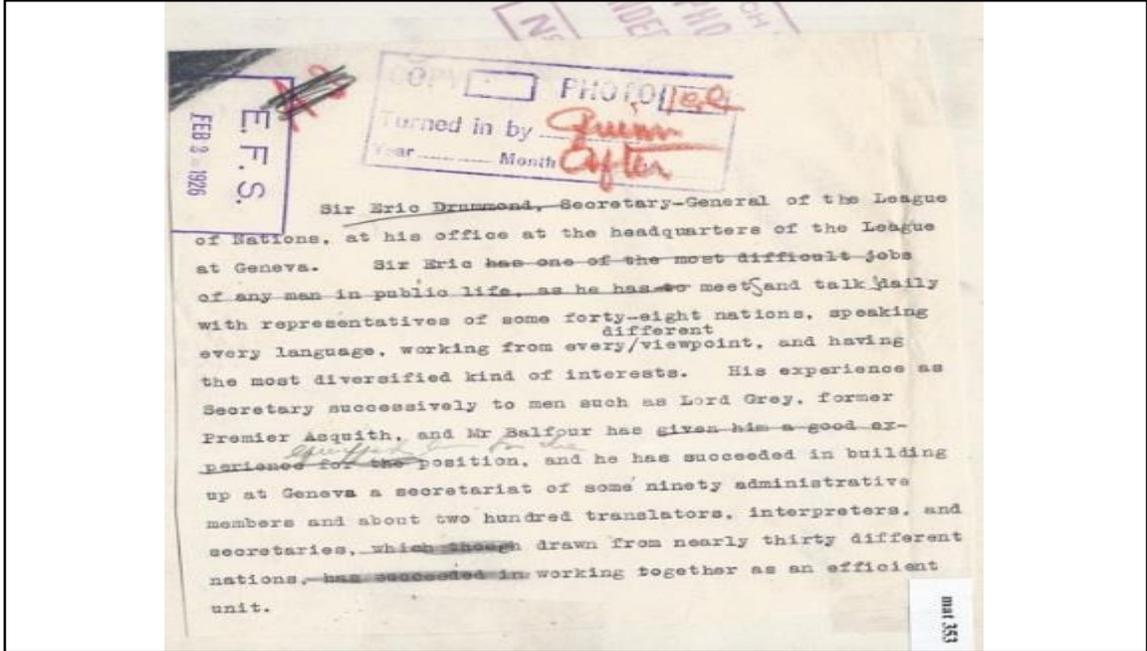
The Resolutions passed by the Organization Committee  
of the League of Nations at a Meeting held in Paris  
on the 9th June, 1919.

1. That it will be essential for the League to be fully informed at the earliest moment of all political, economic, financial and social and other relevant considerations in all parts of the world. Every State, being a member of the League, should therefore undertake to supply the International Secretariat with all appropriate information.
2. That the Governments of States, being members of the League, should count as meritorious the service of their nationals on the International Secretariat of the League. When a national official is appointed with the approval of his Government, to the International Secretariat of the League for a limited period, his/her national Government should arrange that neither his/her prospects, nor his/her pension rights, should suffer by reason of his/her employment.

It is interesting to note that as early as the Second meeting of the Organizing Committee it was considering protection for international civil servants



This photograph shows Drummond at work in his Geneva Office but what was most interesting is what is on the reverse NEXT SLIDE



Drummond's personality decisively shaped the Secretariat's character. A prominent aspect of this was his modesty. His corrections are seen on the draft of an official text that accompanied the preceding photograph-- the script is depersonalized, all hyperbole is deleted and all superlatives removed.

The First Assembly  
1920.  
Genevois watching  
the arrival of  
delegates



The First Assembly, was held in the Salle de Reformation, Hotel Victoria

The League meetings were a novelty and drew large crowds to watch the delegates arriving – not something that is seen today, even in New York

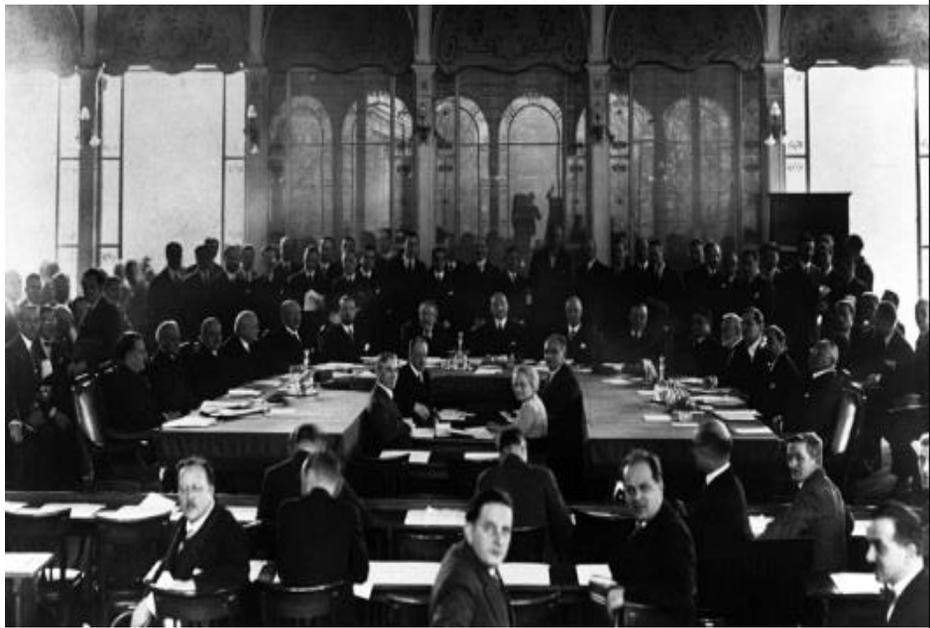
The First Assembly  
Salle de Reformation  
Geneva (1920)



The new diplomacy had its pitfalls. Lady Drummond in writing to Lord Cecil observed that:

‘the French threatened to leave because their bench at the Assembly had been moved from the centre to the left! – more or less where the British were last year. To avoid that calamity the old arrangement has been returned to, and the glory and honour of France has been saved!’

The Council  
meets in in the  
Glass Room,  
Hotel National  
(November  
1920)



The Council Meeting of November 1920 in Geneva was the first held in the Glass Room of the Hotel National (now the Palais Wilson - headquarters of the High Commission for Human Rights).

The President is Paul Hymans of Belgium and Drummond is seated on his left

## THE RACHEL CROWDY ARCHIVE BRISTOL UNIVERSITY

Rachel Crowdy was the only female Director at the League and was in charge of its Social Questions section. In the Special Collections of the University of Bristol is Rachel Crowdy's unpublished autobiography. This gives a fascinating account of her time at the League of Nations.

During the war Rachel Crowdy was Head of the Voluntary Aid Detachments in Northern France for which she was created a Dame. She has been described as a modest woman of great achievement.

Crowdy during the War



**Despite her war work she records that:** 'Nothing I have done at any time of my life proved as exhausting and exciting as the 11 years I spent in Geneva';

**On working together she notes:** 'Members of the Secretariat who had first looked with a faint suspicion at their foreign colleagues began to seek their expert knowledge. I remember how in the first few months I often said to myself -- I won't go to the French Director - he will probably ring up the Quai d'Orsay. I won't consult the Japanese Under Secretary General for how can the East understand the West. But gradually, I found myself thinking instead I must talk to my friends - we were all working in a common cause as the servants of the world and not of our nations.'

**Later she was to write:** 'I got a telegram from Chatham House asking me to join the British Delegation being sent to a Far Eastern Conference. While there my orderly mind pined for the business-like methods of the League

of Nations Secretariat. I realized how in Geneva I had accepted as matter of course the workings of what is probably the most perfect secretarial machinery in the world under the guidance of Sir Eric Drummond.!

Rachel Crowdy



Crowdy provides some interesting insights on delegates and how the Secretariat worked with them and got their opinions voiced through them. Crowdy obviously had a way of charming them.

**‘Briand** [the French Foreign Minister] was also very friendly and very helpful to me and his speeches at the Council or Assembly on social questions were written as a rule in my section and taken by me to him before his comments were delivered. He liked simple people and simple food. On one occasion, he refused the extravagant dinner hosted by the Spaniards at the Beau Rivage Hotel, and sat in a corner drinking soup out of a wooden bowl with a napkin tied around his neck’

**And again** 'I had kind friends who came to Council and Assembly meetings. It was the White Slave Traffic that first brought me in touch with Mr. **Balfour**. I wanted him to make a speech in support of my Convention. At first he refused, but then he made a great speech from the notes I had given him.

The ESME HOWARD ARCHIVE - CARLISLE  
LETTERS FROM JOAN (Tiger) HOWARD

The Esme Howard Collection contains several letters from his niece Joan 'Tiger' Howard dating from the time she was Eric Drummond's personal secretary in Geneva. These very informal and chatty letters give a very different perspective on life in the Secretariat in the 1920s .

The Secretary  
General and his  
office staff



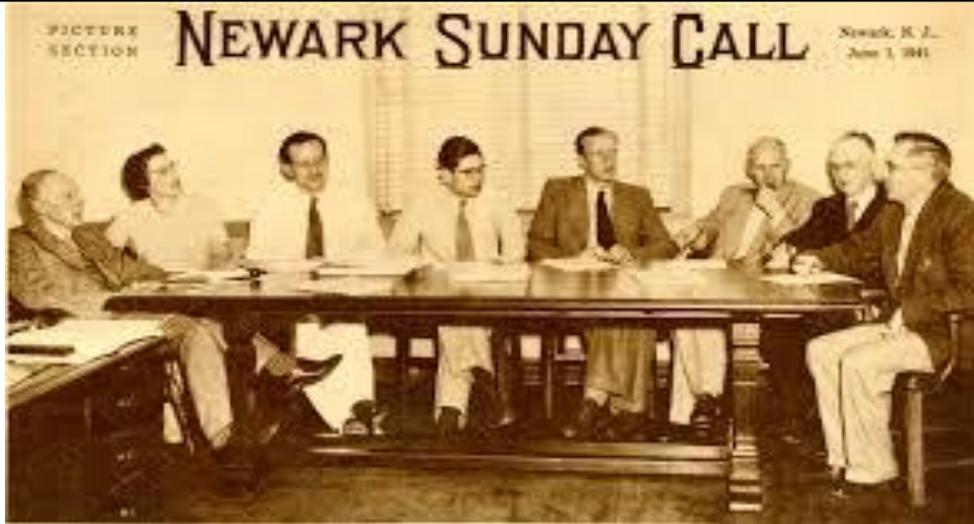
Joan Howard is third from the left in this photograph of Drummond and his office staff

**She provided gossip on Secretariat Staff.** 'Christina and Paulucci (the Italian USG and his secretary) had a row. I don't know how it will end. They are both behaving like children. ... I can't help laughing (to myself) when Christina arrives in my room in her green hat with half a parrot at the back all waving with excitement together. '

**and on Delegates.** 'We are all a twitter at the prospect of having such a bunch of prima donnas at the Assembly: MacDonald, Harriot and heaps more. I fear they may be too excited at seeing each other to really give the League a push - which is what we have to do now. The Labour Party are ruining us by making Lord Parmoor Chief delegate'.

**She also confided in her Uncle.** 'I do not think (Eric) wants it said that he

is going to Rome [as UK Ambassador] as the FO have asked it not be said for the present. I suppose they will soon ask the Italians. If you say it, it can only be a rumour from yourself, as half the world think he is going to Washington and lots of the people at the FO do not know'.



A few League staff relocated to Princeton during the War to continue its economic work  
From L to R: Loveday, van Ittersum, Deperon, Polak, Nurske, Rosenberg, Chapman, MacGuire

The Princeton Group was led by the economist Alexander Loveday (on the left). Throughout the war they maintained as best they could the international statistical series started by the League NEXT SLIDE allowing the UN and IMF to continue them, resulting, for some countries, a 100 year unbroken statistical series today.

**Tableau 5. MORTALITÉ INFANTILE. — Table 5. INFANT MORTALITY.**  
 Décès au-dessous d'un an par 1,000 naissances vivantes. — Deaths under one year per 1,000 living births.  
 Note générale (voir page 38). — General Note (see page 38).

COUNTRY	Mortality		Average									
	1950-1954	1980-1984	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960
ARGENTINA	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Egypte *	144	152	165	160	176	162	166	161	164	165	...	...
Mozambique	142	143	131	203	139	132	139	139	142	155	...	...
Union Sud-Afr.	71	67	63	63	69	61	61	63	59	58	...	...
AMERICA	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Canada	98	93	75	85	71	75	72	71	66	76	...	...
Etats-Unis	24	68	86	62	58	58	60	56	57	54	51	...
Blancs	21	63	84	62	52	52	54	50	52	54	...	...
Autres	116	105	88	84	86	81	84	88	89	85	...	...
Mexique *	227	173	135	138	137	139	134	125	133	126	...	...
Paraguay	116	115	94	95	86	86	97	107	97	94	99	...
Chili *	265	276	248	232	235	239	262	251	252	241	236	...
Costa-Rica *	172	172	159	179	149	164	138	152	153	142	122	...
Equateur *	175	158	145	139	137	162	131	137	151	158	142	...
Guatemala *	140	144	139	139	154	154	168	122	120	121	...	...
Jamaïque *	176	166	145	154	141	150	132	138	131	119	...	...
Salvador *	140	140	134	134	141	136	132	...	...	...	...	...
Trinité & Tobago	133	129	122	144	109	131	127	99	97	120	...	...
Uruguay	185	90	100	110	99	91	96	102	92	...	...	...
Venezuela	148	148	144	144	144	144	144	144	144	144	...	...



United Nations  
 Population Division  
 Department of Economic and Social Affairs

World Population Prospects: The 2017 Revision

File MORT/1-1: Infant mortality rate (both sexes combined) by region, subregion and country, 1950-2100 (infant deaths per 1,000 live births)

POP/DB/WPP/Rev2017/MORT/01-1

June 2017 - Copyright © 2017 by United Nations. All rights reserved

Suggested citation: United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division (2017), World Population Prospects: The 2017 Revision, DVD Edition.

Index	Variant	Region, subregion, country or area *	Notes	Country code	Infant mortality rate, 1q0, for both sexes combined (infant deaths per 1,000 live births)						
					1950-1955	1955-1960	1960-1965	1965-1970	1970-1975	1975-1980	1980-1985
207	Estimates	South America	26	931	127	115	104	94	84	73	62
208	Estimates	Argentina		32	66	60	60	57	48	39	32
209	Estimates	Bolivia (Plurinational State of)		68	173	165	166	146	135	123	111
210	Estimates	Brazil		76	136	124	112	101	92	84	72
211	Estimates	Chile		152	123	118	107	88	67	44	25
212	Estimates	Colombia		170	123	105	92	82	73	57	43
213	Estimates	Ecuador		218	138	128	119	107	95	81	68
214	Estimates	French Guiana		254	193	89	73	51	46	43	32
215	Estimates	Guayana		328	72	67	62	57	56	54	53
216	Estimates	Paraguay		800	73	70	62	59	53	51	49
217	Estimates	Peru		604	159	148	136	126	110	96	82
218	Estimates	Suriname		740	76	68	58	49	44	40	41
219	Estimates	Uruguay		858	57	53	48	47	46	42	33
220	Estimates	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)		862	108	91	74	61	49	41	33
221	Estimates	NORTHERN AMERICA	27	905	31	28	25	22	18	14	11
222	Estimates	Canada		124	38	32	26	21	16	12	9
223	Estimates	United States of America		840	30	27	25	22	18	14	11

## THE LOVEDAY ARCHIVE NUFFIELD COLLEGE, OXFORD

Alexander Loveday, was a League staff member throughout its existence. He provided continuity from the 1920 Brussels Economic Conference through the 1933 World Financial and Economic Conference in London to the Bretton Woods conference of 1944. After leaving the League he went to Oxford where he eventually became Master of Nuffield College.

He was a pioneer of international statistics. His letters and diaries have descriptions of life in Geneva

Alexander Loveday



Drummond did not support Avenol's appointment as his successor and instead tried, unsuccessfully, to persuade Jean Monnet, who had been his Deputy, to take the job.

#### **Loveday's commentary on Avenol**

Avenol is a man who has never though a genuine thought or done a generous deed, who is ruthless in his egocentricity, shameful in his cowardice and shameless in his intrigues. He has no principles, no ideas, no beliefs: he has created nothing, inspired nothing and destroyed all he has come in touch with: the institution which he was appointed to serve, his colleagues appointed to serve him, the wife he married and the country that bred him. He is friendless, creedless and homeless. He is held in unusual contempt ... he has earned all he has gamed.

Like many League staff, Loveday had access to top level political and economic figures. In fact by 1933 he seems to have had higher and higher access and that year records that he:

Dined with Keynes in Cambridge; dined with Hayeck and Morgenstern

Lunched with Eden and sat next to Kleinwort



Nobel Prize winners from Left to Right: Tjallinging Koopmans, Richard Stone, James Meade, Jan Tinbergen, Ragnar Frisch



Per Jacobsson IMF  
Managing Director



Jacques Polak, IMF  
Director of Research

Loveday was exceptional in his ability to identify outstanding economists and his staff went on to win five Nobel prizes in economics , Head the IMF and become the longest serving IMF Director of Research

COLBAN'S *FEMTI ÅR*  
TRANSLATED BY DOROTHY HALVORSEN

Colban was Director of the Minorities Section Dorothy Halvorsen's (a BAFUNCS Overseas member) reviewed his Norwegian memoirs and translated some of them for us. These include material concerning a 'lessons learned' study for Chatham House that Drummond chaired which was influential in the work of the UN Preparatory Commission

Eric Colban



### **On the move to Geneva**

It was decided that our headquarters should be Geneva. I left with a big entourage. In Paris there was a taxi strike and those of us who had got off the train at Gare du Nord could not find a taxi to take us to Gare de Lyon. But the Englishman Major Anthony Buxton saved the situation by boldly stopping a big lorry and getting it to transport us.

### **On the legacy**

It was with some sense of satisfaction that I had been a member of [the UN Preparatory Commission] and I saw our document before all the delegates who should work further on the Secretariat's set-up. During my later work with the United Nations it has also been a pleasure for me that the general secretariat as well as the United Nations as a whole, organizationally and administratively, has inherited very many values from the League.

