

can revise them and make the suggestions which they may deem advisable.

The report on measures tending to facilitate international commerce, reads as follows:

Engrossing Committee.—The undersigned have the honor to submit the following text for the resolution adopted by the Conference, in view of the report of the Committee on Maritime and River Transportation:

The International Conference of Mexico resolves: The Customs Congress, which is to meet in New York, United States of America, in accordance with the resolutions of this Conference, adopted in its session of the 27th. of December, 1901, in the course of its labors shall investigate the following subjects:

A. The simplification of charges collected from merchant vessels, limiting them to that of tonnage only, which shall be collected in an equitable manner from the vessels which may bring cargo, and from those in ballast.

B. Uniformity in the collection of the charges to which the foregoing article refers, taking as a basis the gross tonnage of the vessels.

C. The advisability that all the Governments of the Republics of America should enact laws, ordinances or port regulations, facilitating the entry and clearance of vessels, with the greatest possible dispatch.

D. Measures tending to facilitate the loading and unloading of vessels.

E. Adoptions of a maritime and administrative nomenclature for the Custom Houses, in which all articles upon which duties are charged at present, or upon which they may be charged in the future, shall be enumerated in alphabetical order, and in equivalent terms, in English, Spanish, Portuguese French, in order that this nomenclature may be used in manifests, consular invoices, entries, permits and other Custom House documents.

The Customs Congress shall submit the result of its labors relating to the subjects mentioned in this report to the Republics of America.

Hall of Committees of the Second International American Conference.

Mexico, January 27, 1902.—(Signed)—*Alberto Elmore.*—*Rosendo Pineda.*

The resolution on measures tending to facilitate international commerce, expressed exactly in the same terms as the above report, was signed on the 29th day of January, 1902, by the Delegations of the Argentine Republic, Bolivia, Colombia, Costa Rica, Chili, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, United States of America, Guatemala, Hayti (taking exceptions of paragraphs A and B), Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Paraguay, Peru and Uruguay.

NUMBER 13.

Reorganization of the International Bureau of American Republics.

SESSION OF NOVEMBER 27, 1901.

Secretary Duret.—The Delegation of Guatemala has submitted a project for the reorganization of the International Bureau of American Republics. Said project, which the Chair rules be referred to the consideration of the Committee on the Reorganization of the said Bureau, reads as follows:

PLAN for the Reorganization of the Bureau of American Republics presented by the Guatemalan Delegation.

The Delegation for Guatemala has the honor of submitting to the Conference, for its consideration, the following plan, with the idea of reorganizing the International Bureau of American Republics.

The Association entitled International Bureau of American Republics created in Washington by the First Pan-American Conference, on the 14th of April 1890, is reorganized in accordance with the following bases.

Object.

1. The object of the Association is:
 - A. To carry into effect the decisions and resolutions of the Pan-American Conferences.
 - B. To prepare the propositions, reports, projects, statistical data, etc. and in general all the work, tending to facilitate for the next Conference, the fulfilment of its program.
 - C. To form, keep and look after its own archives and those of the Conference.
 - D. To continue and develop the prompt compila-

tion of data of commerce, industry and agriculture which may be of interest to the countries forming the association.

International Bureau.

2. The International Bureau is represented by that established in Washington under the name of «International Bureau of American Republics.» The purposes of the Association are carried into effect by it, and its powers, to that end, are the following:

- A. To carry on the correspondence with the Governments forming the Bureau.
- B. To prepare the special reports demanded by any of said Governments with regard to commerce, finance and other matters under its jurisdiction.
- C. To publish the Bulletin which is to serve it as its organ; and
- D. To attend to all other matters which may arise pertaining to the purposes of the Association, or which may be assigned to it by the Board of Management.

Management.

3. The management of this Bureau shall be in charge of a Board of Directors, composed of the diplomatic representatives of the signatory countries accredited in Washington, D. C., and of the Secretary of State of the United States of America, who shall be its President.

4. The powers of the Board of Directors are:

- A. To reorganize the International Bureau, which

shall remain entirely under its jurisdiction and direction.

B. To draw up and amend its own regulations and those of the Bureau.

C. To decide all the questions which may arise with regard to the manner in which the Board itself and the Bureau must act.

D. To determine the number and class of the employees of the Bureau, and to appoint, suspend and remove them.

E. To determine the estimate of expenses, specifying the salaries of the employees and the nature of the expenses; and to watch over the disbursement of the funds;

F. And, in general, to decide on anything which may be most convenient for the development of the Bureau and for the fulfilment of the objects pursued by the Association.

General Provisions.

5. The presence of five members at the meetings duly called, shall be sufficient for the Board of Directors to deliberate and pass upon questions with due validity.

6. The Board must inform, without delay the signatory Governments which have been the regulations adopted; and send them every year a report on its labors, working of the office, expenses, etc.

7. The Governments of the Union shall send to the Bureau two copies of all documents, maps, plans, books, pamphlets, etc., which they may publish and which shall be preserved in the library of the said Bureau.

8. They shall also send to the Bureau all the statistical data relating to commerce, agriculture and industry, which the International Bureau may require so as to prepare the general statistics which it is to publish each year.

9. With the object of avoiding delays in the reorganization herein described, the Delegates to this Conference shall, without loss of time, communicate this plan to their respective Governments, in order that they may notify the Secretary of State of the United States whether or not they accept the terms proposed.

10. The resolutions of the First International Conference of April 14, 1890, shall remain in force in all matters not contrary to the present stipulations.

SESSION OF JANUARY 22, 1902.

Secretary Duret.—The Committee on the Reorganization of the Bureau of American Republics has presented its report, which the Chair rules be printed and distributed among Their Excellencies the Delegates. It reads as follows:

REPORT of the Committee of the Reorganization of the Bureau of American Republics.

The Committee on the Reorganization of the Bureau of American Republics believes that the establishment of said Bureau was one of the most important acts of the First Conference of the American Republics. They recognise that the Bureau has been a useful factor in bringing the American Republics into closer relations, and that credit is due to those who have been concerned in its management. Each of the Republics has obtained, through its agency,

knowledge of the resources and productions and of the commercial needs of the others, resulting in the extension of commerce and in benefit to the countries interested in the Bureau. It is the belief of the Committee that the usefulness of the Bureau may be increased by broadening the basis of its organization, by enlarging its powers, and by imposing upon it additional duties.

With this end in view the project submitted to the Conference by the Honorable Delegate from Guatemala, as well as the suggestions of the Director of the Bureau, M. W. W. Rockhill, have been carefully considered.

The plan of the reorganization recommended by the Committee is based on the fundamental principle that the Bureau should be truly international in its organization and operation. With that end in view it is proposed to have all of the American Republics participate in the active management of the Bureau, by providing that their diplomatic representatives in Washington, in conjunction with the Secretary of State of the United States of America, shall constitute a Governing Board to be charged with its general management. It is provided that the Governing Board may appoint such Committees as it may deem proper. The Bureau is further internationalized by being given express authority to correspond with the Executive Departments of the several American Republics through their diplomatic representatives in Washington. It is believed that this will result in greatly expediting its business, and in enabling it to gather information and place it at the disposal of all the Republics, much more promptly than could otherwise be done.

In addition to the existing provision that each Republic shall send to the Bureau two copies of every official publication which it issues, the acceptance of this report by the Conference will be equivalent to an agreement that the several Republics will supply such other information to the Bureau as may be requested by the Director, as far as it may be practicable for them to do so.

The recommendation of the Committee contemplates the gathering by the Bureau of much more complete statistical and commercial information from all of the American Republics than has been done heretofore, and provide for its communication to those interested through the medium of the Monthly Bulletin and through replies to special inquiries. As bearing on this subject, attention is directed specially to the resolutions of the Committee on Resources and Statistics and to the provisions of Article IX of the accompanying project of Regulations. These Regulations, so far as they relate to the gathering of information and its publication in the Monthly Bulletin of the Bureau, are so drawn as to give to the Governing Board and the Director the widest discretion as to the character of information to be gathered and published, and it is not doubted that this direction will be wisely exercised. The Committee recommends to the Governing Board that it should collect, compile, and keep on file, and should publish, to such an extent as may be practicable, information regarding Commercial Laws, and the Banks of the American Republics, their capital stock and deposits, the Patent Laws of the several countries, changes in said laws, patents granted, and decisions of the courts of the several Republics, in patent litigation; complete monthly reports of exports and imports of the

several Republics; the arrivals and departures of vessels from the ports of the American Republics, with their tonnage; the length, stated in miles and kilometers, of railway, street railway, telegraph, and telephone lines in the several Republics, with complete data as to the new lines projected or being built; information regarding new enterprises of a private character, so far as it can be obtained; information regarding new public works of all kinds; the most complete vital statistics of each of the Republics and of its important cities that can be obtained, and such other information as the Director, with the approval of the Governing Board, may determine.

It is believed by the Committee that the efficiency of the working force of the Bureau will be much increased by the adoption of the merit system, for determining the fitness of employees and for testing the capability of applicants for appointment. This is provided for in the accompanying Regulations.

The project of regulations provides that the Bureau shall be the custodian of the archives of the International Conferences of the American Republics. This is believed by the Committee to be preferable to having them kept by any individual government, as in the International Bureau they will be open to the inspection of all the governments, at all times.

Therefore, the Committee recommends the adoption of the following

Agreement of the reorganization of the International Bureau of the American Republics.

The Governments here represented, believing in the usefulness and efficiency of the International Bureau of the American Republics, agree that it shall be conducted for the ten years following the adjournment of this Conference under the following Regulations, which are subject, however, to revision by the next Conference of the American Republics or by the Republics themselves, in the manner provided in Paragraph 16 of the resolution adopted by the First International Conference of the American Republics, April 14, 1890.

Art. 1. The International Bureau of the American Republics shall be under the management of a Governing Board, which shall consist of the diplomatic representatives of all the governments represented in the Bureau and accredited to the Government of the United States of America and the Secretary of State of the United States of America, who shall be its Chairman. The Governing Board shall hold regular meetings once every month, excepting in June, July and August, and such special meetings as may be called by the Chairman or on request of two members of the Governing Board; and the presence of five at any regular or special meeting shall be sufficient to constitute a quorum empowered to transact any business which may come before the Board. The Governing Board may appoint such Committees as it may deem proper.

Art. 2. All the positions in the Bureau shall be filled after examination of the applicants by an Examining Board. Said applicants shall present their applications upon blanks to be furnished by the Director of the Bureau, on which the applicants shall state the particular service which they desire to perform; they shall inscribe their names on a Register kept by the Director, wherein all the details of the examination shall be recorded, and the Examining Board can only recommend for special positions ap-

plied for and to be filled, those who may show their qualifications for the performance of the duties of said position. The appointments shall be made by the Governing Board and shall be signed by the Chairman.

Art. 3. The Governing Board with the cooperation of the Director of the Bureau shall annually prepare an itemized budget for the expenses of the succeeding year. This budget shall be transmitted to each Government represented in the Bureau, together with a statement showing the proportionate amount which is to be paid by said Government based upon the agreement of April 14th., 1890, which amounts each Government, by its acceptance of these regulations, shall agree to transmit to the Secretary of State of the United States, six months in advance.

Art. 4. The Governing Board may at any time appoint one or two of its members to examine the accounts of the Bureau and report to said Board.

Art. 5. The Bureau shall have authority to correspond, through the diplomatic representatives in Washington, with the Executive Departments of the several American Republics, and shall furnish such information as it possesses or can obtain to any of said Republics so requesting. Each of the Republics agrees to facilitate the gathering of information by the Bureau as far as practicable, and to promptly send thereto two copies of each of its official publications which shall be preserved in the Library of the Bureau, and to supply such other information as, from time to time, may be requested by the Director of the Bureau.

Art. 6. The Bureau shall publish a monthly Bulletin which shall be printed in the Spanish, English, Portuguese and French languages, or separately in each language, and which shall contain laws and statistical information of special interest to the inhabitants of the several Republics, so edited and arranged as to make it of the greatest value.

The Bureau shall publish such maps, topographical and geographical charts and other publications as the Governing Board may direct.

Art. 7. All the publications of the Bureau shall be kept free from advertisements as soon as the present contracts for advertising in the Bulletin shall have expired.

Art. 8. Publications of the Bureau shall be considered public documents and shall be carried free in the mails of all the Republics.

Art. 9. The Bureau shall be charged especially with the performance of all the duties imposed upon it by the present Conference.

Art. 10. The Director of the Bureau may attend to the meetings of the Governing Board and all its Committees, and also to the sessions of the International Conference of the American Republics for the purpose of giving information.

Art. 11. The Bureau shall be the custodian of the archives of the International Conference of the American Republics.

Art. 12. The Bureau shall immediately notify the Republics constituting the International Union of American Governments of the adoption by this Conference of these rules for its future government.

Art. 13. The Resolutions of the First International Conference of the American Republics adopted April 14th., 1890, shall remain in force, so far as they are not in conflict with these Regulations; and

all other plans for the reorganization of the Bureau are hereby annulled.

Mexico, January 22nd., 1902.—(Signed).—*Volney W. Foster*, President.—*J. B. Calvo*.—*J. N. Ledger*.—*M. Sanchez Marmol*.—*L. J. Carbo*.—*Isaac Alzamora*.—*Antonio Bermejo*.—Secretaries: *Jose F. Godoy* and *Williams C. Fox*.

SESSION OF JANUARY 24, 1902.

His Excellency Mr. Foster, Delegate from the United States of America.—At the request of the members of the 6th. Committee I will ask for the immediate consideration of the report of said Committee on the reorganization of the International Bureau of American Republics.

His Excellency the President, Mr. Raigosa.—According to the amendment to article 19, already approved by the Conference and in order that matters be expeditiously disposed of, the Secretary will place under discussion such reports as already printed in minutes of the last session, which was distributed to-day among the Delegates. The report to which the Honorable Mr. Foster refers will therefore be taken immediately into consideration.

Secretary Duret.—The report of the 6th. Committee on the reorganization of the International Bureau of the American Republics is under discussion, as a whole.

His Excellency Mr. Foster.—Mr. President: In the comments and propositions of the introductory sentences of the project, the Committee desires to obtain the consent of the Conference to the following changes in the English text: Instead of the word «agreement» the word «resolution.» In the next line «representative Governments here convened» instead of the language that appears in the text: The Committee respectfully asks the consent of the Conference to make these changes.

His Excellency Mr. Bermejo, Delegate from the Argentine Republic.—Mr. President: It seems to me that the project under debate is not in reality a convention, neither is it a treaty; it is a resolution. For this reason I think that the term most proper would be that of «resolution» and not «agreement:» if this resolution were to go through the procedure of a treaty or of a convention, it would have to be submitted to the Governments in order that it be ratified by the Congress of the respective countries, and it would then take up a long period in the proceedings of the above resolution, which is nothing more than the reorganization of the Bureau, the fundamental basis of which were already approved by the Congress at Washington.

I think, therefore, that this matter should have the scope of a resolution or recommendation; but the translator has said convention.

His Excellency Mr. Guachalla, Delegate from Bolivia.—I also had understood that the Honorable Mr. Foster wished to change the word «resolution» for that of «agreement» or «convention,» and I wish to add still another to the reasons given by the Honorable Mr. Bermejo. If this project were considered as a convention or diplomatic resolution and undergo all the constitutional proceedings of each country, there would be too much time lost. There are some resolutions approved by the Conference whereby the Board of Directors of the Bureau of American Republics are entrusted with the execution of several of the resolutions which have been

adopted here; for instance: the reorganization of a customs Congress; the meeting of a Congress to consider the crisis in the coffee trade, and others. We all understand that this resolution must be executed immediately. In this manner the difficulties which might arise from an agreement will be avoided.

Secretary Duret.—In accordance with the amendment submitted by the Committee the project will read as follows: «The Committee, therefore, recommends the adoption of the following resolution for the reorganization of the International Bureau of American Republics, etc.»

Having taken the votes, the project was unanimously approved, as a whole.

His Excellency Mr. Walker Martinez, Delegate from Chili.—Mr. President: I understand that article I will be discussed together with the preamble, since it contains the obligations which the Republics herein assembled contract. If this is so, as the Honorable Mr. Bermejo has correctly stated, the understanding is, then, that a treaty cannot be executed, since said Republics have already recognized the International Bureau when it was created by the Congress at Washington. But there is another question: based on the same ideas which have been expressed, I do not see the necessity for stating that the above project can be modified by the next Conference.

As we now adopt a resolution modifying the former regulations, so the third Conference may similarly act if they deem it advisable; but for this very same reason that we are acting through our powers by the authority with which our Governments have empowered us, I believe that it should be stated that our resolutions may be modified by the Government themselves. Thus, I would ask that the words «which, however, shall be subject to revision at the next Conference» be suppressed, and that the project be amended to the effect that it will be subject to revision by the Governments of the American Republics only.

His Excellency Mr. Foster.—It occurs to the Committee that the next Conference may desire to deal especially with this important function of the Republics, and to project this beyond the period of the calling of the next Conference might be embarrassing to it in making corrections or any amendments they may desire to make. Therefore, the Committee would prefer to have it remain as it is.

His Excellency Mr. Bermejo.—This resolution is for a period which binds the States under such conditions as are seldom accepted; for this reason I beg that the Delegates consider the scope of the obligations contracted. The remarks of the Honorable Delegate from Chili brought to my notice the fact that he has not, perhaps, paid due attention to the meaning of the reference made to the resolution of the 14th. of April, 1890; according to the union which was constituted, the Bureau should last ten years and if one year, before the end of this period, was not abrogated by the majority of the States represented, it would then be further prorogued for ten years. So that this permanent bond and this agreement are not as the others, in which each Nation reserves for itself the right to withdraw at any moment and abrogate the Treaty or agreement, and, therefore, not comply with the obligations contracted.