

that country now before the senate is ratified. The Mexican trouble has made negotiations with that government impossible for the present. The seven countries remaining in Europe which have not yet signed peace treaties still have them under consideration, and Secretary Bryan is hopeful that they will be approved when the peace of Europe is restored.

It seems like poetic justice that fate so shaped it that Mr. Bryan should have the opportunity to sign these treaties, having originated the plan and having worked unceasingly to bring it to a success. Had he been elected president he could not himself have signed the treaties, and probably had he been president he would never have been secretary of state. There is no time limit to these documents, and who can say that the name of William Jennings Bryan will not throughout the future stand recorded in practically every chancellery of the world!

Great minds all over the world believe these treaties will go far toward making war a remote possibility, for it will be difficult to engage in war after a year's deliberation. Nor is it fair to assume that the present war necessarily will produce disdain of treaty obligations; on the contrary, the horror which has ensued from violation of treaty obligations is likely to strengthen immeasurably every treaty Mr. Bryan has made.

THE WAY OUT

[From The Literary Digest for July.]

There is a way out, says the Chicago Tribune; "the gate is open, but it is the gate of compromise." And it continues:

"The question is whether the United States stands ready to insist upon the full measure of its rights as a neutral and to enforce such rights to the uttermost, or finds it consistent with its honor, its duty, and its interests to forego a full enjoyment of its legal rights in favor of an agreement which in fact will protect its citizens and avoid danger or certainty of a resort to extreme measures.

"The question is one which challenges both the pride and pacific intent of the American people. There is a profound reluctance in the nation to being drawn into the European vortex on any pretext. There is, except among minorities of ardent partisans, a disposition to see rights and wrongs on both sides. There is a realization that the rigors of a desperate conflict have tempted or forced all the belligerents into breaches of technical law and even into infringement of right. There is a profound revulsion against German submarine tactics on grounds of humanity. There is also resentment against England for its illegal interference with our commerce. There is, however, a sane recognition of the pressure upon both combatants, and, we believe, an equally sane sense of proportion concerning our own interests and necessities as involved in the conflict.

"There is, in short, we are confident, no disposition to undertake a war for the sake of enforcing a right whose exercise we can substantially enjoy by any reasonable concession. There is no disposition among the people generally to take up arms for the rights of Americans to travel on ships conveying ammunition to belligerents if a fair alternative in fact exists."

Such is the position of ex-Secretary Bryan, who said in a statement which the Milwaukee Sentinel calls "the sanest, soundest, fairest, and most sensible utterance as yet from any public man":

"I believe that a large majority of the people will heartily approve any steps that the president may see fit to take to keep Americans out of the danger-zone or separate passengers from contraband, especially from ammunition. It is not a sacrifice of rights to avoid unnecessary risks."

COUNSEL THE DEMOCRATS "SCORNED"

Lincoln Cromwell of New York, at a recent gathering of manufacturers, complained bitterly because the Wilson administration "scorned the counsel of business men in framing its tariff, warning them away from Washington as if, one and all, they were robber barons." Mr. Cromwell stated the facts fairly well, but he neglected to add, for purposes that will be readily conceived, to state that the business men whose counsel was scorned were those who had written the tariffs of 1897 and 1909 for their own benefit and that those who were warned away were the manufacturers who had hired lobbyists in and out of government employ to gain special advantages for themselves.

Endorse Work of Pan-American Conference

The following is a statement issued from Washington, D. C., under date of August 5, 1915:

Secretary McAdoo today announced that pledges of cordial co-operation are being received from all the countries of Central and South America for the continuation of the work of the Pan-American Financial conference. Each American republic is evincing deep and intense interest in practical methods to take up the work where the conference left off and thus establish closer and stronger financial and trade relations between the United States and Latin America, for which purpose the conference was called.

This wholesome spirit of optimism in the future economic relations of the Americas as a result of the conference is reflected in cable correspondence between President Wilson and the presidents of the republics of Latin America. Impressed with the outcome of the conference, President Wilson cabled the president of each of the eighteen countries which participated in the meeting, expressing the appreciation of the United States government and his own thanks for the material aid lent to the success of the conference by the distinguished delegates from Latin America and added: "The patriotic and intelligent labors of this conference of leading men from our sister republics of Central and South America will, I feel assured, bear early and beneficial fruits and lead to increased mutual prosperity."

Responses to this cablegram express the thanks of those governments for the warm welcome extended to their representatives by the United States and further show that the conference has struck a friendly and responsive chord throughout the western hemisphere.

Extracts from the replies of the various chief executives of Latin America follow:

President V. de la Plaza, of Argentina: "I share the opinion of Your Excellency and confidently believe that the labors of the assembly will prove highly beneficial to the solidarity of the American republics, stimulating the economic bonds necessary for their mutual development."

President Ismael Montes, of Bolivia: "I have the honor to express my thanks for the cordial welcome extended by Your Excellency and by your enlightened government to the delegation of Bolivia, and to give utterance to the confident belief I entertain as to the wholesome influence which the labors of the conference, intelligently carried out, will have on the relations and common prosperity of the three Americas."

President Wenceslao Braz P. Gomes, of Brazil: "I congratulate Your Excellency most warmly on the success of the labors of the conference, which, I feel assured, will produce early and profitable results and concur toward the greater prosperity of all the American republics."

President Ramon Barros Luco, of Chile: "On behalf of the government of Chile, I take pleasure in offering Your Excellency my most sincere congratulations for the success of the Pan-American Financial conference, recently held in Washington, and at which resolutions of such vast moment to the commercial and economic development of the nations of America were adopted."

President Jose Vicente Concha, of Colombia: "I trust that the results of the conference will be in keeping with the noble wishes of Your Excellency and will further the prosperity of all the nations of this continent."

President Alfredo Gonzalez, of Costa Rica: "I feel highly gratified at the brilliant success of the conference so opportunely initiated by Your Excellency, for the purpose of bringing about in a practical manner the development and expansion of our commercial relations."

President Mario G. Menocal, of Cuba: "It is most gratifying to me to know that our delegates lent their material aid to the success of the conference and I trust that the work rendered by the distinguished delegates from all the American republics will bring about a closer commercial relation and an era of greater prosperity for all of them."

President J. I. Jimenez, of the Dominican republic: "I am grateful for the expressions of your favorable impressions regarding the aid lent by our delegate to the Financial congress, and I entertain the hope that the countries lying between the Behring and Magellan straits may derive great advantages from it and thus increase their prosperity."

President Leonidas Plaza, of Ecuador: "My government, in sending its delegates to the conference of American financiers, felt certain that it would bear great fruit in establishing closer commercial relations among the nations of our continent. The favorable impressions of Your Excellency on the results attained are highly gratifying to me."

President Manuel Estrada Cabrera, of Guatemala: "I likewise take special pleasure in expressing my sincere congratulations to the government and people of the United States for the success attained by the conference, and for the beneficial results which we believe will, beyond doubt, soon flow from it and lead to increased mutual prosperity. My government and people were highly honored by Your Excellency's kind invitation to Guatemala to take part in the conference, and I share Your Excellency's good wishes that patriotic and intelligent labor of the nature referred to may crown its work and thus bring about an extension of commerce and of the magnificent relations which in this respect unite the countries of North, Central and South America."

President F. Bertrand, of Honduras: "The government of Honduras views with great pleasure the brilliant success which has attended the praise-worthy initiative of Your Excellency in calling the American republics together in a meeting from which we confidently expect the most fruitful of results. For these reasons, I pray Your Excellency to accept my very warm felicitations and most cordial wishes for the closer relationship and prosperity of all the nations of the continent."

President Adolfo Diaz, of Nicaragua: "We have looked upon the conference as a promise of the most gratifying consequence for the prosperity and closer friendship of all the nations of America."

President Belisario Porras, of Panama: "I cordially appreciate the cablegram of Your Excellency, and am most happy to know that Your Excellency considers that the delegates of Panama to the Financial congress rendered valuable assistance in the great work conceived by the illustrious and just government of Your Excellency for the establishment of closer relations between the great American republic and her sisters of the same continent."

President Eduardo Schaerer, of Paraguay: "In thanking Your Excellency for these courteous expressions, I avail myself of the opportunity to utter the very sincere wish that the results of the conference will be fruitful in the establishment of closer friendly relations and in the creation of economic and financial ties among our sister nations."

President Benavides, of Peru: "I am certain that results beneficial to all the countries of America will be derived from the happy initiative of Your Excellency in calling a conference which in cementing the spirit of Pan-American solidarity marks a new era in the economic development and prosperity of the continent."

President Carlos Melendez, of Salvador: "In voicing the sincere hope that the success of the conference, held under the auspices of Your Excellency's government may correspond to the lofty motives which inspire its inception, I avail myself of this exceptional opportunity to renew to Your Excellency the assurances of my high and distinguished consideration."

President Feliciano Viera, of Uruguay: "The co-operation furnished by the Uruguayan government has been an affirmation of the solidarity of interests and objects which exists among the American countries and a recognition of the prestige and spirit of initiative of the government of the Union. I am glad to share the opinion of Your Excellency that the work of the conference must bear beneficial fruits for the American countries. Permit me to add to these sentiments my wishes for the prosperity of the United States and for the happiness of Your Excellency."

President V. Marquez Bustillos, of Venezuela: "I trust that the final results of this conference, which was promoted and patronized by Your Excellency's noble government, will be worthy fruits of the high practical talent characteristic of the great descendants of Washington, and I am sure that these mutual benefits, while being factors of prosperity, will also constitute a new and strong bond of solidarity between the sister republics of this continent."