

tee referred to, expects to make its report at the next session of the Conference.

His Excellency Mr. Corea, Delegate from Nicaragua.—I second what His Excellency the Delegate from the United States has just stated. A Committee on Committees has been appointed, charged with establishing all these matters in accordance with the motion which he himself has offered and which was adopted by this Congress; with that Committee, the Committee on Credentials should consult, in case it considers it necessary. The work has been concluded, as His Excellency Mr. Davis has stated, and this Committee will today finish its report and will present it to the Conference in its next session. Consequently I believe, gentlemen that the most natural thing to do, is to wait until this Committee presents its report.

His Excellency Mr. Bermejo, Delegate from the Argentine Republic.—His Excellency the Chairman of the Delegation of the United States, suggests that he is going to propose a Committee charged with examining the credentials. I was not aware of that circumstance; but it had observed, that in all the other Congresses which have taken place, the revision of the credentials has always been attended to at once; thus, at Washington, from the second session, or rather, from the first session, after the opening, that matter was accomplished. In order to deliberate and to adopt resolutions it is necessary that the powers which one claims he possesses should be proved, in a word, that the credentials should be verified. And this is quite natural; if after adopting resolutions, it should appear, that there exists a lack of power, the work will have been useless. For this reason, even in the acts of private life and in the obligations of States, the respective power must be previously shown. In the Congress of The Hague and in all those of this class which have assembled, the power which is claimed has been verified, in order to carry on their labors so as to adopt resolutions and to deliberate.

However, as the Committee on Committees has considered the matter, and as it is not my intention to create obstacles in the task in which we are occupied, I have no objection to defer my proposition, so that the Committee mentioned may take it into consideration.

Secretary Duret.—In accordance with the ruling of the Chair, and with the consent of the author of the proposition, the latter is referred to the Committee appointed for the purpose of submitting a project of the organization of the other Committees.

By order of the Chair, it is announced to the Conference, that as the order of the day of the previous session has not been finished, the unfinished business will be taken up, and that the discussion of the project of Regulations will continue.

His Excellency Mr. Pablo Macedo, Delegate from Mexico.—Messrs. Delegates: Before continuing the discussion, according to the order of the day, commencing with art. 2 of Chapter III., I beg to inform the Conference, that the Mexican Delegation was busy during the last available day, collecting all the remarks and suggestions which the Delegates have had the kindness to communicate to it; and after having taken them into consideration, it believes, that it would facilitate the dispatch of the business of the Conference, if instead of articles 10 to 28 of the old Regulations, the new project, which it has the

honor to submit, be discussed. For this reason, it respectfully requests the Conference to permit the withdrawal of those articles from the debate, and to substitute them by those which I now have the pleasure of reading.

For a clearer understanding, of this matter I must explain, that the Mexican Delegation has numbered the articles which will be read, with special and provisional numbers, because they all are part of Chapter III., art. 1 of the Regulations, which refers to the General Secretary; art. 8 of the old Regulations has also been adopted and is now known as art. 2, and the part which refers to the Committees remains pending. Consequently, the Mexican Delegation has given the provisional numbers 2 to 24, to the new articles, which it proposes and which belong to Chapter III. (He read the following.)

PROPOSED articles presented by the Mexican Delegation as a substitute for Chapter III of the Regulations submitted to discussion, and of which Art. 9 (first of that chapter) has been already approved by the Conference.

Art. 2. To hold sessions it is necessary that the majority of the nations which form the Conference be represented in it by any one of their Delegates.

Art. 3. The sessions shall be presided by the President of the Conference; in his absence by the Vice-Presidents, according to the order of their election, and if none of the latter are present, by the Delegate designated by the majority of the Delegations attending the session. The election shall be presided over by a members of the Delegation to which it may correspond, by turn, in alphabetical order, in the Spanish language, of the names of nations represented.

Art. 4. The Delegations shall take their seats and give their vote following the alphabetical order of the names, in Spanish, of the States they represent.

Art. 5. At the opening of the session, the Secretary shall read, in Spanish and in English, the minutes of the proceedings session. Due note shall be taken of the remarks the President or any of the Delegates may take thereon, and their approval will take place without any discussion.

Art. 6. The minutes once approved, the Secretary shall inform the Conference of the new business presented after the preceding session, and the President shall then rule that the subject matter of each be referred to the proper Committee.

Art. 7. The President shall then put to discussion, in the order of their presentation, the business contained in the order of the day. The Conference shall first discuss them in a general way, and those approved shall be subjected to a second discussion in detail on every one of the articles forming the proposition.

Art. 8. The President shall authorize the Delegates to speak in the order they may have asked.

Art. 9. The Delegates may speak in their own language, and when any of them has finished speaking, he, or any of the interpreters of the Conference, shall at once make, orally, the substance of the speech, in Spanish, if the Delegate has spoken in English, and in English if he has spoken in Spanish, Portuguese or French. The same translation shall be made of the remarks of the President or the Secretaries.

Art. 10. Each Delegate may present to the Conference his written opinion on the matter or point under discussion, may read it, or have it read by the Secretaries, and ask that it be incorporated in the minutes of the session in which he presents it.

It is also allowable for each Delegation, not present at the time the vote is taken, to vote in writing, leaving with, or sending the Secretary, the vote which they may deem proper and which shall be counted as if the Delegation had been present.

Art. 11. The President shall decide the questions of order arising in the debates of the Conference; but, nevertheless, if any Delegation, or a single Delegate, should request it, the decision shall be submitted to the approval of the Conference.

Art. 12th. The proposition presented by the Delegates will be referred by the President to the respective Committee; unless it be ordered by the vote of two-thirds of the Delegations present that they be taken immediately into consideration. In this case the proposition will at once be put to discussion and be voted on in general and in detail; but, should any Delegation move that such discussion in detail be postponed until the next session, the President shall so declare it.

Art. 13. All amendments which may be proposed, will be referred to the respective Committees, provided that the Conference should not decide otherwise; and they will be put to the vote before the article or proposition, the text of which they may tend to alter.

Art. 14. The Conference may, at any time upon the proper motion, resolve itself into a Committee of the whole to exchange views, without any objection to the Regulations on any matter set down in the order of the day or incident, that may arise from it. The proposition to form a Committee of the whole shall be given the preference and shall be put to a vote without any discussion. While the Committee on the whole is in session, no vote can be taken on any matter.

Art. 15. The findings of the Committee and the propositions and antecedents to which they may refer shall be printed in Spanish and English; they shall be distributed among the Delegates for their consideration in the next session, and shall not be subject to discussion until a later session to that in which the printed matter shall have been distributed.

Art. 16. The Delegation of each State represented in the Conference shall have but one vote, and the votes shall be taken nominally and separately and shall be registered in the minutes.

The votes, as a general rule, shall be taken orally, unless some Delegate should request that they be taken in writing. In this case each Delegation shall deposit in an urn a voting slip upon which will be expressed the name of the State he represents, and the sense in which he gives his vote. The Secretary will read aloud these voting slips and will make the computation of the votes.

Art. 17. The Conference shall not proceed to vote on any resolution or proposition that may refer to any matter included in the call convening the Congress, except in case there are represented in it, by one or more Delegates, at least two-thirds of the concurrent Nations.

Except in cases expressly indicated in these Regulations, the reports or propositions which the Conference may consider, will be approved if they have obtained the affirmative vote of an absolute majority of the Delegations represented by one or more of its members in the session in which the votes may be taken, considering as present and represented the Delegation which may have sent its vote in writing to the Secretary.

When, by reasons of abstentions, the vote of the Conference may not result in an absolute majority of the Delegations present, the matter will be considered at a subsequent session.

Art. 18. The President shall through the Secretary General, with at least twenty-four hours notice, communicate to the Delegations the matters which are to be dealt with at the next session; but the Conference can make the changes which it may deem opportune in respect to the order of discussion of pending matters.

Art. 19. The minutes approved by the Conference shall be signed by the President and the Secretary General; they shall be printed in Spanish and in English, in pages of two columns; and a sufficient number shall be issued in order that each Delegate may receive four copies. The originals, in both languages, will be deposited in the archives of the Conference.

Art. 20. The deliberations of the Conference shall be private and therefore only the Delegations, with their Secretaries, the Commercial Delegates, the Secretary General, the Directors of the International Bureau of American Republics, the Secretaries of sessions and the interpreters and stenographers of the Conference, shall have access to the Hall of sessions.

The President shall take the necessary measures for the observance of this provision; but he is authorized to deliver personally, or through the Secretary's office, at the end of each session, a note to be published by the newspapers, which is to contain a brief description of what has taken place in the session, and the text of the resolutions approved, or definitely rejected.

The Delegates, who desire it, can deliver into the hands of the President a brief extract of the speeches they have delivered, and, in that case, the extract to be given to the Press must refer to them, and shall be annexed as a copy. The motions, propositions and reports to be presented to the Conference cannot be made known by the extracts for the Press, except when the subject matter, to which they refer, has been definitely decided by the Conference.

The Conference, at the request of any Delegate, may decide that any matter or deliberation be declared rigorously secret, and, in this case, all persons who have attended the session are obliged to keep it entirely secret.

The Secretary General will keep a register wherein the notes or extracts, to be given to the Press, are to be copied.

Art. 21. The day before the closing of the sessions of the Conference shall be devoted to discuss and approve the minutes, written and printed in Spanish, English Portuguese and French, wherein shall be contained the resolutions or recommendations that the Conference may have discussed and approved during the debates. The original minutes shall be signed by all the Delegations.

Art. 22. The last session of the Conference shall be the closing one, and the Chairman will be the Secretary of State in the Department of Foreign Relations, who, after delivering an appropriate address, shall declare that the session of the Second American International Conference has come to an end.

Art. 23rd. To modify, repeal or add to any of the provisions of these Regulations, the vote of two-thirds of the Delegations that attend the session, at which the change is to be made, is necessary.

Art. 24th. These Regulations being approved, the Delegates shall proceed to elect, from amongst themselves, by ballot.

1. A permanent President of the Conference.
2. Two Vice-Presidents who are to substitute, in the order of their appointment as above mentioned, the President, when absent.

After the ballot is verified, the functions of the President *pro tem* shall cease.

Mexico, October 28, 1901.—*The Mexican Delegation.*

Secretary Duret.—The Conference is asked if it agrees to the withdrawal of the former Project and that in its place the one read by Honorable Señor Macedo be discussed.

His Excellency President Raigosa.—It is so ruled Secretary Duret then read the second article, which was approved without discussion.

Secretary Duret.—Article 3 is under discussion.

His Excellency Mr. Martínez Silva, Delegate from Colombia.—I request the Secretary to read the last part of the Article.

Secretary Duret reads the Article.

His Excellency Mr. Martínez Silva.—It appears to me that the procedure is rather complicated for a presidency *pro tem*. The President and Vice-Presidents must first preside in the regular order and if the vice-presidents are absent, an election must be carried on to know who is to preside. Perhaps it would be easier to say: «In the absence of the Vice-Presidents, the members of the Delegations shall preside in alphabetical order and in turn,» and in this form, I venture to propose it to the Conference.

His Excellency Mr. Pablo Macedo.—The Mexican Delegation had in mind the remark that the Honorable Delegate from Colombia has just submitted to the Conference, because the simplest way seemed to be to apply the order of precedence of nations to fill a temporary presidency, so to say; but on the other hand, it was suggested to the Delegation that it would be preferable that the Assembly should elect its temporary President, which the Mexican Delegation believes more in conformity with the respect that everybody must have for the Conference. This is the reason why the Mexican Delegation has had the honor of proposing it in that way.

His Excellency Mr. Lazo Arriaga, Delegate from Guatemala.—I think, Mr. President, that the remarks of the Honorable Delegate from Colombia are well founded. In making a temporary election, we may spend the time required for a session; I believe a more practical and expeditious way could be found, for instance, to designate by chance the Delegation that is to preside. The ballot-box could be in readiness, in one or two minutes the thing would be over, and the session could commence immediately. This or any other method would be more speedy, in my opinion.

His Excellency Mr. Walker Martínez, Delegate from Chili.—I think this a question of little importance. As we have one President and two Vice-Presidents, it is plain that we shall constantly have a presiding officer. A most exceptional case might present itself, and then we can accept the procedure proposed by the Mexican Delegation, which saves us from lengthening the debates. To accept the procedure I have referred to, I believe would be more expedient and less time would be lost.

Secretary Duret.—The Conference is asked whether the motions of Messrs. Martínez Silva and Lazo Arriaga will be approved.

His Excellency Mr. Corea.—As the two motions are entirely different, in my opinion it would be preferable in this case, if the Chair allows it, to ask which of the two motions will be approved by the Conference, whether that of the Honorable Martínez Silva or that of the Honorable Lazo Arriaga.

His Excellency Mr. Bermejo.—As the suggestions of the Honorable Delegate from Colombia would give rise to doubts in the minds of the Secretaries as to the alphabetical order, I shall vote for the drawing by lot or chance, considering that it is more equitable that in the case of the absence of the President, chance should decide who is to preside in his place.

Secretary Duret.—Following the order in which the propositions were presented, the motion of the Honorable Mr. Martínez Silva is now to be voted on, and the gentlemen that are in the affirmative are requested to arise. It is asked whether that motion is approved.

His Excellency the President.—It is not approved.

Secretary Duret.—The proposition of the Honorable Mr. Lazo Arriaga will now be voted on in the same manner as the other.

His Excellency the President.—The motion of the Honorable Lazo Arriaga establishes that in the absence of the President or Vice-Presidents appointed, the designation of temporary President be decided by lot or chance. The vote will now be taken on said motion.

Secretary Duret.—It is asked if the proposition of the Honorable Mr. Lazo Arriaga shall be adopted.

His Excellency the President.—It is not adopted. Vote is now to be taken on the article of the Project of the Mexican Delegation, under discussion.

His Excellency Mr. Walker Martínez.—What proposition was it that was put to vote?

Secretary Duret.—That of His Excellency Mr. Lazo Arriaga.

His Excellency the President.—If the Honorable Mr. Walker Martínez desires that the votes be taken again so as to rectify the result the Chair has no objection to such procedure.

His Excellency Mr. Walker Martínez.—Let the votes again be taken by Delegations.

His Excellency the President.—It will be done as His Excellency Mr. Walker Martínez desires.

Secretary Duret called the votes by Delegation and His Excellency Secretary General Casasús made the following declaration: For the affirmative: Argentine Republic, Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Guatemala Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay and Venezuela; nine in the affirmative for; the negative: Costa Rica, Chili, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Salvador, United States of America, Hayti, Honduras Mexico and Nicaragua, that is ten negative.

His Excellency the President.—The proposition of the Honorable Lazo Arriaga is not approved. The vote on the article proposed by the Mexican Delegation will now be taken.

Secretary Duret.—Art. 3 will now be voted on. The Conference is asked whether it approves the same.

His Excellency the President.—It is adopted.

Secretary Duret then read art. 4, which was put under discussion.

His Excellency Mr. Lazo Arriaga.—I desire to

ask for an explanation on this point. Which is the alphabetical order in Spanish? Ordinarily we call a country, Venezuela, for instance, while, as I understand, in its constitution it is called United States of Venezuela. Instead of being placed under the «V,» should it not be under the «U»? The same difficulty could present itself regarding other countries, for instance, the Dominican Republic: is this to come under the head of «D» or of «R»? For my part, I do not wish to suggest the way the list is to be made up, I simply desire an explanation on this point.

His Excellency Secretary General, Mr. Casasús.—Messrs. Delegates: The Secretaries have prepared a list for the voting and if the Conference so desires, it may be submitted for its approval; it has so far been used in voting, and in accordance with it, the names of their Excellencies the Delegates have been inserted in the minutes already approved by the Conference. The list is the following:

Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Chili, Dominica, Ecuador, El Salvador, United States of America, Guatemala, Hayti, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Peru, Uruguay and Venezuela.

His Excellency Mr. Pablo Macedo.—I must state for the benefit of His Excellency Mr. Lazo Arriaga, that the Committee has had the intention of proposing this list.

His Excellency the President.—The voting on art. 4 will continue.

Secretary Duret.—Art. 4, will now be voted on.

His Excellency the President.—It is adopted.

Art. 5 to 7 inclusive were put under discussion.

His Excellency Mr. Foster.—My colleagues desire to obtain some explanation regarding Art. 8, which has just been read. Does this article only refer to the cases of discussion of the matters comprised in the order of the day, or to all those regarding which the Delegates may wish to speak?

His Excellency Mr. Pablo Macedo.—The intention of the Mexican Delegation has been to refer to the case of the delegate asking the floor in the session, from his seat, without any previous formality. In this way the question of His Excellency Mr. Foster was answered. The Committee, in order to make it clearer, will add, that the former Regulations provided, that each delegate, in order to ask for the floor, had to inscribe his name on the book of Debates, so that the President might direct the discussion in strict order. The intention of the Mexican Delegation, in order to simplify the work of the Conference, has been, not to make the inscription in a book necessary, but that each one of the Delegates may ask the floor in the same manner in which, up to this time, it has been done.

His Excellency Mr. Foster.—This is very satisfactory.

Secretary Duret.—Does anyone wish to discuss the subject? It is asked whether it will be adopted.

His Excellency the President.—It is adopted.

His Excellency Mr. Pepper, Delegate from the United States of America.—We are not all accustomed to the same parliamentary procedure. Art. 10. is in a certain a novelty, for some of us. The Chairman of our Delegation, for that reason, states that it would be advisable to explain, up to what moment the written vote to which said article refers, can be sent in. We respectfully request the Mexican Delegation to give a formal expression of its opinion regarding this matter.

His Excellency Mr. Pablo Macedo.—The way I understand the question asked by Mr. Pepper, is, that he desires to know, up to what moment the written vote of which this article speaks, may be sent. The Mexican Delegation must call attention to the fact, that in the Washington Conference nothing was said about a written vote. Some of the Delegates have requested that the Delegations, that cannot be present, may be permitted to send their vote in writing to the Secretary. I understand that such can be done up to the time that the votes are cast.

His Excellency Mr. Pepper.—I tender my thanks to His Excellency Mr. Macedo for his explanation. The American Delegation does not wish to appear as opposing this article, it only desires to receive an explanation regarding its meaning, so that no controversy may arise relative thereto in the future. We believe that we should understand each article perfectly, before proceeding to examine a subsequent one.

His Excellency Mr. Pablo Macedo.—In order that the article may be perfectly clear, the Mexican Delegation has the honor to make the following small modification: «Each Delegation that may not be present, at the time of any ballot, may give in writing the vote it may think advisable to cast, leaving it with, or sending it to the Secretary, which vote, whenever the ballot is taken, shall be counted in the same manner, as if the Delegation were present.»

Secretary Duret.—The text of the article remains as follows:

Art. 10. Each Delegate may present his opinion to the Conference in writing upon any point or matter under discussion; he may read it or have it read by the Secretary, and may request that it be added to the minutes of the session during which it was presented.

Each Delegation, not present at the time of voting, may also state the vote it may deem proper to cast in writing, leaving it with, or sending it to, the Secretary, as if the Delegation were present.»

It is now under discussion.

His Excellency Mr. Bermejo.—This method of voting does not appear to me proper, that is to say, that votes should be cast from one's house; but, Mr. President, I simply wish that the meaning of this provision be explained, it being desirable that it be clearly established. I would like to have the Delegation that has prepared this project state, whether the written vote, in order to be counted, must be in possession of the Secretary, at the same session, whenever the voting takes place, so that in this manner no authority is granted to send it after the session, for the purpose of changing a resolution already adopted.

His Excellency Mr. Pablo Macedo.—I beg to call the attention of His Excellency Mr. Bermejo to the wording of the paragraph in question. I believe that it answers perfectly his remarks. «Each Delegation, not present at the time of voting, may also give in writing the vote it deems proper to cast, leaving it with, or sending it to, the Secretary, which vote, when the respective ballot is taken, shall be counted by the Secretary as if the Delegation were present.» If, then, the vote is not in the hands of the Secretary at the time of counting the vote, it cannot be included in the count.

His Excellency Mr. Galvais, Delegate from Venezuela.—Mr. President: I have asked the floor for