

His Excellency the President *pro tem* of the Conference, adjourned the session, asking the Delegates to meet on the following day, at 4 o'clock in the afternoon.

Election of President and Vicepresidents and appointment of honorary Presidents.

SESSION OF THE 31ST DAY OF OCTOBER 1901.

Secretary Duret.—Article 22nd of Chapter III of the proposed Regulations is under discussion.¹

His Excellency Mr. Bello Codecido, Delegate from Chili.—Mr. President: I think it opportune, before the Conference expresses its opinion on this article, in which it is recommended that His Excellency the Secretary of Foreign Affairs should preside over the last session, the closing session, of the Congress, that we offer to the Honorable Mr. Mariscal the homage to which he is entitled by his eminent merits and the just claim which he has upon our consideration. Consequently, I take the liberty of proposing to the Conference, that before we charge His Excellency Mr. Mariscal with the duty of delivering the closing address we confer upon him the office of Honorary President of the Conference.

I make this proposition both in my own name and that of the Delegation of Chili, believing that in so doing I give voice to the unanimous sentiment of the Conference. I think that this proposition might be worded as follows: "The last session shall be the closing one; it shall be presided over by the Secretary of State and of the Department of Foreign Affairs, in his capacity of Honorary President, who, after delivering an appropriate address, shall declare the sessions of the Second International American Conference closed."

Permit me to add Mr. President, that the object of this suggestion is to provoke a further declaration, and I propose to word the article in these terms, as a consequence of such declaration.

Secretary Duret.—The Chair rules, that the Assembly be asked, whether the proposition offered by His Excellency the Delegate from Chili, relative to the nomination of His Excellency Mr. Mariscal as Honorary President of this Conference, will be taken into consideration.

His Excellency Mr. Carbo, Delegate from Ecuador.—I second the motion of the Delegation of Chili; but I believe, that instead of deciding this proposition in connection with the article of the Regulations under discussion, a special motion should be made, creating the office of honorary President in favor of His Excellency Mr. Mariscal, whereby the Congress will render a courteous homage to the nation which has so splendidly received us, and at the same time, honor the eminent services of His Excellency Mr. Mariscal, who for more than a quarter of a century has been at the head of the diplomatic affairs of his country, making him the Dean of the Secretaries of State in America.

Secretary Duret.—Complying with the suggestion of His Excellency the Delegate from Ecuador, His Excellency Mr. Bello Codecido offers his motion

¹ The text of the article is as follows: The last session of the Conference shall be the closing one, and the Chairman will be, in his capacity of Honorary President, the Secretary of State in the Department of Foreign Relations, who, after delivering an appropriate address, shall declare that the sessions of the Second International American Conference have come to an end.

independent from the article of the Regulations, to which it will afterwards be added. It reads as follows: "The Conference resolves to nominate His Excellency the Secretary of State and of Foreign Affairs, Ignacio Mariscal, Honorary President of the same."

His Excellency Mr. Carbo.—I second the motion.
Secretary Duret.—The motion is under discussion.

His Excellency Mr. Davis.—In the name of the Delegation of the United States, I second the motion of the Hon. Delegate from Chili, Mr. Bello Codecido.

His Excellency Mr. Lazo Arriaga.—I also second the motion in the name of the Delegation of Guatemala.

His Excellency Mr. Alzamora, Delegate from Peru.—I believe that all the Delegations are in perfect accord; consequently it appears to me useless to vote; it should be done by acclamation. (Applause.)

His Excellency President Raigosa.—His Excellency the Secretary of State and of the Department of the Foreign Affairs of Mexico, Ignacio Mariscal, is elected Honorary President of the Second International American Conference.

His Excellency Mr. Chavera.—The Mexican Delegation is deeply grateful to the Conference for the honor conferred upon the Secretary of Foreign Affairs of Mexico, and through him, to the entire republic. (Applause.)

SESSION OF NOVEMBER 2ND., 1901.

Secretary Duret.—The Chair rules that the election of permanent President of the Conference by ballot, be proceeded with.

The Delegation of Colombia has offered a proposition, as follows: "The Conference resolves to designate by acclamation, His Excellency Mr. Henry G. Davis, Chairman of the Delegation of the United States of America at the International American Conference, as permanent President of the same."

His Excellency General Reyes, Delegate from Colombia.—Mr. President: In making the motion which has just been read, I am sure that I have given expression to the desires and sentiments of all the delegations of America of which this Conference is composed. Upon the motion of His Excellency Mr. Bello Codecido, it has already acclaimed with enthusiasm the nomination of His Excellency the Secretary of State and of the Department of Foreign Affairs of the Mexican Republic, Ignacio Mariscal, as its Honorary President. This action was very natural not only, because by so doing, we followed the tradition of the Pan-American Congress of Washington, but also, because the sentiments of this Conference towards the Mexican Nation, which has invited and received us with such splendid hospitality, and towards its eminent statesman, who is of such indisputable merit and an honor to American diplomacy, have placed us in duty bound to do so.

In electing the Chairman of the North American Delegation, as permanent President of our Conference, we also comply with a duty of courtesy, by offering a post of honor to the delegate of that nation, who has taken such an important part in the meeting of the two Pan-American Conferences, and who, if for no other reason than that of language, appears among all the peoples of Spanish America here represented, in the character of their guest.

Besides this obligation of courtesy, there exist

reasons of great weight for acting in this manner, and among them I give the first place to the recognition which all the nations of the Continent accord to the civilizing influence of the great Republic of the North, which influence, we trust, will ever be exercised for the purpose of aiding them in their aggrandizement and welfare, under the expansive principles of Independence, Justice and Liberty.

I have heard it said, that His Excellency Mr. Davis would decline the presidency on account of not commanding the Spanish language; he has a perfect right to do so, Mr. President; honors may be declined, but duties cannot be evaded, and I consider, that we must comply with ours.

His Excellency Mr. Pablo Macedo, Delegate from Mexico. Personally I am not opposed to the principles of the proposition of His Excellency Gen. Reyes; but as I happen to be in part author of the Regulations, I take the liberty to call attention to Article 24, which provides that the vote shall be taken by means of written ballot. This provision was established for a purpose; it was not created without a reason, nor with the idea of complicating the labors of the Conference or any similar design, but with the deliberate intention that each Delegate should vote by means of a ballot as has been stipulated. Furthermore, the ballots being read, it will be seen the way in which the Mexican Delegation has cast its vote.

His Excellency the Secretary General, Mr. Casasus.—The votes will now be taken by ballot as provided for by the Regulations approved, unless the Conference shall otherwise determine.

*His Excellency Mr. Pepper.*¹—I will say but a few words in behalf of the United States Delegation. The Delegation tenders its most expressive thanks for the wish you have manifested to honor the distinguished Senator whose name links the first Pan-American Conference with this honorable Assembly. His modesty does not allow him to say in his own language all that his colleagues would wish to express in honor of him, whom we love as a friend. The Delegation understands also that whenever one of its members is honored, his country is also honored, bestowing upon it a proof of sincere friendship and of generous confidence. We are quite certain that the people of the United States will so understand it; they will be highly gratified and will accept it, as an evidence of reciprocal and affectionate regard, the cordial sentiment felt by the American Nation for their neighbors of this Continent. We hope to take part in all the labors of the Delegates to this Congress, but the American Delegation believes that it can accomplish those labors through more appropriate means.

Our highest aim is for peace, concord and progress of the free Southern Republics which form part of this Assembly.

Messrs. Delegates: the American Delegation begs of you not to insist on the motion of the honorable Delegate from Colombia, which Senator Davis sincerely appreciates. (Applause.)

His Excellency, Mr. Davis, President of the North American Delegation.—I am deeply sensible of the honor proposed and I thank you heartily for it, but a consistent course, together with a sense of duty, compels me to say that I cannot accept. We are here not for office, not for preferment, in any way, but to as-

¹ This address was delivered in Spanish.

sist all of the Republics of America in whatever may lead to good, especially to peace, harmony and good will to all. We wish to help to cultivate and bring about a better feeling than has heretofore existed, although even heretofore that feeling has been friendly. Our thought is that we should have additional communication, both by water and rail, and I want to see, and I believe and here do, an international railroad from Argentine to the Rio Grande. I believe that harmony, peace and good will, will come out of our work here, and that we will find a way to prevent any further war on this hemisphere, that peace will reign perhaps forever. 80,000,000 of people in the United States stand ready to assist, in any proper way they can, to bring about the best results for the good of the American Republics. We are as you know a happy, true, loyal, independent, and liberty-loving people, and we say to our friends on our South that we want no further territory; but we are firm, as firm as the Medes and Persians were, in what is known as the Monroe Doctrine, which means that your territory is to be protected, your political rights, your commercial rights and your liberties forever guaranteed. I feel more than I can speak; I appreciate the compliment proffered me more than I can tell you; but, as I have said in the beginning, I think it my duty that I should decline.

His Excellency, Mr. Carbo, Delegate for Ecuador and the Dominican Republic.—The statement of the American Delegation do honor to their authors, to the country and to the Chancery Department of State that has inspired them. As the resignation of His Excellency M. Davis, seems to be irrevocable, we must accept it, but he will continue by his merits a President without title. Still, as we cannot confer on the United States who initiated this Assembly an effective honor in this Congress, the Delegations of Ecuador and San Domingo, in accord with those of Central America, propose another Honorary Presidency for His Excellency John Hay, Secretary of State of the United States of America, a distinguished personality as a writer, a diplomat and litterateur of old and well-earned renown. With this new tribute of justice in honor of His Excellency Mr. Hay, who made the greatest endeavors to call together this Congress, inspired by the best sentiments of American fraternity, we would comply with a duty of courtesy to the two nations that initiated and convoked this Assembly. The two personalities designated for such a high position, bring to mind by a happy coincidence, the remembrance of two historical facts that do so much honor to America, because they signify the triumph of two grand ideas, of two principles which constitute the foundation of our democratic system: the Republic and Liberty. By electing Mariscal, educated in the school of Juarez, to whom he served as Secretary, we have honored the Independence of this country and the definitive triumph of the republican system in America; by electing Hay, educated in the school of Lincoln, to whom he served also as Secretary we honor, Messrs. Delegates, National Unity and the abolition of slavery. Both Presidents are worthy of this Congress, and I think that my motion will be unanimously accepted and with general satisfaction.

His Excellency, Mr. Calvo, a Delegate for Costa Rica.—The motion of the Honorable Mr. Carbo having been made, not only, in the name of the Delegations from Ecuador and the Dominican Republic, but also in that of the Delegations of Central America,

does not require to be seconded; but I desire that it should be thus recorded on behalf of that of Costa Rica. As a member of the Executive Committee and of the Bureau of American Republics, I have been able to witness all the earnestness and all the efforts on the part of the Secretary of State of the United States Mr. Hay, for the good harmony, and consequently, the universality of this Conference, and I therefore consider a worthy act of justice the proposition of the Honorable Mr. Carbo, because it is owing to Mr. Hay in the first place, that the representatives of all the countries which form the Bureau of the American Republics are here to-day assembled.

His Excellency Mr. Corea, Delegate from Nicaragua.—Not only in view of the merits of the Honorable Secretary Hay, so eloquently alluded to, by our esteemed Colleague, Mr. Carbo, but also in view of the labors he so enthusiastically undertook to carry into effect this Conference, it is but an act of justice, I believe, as Mr. Carbo has stated, that the nomination of Honorary President be made in favor of Secretary Hay; and I request the President and my honorable colleagues that the election be made by acclamation.

His Excellency, the President Mr. Raigosa.—As the nominations of the honorary President are not provided for in the Regulations, I hope that the Assembly will not find fault with the ruling of the Chair which must also be outside of the regulations. The Chair will therefore rule that the Assembly be asked whether the nomination of the Honorary President of the Second International Conference in favor of Honorable Secretary Hay may be made by acclamation.

His Excellency, Mr. Reyes.—The Delegation of Colombia finds the ruling of the Chair, with regard to the proposition I had the honor of submitting, correct, and considers that it has to be the most zealous defender of the Regulations; but at the same time the Delegation considers that its propositions does not come within the Regulations neither does that of my honorable colleague Mr. Carbo. The idea of the Colombian Delegation was that the voting for the election of permanent President of this Conference should not be proceeded with without expressing in a definite and specific manner, not so much as a courtesy but as our duty, good feelings towards the United States of America. In the proposition that I have had the honor to submit to the Conference, I incidentally referred to the Hon. Mr. Davis, whom I greatly respect; I have made it clear that I referred to the chief of the American Delegation.

My Honorable colleague Mr. Carbo seems to have found a way out of the difficulty, and I beg him to permit me to join him, in the name of the Colombian Delegation, in order that the above nomination by acclamation may be made in favor of His Excellency Mr. Hay.

With regard to the election of a permanent President, I clearly stated, in explaining my proposition, that I know that the Hon. Mr. Davis would not accept that honor; but we ought not to forego complying with our duty. I have no objection, Mr. President, in stating the true intention of the Colombian Delegation with regard to the Presidency of this Conference: its candidate is His Excellency Mr. Raigosa. Its vote will be cast accordingly, because it believes that by so doing it will follow the unanimous determination of all the Conference. The Delegation of Colombia

has not initiated it; it only follows the same sentiments which it believes all the other Delegates entertain.

After making the above explanations, I believe, Mr. President, that the Chair must see the manner in which the proposition of His Excellency Mr. Carbo is to be acted upon complying at the same time with the Regulations.

Secretary Duret.—As the proposition of the Hon. Mr. Carbo to nominate Mr. Hay as Honorary President of the Assembly is not covered by any article of the Regulations, the Conference is asked whether said proposition is approved by acclamation. (Applause.)

His Excellency the President.—The Hon. Secretary of State of the Government of the United States, Mr. John Hay, is elected by acclamation Honorary President of the Second International American Conference.

I move that this nomination be immediately communicated by telegraph to the Secretary of State, Mr. Hay. (Applause.)

Secretary Duret.—The votes for a permanent President of the Conference will be taken.

His Excellency Mr. Davis.—The Delegates from the United States cordially thank the Conference for their courtesy, which is indeed well deserved by our Secretary of State. We only wish to state to the Delegates forming this Conference that we highly appreciate it, and I am sure that the people of the United States will join us in this manifestation of sincere appreciation and gratitude.

Having taken the votes by ballot, His Excellency the Secretary General stated: With the exception of the Mexican Delegation which has voted in favor of His Excellency Mr. Davis as permanent President, all the other Delegations have cast their votes in favor of His Excellency Mr. Genaro Raigosa. (Applause.)

His Excellency the President.—Although I understand perfectly, Messrs. Delegates, that the great honor with which the International American Conference distinguishes me at this moment, is a tribute to my country and not to myself, I have nevertheless the satisfaction, the greatest in my whole life, that I can now personally represent the people and the Government of my country, and express my most sincere thanks to all the Delegations of the Republics herein assembled for this great attention and courtesy conferred on the people and the Mexican Government. (Applause.)

Secretary Duret.—The votes for the office of First Vice-President of this Assembly will now be taken.

His Excellency the Secretary General.—(After the votes had been taken by ballot): Against the vote of the Delegation from Brazil cast in favor of His Excellency Mr. Pablo Macedo and that of Hayti cast in favor of His Excellency Mr. Henry G. Davis, the other seventeen Delegations have voted in favor of His Excellency Mr. Jose Hygino Duarte Pereira.

His Excellency the President.—His Excellency Jose Hygino Duarte Pereira, Delegate from Brazil, is elected First Vice-president. (Applause.)

His Excellency Mr. Hygino Duarte Pereira.—I cordially and deeply thank you for the honor you have conferred by electing me Vice-President of this Conference, an honor which is due to no other circumstance than that of being a representative of a nation which in South America is a pledge of peace,

because it maintains with all the others the most friendly relations, and in whose constitution is consecrated the principle that will in the future constitute the Magna Charta of the nations of America, arbitration as a peaceful means for deciding international conflicts. I, therefore, thank you, in the name of my country, for the high honor with which you have just favored me. (Applause.)

Secretary Duret.—The votes by ballot for the office of second Vice-President of this Assembly will now be taken.

After the votes by ballot had been taken His Excellency the Secretary General stated: Against the vote cast by the Delegation from Salvador in favor of His Excellency Antonio Lazo Arriaga, the other eighteen Delegations have elected His Excellency Mr. Baltazar Estupinian, second Vice-president.

His Excellency the President.—His Excellency Mr. Baltazar Estupinian, Delegate from Salvador, is elected second Vice-president of the Pan-American International Conference. (Applause.)

His Excellency Mr. Estupinian.—I thank my honorable colleagues of the American International Conference for the undeserved honor bestowed on me, an honor which I transfer to Central America, my true country, although I was born in Salvador; but that country shall be reconstituted some day through the labors, not only of its statesmen, but of those which will be initiated in this Conference—wherein confraternity prevails—so that that the Spanish race in Central America stands united in the defense of the integrity of the Fatherland. I repeat my cordial thanks for the unmerited honor bestowed on me and which I transfer to my country. (Applause.)

SESSION OF DECEMBER, 16TH., 1901.

His Excellency Mr. Buchanan, Delegate from the United States of America.—Mr. President: By the lamentable and ever to be regretted death of our distinguished colleague, His Excellency Señor Doctor Don José Hygino Duarte Pereira of Brazil, the position of First Vice-President of this Conference has become vacant. None of us will, I am sure, forget the touching and notable tribute of honor rendered to his memory in this Hall on Friday last, by the presence of His Excellency the President of the Re-

public, his Cabinet, the Representatives of the Mexican Congress, and the Diplomatic Corps, and a long list of distinguished men, all of whom by their presence testified to the high place held by the deceased statesman in their esteem. The first session of the Conference since his funeral brings forcibly to our minds the many eminent traits of his character, which made him what he was,—a worthy example of true manhood and of the possibilities open to the young of the Republics represented here, who will, like him, live lives of labor, honesty and integrity. His splendid qualities of mind; his gentleness; his love of right ideals; and his respect for the opinions of others, made him the friend of every one who had the good fortune to be honored with his acquaintance. Believing that this high estimate of the character of our late distinguished colleague is shared by every Delegate here, and that each feels that too high a tribute cannot be paid his memory by this Conference, which he served so faithfully, the Delegation of the United States ventures to propose the following resolution, which it respectfully submits, in the belief that it will meet with the general concurrence of all the Honorable Delegates:

RESOLVED, by the Second International Conference of American States that, as a tribute to the memory of the late distinguished First Vice-President of this Conference, Excelentísimo Señor Doctor Don José Hygino Duarte Pereira, and as a mark of respect for the Government of Brazil, which he so ably represented, that the office of First Vice-President of this Conference remain vacant, and that a copy of this resolution be spread upon the minutes of the Conference and transmitted to the widow of the late First Vice-President of the Conference, and to His Excellency the President of Brazil.

Secretary Macedo.—The Conference is asked if the proposition read by His Excellency Mr. Buchanan is to be taken immediately into consideration.

The vote having been taken the Secretary stated: It has been taken into consideration by seventeen votes. It is now under discussion. Is there any one who desires to take the floor?

It is asked if the proposition is approved.

The vote having been taken, the proposition was unanimously approved by seventeen votes.