

It is also resolved to recommend to each one of the Governments that they present to the next Conference a complete report of all that has been done by their respective countries in obedience with the recommendations adopted by the First and Second Conferences.

Mexico, January 25, 1902.—(Signed).—*J. B. Calvo*, President.—*F. Davila*.—*Chas. M. Pepper*.—*Jose F. Godoy*, Secretary.

SESSION OF JANUARY 28, 1902.
(Afternoon.)

Secretary Macedo.—The report of the Committee on Future Pan American Conferences is now under discussion in general.

Same was approved in general without discussion, by unanimity of votes, with exception of the Delegation from Argentine.

Secretary Macedo.—It is now under discussion in detail.

His Excellency Mr. Pablo Macedo, Delegate from Mexico.—The first part of the report under discussion proposes that the Third International American Conference assemble within five years at the place designated for this purpose by the diplomatic representatives of the American Republics accredited in Washington and the Secretary of State of the United States.

I take the liberty of remarking that if we fix now the term of five years for the Conference, it might occasion some difficulties. It is impossible to foresee whether five years from now the special conditions of the American Continent will allow the successful assembling of an International Conference like the present. On the other hand, altho it is naturally desirable that a meeting of the representatives of the American Nations should occur as frequently as possible, the adoption of a fixed and short period of five years might not be advisable, because the advancement attained in five years by each Nation cannot be such so as to appreciate the results of the resolutions adopted.

For the above considerations, which have been similarly expressed by other Delegates, I would suggest to the Committee that the first part of the resolution should be amended to the effect that the Third International Conference will assemble on the date and at the place designated for the purpose by the diplomatic representatives of the American Republics accredited at Washington and by the Secretary of State of the United State.

His Excellency Mr. Anadon, Delegate from the Argentine Republic.—Mr. President: I intended to cast my vote in detail, without making any suggestion, as I did when voting on a whole, against the project which has been submitted; but the proposition just offered by my distinguished friend and colleague, Mr. Macedo, induces me to say a few words, since I am exactly of the same opinion he has so clearly and correctly expressed.

I stated to the honorables members of the Committee on Future Pan-American Conferences, of which I am also a member, that I thought it necessary to modify the term of five years, because I did not think enough good reasons to state now that the future International American Conference should assemble within that period, and not within eight, for instance; and some one of the members—I think it was the President, Mr. Calvo—promised me that

the point would be discussed among all the members of the Committee. This has not been so; the report has been presented and I had to vote against it, as a whole, simply because the part referring to the term of five years was the principal point in the project. I made the same suggestion of Mr. Macedo: that the Diplomatic Corps should be entrusted with fixing the date and place for the next Conference to meet.

His Excellency Mr. Calvo, Delegate from Costa Rica.—The Committee took into consideration the suggestions of His Excellency Mr. Anadon; but the members signing the project, as well as Mr. Lazo Arriaga, who is absent, before presenting the report, agreed to fix said term, and we have maintained this opinion, because we knew it was the opinion of almost all the Delegates of the Conference, including the members of the Mexican Delegation.

The Committee, however, has no interest whatever—I mean so far as I am concerned—in maintaining that the term should be five years or any other, and will not oppose in any way to have the project amended in regard to this point or to any other proposition made on the subject.

His Excellency Mr. Pablo Macedo.—Mr. President: I have the honor to deliver to the Secretary the proposed amendment.

Secretary Macedo.—The amendment submitted modifies the first par of the resolution in the following terms. "The Third International American Conference will assemble at the place and on the date which the diplomatic representatives of the American Republics accredited at Washington and the Secretary of State of the United States should designate for the purpose and in conformity with, etc."

His Excellency Mr. Calvo.—I have not accepted the amendment; I simply requested that it should be submitted to the Conference and I beg that this be done.

His Excellency Mr. Pepper, Delegate from the United States of America.—I dislike very much to differ from my distinguished friend from Mexico and also my friend the honorable delegate from the Argentine Republic, but the chief and the main value I think is to fix a definite period. It seems that the period elapsing between the former and the present Conference was too long, on account of not having a definite period fixed for the next one. I am sure that the delegates here are satisfied that a definite period should be fixed. My colleague Mr. Buchanan suggests something that will perhaps meet the requirements and that is that the Conference should be held within five years, or seven at the outside; but to leave it vague and indefinite would surely work harm to the Conference.

His Excellency Mr. Pablo Macedo.—Mr. President: I recognize the advisability of fixing a date, because truly, these things must not be overlooked and, as Mr. Pepper has stated, the Governments must keep in mind the obligation they have contracted to meet again in a future Conference; but this does not destroy the argument of my objection.

What is to be done if when the five years have elapsed the conditions of the Continent, due to one of many hazards that may affect one or several of the nineteen Nations forming it, would not allow the meeting of these Nations? The Third Conference would then be considered indefinitely postponed, according to the text of the recommendation and even that of the preamble.

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 may deem advisable.

The report on Future Pan-American Conferences reads as follows:

Engrossing Committee.—The undersigned have the honor to propose the following text for the report on Future International American Conferences:

The International Conference of Mexico in consideration of the reasons contained in the report of the Committee on Future International American Conferences,

Resolves: That the Third International American Conferences shall meet within five years, in the place which the Secretary of State of the United States of America and the diplomatic representatives accredited by the American Republics in Washington may designate for the purpose, and in accordance with what at the meeting of the said representatives may be resolved regarding the program and other necessary details, for all of which they are hereby expressly authorized by the present resolution.

If due to any circumstances it were not possible for the Third Conference to assemble within five years, the Secretary of State of the United States of America and the diplomatic representatives accredited in Washington may designate another date for its reunion.

It is also resolved to recommend to each one of the Governments that they present to the next Conference a complete report of all that has been done by the respective countries in obedience to the recommendations adopted by the First and Second Conferences.

Hall of Committees of the Second International American Conference. Mexico, January 29, 1902.—(Signed) *Alberto Elmore*.—*Rosendo Pineda*.

The resolution on Future International American Conferences expressed 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.

¹ See page 74.

NUMBER 18.

Commission on production and consumption of Coffee.

SESSION OF DECEMBER 30, 1902.

His Excellency Mr. Lazo Arriaga, Delegate from Guatemala.—There is a subject, Messrs. Delegates, which in my opinion is of such importance for America that I think it advisable to call the attention of the Conference to it: I refer to the crisis through which the important coffee trade is just passing.

Fifteen American Nations produce this berry and the four southern nations altho not producers of it are however consumers, and this matter is also of interest to them, because their commercial relations with other countries are considerably affected on account of the conditions of the coffee growing industry.

But this problem is of a more serious character;

it is not simply a commercial problem, it is an economic financial problem, a political problem, a problem truly social.

The countries producing coffee, wherein it forms the principal industry, are suffering considerably in their commercial relations. Not only do they suffer from this point of view, but the governmental revenues have also diminished considerably, causing countless difficulties.

It is, moreover, a political problem, for to an impartial observer, in some of our Republics, it would be easy to encounter, as cause of revolution, this state of discouragement for certain social classes, this state of disgust that occasions misery with its cohort of calamity. It is, furthermore, a social problem, because all our peoples, in one form or another, are being affected by this great question.

I believe, Messrs. Delegates, that to terminate this crisis, or at least to find a remedy for it, is an effort worthy of this Conference, and therefore, in name of the Delegation over which I preside, I have the honor to propose the following:

PROPOSITION of the Delegation of Guatemala, for the reunion of a Committee, for the purpose of proposing means of avoiding or diminishing the crisis through which the coffee industry is now passing.

The Delegation of Guatemala has the honor to propose the adoption of the following resolution:

The Second International American Conference resolves:

First. That within one year from the close of the sessions of the International American Conference there shall meet in the City of New York, United States of America, a Commission composed of one or more Delegates appointed by each Government which may desire to be represented, and who must possess technical and expert knowledge regarding the production, distribution and consumption of Coffee.

Second. The Governing Board of the International Union of the American Republics shall appoint the day on which said Commission is to assemble. Said Commission will be organized in the manner it may decide upon, with the assistance of said Bureau, and it shall have for its object the investigation of the causes which at the present time are producing the crisis through which that great industry is passing, and to propose practical means to prevent or abate the same.

Even should the Committee that I propose attain no other result than the negative, that is, should declare that there is no practical remedy to terminate the crisis, this alone would be a great result, for the producing countries, they would not extend their production, would not invest in this industry their already scanty resources, and would exert their efforts in new industries. That alone would be an advantage for the coffee producing countries. But I believe, gentlemen, that the committee will not encounter that negative result, but will find a practical solution favorable to all producing countries, and that in indirect manner will result in great benefit to the four countries that do not produce the grain, but which due to the present crisis find the production menaced at present time, find themselves in danger of altered relations with the rest of the continent.

Secretary Macedo.—The Chair rules that the proposition presented by the Delegation of Guatemala, pass for examination to the Committee on Agriculture and Industry.

SESSION OF JANUARY 20, 1902.

Secretary Macedo.—The Committee on Agriculture and Industry has presented its report relative to the initiative of His Excellency Mr. Lazo Arriaga, that a committee be named for the purpose of studying the causes of the coffee crisis and to propose the practical means of avoiding or diminishing it. Said report, ordered by the Chair to be printed and distributed among the Honorable Delegates, reads as follows:

REPORT of the Committee on Agriculture and Industry, about the initiative for the meeting of a Commission to study the causes of the crisis in the Coffee-growing industry, and to propose the means of remedying it.

International Conference:

The Committee on Agriculture and Industry has considered with due care the initiative offered by the Delegation of Guatemala on the 30th. ultimo, which has for its object to arrange for the meeting in the City of New York of a Commission composed of the representatives of the American Nations, and experts in matters relating to Coffee.

In the speech delivered by His Excellency Mr. Lazo Arriaga, in introducing said proposition, he demonstrated the great practical importance of this matter, pointing out at the same time the gravity of the crisis through which that great industry is passing, and the economic, financial, social and political consequences which it is producing.

The Delegate of Guatemala believes, and probably with reason, that it would be impossible to find efficacious means which would prevent, or at least would diminish the lamentable effects of this crisis. The Committee thinks that, among other measures, some might be indicated which are intended, not so much to limit the production, but to increase the consumption of that precious berry, as for example its exemption from the duties which are caused by its exportation; exemption or reduction of the duties of importation which are charged by some of the principal European countries to be secured by means of treaties of commerce; reduction of the cost of transportation; withdrawal from commerce of the most inferior classes of the berry, which at present are thrown upon such markets to the injury of public health.

Finally, the Committee believes with His Excellency Mr. Lazo Arriaga, that, if the meeting of exports should have no other result but that of affirming with solid arguments, that it is impossible to propose a remedy for this crisis, even such negative result would by itself constitute an advantage, because in such case the producers, who are already discouraged, instead of continuing to make useless sacrifices for the preservation of their plantations, would reduce the same and would devote their resources and efforts to the development of other industries, producing a variety of national products and thereby increasing the public wealth.

Based on the foregoing arguments, this Committee has the honor of proposing to the Conference, that it adopt the following initiative submitted by the Delegation of Guatemala:

«The Second International American Conference resolves:

First.—That within one year counted from the close of the sessions of the International American Conference, a Commission composed of one or more Delegates, to be named by each Government which

may desire to be represented therein, shall meet in the City of New York, United States of America, which Delegates shall possess technical and expert knowledge regarding the production, distribution and consumption of coffee.

Second.—The Board of Directors of the International Bureau of American Republics shall fix the date on which said Commission shall meet, which Commission shall perfect its organization in the manner which it may decide upon, with the assistance of the said Bureau, and it shall have for its object the investigation of the causes which at present produce the crisis through which this great industry is passing, and to propose practical measures to prevent or diminish it.

Mexico, January 16, 1902.—(Signed) *Cecilio Baez.*
—*Quintín Gutierrez.*—*M. Sanchez Marmol.*—*Francisco Orla.*

SESSION OF JANUARY 24, 1902.

Secretary Duret.—The report of the Committee on Agriculture and Industry is now under discussion, as a whole, with regard to the initiative of His Excellency Mr. Lazo Arriaga, for the creation of a committee to study the causes of the crisis in coffee, and to propose means to avoid or to diminish it.

Without discussion, it was approved, as a whole, and later in detail, by a unanimous vote of the Delegations present.

Secretary Macedo.—The Chair rules that the matter pass to the Committee on Engrossing.

SESSION OF JANUARY 28, 1902.

Secretary Macedo.—To facilitate the purposes of the resolution passed on the 22nd. instant, the reports of the Committee on Engrossing, upon the resolutions approved by the Conference, will remain in the hands of the Secretary at the disposal of the Honorable Delegates, who may revise them and make such observations upon them as may be deemed convenient.

See page 74.

NUMBER 19.

Claims for Pecuniary Damages.

SESSION OF NOVEMBER 6, 1901.

His Excellency Mr. Lazo Arriaga, Delegate from Guatemala.—Messrs. Delegates to the International American Conference:

The claims for damages of citizens or corporations of a country against the Government of another, are the frequent cause of friction between friendly nations and many times cause annoying diplomatic correspondence.

Even in the event that the interested parties should agree to submit their differences to the decision of an impartial judge, the painful impression of those controversies will exist for some time, although not unfrequently contributing to keep alive distrust and jealousies to the detriment of the good harmony which ought to exist between friendly nations.

To avoid, as far as possible, those causes of fric-

The report upon the resolution relative to the meeting of a committee for the purpose of studying the coffee crisis, reads as follows:

Committee on Engrossing.—The undersigned have the honor to propose the following draft of resolution voted by the Conference and relative to the meeting of a committee to be charged with the study of the causes of the crisis through which the coffee industry is passing.

The International Conference of Mexico, acting upon the bases expressed by its Committee on Agriculture and Industry, resolves:

«First. That within one year, calculated from the closing of the sessions of the International American Conference, there shall meet in the City of New York, United States of America, a commission composed of one or more delegates appointed by each government, which may desire to be represented, and who must possess technical and expert knowledge regarding the production, distribution and consumption of coffee.

«Second. The Governing Board of the International Union of the American Republics shall appoint the day on which said Commission is to assemble. Said Commission will be organized in the manner it may decide upon, with the assistance of said Bureau, and it shall have for its object the investigation of the causes which at the present time are producing the crisis through which that great industry is passing, and to propose practical means to prevent or abate the same.»

Mexico, January 25, 1902.—(Signed).—*Alberto Elmore.*—*Rosendo Pineda.*

The resolution relative to the meeting of a commission charged with studying the coffee crisis, redacted in the same terms as in the preceding report, was signed on the 29th. day of January, 1902, by the Delegations of the Argentine Republic, Bolivia, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Salvador, United States of America, Guatemala, Hayti, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Paraguay, Peru and Uruguay.

tion and disagreement, is equivalent in my opinion, to work in the most practical and effective manner for the maintenance of peace and friendly relations between the American Republics.

Such is the idea that guided me when, in having the honor of forming a part of the Committee for the drafting of the program of this Conference, I suggested, and succeeded in having it accepted, the point which refers to the organization of an International Court of Equity which may decide matters of its competence.

Other reasons of no less importance prompted me, since then, to persevere in my purpose, to present to the consideration of this Conference the transcendental matter I am now dealing with.

The opinion of Governments is to-day unanimously accentuated by recent and lamentable ex-