

II.

FRONTIER COMMISSION

*Decision by Chairman in respect of the town of Walk;
July 1st 1920.*

The case of Walk is the cardinal point in the whole frontier question. The facts in this case have been minutely examined and are sufficiently clear. It has been argued fully and ably before me by the representatives of both sides. It has also been examined by a Sub-Commission which devoted its special attention to the practicability of dividing the town. Apart from the national feeling which the dispute has evoked, the question is a really difficult problem in which it is physically impossible to reach a completely just or satisfactory solution. I have endeavoured repeatedly to secure an agreement between the two delegations, but it has finally become clear that there is no chance of an agreed settlement. In accordance, therefore with the agreement of March 22nd, it rests with me to decide the matter.

I have weighed carefully and with a full sense of responsibility the many considerations which have been presented by the two delegations at the meetings of the Commission or which have occurred to me in the course of long and anxious reflection. I have reached the clear conclusion that to run a frontier line through the main body of the town of Walk would cripple its activity and might endanger its life. Having regard, therefore, to the principles in accordance with which I am bound by the agreement of March 22nd to determine this question, I decide that:

1. The main body of Walk should belong to Estonia.
2. The station Walk No. 1 should belong to Estonia, subject to suitable facilities being provided by the Estonian Government for traffic to and from Latvia.
3. A minor portion of Walk should belong to Latvia.
4. The Station Walk No. 2 on the Marienburg-Walk-