PAN-AMERICAN CONFERENCE TO SEEK RESULTS

Actual Solution of Financial Problems Aim of International Gathering.

ORGANIZATION EFFECTED

High Officials of Principal Governments Greeted by Secretary Lansing.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 18.—Live discussion among delegates rather than ponderous addresses will characterize the second Pan-American Financial Conference. This decision was made at an organization meeting held yesterday and was regarded by the high officials of the Pan-American Governments present as a big step toward putting ginger into the deliberations. The object to be sought, it was said, was the clash of ideas which leads to solution of problems, instead of purely academic presentation of views by designated speakers.

The meeting, held at the close of a luncheon tendered the guests in the Pan-American Union Building after they had been presented by Secretary Lansing, was itself more like a gathering of corporation directors than a formal diplomatic affair. The Ministers of Finance and other official delegates from the twenty-one republics of the New World sat informally around the big table in the Columbus room, smoking, jesting, renewing old friendships while they laid the foundation for the sessions this week which will have an important bearing on world policy.

A spirit of personal good fellowship and international cooperation was evident, of which notice was taken by Secretary Glass, the luncheon host.

"I am sure," he said, welcoming the visitors, "that your deliberations will not only strengthen the ties of sentiment, but the bonds of material interest between the republics."

After Mr. Glass was called away by official business Dr. Luis Toledo Herrarte, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Guatemala, presided.

The Ministers of Finance were elected honorary presidents of the conference and the chairmen of the various delegations were chosen vice-presidents.

Secretary Glass was elected unanimously president of the conference, and the following were chosen to preside over the general sessions: Dr. Carlos Manuel Cespedes, Minister from Cuba; William G. McAdoo, former Secretary of the Treasury; Dr. Ricardo Vecino, Minister of Finance, Uruguay; Dr. Rafael H. Elizalde, Minister from Ecuador, and Gen. Juan E. Haredes, chairman of the Honduran delegation.

Dr. Fernando C. Fuchs, Minister of Finance, Peru, issued a statement tonight expressing the opinion that the question of transportation was the most important problem before the conference. This applied, he said, to internal railway development as well as to the establishment of regular and adequate steamship lines, because ships now are sometimes kept waiting at ports for weeks to receive cargoes.

Citing what his country was doing to develop transportation, Dr. Fuchs said Peru had set aside the tax on tobacco, a Government monopoly amounting to 4,000,000 solas annually, as security for a loan with which it is proposed to build 2,000,000 kilometers of railroad, which will complete the Peruvian section of the great Pan-American Railway system.

The selection of Dr L. S. Rowe, head of the State Department, Latin American division, to be secretary-general of the conference was affirmed.

Conference Opens To-day.

The conference will begin to-morrow a week's discussion of financial and industrial problems involving the future stability of many of the American republics. To cover the field nineteen group committees will meet in conference with 300 financial and business leaders of the United States.

Among American committee members are James A. Farrell, president of the United States Steel Corporation; Edward N. Hurley, former chairman of the Shipping Board; Joseph P. Grace of W. R. Grace & Co., John Hays Hammond, mining engineer; Frank A. Vanderlip, American International Corporation; James Speyer, banker; Major-Gen. William C. Gorgas, now with the Rockefeller Foundation; President Goodnow, Johns Hopkins University; J. G. White, engineer; former Gov. Manning of South Carolina and W. Cameron Forbes, former Governor-General of the Philippines.

International loans, upbuilding of railroad and steamship lines, modernizing public utilities of Latin American cities, road building and timely aid to private business are among the subjects to be taken up.

Secretary Lansing to Speak.

General sessions, with Secretary Glass presiding over the first meeting, will be held in the hall of the Americas, Pan-American Union Building. At this meeting a message from President Wilson will be read to the delegates. Secretary Lansing and Director-General John Barrett will make addresses of welcome and a representative of each visiting delegation will respond.

"The Improvement of Ocean and Land Transportation Facilities" is the subject for discussion Monday night, and three Latin American delegates and John Barton Payne will speak, the latter on the policy of the Shipping Board.

William G. McAdoo, as presiding officer, will speak on Tuesday night on problems of international finance, and John Bassett Moore on "The Work of the International High Commission," the permanent body organized at Buenos Aires in 1916, which convoked the present conference. The American Secretary of the Treasury is president of its executive council, and every Latin American Minister of Finance automatically is a member and chairman of his national section.

Wreaths were placed on Washington's tomb by the representatives of Argentina, Bolivia, Colombia, Peru and Venezuela to-day.

Pan-American Financial Conference Programme Opening To-day in Washington

DR. L. S. ROWE, secretary-general of the Second Pan-American Financial Conference, which opens in Washington to-day, announces the following official programme:

MONDAY.

10 A. M.—Opening session, Hall of the Americas. Presiding officer, the Secretary of the Treasury.

Addresses of welcome to delegates and guests, the Vice-President of the United States, the Hon. Robert Lansing, Secretary of State; John Barrett, director-general of the Pan-American Union.

Responses on behalf of the Governments represented at the conference.

1 P. M.—Informal luncheon, lower hall, Pan-American Building.

3 P. M.—Organization meetings of group committees.

8:30 P. M.—First general session. Presiding officer, W. G. McAdoo. General topic, "The Credit Situation of the World."

Introductory remarks by the presiding officer.

The Governor of the Federal Reserve Board on "The Problems of the United States as a Creditor Nation."

TUESDAY.

10 A. M.—Group committees and other committee meetings.

3 P. M.—Group committee meetings.

8:30 P. M.—Second general session. General topic, "Commerce and Finance, International Cooperation."

Address, the Hon. John Bassett Moore, "The Work of the International High Commission."

WEDNESDAY.

10 A. M.—Group committee meetings.

1 P. M.—Luncheon tendered by the Federal Reserve Board and United States Section of the International High Commission to the official delegations.

3 P. M.—Group committee meetings.

9 P. M.—Reception tendered by the Secretary of State to the members of the official delegations and their families.

THURSDAY.

10 A. M.—Third general session. Submission of all reports of group committees and of the committee on transportation.

Address, the Hon. Huston Thompson, of the Federal Trade Commission, "International Regulation of Unfair Competition."

3 P. M.—Fourth general session. General topic, "Fiscal and Currency Reform as Factors in National Credit."

Addresses, the Hon. Paul M. Warburg, "Fiscal and Currency Standards as the Measure of the Credit of Nations." Another speaker representing the United States.

FRIDAY.

10 A. M.—Fifth general and closing session. Report of the committee on form and resolutions. Report of the secretary-general. General topic, "The Improvement of Ocean and Land Transportation Facilities."

Address, the Chairman of the United States Shipping Board, the Hon. John Barton Payne, "The Future Policy of the United States Shipping Board."

Unfinished business. Adjournment.

4 P. M.—Reception tendered to official delegations and members of their families by the Women's Auxiliary Committee of the Second Pan-American Scientific Congress, at the home of the chairman, Mrs. Robert Lansing.

SATURDAY.

10 A. M.—Visit to Annapolis, at the invitation of the Secretary of the Navy.

1 P. M.—Luncheon at Annapolis.

7:30 P. M.—Banquet tendered by the Secretary of the Treasury to the official delegates and members of committees, Hall of the American Pan-American Building.

SUNDAY.

2 P. M.—Official delegations leave for Philadelphia.

MONDAY, JAN. 26.

9 A. M.—Visit to the shipyards of American International Corporation, at Hog Island.

TUESDAY, JAN. 27.

7 P. M.—Dinner at New York, tendered to official delegations by the Pan-American Society of the United States.

CONFERENCE BRINGS FINANCIAL EXPERTS

Prominent Men to Represent Secretary of the Treasury.

Many of the most important officials of the Federal Government will act as the personal representatives of the Secretary of the Treasury in the deliberations of the nineteen international group committees which will meet in conjunction with the second Pan-American Financial Conference, which opens on January 19, for a week's session in Washington. They will also keep in close touch with the official delegates from the Southern republics.

The representatives of the Secretary of the Treasury and the countries they will look after in cooperation with the group committeemen are:

Gov. Harding, Federal Reserve Board, Argentina.
Walter W. Warwick, Comptroller of the Treasury, Bolivia.
Vice-Gov. Albert Strauss, Federal Reserve Board, Brazil.
Edwin F. Sweet, Assistant Secretary of Commerce, Chile.
Charles S. Hamlin, Federal Reserve Board, Colombia.
Angus McLean, War Finance Corporation, Cuba.
Norman W. Davis, Assistant Secretary of the Treasury, Dominican Republic.
Henry A. Moehlenpah, Federal Reserve Board, Ecuador.
James L. Moyle, Assistant Secretary of the Treasury, El Salvador.
Breckenridge Long, Assistant Secretary of State, Guatemala.
D. C. Biggs, Governor Federal Reserve Bank, St. Louis, Haiti.
J. U. Calkins, Governor Federal Reserve Bank, San Francisco, Honduras.
Benjamin Streng, Jr., Governor Federal Reserve Bank, New York, Mexico.
A. C. Miller, Federal Reserve Board, Nicaragua.
M. B. Wellborn, Governor Federal Reserve Bank, Atlanta, Panama.
Julius Lay, Foreign Trade Adviser, State Department, Paraguay.
George W. Norris, Farm Loan Commissioner, Peru.
Eugene Meyer, managing director War Finance Corporation, Uruguay.
J. S. McDougal, Governor Federal Reserve Bank, Chicago, Venezuela.

SILVER FRODUCTION IN MEXICO

Special Despatch to the Latin American Section of THE SUN.

MEXICO CITY, Mexico, Jan. 18.—The Department of Industry, Commerce and Labor announces that the total silver production for the year 1919 amounts to more than 1,949,662 kilograms—2 1-5 pounds avoirdupois to the kilogram. The market price of silver bullion in this city to-day (January 3) is $84 (Mex.) per kilo., or $42 American gold. The total value of the product at the rate given would be $163,771,608 (Mex.), or $81,885,804 (American). The actual value is of course less, as the price of silver increased greatly since the first of the year 1919.

The approximate figures of silver production for the ten years prior to the revolution were as follows in Mexican money:

1902	$70,000,000
1903	73,000,000
1904	85,000,000
1905	103,000,000
1906	115,000,000
1907	104,000,000
1908	75,000,000
1909	75,000,000
1910	78,000,000
1911	86,000,000

For the ten months ending October, 1913, the exportations of silver from Mexico to the United States amounted to $102,467,604 (Mex.), or $51,233,802 (American), while for the ten months ending October, 1918, the silver exportations were $86,943,618 (Mex.), or $43,471,809 (American).

Belgian Minister Goes to Chile.

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina, Jan. 18.—H. Charmanne, Belgian Minister to Chile, has arrived here from Europe. He will proceed to Santiago.

CUBA.

Visitors to Cuba are Welcome

to avail themselves of the facilities of this Institution. Our 70 Branches at all important points of the Island enable us to render complete Banking service and furnish general information regarding Cuba.

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Havana, Cuba

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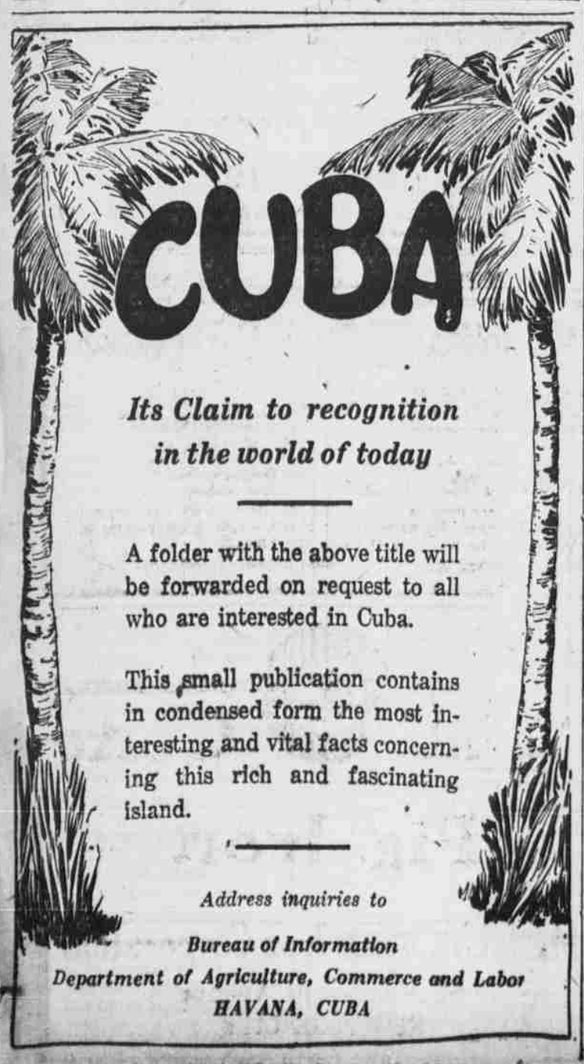
Largest and Most Modern Hotel Building in Cuba. Absolutely fireproof. Cable, Telegraph, Post Office and Stock Quotations in the Lobby.



Its Claim to recognition in the world of today

A folder with the above title will be forwarded on request to all who are interested in Cuba.

This small publication contains in condensed form the most interesting and vital facts concerning this rich and fascinating island.

Address inquiries to
Bureau of Information
Department of Agriculture, Commerce and Labor
HAVANA, CUBA

THROUGH TRAIN TO MEXICO CITY

Delegates to the Trade Conference Will Enjoy Unusual Facilities in Travel.

The first through limited train ever run from New York city to Mexico city will carry the United States delegates to the trade conference which will be held in the quarters of the American Chamber of Commerce of Mexico on February 11, 12 and 13 next.

This train will carry Pullmans, diners and baggage cars and an observation car. It will be routed so as to pick up parties of delegates from Chicago, St. Louis, San Antonio and Laredo, Texas. Arrangements for the train are being made by the American Express Company of this city, the director-general of the National Railways of Mexico, Sr. Fontes, and F. P. de Hoyos, who is the representative of the Mexican railways here in the United States.

In a cablegram received from the Chamber of Commerce of Mexico it was stated that the American Express Company has named a special representative to arrange all the details concerning the transportation of the visitors from the United States.

Many prominent men have signified their intention of taking this trip, and some of the delegates will be accompanied by their wives. Among those who will make the trip are E. H. Huxley, president of the United States Rubber Export Company; Charles Muchnic, vice-president of the American Locomotive Company, and J. P. Maxwell of the Petroleum Iron Works Company of Sharon, Pa. A party of fifteen or twenty delegates will be picked up at Chicago, twenty-five more at St. Louis, thirty at San Antonio and a number at Laredo, Texas. Delegates from Los Angeles, San Francisco, Portland and Seattle will probably board the special train at Laredo.

The conference will be a strictly business affair, having been initiated by the American business men of Mexico. It will not be directly sponsored by either the United States or the Mexican Governments, but they have both given it their full moral support. The American Chamber of Commerce of Mexico is a member of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States and its honorary president is Henry P. Fletcher, American Ambassador to Mexico.

James Carson, national councilor for the Chamber of Commerce of Mexico, recently made a trip to Washington to confer with the officials of the Department of State on the proposed meeting. He was assured by them that the Washington Government was heartily in accord with the aims of the American business men in Mexico and would do everything possible to make the coming meeting a success. It was learned at the State Department that this meeting was considered most timely and of great significance to the commercial welfare of the two Governments.

A special official of the Department of State has been named to take care of the applications for passports for the delegates and they will be issued with as much promptness as it is possible to secure.

The conference in Mexico will be in session for three days, holding two meetings daily, and such important subjects as Mexican sales methods and distribution, Mexican agencies and representations, Mexican banking facilities, Mexican credits, financing the exports of Mexico, shipping and packing merchandise for Mexico and trademarks in Mexico will be discussed by experts.

The officials of the Chamber of Commerce of Mexico point out that it is important that every bank, commercial and manufacturing house in the United States trading with Mexico or intending to go into that field send one of their officers to the conference because, while it is a fact that Mexico buys more than 90 per cent. of her imports from this country and sells nearly all of her exports to us, there is a movement on foot among our European trade rivals to get a share of this lucrative trade.

SHIFT OF CAPITAL PLANNED IN BRAZIL

Site on High Plateau Lands Is Proposed.

RIO DE JANEIRO, Jan. 18.—Transfer of the Federal capital from Rio de Janeiro to the high plateau lands in the State of Goyaz, in the interior of Brazil, within five or six years is the aim of a project recently introduced in the Federal Senate. The Brazilian constitution already provides for the transfer, and the present measure is intended to hasten the move.

The measure gives two months from the date of signature of the proposed law for the worldwide publication of the plans, six months for the reception of competitive proposals and five years from the signing of contracts for the completion of the new capital. The successful bidder will enjoy twenty years monopoly of water, drainage, lighting, telephonic and urban traffic services in the new capital.

The plans contemplate a modern city with all latest improvements and hygienic installations, built in accordance with approved town planning ideas, with a government house, a national congress building, a palace of justice, public department buildings, schools, libraries, theatres, a penitentiary, hospital, barracks, markets, post offices, telegraph and telephone offices, &c.

It is also provided the Government should take measures for the construction of new railways or the prolongation of existing ones, to link the new capital with the different State capitals.

No estimate is made in the measure as to the cost.

MENOCAL RECEIVES AMERICAN MINISTER

President of Cuba Cordial to Boaz Long.

HAVANA, Cuba, Jan. 18.—Hon. Boaz Long, the newly appointed American Minister to Cuba, has presented his credentials to President Menocal. During the ceremony Mr. Long spoke of the friendship existing between the two countries, saying that Cuba's attitude and action in the war brought them even closer together. Mr. Long also stated that, as an American representative in Cuba, his work would be dedicated to the continuance of the cordial relations that have always existed between the two countries.

In accepting Mr. Long as American Minister, President Menocal spoke of the cordial relations between the two countries and of Cuba's action in aligning herself on the side of right and justice in the war, paying the United States high tribute for its part in bringing the war to a victorious end.

Theatre Company Going to Cuba.

MADRID, Sunday, Jan. 18.—The Para Theatrical company will sail for Cuba on the steamer Montevideo, which is scheduled to leave Cadiz on January 25.

PERU RICH IN MINERALS RARELY FOUND ELSEWHERE

Vanadium, Tungsten, Molybdenum and Mica All Found in Paying Quantities—Growing Use of These Metals Noted.

By DR. EMILIO DEL SOLAR,

Second Secretary of the Peruvian Embassy, Washington, D. C. Specially written for the Latin-American Section of THE SUN.

The mineral wealth of Peru is an undisputed fact, and this statement is borne out by the opinions of all experts and is also the verdict of Raimondi, who can be said to have practically surveyed the whole of Peru. In his work "Minerals of Peru" he says that "Peru is without doubt one of the richest countries in mineral production and that the abundance and variety of minerals which are to be found in all parts of the territory are indeed amazing."

Statistics on mining reveal the astonishing progress achieved by this industry. From 1903 to date the production of the various mines has increased approximately sevenfold.

The production of vanadium, of which Peru practically possesses the monopoly, was about 80 per cent. of the world production in 1907, and this has since been increased to about 90 per cent., the first ten years having yielded 22,870 tons, which produced 9,157 tons of pure vanadium.

The most important vanadium deposit in Peru and undoubtedly in the world is that at Minasragra. These deposits are worked by the American Vanadium Company, an organization which deserves all credit for having successfully initiated the mining of this useful metal. It may be said that the greater number of foreign mining concerns in Peru are American and that they have obtained the most gratifying results.

Though the production of vanadium ores fluctuates greatly from year to year, from 1911 to 1915 the output averaged nearly 2,000 tons. The value of vanadium produced in 1917, which was exported almost entirely to the United States, has been estimated at $1,500,000 for 4,272 tons. The taxes the Government received on this product exceeded $21,000.

The principal use of vanadium and that which economically gives the best returns is its union, even in small proportions, with steel, to which it gives greater strength and ductibility as well as an increased power to resist shock and the effects of vibration and friction. The use of the metal has become general during the last few years, contrary to what was expected when it was first discovered, when it was considered merely a laboratory curiosity, being later employed in the decoration of fine china and in dyeing certain weaves.

The superior quality of Peruvian tungsten was proved when the mines in Peru were being worked at a profit though the market price stood at $6 per unit. Although in recent times the cost of production has increased the mineral can still be delivered at the port of shipment at from $8 to $9 a unit, and notwithstanding the heavy sea freights the metal can be placed in New York at from $11 to $12.

Should there be a serious fall in the price of tungsten as a consequence of the ending of the war it should be remembered that its uses are not confined solely to war purposes, but are also applicable to different industries, such as the manufactures of machinery, tools and hardware, motor valves—one of its most recent applications—and electric lamp filaments. Its salts, especially tungstate of sodium, are used in the dyeing and printing of fabrics and in the preparation of certain vivid colors as well as in the fireproofing of different materials.

Tungstate of barium is recommended as a white paint instead of white lead owing to its harmlessness, durability and greater covering and surfacing qualities. Another of the peculiarities of tungsten, which it shares with vanadium, is the hardening of iron and steel.

Molybdenum is found in different localities of the coast and "Sierra" of Peru, the deposits of Ricran, near Jauja in the Department of Junin, being, according to experts, of much importance. It is calculated that these deposits contain a considerable portion of gangue with an average of 5 per cent. of molybdenum. Although this mineral abounds in Ricran, the production has not increased since only the rich deposits have been worked, the mineral being separated by hand. Peru furnished 80 per cent. of the total world production of molybdenum.

The industrial applications of molybdenum are very various. Its use was previously confined to the elaboration of molybdenite of ammonia, a reactive for phosphoric acid and its alkaloids and of molybdenate of sodium, which was used and still is, though less than formerly, for obtaining the blue tint in ceramics and in dye works for coloring silks and other textiles. It is now used for the manufacture of smokeless powder.

Mica, another mineral product of Peru, is composed of a group of rock-forming minerals, variously disseminated, some of which have commercial possibilities which have, within the last few years, been much in demand and have obtained relatively high prices in the markets of the world.

The principal uses of mica are in connection with electrical apparatus as an isolating material, since it is a bad conductor of electricity, while the smooth flexible sheets are much used in the construction of armatures for dynamos and other electrical machinery. Mica is also largely used as a substitute for glass in stove windows, furnace peep-holes and for lamp chimneys and as burners, due to its transparency and its resistance to heat and sudden changes in temperatures.

LATEST NEWS NOTES OF LATIN AMERICA

BOLIVIA—Great opposition is being manifested by the clergy against the reform in the civil code which is under consideration by Congress. The basis for this hostility is a feature which in the future will make it impossible for priests to act as executors of estates. In the past the church has been able to secure no small amount of revenue through opportunities afforded by the settlement of estates through its officials and the prohibition planned will probably prove to be a great detriment to the acquisition of wealth by the church.

Another project of the Government which has aroused much comment is the proposal to give a contract to the Elan Contracting Company of the United States for extensive sanitary works in the capital. Recent epidemics have been so severe that all citizens are convinced of the necessity of some important sanitary undertaking but opinion differs as to the wisdom of granting work to the North American company.

ECUADOR—The recent unprecedented snowfall which took place in the capital and environs has been found to have done considerable damage to the fruit crop. Cool weather at this time of the year is almost unknown, and the unseasonable arrival of this snowfall, which lasted several hours, took the fruit growers by surprise.

COLOMBIA—Senor Buckar, a sanitary engineer in the employ of the Compania del Acueducto, has returned from Panama, where he has been making an extensive study of the Panamanian water system with the idea of applying the principals used there to the Barranquilla water system, which is soon to be installed. Plans which have been prepared by him have been approved by the Consejo Municipal of this city, funds have been provided and the purchase has already been undertaken of the necessary construction material and implements, most of it in the United States. The project as planned will secure for Barranquilla the most efficient and modern water supply of any city in Colombia and it is expected will give this city an advantage over Cartagena as a port of entry for foreign merchandise, inasmuch as foreign companies will prefer to establish agencies here rather than in Cartagena.

BRAZIL—A number of Government schools have been closed for some time as a result of the discovery that they were being used as propagating centres for Bolshevist doctrines. In several instances it has been found that the teachers were guilty of this offence and as a result a careful examination is being made of the political ideas of all teachers.

VENEZUELA—An offer is being made by the Government to stimulate the purchase of portions of the Government debt by local capitalists. Statistics have been prepared by the Minister of Hacienda which show that the original debt of Bs 140,000,000 has been reduced during the last decade to about Bs 80,000,000 and the interest and amortization service now requires only about Bs 5,953,000 annually. This sum is secured by a guaranteed allocation of 25 per cent. of the customs revenues, which is more than ample to meet the payments required.

In addition to the fact that the investments in Government bonds will be quite secure it is pointed out that those who have bought these bonds in the past two years are making a very presentable profit. From the reports of the Council of Foreign Bondholders it is seen that the quotations of Venezuelan bonds have risen continuously since 1914, when they were listed at Bs 50.00 until at the present time they are sold at approximately 85.00. With the prospects that interest payments will be kept up there is every reason for expecting that investors can count on an appreciation of 2 points a year for several years more, which, added to the interest payments of 3 per cent., makes a return of about 5 per cent. Bonds bought at 60.00 are therefore yielding about 8 1-3 per cent.

It is accordingly expected that with these statistics as a basis the Government will meet with at least moderate success in its efforts to persuade local capitalists to invest in the Government debt. If these efforts are successful to any marked degree they will be of considerable benefit to the country, for it will bring about the retention of interest payments within the confines of the country and will also increase the desire of the citizens to participate in the Government and therefore stimulate a desired stability.

COLOMBIA — Colombian importers are much pleased with the report that the Government is to issue a decree permitting foreign exporters to consign goods destined to this country "to order." At present this country bears the unenviable distinction of being in a class with Venezuela, Panama and Santo Domingo, the only other countries where this common commercial custom has not been in vogue.

As a result Colombian importers whose credit is not known to foreign manufacturers have had difficulties in filling their orders, for too many times it has happened that unscrupulous Colombian merchants have ordered goods sent payment to be made against documents and when the goods arrived they refused to accept or pay the drafts as the case might be. Since the law enforced the drawing up of the bills of lading to them as consignees it was an easy matter for them to prove their identity to the custom house officials and, paying the slight fine necessary as a result of their not having the bills of lading, they secured the goods. Efforts of the collecting banks to secure payment of the drafts would of course be ineffectual and the defrauding merchants would secure the goods without due settlement. As a result of a number of such instances foreign exporters have become wary of shipping goods to customers whose reputation they were not sure of, and imports into Colombia have accordingly suffered.

To a certain extent these difficulties have been obviated by the method evolved by exporters whereby goods were consigned directly to the collecting bank, but this has not been wholly satisfactory, and it is expected that the new provision, if it goes into force, will prove of great advantage. It is not known how soon the decree will be promulgated, but it is stated that messages have already been sent to Consul Generals in a number of countries to permit the shipping of goods "to order."

CHILE—The shipment of Chilean wine to Mexico which took place early last month is stated to be the first export of this character which has ever been made to the Mexican republic. It is expected, however, that it is only the beginning of many similar shipments, not only to Mexico, but also to Central America, Brazil, Colombia and Ecuador, all countries in which viticulture has not yet become important.

Next to Argentina, Chile is now the greatest wine producing country in South America. Production amounts to about 3,000,000 hectoliters annually, and developed vineyards are worth anywhere from $500 to $2,500 a hectare.

The wine making industry is most developed in the provinces of Santiago, O'Higgins and Colchagua, especially near the Maipu River. The wine is made and bottled or casked in some instances by the vineyard owners, in other cases by cooperative societies made up of a number of producers. There are a few foreign capitalists interested in the wine industry, but most of the undertakings are financed by local companies or individuals, and in some cases these represent an investment of from $200,000 to $1,000,000.

Up till recently the wine exports have amounted to only a few thousand dollars annually, but a campaign of publicity is being undertaken in the countries previously mentioned and it is expected that a great increase in exportation will result in the future.

ARGENTINA—It is reported that the negotiations which have been carried on for some time past for the acquisition of the capital necessary to construct the proposed railroad from Salta to Antofagasta will soon be carried to a successful conclusion. The capital involved is said to be in the neighborhood of $25,000,000 and the length of the line will be 700 miles.

The promoters of the new line claim that through its construction the time required to go between this city and New York will be cut down two days, and in anticipation of the probable growth in the use of this route the Chilean Government has already started extensive port improvements at Antofagasta, the Pacific terminus of the new transandean railroad.

It is also expected that the development of the States of Salta and Tucuman will be stimulated, for vast agricultural regions now inaccessible will be opened up. It is further pointed out that the new route will be of value to the sugar raisers of Tucuman, for it will furnish easy communications with the nitrate fields of Chile.

Brazilian Prelate Honored.

ROME, Jan. 18.—Mgr. Bernardi, who was recently appointed by the Vatican to a high post in Brazil, was consecrated Bishop last Friday by Cardinal Ranuzzi. Those present at the ceremony included the Secretary of the Brazilian Embassy to the Quirinal, Cardinal Cagiano de Azevedo and Archbishops Vasconcellos and Verili.

Expedition to South America.

LONDON, Jan. 18.—Dr. and Mrs. Gustaf Dolinder, the former a leading Swedish scientist, will start this month on an ethnographical and archæological expedition to the northern part of South America, according to Stockholm advices. The chief object of the trip will be to study Indian tribes in the vicinity of the Magdalena River.

Chile Plans Air Mail Service.

SANTIAGO, Chile, Jan. 18.—The Minister of the Interior has asked the Ministers at London and Paris for reports on the best systems for the organization of an aerial mail service. The President of the Republic officiated at the opening of a porcelain manufactory during the week.

So. American Exchange

	Cables.	Demand.
Argentine (gold)	98.50	98.36
Argentine (currency)	43.50	43.36
Brazil (milreis)	27.85	27.75
Uruguay	105.25	104.75
Colombia		99.00
Ecuador		2.13
Nicaragua		1.00
Peru		4.74
Venezuela		5.15
Bolivia		3.40

Argentina Firebugs Use Burning Glasses

BUENOS AIRES, Jan. 18.—Explaining the mysterious manner in which wheat stacks have been burned in Cordoba, despatches from that province say that the agrarian strikers are using magnifying glasses to set the stacks afire. The glasses are placed in position during the night, the despatches assert, and, catching the rays of the sun in the daytime, produce combustion.

Incendiarism in Cordoba and Buenos Aires provinces continues.

Latin American Shipping Notes

The United States Shipping Board is establishing direct representation at the principal foreign ports. Havana will be a general agency for Cuba and Panama for the Canal Zone. The functions of the Shipping Board representatives in these ports will be supervisory only and steamers will as heretofore be consigned direct to the agents of our American operating firms. Shipping Board representatives will supervise the handling of our steamers by operators' representatives as regards despatch, homeward cargoes, repairs and supplies. In the case of the latter two items it is proposed that they will take direct charge where conditions warrant.

The United States Shipping Board announces the present plans for the passenger service to the East Coast of South America:

Five steamers, maintaining a two weekly service between New York, Rio de Janeiro, Santos, Montevideo and Buenos Aires.

South bound these vessels will proceed directly to Rio de Janeiro. North bound they will call at St. Thomas for fuel. The five vessels selected for this service are all ex-German steamers of fifteen knots speed—the Aeolus, Huron, Pocahontas, Dekalb and Princess Matoika. The Huron, Dekalb and Aeolus have been returned from the army and are now being reconditioned. The Huron is expected to be ready for service in April and the Dekalb and Aeolus in May. The Princess Matoika and the Pocahontas will be returned from the army shortly. They are all being completely remodeled and will be converted to burn fuel oil. Their accommodations will be first class in every respect and part of their cargo holds will be refrigerated to care for the movement of perishable products.

The board regards the passenger service to South America as of paramount importance and pending the reconditioning of the five steamers mentioned above is doing what it can to provide a temporary service. The Moccasin, a twelve and a half knot ship, sailed from New York December 29. The Callao will follow early in March, and it is hoped to secure temporary use of one of the vessels now in the army transport service to fill the gap and maintain for the present at least a monthly sailing. It is recognized that vessels of the Moccasin and Callao type are not suitable for this service, but it seemed wise to begin by even a temporary expedient.

Freight Service, East Coast—For the calendar year of 1919, 100 Shipping Board steamships were despatched from United States ports to Brazil carrying a total of 444,400 tons of cargo; to the River Plate 129 steamships with 689,600 tons of cargo. Of these steamships twenty-one proceeded from the Plate to Europe on their homeward voyages carrying approximately 169,000 tons of cargo, and the remainder to the United States, with homeward cargoes totalling 588,000 tons. We are planning to inaugurate a regular monthly service between the River Plate, Antwerp and other European ports in February and will place on this run refrigerated cargo capable of lifting approximately 3,000 tons of frozen beef, loading such general cargo as may be available.

Further, cargo steamers will be added to this service from time to time, there being an ample reserve to care for cargo offerings.

Passenger Service, West Coast—Following its policy of encouraging established American steamship companies rather than competing with them the board will place in service, under the management of Messrs. W. R. Grace & Co., the Santa Theresa and the Santa Elisa, both thirteen knot ships, now reconditioning after release from army service. These, together with the Santa Luisa and the Santa Ana, now operated by Messrs. W. R. Grace & Co., are combination freight and passenger vessels built especially for this trade. They will call at Callao, Arica, Iquique, Valparaiso, and will furnish a sailing every two weeks from New York. A sister ship, the Santa Leonora, still in the army service, will be added to these as soon as possible.

Freight Service, West Coast—During the calendar year 1919 sixty-two Shipping Board steamships loaded from United States ports to the west coast, carrying 179,000 tons southbound and 186,000 tons northbound. Such additional cargo steamships as this business requires will be allocated as needed.

The agent for the Compagnie Generale Transatlantique announces that an extension of their line has been made to Chile. This is a monthly service from Havre, France, to Valparaiso, Chile, via the Panama Canal, Callao, Mollendo, Arica and Antofagasta, carrying only freight.

The steamship St. Louis, which will inaugurate the new service, will be one of the largest and fastest steamships passing through the Panama Canal to the west coast of South America. It was recently built in France and has a carrying capacity of 10,712 tons. It will pass through the canal the first of the year with a full cargo for the Pacific coast.

Prince on Way to Honduras.

STOCKHOLM, Jan. 18.—Prince William of Sweden left here last Sunday for Honduras at the head of a scientific mission.

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PERU TO EXTEND RAILROAD SYSTEM

Great Economic Development Expected to Follow.

Peruvians look forward to the completion of fully 2,000 kilometers of railway during the next year. What this will mean to the economic development of the country cannot be overestimated, according to Dr. Fernando C. Fuchs, Minister of Finance, who stopped in New York, now in Washington, where he heads the Peruvian financial delegation.

"Peru is at a landmark of development," Dr. Fuchs said. "During the next year not only will this tremendous expansion of railways take place, but there also will be extensive work in sanitation carried on in all cities of Peru as well as public road building and dock construction of a magnitude such as we have not before experienced.

"We are going to do some work in the mines and establish steel and iron mills to handle the output. Economically and financially we are well situated, but we will need money from the United States to enable us to accomplish all that we have in view. The two countries have been knitting their interests until we are very close now in spirit. The war also drew us nearer each other. My countrymen have a great love for America."

It will be remembered in mining circles that Mr. Fuchs is member of long standing of the American Mining Institute and has written numerous articles on Peruvian mining conditions for American technical publications.

With Dr. Fuchs are Dr. Pedro Davalos y Lisson and Ricardo Bullen. They were met at the dock on their arrival by a representation from the Peruvian Embassy and Consulate here.

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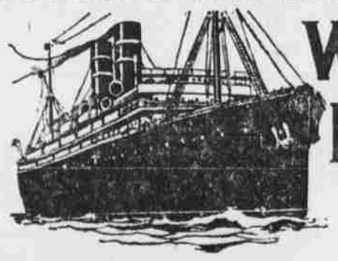

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