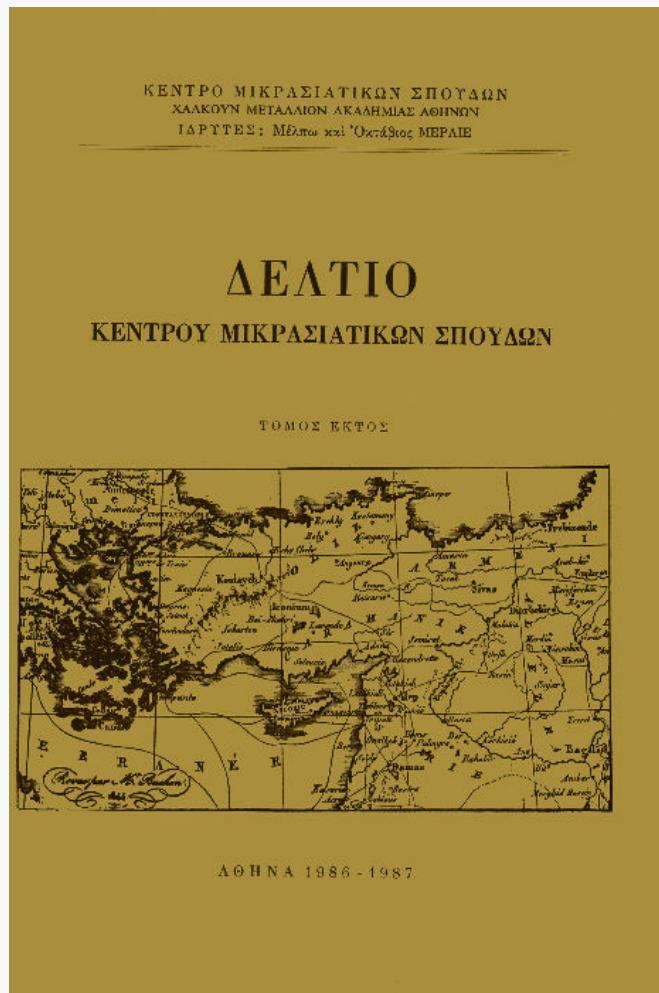


## Δελτίο Κέντρου Μικρασιατικών Σπουδών

Τόμ. 6 (1986)



Περί της ιδρύσεως του εμπορικού και  
βιομηχανικού επιμελητηρίου Σμύρνης: 1921-1922

Michael S. Macrakis

doi: [10.12681/deltiokms.112](https://doi.org/10.12681/deltiokms.112)

Copyright © 2015, Michael S. Macrakis



Άδεια χρήσης [Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 4.0](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/4.0/).

### Βιβλιογραφική αναφορά:

Macrakis, M. S. (1986). Περί της ιδρύσεως του εμπορικού και βιομηχανικού επιμελητηρίου Σμύρνης: 1921-1922. Δελτίο Κέντρου Μικρασιατικών Σπουδών, 6, 249-267. <https://doi.org/10.12681/deltiokms.112>

MICHAEL S. MACRAKIS

ON THE FORMATION OF THE SMYRNA CHAMBER  
OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY, 1921-1922

Most of the historiography of the modern Greek presence in Asia Minor addresses military, political, religious, ethnic, and intellectual themes. While older studies exist<sup>1</sup> on the economic conditions of Asia Minor the concern about the conditions prevailing in the 1920s has been overshadowed by the administrative and military problems during the Greek presence in Asia Minor and by the study of the ensuing tragic events. Only recently, the study and partial publication of significant archival material of the National Bank of Greece referring to its short-lived presence in Smyrna between 1919 and 1922 has begun to throw some light on the economic picture. The introductory remarks of Veremis and Kostis<sup>2</sup> for

I owe a special debt of gratitude to Mr Michael S. Notaras (an old associate of SNM in Smyrna and at the Agricultural Bank of Greece) and to Dr Victoria Solomonides for their patient correspondence throughout the last few years which proved invaluable in the clarification of a number of issues pertaining to this study. Dr Domna Donta kindly guided me through the documents of the Greek Administration in Smyrna which exist in the Archives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Ms Maria Chaireti placed at my disposal other documents of the Greek Administration in Smyrna which exist in the General National Archives of the State in the Academy of Athens; similarly Ms Y. Hadzi helped me with the Archives of the National Bank of Greece that pertain to the presence of the Bank in Asia Minor. The warm and precise support of all of them is greatly appreciated. Finally I express my thanks to Professors John O. Iatrides, Thanos Veremis and Paschalis Kitromilides for critical readings of the paper. This paper was prepared for an oral presentation at the Conference on GREECE AND ASIA MINOR at Anatolia College, 2 - 5 July 1985, Thessaloniki, Greece, but was not delivered.

1. I refer to the following studies: D. Georgiades, *Smyrne et l'Asie Mineure au point de vue économique et commercial*, Paris 1895, F. Rougon, *Smyrne, Situation Commerciale et Économique*, Paris, 1892, and, A.J. Panayotopoulos, «On the Economic activities of the Anatolian Greeks», *Δελτίο Κέντρου Μικρασιατικῶν Σπουδῶν*, vol. 4, (1983), pp. 87-128.

2. Th. Veremis and K. Kostis, *Η Εθνική Τράπεζα στήν Μικρὰ Ασία*, Athens 1984.

the above mentioned study present a welcome background of the economic scene in the Ottoman empire which helps in the understanding of the Greek politics and policies in Asia Minor. The published texts from the archives of the Bank, on the other hand, allow us to see in action the mechanics of the application of these policies. It is, then, in the same spirit that I present here material – unpublished, as far as I can determine – which relates to the period between the establishment by the Greeks of a *High Commission* in 1919 (later renamed *Greek Smyrna Administration*) under the leadership of High Commissioner ("Υπατος Ἀριστιδης") Aristidis Stergiadis and the evacuation of August/September of 1922. I report, specifically, on a memorandum that refers to the establishment and the functioning of the *Chamber of Commerce of Smyrna*. This memorandum, which is part of a file containing material relevant to the Chamber, was written by Stavros N. Macrakis<sup>3</sup>, is addressed to «His Excellency, the High Commissioner of Greece» and advocates the formation of a Chamber of Commerce in Smyrna. Although the evidence is not available, it is possible to conjecture that as a result of this memorandum legislation for the formation of the Chamber was enacted<sup>4</sup>, as we can

3. Stavros N. Macrakis (1899-1956) then barely 20 and a Law School graduate of the University of Athens was attached to the Stergiadis administration as a conscript from Herakleion, Crete. His selection for the position was not random. Born in Crete to a prominent Venizelist family of farmers, businessmen and politicians, he rapidly completed his legal studies. His uncle, Michael G. Macrakis, was at the time a member of Parliament and of the Liberal Party from Herakleion Crete with intimate business and social connections with the Turkocretans. Because of that he was expedited to Smyrna by Venizelos to assuage the Turkocretan population of Smyrna and obtain their support. This incident is related by M. Rodas, *Η Έλλάς εἰς τὴν Μικρὰν Ἀσίαν 1918-1922*, Athens 1950, and L.M. Smith, *Ionian Vision, Greece in Asia Minor 1919-1922*, Allen Lane, London 1973, p. 861. The Turkocretans were Greek speaking and of Greek origin moslems who had left Crete at the end of the last century. The younger Macrakis followed in his footsteps thus ensuring compliance with the policies of Venizelos with respect to the Turks. He served as staff in the Directorate for Commerce and Industry in the High Commission from 30.8.1919 - 1922. Upon return from Smyrna in 1922, S.N. Macrakis studied political economy in Paris, then entered into business and political career in Herakleion Crete, and subsequently in 1928 went to Athens as one of the first Directors of the then established Agricultural Bank of Greece (ATE). He remained with the Bank until his death. He was intimately involved with the agricultural settlement of the refugees from Asia Minor and served in many important directorates of the Bank. For a more complete biographical note see my introduction to a book of his, posthumously published by the Bank, *Ἀνοικοδόμηση τῶν καμένων χωριῶν μας στὸ πλαίσιο τῆς μεταπολεμικῆς μας Ἀνασυγκρότησης*, ATE, Athens 1983.

4. I have in my possession (Σ1 of personal archives) a final draft (?) of this legislation

## THE SMYRNA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

surmise from the first – and last – *Bulletin* (Spring 1922) of the Chamber of Commerce. To understand the concerns justifying the preparation of the memorandum, I relied principally on an unpublished study hereafter referred to as *Economic Survey* by G. Trakakis<sup>5</sup> and whose list of con-

entitled *By-laws of the Commercial and Industrial Chamber of Commerce of Smyrna* consisting of 42 articles in 22 typewritten pages. This legislates the change over from the «Ottoman Commercial Chamber of Commerce» to the *Commercial and Industrial Chamber of Commerce*. The letterhead reads *High Commission of Greece in Smyrna* and, therefore, it must have been prepared, according to Victoria Solomoniades, earlier than October 1921 when the High Commission assumed the title «Greek Administration of Smyrna» after a shake-up of its services. I have been unable to determine the date it was enacted. That it was enacted may be inferred by the introductory statement in the first *Bulletin* whose publication was mandated by the «articles of the by-laws» (2-8).

Incidentally, the HIGH Commissioner was empowered by the Greek Parliament to legislate by decrees. These provisional laws according to the Treaty of Sèvres (Art. 72) had to receive a sanction from the local government. See C.G. Ténékides, *Les Capitulations dans la Région de Smyrne et le Traité de Sèvres*, October 1921(?). From other memoranda in my possession (Σ 7) supported by A. Kalliavas, *Tὸ Οἰκονομικὸν μέλλον τῆς Ἑλληνικῆς Μικρᾶς Ἀσίας*, Aronis, Athens 1922, it follows that previously there were four Chambers of Commerce in Smyrna:

1. The Chamber of Smyrna (Ottoman Commercial) with 1000 members of whom 650 Greeks,
2. The French Chamber (established 1889), with 80 Members,
3. The Italian Chamber, with 150 members and,
4. The British Chamber, with 60 members.

The expectations for the new Chamber must have been about 1300 members paying dues.

5. P.G. Trakakis, *Ἡ Βιομηχανία ἐν Σμύρνῃ καὶ ἐν τῇ Ἑλληνικῇ Μικρασίᾳ*, Smyrna 1920. A report for the High Commission. This is a typewritten hard-bound *copy* of a four part survey consisting of 211 pages and an Appendix of 7 elaborate tables. The first section describes the historical, legal and institutional problems of industry prevailing during the Ottoman rule of the region. It is valuable to the historian since it elaborates on Ottoman practices, so different from Western ones. The second section describes the conditions of the work force (pp. 30-48), the third contains suggestions for improvements (pp. 48-64), while the fourth and longest analyzes in some detail many industries as well as many companies operating in the Santjak of Smyrna (pp. 64-211). It appears as an indispensable piece of work of analysis done professionally with high standards of clarity, precision, and relative objectivity by G. Trakakis a senior member of the administration of the National Bank of Greece's branch in Smyrna. This study exists in the historic archives of the National Bank of Greece File 41, (1486) but Veremis and Kostis in *Ἡ Ἑθνικὴ Τράπεζα*, have not presented it in their work as it was done for the Greek Administration of Smyrna and therefore not directly related to the Bank's activities in Asia Minor; they do refer to it in p. 52 and *passim*. In view of the fact that this material is not generally available and because of its importance, I place the list of its contents in Appendix A. The *Study* chooses to analyze in some depth the following industries: *Carpet Production* with special emphasis on the technique and the costs of production (study of *The Oriental Carpet Ltd*), *Weaving and*

tents I present in Appendix A. This *Economic Survey* gives significant statistical data on most aspects of industry in the district of Aidinion (Aidin Vilaet) until 1919.

Let me then briefly report on the *Memorandum*, the *Bulletin* and portions from the *Economic Survey*:

1. *The Memorandum on the Chamber of Commerce* (see Appendix B for the Greek Text). The summary of the memorandum is as follows: The Ottoman Chamber of Commerce in Smyrna was thirty six years old by 1920 and had nothing to show for accomplishments. The then director of the Chamber attributed the failure to *a.* the Turkish government, which had a negative attitude<sup>6</sup> and, *b.* to the capitulations issued long ago in favor of most foreign subjects. Macrakis adds a third reason: he suggests that the Chamber was just a loose association of merchants and not a legal entity, an incorporated society in the tradition of related European organizations. He admits, however, that in Europe conditions are different while in Smyrna there is a need for guidance, direction, and follow-up. The current Chamber, writes Macrakis, is run by seven to eight staff at a cost of 4625 Turkish pounds a year; there have been no elections, and the annual balance sheets have remained unaudited. While there is no insinuation of wrong doing, the Turkish law permits no interference in any case. And there is no service provided to commerce. The Chamber has no income except for annual dues, membership is not compulsory, and it does not provide arbitration or any other control for commerce and manufacturing [p. 5]. «We have no right» to abolish the Chamber since this is not possible because there are no articles in the Turkish legislation

*Fibers, Beer Production and Soft Drinks, Soaps, Glycerine, Cotton Oil, Leather, Acorn Extracts, Alcoholic Beverages, Confectionary, Production of Electricity, Gas, etc.* In many instances (as in the case of the British owned Gas company), negotiations between the High Commissioner and the industries reveal the mechanics of the relations of foreign companies in the area during the Ottoman rule and the attempts to change procedures during the Greek administration.

6. Kalliavas, *Οἰκονομικὸν Μέλλον*. Kalliavas writes (p. 25) that the «Smyrna Chambers of Commerce, perhaps because of the Turkish administration, did not show any particular initiative and energy to improve the conditions and the practices of commerce in Smyrna». The Greek Administration, he continues, «wishing to utilize more purposefully the extant commercial capabilities [...] took the initiative to assist in the organization of the Chamber of Smyrna on a new basis which would respond to the importance of the commerce of Smyrna».

## THE SMYRNA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

on Chambers of Commerce and Manufacturing providing for their dissolution as is the case in the Greek mainland (Greek law 183, article 24). And the Commission is unable to «legislate before the Treaty of Sèvres is enforced». Because of these constraints the proposal of Macrakis is to reach the public through releases in the press and to recommend to the current president to call a meeting of the board members of all nationalities in order to have the by-laws changed according to a proposal prepared by some employee of the High Commission in the Directorate of the National Economy.

The idea was to prepare a variant legislation adapted to the current situation and following the general spirit of the Greek law, as the latter had been amended by adopting the Italian practice. This law could provide a 6% surcharge on the tax on gross income of the members, thus ensuring its viability and guarantee its enforcement while establishing the principle of arbitration. The memorandum then analyzes the issue of arbitration at some length (5 out of the 10 pages of the memorandum are devoted to this problem) indicating the emphasis of Macrakis and the Stergiadis policy. The material is worth reading as it is an analysis of the current state of commercial affairs under the Turkish rule and legislation with special emphasis on the problem of 'capitulations' and the 'sensitivity' (ευθύξια) of the foreign merchants to any change in their preferred status. These problems will be solved, according to the memorandum, through arbitration, moral pressure on the foreign merchants, and their representation on the Executive Committee of the Chamber of Commerce.

The memorandum concludes by saying that the specifics are included in the «attached by-laws»<sup>7</sup> and remarking that «if at the present time we cannot apply what theory and experience we have to secure in all respects the Chamber of Commerce of Smyrna through the legislative measures, the love and interest of the appropriate services, their close follow-up, as well as the acceptance of its objectives on the part of the businessmen will, nevertheless, be adequate *for the moment* to guarantee its success». As these concluding words suggest, the Macrakis memorandum is not merely an analysis of the *Chamber of Commerce* in Smyrna and its future needs. It is also a policy statement regarding the Greek

7. The draft of the By-laws is in the file mentioned earlier.

government's attitude towards the Moslems and the minorities in the area of Smyrna. It is obvious that the staff of the Stergiadis administration and Stergiadis himself followed closely the instructions of Eleftherios Venizelos to softpedal the various issues and not to scare, intimidate, or impose on the Ottoman or the other minorities their own laws and institutions. In this case while most of the commerce was in Greek and non-Ottoman hands, the administration did not impose its own will on the Turks. Instead, it bent over backwards to accomodate all the parties. As Birge<sup>8</sup> writes: «It is quite evident that the Greek authorities are doing what they can to win the favor and approval of the Moslem element and of the other nationalities». Llewellyn Smith<sup>9</sup> describes the same situation, characterizing the administration's policy as a «policy of firmness with the Greeks, and fairness with the Moslems». A similar picture emerges from the Trakakis<sup>10</sup> memorandum addressed to the US consulate.

8. J.K. Birge (chairman). *A Survey of Some Social Conditions in Asia Minor*, May 1921. The *Social Survey* is a mimeographed report of 128 pages; it consists of a preface, 9 sections and... an alphabetical Index with 148 entries! From «Abattoirs» to «Young Women's Christian Association»; and spares no entries such as «Prostitution, Segregation of», or «Venereal Diseases (E-3, 12)». The chapters consist of *A*. General Information, *B*. History of the City (by V.L. Jumeston), *C*. Municipal Administration (by (Reverend) J.K. Birge), *D*. Industrial Conditions (by G.S. Stearns), *E*. Health (by E.W. Bankin), *F*. Recreation (by Miss (Sara) Snell and Miss (Margaret) Forsyth), *G*. Correctional System (by S.R. Harlow), *H*. Charities (by Miss (Annie) Pinneo) and, *I*. Education (by Miss (Ruth) Perkins). Harlow was assisted by Vincent L. Humeston, Pandelis Raptarkis (as of '84, a lawyer in Athens) and Ismael Hakki. A balanced ticket! The *Social Survey* Committee consisted of Miss Olive Green (secretary) and E.O. Jacobs (treasurer) who had given a copy of the survey to Spyros Vassilas on September 1921; Vassilas was a section head for Commerce and Industry in the Stergiadis commission (see M.I. Notaras, *Εἰς τὴν Ἰωνίαν, Αἰολίαν καὶ Ανδίαν, Πρὶν πενήντα χρόνια*, Athens 1972 and Smyrna Archives). Other members not listed above as authors were: Miss Nancy MacFarland, Mrs Georgie Underwood Peterson and Miss Helen Crosby. How the report got into the hands of Macrakis is not known but it must have been one of the documents studied in the preparation of the memorandum on the Chamber of Commerce. In fact there is a timid recommendation in *D*. that the Chamber of Commerce «carefully consider, *a*. procuring of cheap motor power for manufacturing purposes, both in the city and the suburbs...»

9. Smith, *Ionian Vision*.

10. P.G. Trakakis, *Οἰκονομικοί όροι καὶ συνθῆκαι τῆς Ἑλληνικῆς Μικρασίας. Ἐμπορικαὶ σχέσεις τῶν Ἡνωμένων Πολιτειῶν πρὸς τὴν Σμύρνην καὶ τὴν Ἐνδοχώραν*, National Bank of Greece 1920. Archives of the National Bank of Greece, File 41, (1486) but Veremis and Kostis, have not presented it.

## THE SMYRNA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

The constraints faced by the Stergiadis administration are discussed in some length in the *Economic Survey*. This survey reviews the legislative environment pertaining to the Ottoman empire as it affected the businessmen of the various nationalities. It shows how the Greek Commission was confronted by a rather peculiar situation of lack of coherence, which one would suspect, was exacerbated by the disintegration of the Ottoman Empire. The Commission felt that it was its duty if not «its historical obligation», to redress this dysfunction. We read in the *Economic Survey*<sup>11</sup> that the «foreigners, the subjects of the Great Powers, or the various protégés [sic] using the interference of the diplomatic representatives – others using the oblique methods of easy deals in addressing the vulnerable (ενάλωτος) Turkish authorities – were putting aside all resistance and every obstacle. They could thus obtain results and manage their affairs in a way that would have been unacceptable in well governed countries expertly administered». Obviously, the Greek Administration was anxious to change the status quo which they viewed as a 'free for all' situation while the foreign businessmen expressed great concern regarding the planned annexation of Aidini to Greece writing to foreign newspapers that «it would be best for the foreign element in Smyrna to have a Turkish administration under the control of the allied forces». Further, the *Survey* discusses extensively the issue of capitulations which, significantly, were maintained intact in the Treaty of Sèvres. Venizelos seems to have briefed Stergiadis on the contents of the Treaty a few months before the signing of July 28 / August 10, 1921 and the Commission staff was well informed of its contents. Hence the sensitivity of the *Memorandum* on this matter. The discussion of the Survey further indicates that the staff was not unprepared. But the Greek Administration inherited the system of capitulations from the Ottoman rule. And it was an issue of great concern to all. Thus one finds an extended discussion on the subject by Korizis<sup>12</sup>; again the introductory remarks of Veremis<sup>13</sup> give an adequate setting for the economic environment in Asia Minor for the first quarter of this century. It should be noted that the capitulations were unilaterally lifted by Turkey in 1913. However, they were reinstated with the article 261 of the Treaty of Sevres. An international law expert

11. Trakakis, *'Η βιομηχανία ἐν Σμύρνῃ*, p. 16.

12. Ibid., p. 16 where letter of the «Anglosmyrniate» Whitall to the *Times* of London.

13. Veremis and Kostis, *'Η Ἐθνική Τράπεζα*, p. 143 as well as p. 178.

however argues that nevertheless Article 68 of the same Treaty «equates the territory of Smyrna to a territory detached from the Ottoman Empire. A territory detached from the Ottoman Empire means territory exempted from the regime of «capitulations»<sup>14</sup>. He recommends accordingly that the Greek Administration ignore the issue of capitulations altogether. However, Macrakis argued that because of the «sensitivity that the foreign consulates exhibit in reference to the subject of CAPITULATIONS» it is not useful to include a foreigner in the Committee or Arbitration while at the same time it is not in the interest of the administration to submit to the regime of capitulations; it would be more profitable to evade the direct issue and utilize a «sort of moral pressure» by introducing and article in the By-laws which would make public the results of an arbitration should a member refuse to submit to its decisions taking cover behind the ambiguity of the political situation. Such an article was not included in the By-laws but the argument goes to show the thinking that was behind the policies of the Stergiadis administration. Still another view suggests that because of the difficulties encountered in their administration, the capitulations should «be considered as a weak counterweight for the foreigners to the missing Turkish legislation»<sup>15</sup>.

## 2. *The Bulletin of the Chamber of Commerce.*

The first-and last *Bulletin* of the Chamber of Commerce appeared with great delay in the spring of 1922. In the By-laws submitted with the Macrakis memorandum there is an article (# 2, Section 8) which requires the «publication of a periodical at least twice a year, where studies and articles, statistical data for imports and exports, and, whatever related to commerce and industry, be published». Indeed the *Bulletin de la Chambre de Commerce et de l'Industrie de Smyrne* (Δελτίον τοῦ Ἐμπορικοῦ καὶ Βιομηχανικοῦ Ἐπιμελητηρίου Σμύρνης) appeared as the first clouds of a reversal in the Eastern front must have been gathering and as the Treaty of Sevres «was soon consigned to the waste bin as the Turkish

14. C.G. Ténékides, *Les capitulations dans la Region de Smyrne et le Traité de Sèvres*, October 1921. (The author refers to the eighteen months of the «excellence of the Greek Administration» which begun on May of 1919. Historical Archives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Greek Administration of Smyrna, 1/18, 18p 1922.

15. Δελτίον τοῦ Ἐμπορικοῦ καὶ Βιομηχανικοῦ Ἐπιμελητηρίου Σμύρνης, published every three months in French and in Greek. 1<sup>re</sup> Année, No. 1, Janvier - Avril 1922.

## THE SMYRNA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

nationalists began to assert themselves in the heart of Anatolia»<sup>16</sup>. Yet, there was no sign of this in the *Bulletin*. As the titles of the various articles and the style of the contents indicate, the *Bulletin* exuded confidence. All the data provided are of interest and very valuable. The table of contents of the *Bulletin* is as follows: «The economic upheaval during the post-war period» by A. Typaldos. «The workers in Smyrna». «The forest wealth of Asia Minor». «Figs». «Carpets». «Statistical study of the imports and exports from the port of Smyrna». «Statistics for sowing for the year 1921-1922». «Winter sowings». As can be seen the *Bulletin* covers many subjects of some importance and I could not possibly go into all of them here. I chose however, the subject on the commerce of figs since it gives the opportunity to view commerce in a many-dimensional perspective. The intense interest in the commerce of figs can be understood by looking at the number of exported dried figs from Asia Minor to the world and the US<sup>17</sup> in particular. 80% of the total were exported in 1921 to the US and England (11,140 and 10,526 tonnes of dried figs respectively out of a total of 26,304 tonnes) and employment in fig packing (although seasonal) amounted to 9% of the total labor force in Smyrna (1050 men, 2300 women and 650 children, i.e. 4000 out of a labor force of 44,400<sup>18</sup>. Clearly, figs were exported in great numbers to the United States, perhaps ending their careers baked into «fig Newtons»! The author of the *Bulletin* article – probably A. Kalliavás according to memorandum Σ5 in the Macrakis archives, but also see Kalliavás<sup>18</sup> made sure to present a «tutorial» on the caprification process which incidentally is a most intriguing «biological epic in which an aggressive insect and an introverted fruit» according to Hrdy and Bennett<sup>19</sup> are responsible for the pollination. The article describes the male wild figs from trees called capri-

16. C.J. Bartlett, *1880-1970, The International Rivalry of the Great Powers*, 1984, p. 124 and *passim*. See also Douglas Dakin, *The Unification of Greece 1770-1923*, New York 1972.

17. Trakakis, *Oικονομικοί Όροι*, p. 50 where discussion on figs in reference to exports to the United States. An authority on figs can be consulted on this matter: Ira J. Condit, *The Fig*, Chronica Botanica Co. Waltham, Mass. 1947 and, article in the 11th edition of the *Encyclopedia Britannica*. Also M. Gerdts and J.K. Clark, «Caprification: A unique relationship between plant and insect», *California Agriculture*, November - December 1979, pp. 12-14.

18. Birge, *A Survey*, p. D3.

19. S.B. Hrdy, and W. Bennett, «The fig connection», *Harvard Magazine*, September - October 1979, pp. 25-30.

figs (δλυνθοι) which are required for the pollination. These are brought from the mountains (Imam-kioi, Kiosk, Sultan-Hisar, Karagats) of Asia Minor strung together and hung on the female trees to «mature the fruit».

It seems that the author was unaware of the role of the wasps which pollinate – yet never themselves lay their eggs into – the «golden Smyrna» fig variety. Indeed, for domesticated fig trees only the visitations are required! It must be recalled that efforts to transplant the Smyrna fig to the US had started in 1881-1882 in California. The cross of the figs originating from the Spanish cultures and the Smyrna fig had already been called Callimyrna (*California-Smyrna*): it was in 1900 that a successful caprifig pollen was transferred to the Smyrna-type figs to obtain fruit by using the fig wasp *Blastophora Psenes L.* However, the interest continued for many years in the Smyrna production; exports were checked by US representatives in Smyrna for various diseases and warms. As Kalliavas notes: «A prominent American entomologist after a local examination concluded that the observed warms are normal with the figs»<sup>20</sup>.

Following the fig saga in the Bulletin we learn of the black market for caprifigs thought to be valuable yet scarce and more importantly for our discussion we also learn that the Greek Administration was claiming to have been successful in repatriating Moslem farmers who had earlier fled in fear of the Greek occupation. The «90% of the fig plantations came back under the previous owners». This implies that the administration had been successful in allaying the fears of the Moslem population and in inducing them to return to their villages and properties. In the still unpublished report Trakakis<sup>21</sup>, while paying tribute to the political acumen of Stergiadis, recalls that in areas where Moslem populations had deserted their farms during the retreat of the Kemalist forces, by «forming a special organization he arranged so that the [deserted] farms were cultivated and that the proceeds from the produce minus the costs, were deposited in a special account in the name of the rightful Ottoman farmer». At the same time as a result of the «wise and highly political inspiration» of the High Commissioner, «the Greek population (150,000) that was expelled six years earlier was denied immediate repatriation because Stergiadis was predicting danger and problems during a massive repatri-

20. Kalliavas, *Tō Οἰκονομικὸν Μέλλον*, p. 40. But see also, H.R. Hagan, «The Fig insect situation in the Smyrna Fig District», *Journal of Economic Entomology*, 22, (1925), pp. 900-909, 1929.

21. Trakakis, *Oikonomikoi ὅροι*, p. 18.

## THE SMYRNA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

ation of exiles who upon return to their homes and farms would inescapably cause friction between them and the current owners established by the Turkish government».

The memorandum on the formation of the Chamber of Commerce, the subsequent legislation, and the resulting Bulletin contribute in a small – but consistent – way in the assessment of the coherence of policies adopted and the efficacy in policy execution of the Stergiadis administration and of the quality of the staff. The material presented here is consistent with other material that became recently available with the publication of the archives of the National Bank of Greece as well as with the surviving material of the Stergiadis administration in the Archives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. All together, my conclusions are not difficult to draw. On studying a minute part of the record of the High Commission in Smyrna one cannot but support the view of many authors<sup>22</sup> that it was:

- a. Benevolent
- b. superbly staffed and connected (see lists of staff members in Notaras<sup>22</sup>, in the National Archives of the State, and Veremis and Kostis. It is worth noting that many names in the Administration and the Bank have left their mark in important and responsible positions in mainland Greece after 1922.
- c. effective in policy execution. The feverish pace of administrative work and the data collected on the wealth and available know-how in the region leave one very impressed. Indeed, the comparison with mainland Greece administrative practices may not be favorable.

Despite the catastrophe that ensued, these studies have not been in vain. The intense interest in some industries – as for example tobacco and carpets<sup>23</sup> (the latter fully analysed in the *Economic Survey* of Trakakis) – has paid some dividends: these industries have become sources of occupation in mainland Greece where there was a massive «Technology

22. Veremis and Kostis, *H Εθνική Τράπεζα*, and M.I. Notaras, *Εις τὴν Ιωνίαν*.

23. The industry of carpets was in fact led by Macrakis in Athens since he served continuously in the early 1930s as the Chairman of the Board of the Ταπητουργικός Όργανος (Carpet Institute), an organization which did much to promote the industry in mainland, Greece, employ the specialists that migrated from Asia Minor and which helped appoint the otherwise stark houses of modern-day Greece.

Transfer» (to use a modern description of the process) whereupon the expertise came with the immigrants and refugees. Thus the weak infrastructure of Greece was strengthened significantly by the infusion of know-hows. The technical culture of the Thomson Seedless (Sultanina) grapevine, for instance, owes many debts to the refugees as this is attested by among other the experts of the League of Nations in Société des Nations<sup>24</sup>. So, what Seferis sensed coming must surely have been true: an accentuation of the transformation that the refugee population imposed on the mainland, insular Greeks<sup>25</sup>.

24. Société des Nations, *L'Établissement des Réfugiés en Grèce*, Genève, 1926.

25. George Seferis, 'Ενας Έλληνας – 'Ο Μακρυγιάνης, Δοκιμές, Egypt, 1941.

THE SMYRNA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

APPENDIX A'

ΠΙΝΑΞ ΠΕΡΙΕΧΟΜΕΝΩΝ

ΜΕΡΟΣ Αον	σελ.
Είσαγωγή και Γενική έπισκοπησις τής Βιομηχανίας	1 - 7
Γραφικός πίναξ χρονολογικής ίδρυσεως Έλληνικῶν καὶ	
Τουρκικῶν ἐργοστασίων	8
Συντελεσταὶ τῆς Βιομηχανίας: Πρόται ὅλαι, ἡμερομίσθιον	
καὶ φορολογία	9 - 13
Μειονεκτήματα καὶ ἐλλείψεις τῆς βιομηχανίας	13 - 20
Είσαγωγικοὶ δασμοί. - Νέον δασμολόγιον	20 - 22
Ἀποκλεισμὸς καὶ Ἐπιτάξεις	23 - 26
Τιμαι πρότων ὅλῶν καὶ κανσίμου ὅλης	27 - 29
ΜΕΡΟΣ Βον	
Οἱ ἐργάται τῆς Βιομηχανίας. Ἐπίδοσις καὶ Ἐθνικότης αὐτῶν	30 - 40
Φορολογία ἐργατικοῦ ἡμερομισθίου	40 - 42
Τὰ ἡμερομίσθια προπόλεμικῶν καὶ σήμερον	42 - 45
Ἐργατικά ζητήματα. Ἀπεργίαι	45 - 48
ΜΕΡΟΣ Γον	
Ἐνδεικνυόμενα μέτρα πρὸς προστασίαν τῆς βιομηχανίας	48 - 59
Χρησιμοποίησις τῆς πτώσεως τῶν ὅδάτων	59 - 61
Προστατευτικὸν δασμολόγιον	62 - 64
ΜΕΡΟΣ Δον	
Ἡ βιομηχανία ἐν τῷ Σαντζακίῳ τῆς Σμύρνης (εἰσαγωγὴ)	64 - 70
Ἡ Ταπητουργία. - Γενικὴ εἰσαγωγὴ	70 - 75
Τύποι καὶ ποιότητες ταπήτων	75 - 77
Τρόποι καὶ συνθῆκαι τῆς κατεργασίας τῶν ταπήτων	77 - 82
Ἡμερομίσθια καὶ τιμαι πρότων ὅλῶν	82 - 85
Τὸ ἐμπόριον τῶν ταπήτων	85 - 89
Ἡ Ἐταιρία «The Oriental Carpet Ltd»	89 - 93

This index exists only in my personal copy of the study – not in the unbound version at the archives of the National Bank.

As the Veremis study indicates, the records from the National Bank of Greece are extremely valuable for the study of the economic industry in Asia Minor.

<i>Οίκονομικαὶ συνθῆκαι τῆς Ἐταιρίας</i>	93 - 96
‘Η ἐξέλιξις τῶν ἐργασιῶν. Πίνακες διανομῆς κερδῶν	96 - 97
‘Εσωτερικὸς ὀργανισμὸς τῆς Ἐταιρίας (συνθῆκαι ἐργασίας)	98 - 102
‘Ανταποκριταὶ τῆς Ἐταιρίας καὶ ἀριθμὸς ἐργαλείων	102 - 104
Τιμαιὶ κόστοντας ταπήτων	105 - 106
Τιμαιὶ πωλήσεως ταπήτων	107 - 108
‘Η σημερινὴ κατάστασις τῆς Ἐταιρίας	108 - 112
Πίνακες ἐνεργητικοῦ καὶ παθητικοῦ	
Νηματονργία	113 - 116
«Société Anonyme Ottoman etc.»	117 - 123
Πίνακες	
«Compagnie Industrielle de Fillature et de Tissage»	112 - 127
‘Υφαντουργία. - Μεταξωτὰ Ἐσωτερικοῦ	128 - 130
Καλεμκεριά	130 - 132
Σχοινοποιία	133 - 134
‘Αλευροβιομηχανία	134 - 140
Κέρδη ἀλευροβιομηχανίας	141 - 145
Πίνακες	
Ζυθοποιία. «Brasserie d'Aidin»	146 - 150
Πίνακες	
‘Αεριοῦχα ποτὰ	151 - 153
Οίνοποια	154 - 159
Οίνοπνευματοποιία	159 - 169
‘Ανάλυσις Ἀμερικανικῶν οίνοπνευμάτων	169 - 172
‘Ηδύποτα	173 - 174
Σαπωνοποιία	175 - 179
Κατασκευὴ γλυκερίνης	180 - 181
Βιομηχανία βαμβακελαίου	181 - 185
Βυρσοδεψία	186 - 192
‘Εκχύλισμα βαλανιδίου	192 - 193
Ζαχαροπλαστικὴ	193 - 196
Παραγωγὴ ἡλεκτρικοῦ ρεύματος	196 - 201
‘Αεριόφως. ‘Η Ἐταιρία ‘Αεριόφωτος	201 - 206
Συμβάσεις Ἐταιρίας-Τουρκικῆς Διοικήσεως-Ἀρμοστείας	206 - 211
Στατιστικοὶ πίνακες τῆς Βιομηχανίας	

## APPENDIX B

*Πρὸς*  
*τὴν Α.Ε. τὸν Ὑπατὸν Ἀρμοστὴν τῆς Ἑλλάδος*

Λαμβάνω τὴν τιμὴν νὰ ὑποβάλλω ὑμῖν τὰ πορίσματα τὰ ὅποια ἡρύσθην ἐκ τῆς μελέτης τῆς καταστάσεως τοῦ ἐνταῦθα Ἐμπορικοῦ καὶ Βιομηχανικοῦ Ἐπιμελητηρίου καὶ τὰ μέτρα τὰ ὅποια ἐνδείκνυνται νὰ ληφθοῦν πρὸς συναρμόνισμαν τῆς δράσεως τοῦ ὡς ἀνωτέρου Ἐπιμελητηρίου πρὸς τὰς σημειρινὰς συνθῆκας ἀλλὰ καὶ ἀνάγκας τοῦ τόπου.

Τὸ Ἐπιμελητηρίου Σμύρνης παρ' ὄλον τὸν 36 ἑτὴ βίον τοῦ δὲν δύναται νὰ λεχθῇ ὅτι παρουσίασε τὰ ἀποτελέσματα ἐκεῖνα τὰ ὅποια, ἡ εὐρύτης τῶν σκοπῶν ἐνδὲ τοιούτου ἰδρύματος, θὰ ἀφίνει δικαῖως νὰ περιμένομεν.

Κατὰ τὴν σύντομον καὶ ἐλάχιστα διαφωτιστικὴν ἔκθεσιν τοῦ νῦν Διευθυντοῦ τοῦ Ἐπιμελητηρίου καὶ τὰς προφορικὰς πληροφορίας τὰς ὅποιας παρέσχεν εἰς ἡμᾶς, εἰς δύο λόγους, ἀναλόγως τῆς ἡμέρας που συνέβη, ἀποδίδεται ἡ ἀποτυχία τοῦ ἰδρύματος. Πρῶτον διότι ἡ Τουρκικὴ Διοίκησις ὅχι μόνον δὲν ὑπερβοᾷ αὐτό, ἀλλὰ καὶ ἀντέδρα θὰ ἡδύνατο τις νὰ εἰπῃ. Καὶ δεύτερον διότι ὑπῆρχον αἱ ὑπὲρ τῶν ξένων ὑπηκόων διομολογήσεις εἰς τὰς ὅποιας πολλάκις προσέκοπτεν.

Ἡμεῖς θὰ προσθέτομεν καὶ τρίτον λόγον τὸν ὅποιον ἀποδίδομεν εἰς αὐτὴν τὴν φύσιν τοῦ ὡς ἐλευθέρας ἐνώπιον καὶ οὐχὶ σωματείου δῆμοστον δικαίου. Καὶ είναι μὲν ἀληθές ὅτι ὡς σύστημα ἡ ἐλευθέρα ἐνώσις, θὰ είχεν ὑπὲρ αὐτῆς τὸ προτιγούμενον τῆς ἐν Ἀγγλίᾳ καὶ Ἀμερικῇ ἐπιτυχίας, ἐν τούτοις λαμβανομένης ὥπ' ὅψιν τῆς διαφορᾶς τῶν ἐκεῖ συνθηκῶν, ἐν γένει ἀλλὰ καὶ εἰδικῶς τὴν μόρφωσιν τοῦ ἐμπορικοῦ κόσμου τῶν χωρῶν τούτων ἐν ἀντιθέσει πρὸς τὴν παρ' ἡμῖν ἀνάγκην τῆς ποδηγετήσεως καὶ ὠθήσεως καὶ ἐκ τοῦ σύνεγγυς παρακολουθήσεως αὐτοῦ, ἐκδήλων είναι ὅτι είναι ἀμφίβολος ἡ ἐπιτυχία του.

Ἡ ἐστωτικὴ κατάστασις τὴν ὅποιαν παρουσιάζει σήμερον δύναται νὰ συνοψισθῇ εἰς τὰ ἔχης δόλια. Ἐν ἐκ τῶν παλαιῶν μελῶν προεδρεύει τῆς ἀνυπάρκτου Διοικητικῆς Ἐπιτροπῆς. Ἐκλογαὶ δὲν ἔγενοντο ἀπὸ ἑταῖρον. 7 - 8 ὑπάλληλοι ἀπορροφοῦν 4.625 λίρας Τουρκ. ἐπησίως χωρὶς νὰ προσφέρουν καμμίαν ἐργασίαν. Οἱ ἴσολογισμοὶ δύο τούλαχιστον ἑταῖρον μένουσιν ἀνεξέλεγκτοι καὶ ἀνεπικύρωτοι. (Διὰ τὸ τελευταῖον τοῦτο δὲν θέλομεν ν' ἀποδώσωμεν μομφὴν εἰς τοὺς Διευθυντάς, οὐτε ἀλλως τε ἔχομεν ἐκ τοῦ Τουρκικοῦ Νόμου τὸ δικαίωμα ἐπεμβάσεως). Οσον ἀφορᾶ δὲ τὴν ἐξυπηρέτησιν τοῦ ἐμπορίου, ἀν ἔξαιρέσωμεν ὠρισμένας ἐπικυρώσεις ἐγγράφων κλπ. είναι λίαν ἀμφίβολος.

Ἡ πρώτη σκέψις τὴν ὅποιαν προκαλεῖ ἡ ἀνωτέρω ἐκτιθεμένη κατάστασις είναι ἡ διάλυσις.

## ΠΕΡΙ ΔΙΑΛΥΣΕΩΣ

Οὐδαμοῦ ἐν τούτοις τοῦ Τουρκικοῦ Νόμου περὶ Ἐμπορικῶν καὶ Βιομηχανικῶν Ἐπιμελητηρίων ὑπάρχει διάταξις περὶ διαλύσεως τῶν Ἐπιμελητηρίων, ἐνεκα ἀταξιῶν περὶ τὴν διοίκησιν ἡ τὴν ἐκπλήρωσιν τῶν ἐργῶν αὐτῶν ἡ δι' ὑπέρβασιν τῶν καθηκόντων αὐτῶν ἡ διὰ τὴν παράβασιν ἐν γένει τοῦ Νόμου, ὅπως ἐξ ἀντιθέτου προβλέπει ὁ Ἐλληνικὸς Νόμος ἐν ἀρθρῷ 24.

Μή δυνάμενοι δὲ νὰ νομοθετήσωμεν πρὸ τῆς ἰσχύος τῆς Συνθήκης τῶν Σεβρῶν, ἀφ' ἐνός, καὶ ἀφ' ἔτερον μὴ ὑπαρχούσης διατάξεως ἐν τῷ Τουρκικῷ Νόμῳ περὶ περιπτώσεως διαλύσεως (πολλὰς τῶν ὀποίων θὰ εὐρίσκομεν λόγῳ τῆς παντελούς ἀκαταστασίας περὶ τὴν λειτουργίαν τοῦ Ἐπιμελητηρίου, ὡς ἐμφαίνεται ἐκ τῶν ἐν τῇ ἀρχῇ τῆς παρούσης ἑκθέσεως), δὲν ἔχομεν ἀλλον τρόπον ἐνεργείας παρὰ τὸν ἔξης:

Νά ἀνακινήσουμεν τὸ ζῆτημα εἰς τὸν τόπον διὰ τῆς δημοσιεύσεως εἰς τὰς Ἑλληνικάς, Γαλλοφάνους, Ἀρμενικάς καὶ Τουρκικάς ἐφημερίδας, ἀρθρῶν περὶ ἀνάγκης τῆς ἀναδιοργανώσεως τοῦ Ἐπιμελητηρίου Σμύρνης, ινα ταχθῇ τοῦτο εἰς τὸ ὑψος τῆς ἀποστολῆς του καὶ τῶν ἀναγκῶν τοῦ τόπου. Καὶ λαμβάνοντες ἐξ αὐτοῦ ἀφορμὴν νὰ συστήσωμεν εἰς τὸν νῦν Πρόεδρον αὐτοῦ, ὁ ὀποῖος ἀλλως τε είναι ἀπὸ τοῦδε πρόθυμος νὰ καλέσῃ εἰς Γενικὴν Συνέλευσιν τοὺς πάσης ἑθνικότητος ἐμπόρους τῆς Σμύρνης, οἱ ὀποῖοι ἀποτελοῦν τὸ Ἐκελογικὸν Σῶμα τοῦ Ἐπιμελητηρίου, ινα, κατόπιν εἰσηγήσεως ἐνὸς ἀρμοδίου ὑπαλλήλου τῆς Διευθύνσεως Ἐθνικῆς Οἰκονομίας, σκεφθοῦν καὶ ἀποφασίσουν ἐπὶ τοῦ προταθησομένου νέον καταστατικοῦ.

Καὶ ἐδῶ γεννάται τὸ ζῆτημα:

Ποία θὰ είναι ἡ μορφὴ τοῦ νέου Ἐπιμελητηρίου, ἡ μᾶλλον ποία δέον νὰ είναι καὶ ποία δύναται νὰ είναι.

Οἱ σκοποί, τὰ δικαιώματα καὶ αἱ ὑποχρέωσις τῶν Ἐπιμελητηρίων διάφοροι εἰς τὰς διαφόρους χώρας παρούσιάζονται. Ἐνῷ εἰς τὴν Ἀγγλίαν καὶ τὰς Ἡνωμένας Πολιτείας τῆς Ἀμερικῆς ἀποτελοῦσιν ἐλευθέρας ἐνώσεις ἐμπόρουν καὶ βιομηχάνων, εἰς ἄλλας, ὅπως εἰς τὴν Γαλλίαν, Ἰταλίαν κλπ. ἀποτελοῦσι ταῦτα ἴδρυματα δημοσίου δικαίου. Ἡ προστασία τῶν συμφερόντων τοῦ ἐμπορίου καὶ τῆς Βιομηχανίας, ἐπιδιοκομένη κατὰ τὸ δεύτερον σύστημα διὰ τῆς κοινῆς προσπάθειας τῶν ἐπισήμων Ἀντιπροσώπων τῶν ἐμπορικῶν καὶ βιομηχανικῶν τάξεων ἀφ' ἐνὸς καὶ τῆς Πολιτείας ἀφ' ἔτερου, γίνεται πληρεστέρα.

Ο 'Ἐλληνικὸς Νόμος 184 ὡς ἐτροποποιήθη διὰ τοῦ ὑπὸ ἀριθ. 1863 γενόμενος ἐπὶ τῇ βάσει κυρίος τοῦ Ἰταλικοῦ, θεωρεῖ τὰ Ἐπιμελητήρια «Ως νομικὰ πρόσωπα δημοσίου δικαίου» καὶ θέτει διατάξεις ὡς ἡ τοῦ ὑπὸ ἀριθ. 18 τοῦ Νόμου 1863, περὶ προσθέτου φόρου 6%, ἐπὶ τοῦ δημοσίου φόρου τῆς καθαρᾶς προσόδου, ἐξασφαλίζουσας τὴν ὀλικὴν ἰσχὺν τοῦ Ἐπιμελητηρίου ὡς ἡ τοῦ ὑπὸ ἀριθ. 59 ἐγγυωμένην τὴν πιστήν ἐφαρμογὴν τοῦ Νόμου ὡς ἡ τῶν ἀρθ. 40 - 54 καθιερωνούσας τὸν θεσμὸν τῆς διαιτησίας κλπ.

Ἀντιθέτως ὁ Τουρκικὸς Νόμος ἀκολουθῶν τὸν πρῶτον τύπον τῆς ἐλευθέρας ἐνώσεως, οὐτε πόρους ἐξενρίσκει ἐκτὸς τῶν ἑτησίων συνδρομῶν τῶν ἐγγεγραμμένων ἐμπόρων καὶ τῶν τελῶν ἐπικυρώσεως, οὐτε ὑποχρεωτικὴν καθιστᾷ τὴν ἐγγραφὴν τῶν ἐμπόρων καὶ βιομηχάνων, οὐτε περὶ διαιτησίας, οὐτε περὶ οἰνοδήποτε ἐλέγχου προβλέπει.

Είναι φανέρων ὅτι δὲν δυνάμεθεν νὰ θέσωμεν εἰς ἐφαρμογὴν τροποποιημένον ἡ αὐτούσιον τὸν Ἐλληνικὸν Νόμον, οὐτε ἐξ ἄλλου ὀπως ἐκ τῶν ἀνωτέρων ἐμφαίνεται ὁ Τουρκικὸς Νόμος ἰκανοποεῖ τὴν κατάστασιν.

Δὲν πρόκειται σήμερον νὰ κρημνίσωμεν ἐκ βάθρων καὶ νὰ οἰκοδομήσωμεν ἐκ νέου. Ἡ προσπάθειά μας θὰ ἀποβλέψῃ εἰς τὸ νὰ φυσήσωμεν πνοήν ζωῆς εἰς τὸν φθισιῶντα ὄργανισμὸν καὶ νὰ ἀναπτύξωμεν τὴν δρᾶσιν τον εἰς εὐρυτέρους ὄριζοντας, ἐφ' ὃσον ἐπιτρέπουσιν αἱ περιστάσεις καὶ αἱ συνθῆκαι.

Τὸ νέον καταστατικὸν δὲν θὰ στηρίζηται ἐπομένως εἰς τὸν Ἐλληνικὸν Νόμον, οὐτε ὅμως καὶ θὰ περιορίζηται εἰς τὰς διατάξεις τοῦ Τουρκικοῦ. Θὰ προέλθῃ ἐκ τῆς ἐλευθέ-

## THE SMYRNA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

ρας βουλήσεως τῶν ἐγγεγραμμένων ἥδη ἐμπόρων καὶ θὰ ἰκανοποιῇ κατὰ τὸ δυνατόν, τὴν εὐρύτητα τῶν σκοπῶν ἐνὸς τοιούτον ίδρυματος.

Ἡ σπουδαιοτέρα καινοτομία ἡ ὅποια πρόκειται νὰ εἰσαχθῇ εἰς τὸν νέον ὄργανισμὸν τοῦ Ἐπιμελητηρίου είναι ὁ θεσμὸς τῆς Διαιτησίας, ὁ ὅποιος λόγῳ τῆς σημασίας του ἀλλὰ καὶ λόγῳ τῶν περιπλοκῶν τὰς ὅποιας παρουσιάζει χρῆσις ίδιαιτέρας ἐξετάσεως. Περὶ αὐτῆς σημειώνομεν —μὲ τὴν δυνατήν συντομίαν— τὰ ἔξῆς.

### ΔΙΑΙΤΗΣΙΑ

Μία ἐκ τῶν σπουδαιοτέρων ἐλλείψεων τοῦ Τουρκικοῦ Νόμου περὶ ἐμπορικῶν καὶ Βιομηχανικῶν Ἐπιμελητηρίων είναι τὸ δὲ δὲν καθιερώνει μεταξὺ τῶν καθηκόντων τῶν Ἐπιμελητηρίων, τὸν θεσμὸν τῆς Διαιτησίας διὰ τὰς διαφορὰς ἐμπορικῆς φύσεως, θεσμὸν, τοῦ ὅποιον ἡ σημασία είναι ἔκδηλος εἰς πάντα λόγῳ τῆς πρακτικότητος αὐτοῦ συνισταμένης κυρίως εἰς τὴν ταχείαν ἀνεν ὑπαγωγῆς εἰς πολυπλόκους δικονομικοὺς τύπους, ἐκδίκασιν καὶ διεκπεραίσιν τῶν ὑποθέσεων ὑπὸ ἀνθρώπων ἐμπείρων περὶ τὸ ἐμπόριον καὶ τὰς ἐμπορικὰς συνηθείας.

Οἱ δικαστής εἰς τὰς πλειστας τῶν ἐμπορικῶν ὑποθέσεων, είναι ἀδαῆς καὶ ξένος τῶν κρατουσῶν συνηθειῶν καὶ ἔθιμων τῆς ἀγορᾶς καὶ τῶν τεχνικῶν ζητημάτων τὰ ὅποια ἀναφύονται ἐν τῇ ὑπόθεσει. Προσθέτως δὲ δεδεμένος μὲ τὰς χειροπέδας τῶν δικονομικῶν διατυπώσεων, καὶ ἀντλῶν τὰ δεδόμενα ἐκ τῶν νεκρῶν καὶ κακοπλίστων συνήθως προτάσεων τῶν διαδίκων, δὲν δύναται νὰ λάβῃ ζῶσαν εἰκόνα τῆς ὑποθέσεως, καὶ ἐπομένως νὰ ἰκανοποιῇ τὸ περὶ δικαίου αἰσθημα τοῦ πολίτου.

Ἡ Διαιτησία —εὐεργετικός ἀπὸ πάσης ἀπόψεως θεσμὸς— δὲν προβλέπεται ὡς ἀνωτέρω εἴπομεν ὑπὸ τοῦ Τουρκικοῦ Νόμου περὶ Ἐμπορικῶν καὶ Βιομηχανικῶν Ἐπιμελητηρίων. Ἀντιθέτως εἰς ὅλα τὰ ξένα κράτη ὅπου ὑπάρχουν Ἐπιμελητήρια καθιερώνται ἡ Διαιτησία. Καὶ ὁ Ἐλληνικὸς Νόμος 184 τοῦ 1914 προβλέπει διὰ τοῦ ἀρθ. 40 - 54 περὶ διαιτησίας καὶ καθιεροῖ αὐτὴν εἰς τὰς ἔχης περιπτώσεις: α) ἐὰν αἰτήσωσι τοῦτον οἱ ἐνδιαφερόμενοι, β) Ἐὰν ἀμφότεροι οἱ διαφερόμενοι συνωμολόγησαν ἐγγράφως εἴτε κατὰ τὴν σύναψιν τῆς δικαιοπραξίας εἴτε κατόπιν, τότε αἱ ἐκ τῆς δικαιοπραξίας διαφοραὶ λυθῆσονται διὰ τῆς κατὰ τὸν παρόντα Νόμον διαιτησίας, γ) Ἐὰν ἀμφότεροι οἱ διαφερόμενοι ἐδήλωσαν ἐκ τῶν προτέρων ἐγγράφως διὰ σαφοῦς, ἀλλ' ἀνεν ὥρισμένης διατυπώσεως, ρήτρας ὅτι διά τινας ἡ πάσας τὰς ἐμπορικὰς διαφορὰς αὐτῶν, ποὺ θὰ προέκυπτον ἐκ τῶν ἐργαστῶν των μεθ' ὥρισμένου ἡ μεθ' οἰονδήποτε προσόπου, δέχονται νὰ ὑποβάλλωνται εἰς τὴν διαιτητικὴν διαιτησίαν τῶν Ἐπιμελητηρίων, δ) ἐὰν ὁ εἰς τῶν διαφερομένων ἔχῃ δηλώσει κατὰ τὸ ἀρθ. 42 ὅτι πᾶσαι ἡ τινὲς τῶν διαφορῶν τοὺς θὰ λύωνται δᾶτοιατῆς διαιτησίας. Ἐν τῇ περιπτώσει ὅμως ταῦτη ὑποχρέωσις τοῦ δηλούντος είναι ἡ ὑπαγωγὴ εἰς διαιτησίαν, οὐχὶ δὲ καὶ δικαίωμα.

Διὰ τῆς εἰσαγωγῆς τοῦ θεσμοῦ τούτου εἰς τὸν ὄργανισμὸν τοῦ Ἐπιμελητηρίου, καὶ τούτῳ θέλει συγχρονισθῆ εἰς τὰς σημεινάς ἀντιλήψεις περὶ τῆς ἀποστολῆς τῶν Ἐπιμελητηρίων. Ἀλλὰ καὶ ἐπιτακτικὴ ἀνάγκη δημιουργηθεῖσα λόγῳ ίδιαιτέρων ἐνταῦθα συνηθκῶν καὶ ἡ ὅποια ἐκίνησης πέρυσιν τὴν Ὑμετέραν Ἐξοχότητα νὰ ζητήσῃ τὴν ὄργάνων διεθνοῦς Ἐπιτροπῆς Διαιτησιῶν ἐπὶ τῶν ἐμπορικῶν διαφορῶν, ἰκανοποεῖται.

Ἐν τῇ πράξει ἐν τούτοις γεννᾶται τὸ ζήτημα:

Ἐφ' ὁσον ἐξακολουθεῖ ὑφιστάμενον τὸ καθεστώς τῶν Διομολογήσεων, δὲν θὰ ὑπάρξῃ

τοῦτο καλόνυμα εἰς τὴν ἐπέκτασιν τῆς Διαιτησίας καὶ ἐπὶ τῶν ἐμπόρων ξένης ὑπηκοότητος, τῶν ὁποίων ἀλλως τε ἡ τυχὸν παραίησις ἀπὸ τῶν Διομολογήσεων, θεσμοῦ δημοσίας τάξεως, δὲν στερεῖ αὐτοὺς τοῦ δικαιώματος (διατὶ ὅχι καὶ τῆς ὑποχρέωσεως ἐκ μέρους τοῦ Προξενείου των) τῆς ἐκ τῶν ὑστέρων κατοχυρώσεως ὀπισθεν αὐτῶν;

Ἐν προκειμένῳ θὰ ὑπέβαλον τὸ ἔξῆς. Ἐάν εἶναι δυνατὸν καὶ σκόπιμον νὰ γίνουν αἱ δέονται ἐνέργειαν παρὰ τοῖς ἐνταῦθα Προξενείοις τῶν ξένων Κρατῶν μὲ τὸν σκοπὸν ὅπως, ἀναγνωρίζοντα τὴν σπουδαιότητα καὶ τὰς ὑπηρεσίας τὰς ὁποίας θὰ προσφέρῃ τὸ Ἐπιμελητήριον ἀναδιοργανούμενον ἐπὶ νέων βάσεων ὑπὸ τὴν ἀμεσον ἐποπείαν τῆς Ἑλληνικῆς Διοικήσεως, εἰς τε τοὺς ἡμετέρους ἀλλὰ καὶ εἰς τοὺς ξένης ὑπηκοότητος ἐμπόρους, ὅπως καὶ εἰς τὸν τόπον, ὅπως ἀναγνωρίζοντα, λέγομεν, ταῦτα, θελήσωσι νὰ δόσουσι μίαν εὐρεῖαν ἐμμηνείαν εἰς τὴν πολλαπλάκης ἀλλως τε ἀμφισθητούμενην ἀπονιν σχετικῶς μὲ τὰς Διομολογήσεις, ἐπιτρέψωσιν εἰς τοὺς ὑπηκόους των νὰ ὑποβάλλωνται, ἐφ' ὅσον θέλουσιν, εἰς τὴν Διαιτησίαν τοῦ Ἐπιμελητηρίου καὶ ἐκτελέσσι τὰς κατ' αὐτῶν ἀποφάσεις τῶν Διαιτητῶν.

Θὰ ἡδονάμεθα μάλιστα νὰ προτείνωμεν, ὅπως, ἀντιθέτως πρὸς τὸ ἄρθρο. 13 τοῦ Νόμου 184, καθιερώσωμεν ἐν τῇ ἐκλογῇ τῶν μελῶν τὸ ἀναλογικὸν σύστημα, ὡστε ν' ἀντιπροσωπεύηται καὶ ἡ μειοψηφία τῶν ξένης ὑπηκοότητος ἐμπόρων, ἀκόμη δὲ ὅπως ἐκ τῶν τριῶν μελῶν τῆς Ἐπιτροπῆς ἐπὶ τῶν Διαιτησιῶν, τὸ ἐν νὰ εἶναι ἀναγκαῖος ξένος ὑπήκοος.

Ἐάν ἐν τούτοις δὲν κρίνεται σκόπιμος ἡ τοιαύτη ἐνέργεια, λόγῳ τῆς εὐθὺξίας τὴν ὅποιαν ἐπιδεικνύουν τὰ ξένα Προξενεῖα προκειμένου περὶ τοῦ ζητήματος τῶν *Capitulations*, πρέπει ἀρά γε νὰ συμμορφωθῶμεν πρὸς τὸ ὑπάρχον καθεστώς κατὰ τὸ ὅποιον ἀπόφασις διαιτητὴ κατὰ ξένου ὑπηκόου κονιορποθείσα εἰς τὸ Προξενεῖόν τοῦ γίνεται μὲν ἐκτελεστὴ ὑπὸ αὐτοῦ, ἐφ' ὅσον ὁμος δὲν ἐφεστιβλήθῃ ἐνώπιον τοῦ Προξενικοῦ Δικαστηρίου; Ἀκριβῶς τὸ τελενταῖον τοῦτο ὀφείλομεν νὰ ἀποφύγωμεν.

Καὶ ἐφ' ὅσον τὸ πρῶτον δὲν εἶναι κατορθωτὸν καὶ τὸ δεύτερον δὲν εἶναι συμφέρον, δὲν ἀπομένει παρὰ νὰ παρεμβάλλωμεν εἰς τὸ Καταστατικὸν ἑνα εἰδος ἡθικῆς πιέσεως τῆς ὁποίας ἡ σημασία δὲν εἶναι ἀσήμαντος δι' ἑνα ἐμπορον, προκειμένου νὰ τεθῇ ἐν ἀμφιβόλῳ ἡ πίστις του. Θὰ ἡδονάμεθα δῆλα δῆ νὰ θέσωμεν εἰς τὸ Καταστατικὸν ἐν ἄρθρον μὲ τὴν ἔξῆς περίπον διατύπωσιν. «Ἐάν ὁ πρὸς ὃν ἐκοινοποιήθη κατὰ τοὺς ὄριζομένους ὑπὸ τοῦ παρόντος καταστατικοῦ τύπους, τελεσίδικος ἀπόφασις, Διαιτησίας τὴν ὅποιαν οὐτος προεκάλεσεν ἡ ἐδέχθη, δυστροπεῖ ἡ ἀρνεῖται τὴν ἐκτέλεσιν αὐτῆς, δχρούμενος ὀπισθεν λόγων προκυπτόντων ἐν τοῦ ἀκαθορίστου τῆς πολιτικῆς καταστάσεως τῆς χώρας, δι' ἀποφάσεως τῆς ὀλομελείας τοῦ Ἐπιμελητηρίου, ληφθείσης κατ' ἀπόλυτον πλειοψηφίαν καὶ κυρωθείσης ὑπὸ τῆς Διοικήσεως, στερεῖται τοῦ δικαιώματος τοῦ ἐκλέγειν καὶ ἐκλέγεσθαι ἐπὶ μίαν ἔξαετιαν, ἡ δὲ ἐπερχομένη στέρησις καὶ ὁ λόγος αὐτῆς-δημοσιεύεται διὰ τίνος ἐφημερίδος ἐκδιδομένης ἐνταῦθα ως καὶ διὰ τοῦ δελτίου τοῦ Ἐπιμελητηρίου, ὅποταν τοῦτο ἡθελεν ἐκδοθῆ».

Ἐξετάσαντες ἐν τῇ παρούσῃ συντομωτάτῃ ἐκθέσει τὰ γενικωτέρας φύσεως ζητήματα, τὰ ὁποῖα ἀλλως τε παρουσιάζουν καὶ τὰς μεγαλυτέρας δυσχερείας, δὲν κρίνομεν ἐπάγκειες νὰ εἰσέλθωμεν εἰς τὰ εἰδικότερα θέματα καὶ νὰ ἐπιμείνωμεν εἰς τὰς λεπτομερείας, ἀφοῦ αὐταὶ εὐρηνται ἀρκετὰ ἀναλελυμένα ἐν τῷ συνυποβαλλομένῳ σχετικῷ Καταστατικῷ.

## THE SMYRNA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Τὸ παρελθόν καὶ τὸ παρὸν τοῦ Ἐπιμελητηρίου ἐγέννησαν εἰς ἡμᾶς τὰς σκέψεις τὰς ὅποιας ἐν γενικοτάταις γραμμαῖς ἐκθέτομεν ἀνωτέρῳ.

Ἄν σήμερον δὲν δυνάμεθα νὰ ἐφαρμόσωμεν ὅσα καὶ ἡ θεωρία καὶ ἡ πεῖρα ὑπαγορεύουν καὶ νὰ ἔξασφαλίσωμεν τὸ Ἐπιμελητήριον Σμύρνης ἀπὸ πάσης ἀπόψεως, διὰ τῆς λήψεως νομοθετικῶν μέτρων, ἡ ἐκ τοῦ πλησίου ἐν τούτοις μετ' ἀγάπης καὶ ἐνδιαφέροντος παρακολούθησις αὐτοῦ ὑπὸ τῆς ἀρμοδίας ὑπηρεσίας ἀφ' ἐνὸς καὶ αὐτὸς ἀφ' ἑτέρου ὁ σκοπὸς αὐτοῦ βαθέως κατανοούμενος ὑπὸ τῶν ἐμπόρων, θὰ χρησιμεύσῃ πρὸς τὸ παρὸν ὡς ἐγγύησις τῆς ἐπιτυχίας τοῦ.

Εὐπειθέστατος  
ΣΤΑΥΡΟΣ Ν. ΜΑΚΡΑΚΗΣ