

And it also might happen, that before the term of ten years which has been fixed for the duration of this agreement, another Conference should meet and notwithstanding that the time has not lapsed, might it not be found advisable to modify said Agreement?

This is the importance of the clause which has been added on account of the peculiar duration of the agreement, and, I am of the opinion therefore that it ought not to be suppressed.

His Excellency Mr. Foster.—Reference is here made to the resolution adopted by the First International Conference of the American Republics in 1890. We are not ignoring that Conference nor its resolutions. It appears to me that this Assembly is the work of the Governments, they being at liberty to act independently or collectively, as they do when they assemble in congresses like the present and permission should be given them to deal with these matters whenever they see fit.

His Excellency Mr. Walker Martinez.—Mr. President: The object of my suggestions was to avoid a redundancy, because notwithstanding the remarks made, the next Conference will be sovereignly independent to adopt its own resolutions; but I do not wish to delay the debate and I therefore withdraw them.

Articles 1 to 11 inclusive were unanimously approved in detail, without discussion.

His Excellency Mr. Foster.—At the suggestion of the members of the Committee and after careful consideration, they have decided to ask the suppression of article 12 as being unnecessary.

Secretary Duret.—As the Committee have withdrawn article 12, article 13, is now under discussion.

Having taken the vote, the above article was unanimously approved.

Secretary Duret.—The Chair rules that the papers in question be referred to the Engrossing Committee.

His Excellency Mr. Calvo, Delegate from Costa Rica.—I have delivered to the Secretary, a project of resolution which also refers to the Bureau of American Republics. The Bureau already has a library of over 6,000 volumes and also possess a collection of maps, photographs, etc.: as in the project of reorganization, reference is made only to those official publications which are applied for to the Governments and to the reports on statistics, it would be desirable that the Bureau should be amplified and be converted into a regular Spanish-American library. I wish, in order to save time, that the resolution only be read and I respectfully beg of the Conference that the regular proceedings be dispensed with and that it be immediately considered inserting afterwards the preamble in the minutes of to-day's session.

Permit me to add that I would suggest that this resolution, if accepted, be considered as an additional article of the project.

Secretary Duret.—The Chair has decided that as the regulation hour has passed, the proposition of His Excellency Mr. Calvo be submitted for consideration at the afternoon session.

His President.—The session is suspended to be continued in the afternoon at four p. m.

SESSION OF JANUARY 24, 1902. (P. M.)

Secretary Duret.—The project of His Excellency Mr. Calvo for the establishment of a Spanish-American library reads as follows:

PROPOSITION of His Excellency Mr. Joaquín Bernardo Calvo, Delegate of Costa Rica, for the establishment of the Columbus Library annexed to the Bureau of the American Republics.

In the last session of the First International American Conference, His Excellency Dr. Carlos Martinez Silva, then, as in the present Conference, Delegate for Colombia, presented a project of a resolution, proposing that a Spanish American Library should be established in Washington, for the purpose of commemorating the meeting of that first Assembly of the Republics of this Continent. The project, altho unanimously adopted, so far has not been realized, as we all know; but the idea for that reason has not lost any of its importance, nor have ceased to exist many of the arguments, upon which the distinguished Delegate from Colombia founded his well conceived initiative.

It is true, that some of the indications contained in the statement of Dr. Martinez Silva, are not opportune at the present time, but the fundamental idea of this project is no less sympathetic and acceptable, on account of the changes produced by the lapse of time.

To-day the library would not be established for the purpose of celebrating in its inauguration the fourth centennial of the discovery of America, as the author of the proposition suggested, but in any case it would be appropriate that the said library should exist, in commemoration of the First and Second Conferences, as regards the former Conference, because the idea has taken practical form during its sessions, if the present proposition should be accepted.

The utility of the International Bureau of American Republics having been unanimously recognized, and a plan for its reorganization and expansion submitted by the respective Committee, to which I have the honor to belong, having been adopted, the present moment appears to me to be the most opportune, to accomplish the project to which I have referred.

The Bureau, principally since the time in which it was under the direction of Mr. Frederic Emory, has improved in a notable manner, and its library has increased very much, being at present in charge of a very respectable, competent and laborious person, who has put it into perfect order, and has thus succeeded in procuring that the number of its volumes already exceed six thousand, besides a collection of maps, photographs, etc., which fact by itself demonstrates, that in case of giving it the attention it deserves, it would in a few years become a center of great importance.

We have decided that the Bureau shall continue for ten years longer, and there is no reason for supposing that at the expiration of that time, an equal provision should not be made for the future, and that finally the Union should not be prolonged for an indefinite time.

Based on the preceding considerations, the Delegation of Costa Rica accepts the initiative of the Delegation of Colombia referred to, in its principal features, and consequently respectfully submits to the Conference the following project of

RESOLUTION.

In order to commemorate the First and Second International American Conferences, of Washington and Mexico, a Spanish American Library shall be established under the authority of the Governing Board of the International Union of the American Republics, and as a part of the Bureau of the same, which library shall be designated by the name of «Columbus Library.»

The undersigned Delegation requests the Conference, that the rules be dispensed with, if it deems proper to do so, and that the proposition be taken into immediate consideration.

Mexico, January 24, 1902.—(Signed.) *J. B. Calvo.*

Secretary Duret.—As requested by the author of the proposition the Conference is asked whether said proposition is immediately taken into consideration.

Having taken the vote, the Conference unanimously answered affirmatively.

Secretary Duret.—The proposition of His Excellency Mr. Calvo is under discussion.

His Excellency Mr. Foster, Delegate from the United States of America.—Mr. President, it is a course of pleasure to the United States Delegation to support this resolution establishing this valuable collection of books and documents concerning the Republics of the continent, which shall ultimately become the most valuable collection of the kind in the world, in reality a memorial to the affectionate labors of those living and dead who have contributed to the success of the Bureau of American Republics. We are proud that one of our great statesmen was active and useful in this organization; his labors were supported heartily and the initiative in many directions was taken by those who co-operated with him, representing the other Republics of this hemisphere, and notably among them was Matias Romero, who in this direction and in many others touching statecraft, has left his impress as a statesman and a diplomat upon those institutions that concern the Republics of this continent. He has also left the record of an honorable and high minded man, and so as a memorial to him, to our great statesman and to others, who have been most effective, useful, patient and energetic in this labor, Mendoza, Merou, Léger, Martínez Silva, Guachalla, Lazo Arriaga, and Mr. Calvo, in particular, who has in the patient, devoted an affectionate labor he has given to this work, distinguished himself among his associates. I am sure you are willing to grant a few moments to this resolution in exultation of the honorable purpose of establishing this library as a lasting memorial.

His Excellency Mr. Calvo, Delegate from Costa Rica.—I hold the floor in order to thank His Excellency Mr. Foster, in so far as I am concerned, for his kind expressions in favor of us who have contributed to the reorganization of the Bureau of American Republics. My only wish has been to co-operate in everything which would signify that the American Republics are each day much closely allied.

Now, referring to the document just read, and in view of the remarks which some of the Hon. Delegates from Mexico have privately made, I wish to explain that, if in the proposition reference is made solely to Spanish-American works, it is because in the libraries of the Congress and of the Department

of State at Washington, which are so complete, all the desirable works published in the United States may be found there. For this reason, it did not seem advisable to extend the initiative of the library annexed to the Bureau of American Republics to said works; and on the other hand, it would occasion expenses of some magnitude.

Secretary Duret.—No one requests the floor. The Conference is asked whether it approves the proposition of His Excellency Mr. Calvo.

Having taken the vote, said proposition was unanimously approved and it was ruled that it be referred to the Engrossing Committee.

SESSION OF JANUARY, 28, 1902.

Secretary Macedo.—In compliance with the resolution of the 22nd inst,¹ the reports of the Engrossing Committee, on the resolutions approved by the Conference are filed in the Secretary's office and are at the disposal of Their Excellencies the Delegates who may revise them and make such suggestions as they deem advisable.

The above mentioned report on the reorganization of the International Bureau of American Republics reads as follows:

Engrossing Committee.—The undersigned have the honor to submit the following text for the resolutions adopted by the Conference in the reorganization of the International Bureau of American Republics:

Art. 1. The International Bureau of the American Republics shall be under the management of a Governing Board, which shall consist of the Secretary of State of the United States of America, who shall be its Chairman, and the diplomatic representatives of all the governments represented in the Bureau and accredited to the Government of the United States of America. 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 shall appoint such Committees as it may deem proper.

Art 2nd. 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 applied for and to be filled by 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 coöperation 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

1. See page 73.

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 promptly to 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 English, Spanish, 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.

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

Art. 7. As soon as the present contracts for advertising in the Bulletin shall have expired, no further advertisements shall be published.

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 resolutions of the present International Conference.

Art. 10. The Director of the Bureau may attend the meeting of the Governing Board and all its Committees, and also the sessions of the International Conference of the American Republics, for the purpose of giving information when called upon for it.

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

Art. 12. The resolutions of the First International Conference of the American Republics, adopted April 14, 1890, shall remain in force, so far as they are not in conflict with these Regulations: and all other resolutions and plans for the reorganization of the Bureau are hereby annulled.

Art. 13. Under the authority of the Governing Board of the International Union of the American Republics and as a Section of the Bureau of said Republics, a Spanish-American Library is established to be named «Biblioteca de Colón,» (*Columbus Library.*)

All of Committees of the Second International American Conference. Mexico, January 27th, 1902. —(Signed.)—*Alberto Elmore.*—*Rosendo Pineda.*

The resolution on the Reorganization of the International Bureau of American Republics, drafted exactly under the same terms of 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, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Paraguay, Peru and Uruguay.

NUMBER 14.

International Sanitary Regulations

SESSION OF NOVEMBER, 8 1901.

His Excellency the Secretary General, Mr. Casasus.—The Mexican Delegation submits a project of resolutions on International Sanitary Regulations. Said project, which the Chair rules be referred to the consideration of the Committee on Pan-American Sanitary Regulations, reads as follows:

Proposed resolutions submitted by the Mexican Delegation to the Second Conference, on International Sanitary Regulations.

At the First American International Conference, assembled in Washington in 1890, the Committee on Sanitary Regulations, at the request of the Secretary of State of the United States, made a statement recommending the adoption, by the countries represented therein, of the provisions adopted at the Sanitary Convention of Rio Janeiro, in 1887, or else, of the project of treaty proposed by the Congress of Lima in 1888.

As neither the provisions above-mentioned were adhered to, nor the project of treaty was ratified by any of the countries represented, with the exception

of Paraguay, the recommendation of the Conference was actually of no purpose, and therefore it was left open for discussion as a matter of present and notorious importance, while the wonderful scientific discoveries made in the last ten years caused it to be viewed in a different light; recommending strongly the adoption of transcendental modifications in the methods of defence against the invasion and development of the most dreadful plagues which afflict humanity, and demonstrating the necessity there is for relieving, through more liberal measures, the serious damages caused to maritime and inland traffic by the sanitary measures adopted at the conventions, or by the respective government of each country.

It would be a long and useless task to relate the history of the efforts made by hygienists, diplomats, and the commercial world, in order to reconcile freedom of action, necessary on account of the enormous development of international exchange and communications, with the universal duty of avoiding, or at least restraining, the propagation of epidemic diseases, which has been the cause and still is the cause of so many fatalities in all the countries of the world;

but it would indeed be convenient to state briefly how constant has been the tendency at the most recent international conferences, towards a progressive relaxation in the exacting of the protective measures, since science has been acquiring a better knowledge of the diseases and of their prophylactic means, so as to render the subject of vital interest, and to have the opportunity of advancing even more so in that direction.

I

For many years the human being has been considered, when attacked by cholera, bubonic plague, yellow fever, or by any other of the maladies termed «exotic contagious,» as the focus for propagating epidemic diseases, his wearing apparel and other articles of personal use becoming at once contaminated and infected, and following such articles, goods, and all kinds of merchandise as may be found within the zone infested by any of the above plagues. On this fundamental principle were based the principal prophylactic means, such as sanitary cordons, absolute or partial quarantines, seclusion and isolation of the sick, and the fumigations or desinfection of vehicles of transportation, of the baggage belonging to those who had been attacked, and of the merchandise imported into the country wishing to protect itself against the invasion of the epidemic disease.

Such precautions were at first adopted by the Venetian Republic between the 10th and 16th centuries, with such severity that the immediate incineration of the corpses of those who had been attacked with the plague and of their belongings, was provided for, as well as the destruction of the merchandise transported on infected ships and the isolation of the latter for an indefinite period, which terminated with the plague itself; and though these measures were very severe, they constituted a great improvement in comparison with the ancient methods of the dark ages, when sacrifices, exorcisms and conjurations, prayers, hymns and penances were the only means for avoiding and staying the development of the general calamities.

At that time the means of navigation were oars and sails; vessels were of small capacity; drinking water was kept in wooden casks, which caused its rapid decomposition, and, as the only kind of food was salted meat and fish, it became soon repugnant to an insufferable degree. Quarantine afforded rest, new and fresh water, and a variety of nutritious food for the crew; therefore it was endured patiently; but, as soon as the aerial power was substituted by steam; regular and rapid transportation succeeded the formerly long and uncertain trips; the capacity of the vessels was increased so as to allow a better accommodation for the passengers and crews, and to provide them with healthy food and water kept in tanks made of iron which permitted its being easily changed; then, the primitive quarantine was considered as an obstacle incompatible with the progress realized at that time.

Complaints against the different sanitary practices which each country had in force at its ports and frontiers, without being in accord with its neighbors, became so pressing and general that the French Government was at last induced to issue invitations for a Conference which was held in Paris in 1851, the result being that twelve of the principal Powers signed a treaty adopting precautionary measures

based on the new facilities of maritime traffic, the compliance of which was obligatory upon each of the contracting Governments; but even these were so rigorous that it became necessary to hold another Conference in Paris in 1859, in order to alleviate the restrictions, delays and damages, caused to commerce by the regulations which were in force for several years.

The terrible rapidity with which cholera invaded the European Continent in 1865 proved the uselessness of the sanitary cordons, and of the quarantines at the ports of destination; this being the reason for a third Conference which was held in Constantinople in 1866, after medical studies had pointed out that the principal focus of the epidemic originated through the pilgrimages to Mecca. This Conference decided that, in order to afford real beneficial results, quarantine had to be enforced nearer the focus of infection, and that a protective system was preferable to a restrictive one; and it was therefore decided to establish sanitary stations at different points on the Red Sea, with lazarettos and special hospitals for the isolation and recovery of those who had been attacked or were suspected of being attacked with the plague.

Neither the Conference of Constantinople, nor the decisions passed thereat, were authorized by a treaty, notwithstanding the fact that most of those decisions were adopted by the respective Governments of each of the countries represented and therefore the results obtained were not satisfactory. The Fourth Sanitary Conference took place in Vienna in 1874, with the intent of reaching an international decision with regard to the prophylactic measures to be generally adopted. The resolutions passed by this Congress were in accord with those adopted at Constantinople; but an obligatory medical inspection was established and a proposition was made at the same time to organize a permanent Medical Committee whose duty would be to study the ethiology and prophylactic means against epidemic diseases. The above recommendations were also unauthorized by international treaties.

The Fifth Sanitary Conference was held in Washington in 1881, its exclusive object being to study the means of defence against yellow fever. The Technical Committee sent to Havana for that purpose, considered the most efficacious and radical measures would be: to purify the drinking water running into the city; to construct underground sewers under hygienic conditions and to pave perfectly the streets, keeping the cities absolutely clean, as the basis of a prophylactic system.

But as such works required an outlay which probably exceeded the means of the local treasury, the Committee concluded that the propagation of yellow fever could only be avoided on the United States coast, by prohibiting the entrance of infected ships into its ports, during the season of epidemics.

The recommendations made by this Conference were not approved by the delegates of the countries represented.

The Sixth Sanitary Congress was held in Rome in 1885, at which there were present representatives from all the countries of Europe, the United States, Mexico, several of the South American Republics, India, China, and Japan. Though no international agreement was arrived at, the practical results of this Conference were apparent, both because of the