

ROOT WILL TAKE TRIP

MISSION IS TO SOLIDIFY SOUTH AMERICAN SENTIMENT

Imposing Squadron of Warships Will Escort Him on Trip to Brazil, Where He Will Preach Alliance to Uphold Monroe Doctrine

Washington, D. C., Dec. 18.—There is a world of politics in Secretary Root's determination to visit Brazil next summer. Its result, it is hoped, will be a hemisphere solidified against European aggression.

As revealed today by an official acquainted with the reasons underlying the secretary's decision, he proposes by his trip:

Object of the Trip

First—To show the people of Brazil and other South American republics that the United States does not assume the role of protector, but considers that the states of the new world should enjoy absolute equality with each other.

Second—To demonstrate that the United States thinks enough of their friendship and good will to warrant attentions such as one nation of Europe shows to another.

Third—By personal explanation to remove the suspicion that territorial aggrandizement is the secret main-spring of the policy of the United States.

Fourth—From this demonstration of friendship and good will and acknowl-

edgment of equality to obtain a recognition of the obligations as well as the benefits which the Monroe doctrine imposes upon the Latin American states and to insure their cordial support of it. In other words to have an unwritten alliance of the states of the western hemisphere the purpose of which shall be the enforcement of the Monroe doctrine against the world.

South America's Future

The people of the country generally are only beginning to realize the growing importance of South America, but exporters and officials have a keener appreciation of the value, commercially and politically, of that section of the world. They have had an opportunity to study the development of such countries as Brazil, Argentina and Chile, they see the wonderful strides those states have made, and they anticipate a great future for them. They also have come in contact with the activity of the trading nations of Europe—Germany, Great Britain and Italy.

Exporters believe the United States should not permit European goods to obtain such a firm foothold that they cannot be shaken loose. Officials hold the United States should not allow Europe to acquire a preponderating influence in the southern republics so they could be turned against us and serve as a balance of power.

Thus the pocketbook and political self-interest demand a change of policy on the part of the United States.

Root to Pay Court in State

It is these considerations which have made Secretary Root conclude it is worth while to pay court to South America. He will go to Rio de Janeiro, the capital of Brazil, when the Pan-American congress is in session.

Secretary Root will not be a delegate. He will attend the conference, meet the representatives of the Latin-American states, confer with Baron Rio-Branco, the Brazilian minister for foreign affairs, and perhaps with ministers of the same rank from the other countries. He will go on a United States transport, and will be escorted by a squadron of first class warships, probably the latest armored cruisers. It will be a demonstration worthy of the nation making it, and a compliment to the nations for which it is made.

Guardians of the Doctrine

In his annual message President Roosevelt said there were certain republics to the south of us which already had reached such a point of stability, order, and prosperity that they themselves, though as yet hardly consciously, were among the guarantors of this doctrine. The republics to which the president referred are Brazil, Argentina and Chile, and his declaration was no new thing to them. In personal conversations with the ambassador from Brazil, the minister from Argentina, and the minister from Chile the president had spoken of the development of their respective countries and of the new position these countries occupied with respect to the Monroe doctrine. To the Argentine minister he made statements which created something of a sensation in South America. The minister made a report to his government which was quoted by Don Carlos Sallia, recently charge d'affaires, in his annual report of the relations of the United States and Argentina, just published at Buenos Ayres.

An Unbeliever

"That isn't Santa Claus!" exclaimed Tommy Taddells when he caught sight of Kris Kingle's head at the school celebration.

"Why, what do you mean, Tommy?" asked the little boy's mother.

"Cause he's a football player. I can tell by his hair."

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Mr. Berge, the author, was candidate for governor of Nebraska in 1904. He made the railroad question the principal issue of this campaign. He has given it exhaustive study and no one is better able to write upon this subject than he is.

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929 O Street, Lincoln, Neb.

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