and Make Awards.

TWENTY PER CENT OF TOTALS ALLOWED and had proceeded so far as to purchase

Two Years Since Blockade See Much Effort in the Way of Peaceful Settlement of International Difficulty.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 30.-(Special)-The inst chapter to the stirring pegotiations between the United States and other powers on the one hand and Venezuela on the other, growing out of claims of citizens and according to the stipulations of the against the latter government, has been protocols the courts must have determined

written. Eleven tribunals, clothed with full powers to whose decisions upon controverted ques- pire, within six months of the date of subfions must be final, have beld sessions during a period of six months in Caracas; the Morris, attorney for the United States, precommissioners have listened to evidence ensured by the cord in typewritten pa- 799.25. Four of these claims were withpers and rendered opinions, and the umpires have, save in a few pending matters, determined all questions upon which the commissioners were unable to reach an agreement.

Claims aggregating approximately 200,-000,000 have poured into the hopper of the arbitration threshing machine and all but 20 per cent has been blown into the air or fallen as chaff upon the stack denominated "disallowances." Of grain, in the form of eash awards, the threshing process dereloped approximately \$6,000,000, or 20 per cent of the amount claimed.

All that now remains to be done is the payment of the cash as it shall accumulate. seconding to the provisions of the pro-Venezuela, hounded by insistent creditors in eleven countries, demanding eartefaction and presenting claims for large amounts, backed in many instances by threats, finally culminating in forcible attempts to collect the bills by the blockade process at the mundle of twelve-inch guns, finds gratification in the consciousness that the worst is over and that she knows where she is at. Knowing this she has interfere until the ten commissioners had resolutely set about squaring all obligations as determined by the arbitration boards. On the other hand citizens of eleven countries holding claims covering a period of three-quarters of a century, find comfort in the knowledge that they are to sective what rightfully belongs to them. Twentieth Century Methoda.

Settlement of disputed questions by means of arbitration is the twentieth century hands of Dr. Arroye, the Venezuelan method of determining international con- agent. The latter, after opportunity to prepare his argument, presented his side of versies properly coming within its scope, but history will record the recent deliberations at Caracas, participated in by the principal civilized nations of the earth, as, perhaps, the most unique diplomatic spec- evidence and argument of counsel, retired and privately went over the evidence in the cle of modern times. Here, at one sitting, it may be said, the government of Venezuela wipes off her debtor slate and were very voluminous, there being more finally disposes of all claims of whatsoever papers in several of the cases than a pernature of citizens of every country in the son could carry at one time. world against that government. The gritty After due deliberation the commissioners little republic at the south stands with had a joint conference with a view to clean hands before the world, financially reaching, if possible, a basis of agreement. speaking. Actual payment of the cash has As stated, in forty-one out of fifty-one t been made, but that is a mere matter cases actually tried they were successful. of detail and a few months' time. Every account has been adjudicated, save a few agree, one commissioner wrote the opinion, now in the hands of umpires, whose deone will be final, and the commissioners, umpires, agents, attorneys, secretaries, out intervention on the part of the umpire and the American commissioner wrote the interpreters and clerke have nearly all re-

turned to their various homes. stally, it may be said that the ment and Dr. Paul wrote the opinion. It United States emerges from the controve er with added prestige, influence and interna- that a snag was encountered and the good tional esteem, not only by reason of having figurarly because of the high plane of exact justice by which claims of

The incident has clearly demonstrated een hours a day to conclude the work e superiority of arbitration over guns as within the time limit. The umpire is aldebt collector, both from the standpoint lowed six months from the date of disa soonomy and of equity. The net cost of agreement of the commissioners in which ection has been but a fraction of the to render final judgment. His powers pernditure of money, to say nothing of mit him to approve the written opinion the viewpoint of fustice, it has been proven that of either commissioner and from his that whereas the guns proposed to collect findings there is no appeal. 100 per cent of the claims, a tribunal. there was no appeal, after hearing all the co, decided that the amount actually due was but 30 per cent of that demand.

Blockade and Its Ending.

ember 2, 1903, the fleets of the blockding powers, Germany and England-Italy foining a little later-lined up along days when Venezuela fought for independ-Notwithstanding years of internal strife had decimated the the army, and the people were weary of war, the spirit of the Venezuelans was The cry of the people and the nant of the army was "on to Berlin" It was at this functure that the United States tendered its good offices, through Following the declaration of independence, Bowen, and February 17, 1903, the first of the protocols was signed, by terms of which all matters of diswere to be submitted to and adated by eleven courts of arbitration. Thereupon the ships of the blockading

the contending governments each naming the sum of 1347,48.92. The claim was disa commissioner, the third member of the court, or umpire, being chosen by some foreign governments. The personnel of the erican commission was as follows: Dr. Harry Barge, umpire, named by the queen of Holland; Mr. W. E. Bainbridge, comoner on the part of the United States: Dr. Paul, later replaced by Dr. Grisenti, oner on the part of Venesuela; Mr. Robert G. Morris, agent for the United national law that a claim against a govern-States; Dr. Arroyo Barejo, agent for Ven-ment was alive, without limit of time, Don Juan Badron Ustaria, later while in municipal law the rule of proscripreplaced by Don Eduardo Calcado Sana- tion applied after reasonable time. wrin, secretary for Venezuela and Mr. Ru- American commissioner took the view that dolf Doige, secretary for the United States. failure on the part of the claimants to pre-Mr. W. E. Bainbridge of Iowa, the Amer- sent their claims for a long period of time fean commissioner, was formerly second had nullified their claim in accordance with secretary of the American legation at Pe- the rule in municipal law. It was also king and with Minister Conger during the made clear that the commission looked seige, rendering effective service. with disfavor upon a number of claims Later, Mr. Bainbridge was selected by the where citizenship of claimants had not department to join Consul Ragadals of been satisfactorily established. Tien Tain in the settlement of the claims | A single case will filustrate the manner of citizens of the United States against in which many claims have arisen. The Mr. Bainbridge displayed such Venezuelan government granted a concestact and diplomacy in the handling of the sion to an American to erect a market in

END OF VENEZUELAN CLAIMS Chinese matter that the department made Caracan. After the building had been paremerandum to the effect that in the event of complications requiring the ser- bulled. Heavy damages were demanded vices of a diplomat of special qualifica- and the commission allowed claimant \$15,-Commissions of Settlement Concinde Work tions, Mr. Batabridge would have favorable 000 on the ground that the government had Madam Blanvelt Says Gover men. Must

to all other claims combined.

Mr Bainbridge had planned a year

Commissions Begin Work.

drawn. Of the fifty-one cases handled by

the commission one was settled after sub-

mission; twenty-two claims were allowed;

twenty-three cases were disallowed and

four cases are now in the hands of the um-

pire. Of the fifty-one cases actually taken

up by the commission forty-one were set-

tied without the intervention of the umpire.

In ten cases the commissioners were un-

able to agree and the umpire took charge

of the final settlement. The total amount

of all United States claims allowed, ex-

cepting the four in the hands of the um-

pire, was 2531,735.72. Allowing a pro rata

amount in the four pending cases it an-

court of justice. While the umpire did not

exhausted all possibility of agreement, he

sat with them and made notes of all the

Cases Presented at Length.

agent, presented his brief both crally and

in typewritten form, which matter was im-

mediately translated and placed in the

Following complete presentation of each

opinion. The next case was also an agree-

wer not putil slong about the sixth case

offices of Dr. Barge, the umpire, called into

The American cases were so numerous

The claims covered every conceivable

cittzenship, naturalisation, neutrality, etc.,

necessitating most exhaustive research on

Some of the claims were of particular

ence. A typical case, and in fact the one

of earliest date, was that of Admiral Brion,

a patriot of great wealth. He placed his

sword and fortune at the disposal of Gen-

eral Bolivar, the George Washington of

Venezuela, and rendered conspicuous serv-

ice in the war for liberty against Spain.

about 1829, Venezuela sought to repay Ad-

miral Brion for financial advances, and he

was given drafts on a London bank which

failed before the drafts could be presented.

Descendants of Brion who had retained the

drafts, subsequently became naturalized

American citizens, and their heirs brought

suit against the Venezuelan government in

allowed, the opinion being written by the

American commissioner. It may be said in

this connection that Mr. Bainbridge's opin-

ion in this case has established a new and

important precedent in international law.

New Point in International Law.

It has, heretofore, been a rule of inter-

since quoted as authority.

of seventy-five years.

American Cases Made Work.

ers shrunk correspondingly.

proceedings in each case.

the case.

abroad for the study of international law, scribed judicial procedure Payments of awards will be made out of CALLS ART EPHEMERAL FAD AT PRESENT ickets for Europe, when drafted by the regular government revenues. According department to undertake the delicate and to the terms of the protocols 30 per cent of extremely difficult task in Veneruela. At the time of the signing of the proto-Puerto Quabello are being set aside for this sols the fact that the claims of American purpose. Funds are accumulating at the citizens, both in complexity and amount. rate of \$160,000 per month.

far exceeded those of any other country. Scope of the Tribunals. was not known, but it developed that the

Some misupprehension as to the purpose American claims were approximately equalof The Hague tribunal and of the arbitration commissions at Caracas, in connection with claims against Venezuela, ap-The commissions convened June 1, 1908, pears to exist in the public mind. Briefly stated, the arbitration tribunals at Caracas Lillian Evans Biauveit, accounted one of have dealt exclusively with claims of citthe various cases, so far as might be posmens of England, Germany and Italy, the sible without the intervention of the umblockading powers, and Mexico, Holland, Belgium, Sweden and Norway, France, ton, are staying at the Her Grand. The mission of the evidence in each case. Mr. Spain and the United States against Vesesented fifty-five claims aggregating \$14,088,..

arbitrarily annulled the contract of the

concessionaire without following the pro-

with these matters whatever. The Hague sourt will determine the question of prefrence; that is, which of the powers shall Venezuela shall bear the expenses of England, Germany and Italy, in connection pense is approximately \$200,000.

Some interesting sidelights are thrown Caracas and is now engaged in the preparation of his official report.

pears that claimants received only about per cent of the total amount demanded, The language of the American-Veneafter the merits of the various cases had zuelan court was English. All officials parbeen passed upon by a court under oath to ticinating, save the Venezuelan agent, render exact justice. Claims of other powspoke English and an interpreter immediately translated all statements into Span-The duties of the commissioners were ish for the use of Dr. Arraya. The sessions purely judicial, in fact, the proceedings were all secret. were quite similar to those of an American

last to arrive in Caracas and there apparaments but such offers as they are. Nordica, peared to be no desirable apartments Bispham, myself and others could not within which the sessions might be held, afford to consider them. And yet everythe other governments having pre-empted thing is in the hands of this man, at all available chambers. In this emerg- present, so far as grand opera is converned ency President Castro placed apartments in the United States. in the capitol building at the disposal of The cases were numbered from 1 to E the American commission, a courtesy quite grand 'opera abroad, gaining valuable and docketed. Mr. Morris, the American unprecedented.

Penegueians Were Appreciative.

Mr. Bainbridge emphasizes the fact that and public toward the American commislast fall dispatches were printed in Americase the commissioners, with all of the case, point by point. Many of the cases ever should be given statements made in strong. this paper: that it reflected the views of no one except the editor.

In support of this statement may be cited editorials from the two leading journals in Venezuela. El Progonero says: "When the results of the work of the various When they had agreed, in case they did claims commissions shall become known the country will learn how correctly the American claims commission has proceeded tion. The first case was agreed upon withthroughout and how beneficent its labors have been."

ment organ, in bidding the American commission farewell printed the following: "Tile United States and Veneguela claims commission after seven months of arduous labor terminated its sesions on Saturday the 25th of December. The uninterrupted cordinity which has characterized all the meetings of this important tribunal is an citizens against Venezuela were measured and intricate that the commissioners found swident demonstration of the good faith the learning and the impartiality wherewith the claims submitted to it for determination and decision have been passed every way in accord with the principles of equity imposed by the protocol of Washington, is worthy of the highest praise; the sacrifice of human life, that the gun filed by either commissioner, or he may all claims passed upon have undergone the method would have involved. And, from render a decision totally dissimilar from most careful and minute study, no legitimate right has been disregarded and in the judicial criterion no consideration o force or favor has prevailed, the contending vested with judiciary powers, from which variety of subjects, admiraity, contracts, parties having enjoyed perfect equality. We therefore sincerely congratulate Dr. Harry Barge, umpire; Mr. W. E. Bainbridge, comthe part of the commissioners of internamissioner on the part of the United States; tional law and precedents covering a period | Dr. Carlos Grisanti, commissioner on the part of Venezuela, respectively for the dignified manner and the high plane upon which their difficult functions have been historical interest, dating back even to the

Seut Her Best Men.

Venezuela detailed her ablest men for the American tribunal. Dr. Paul, the commissioner, is a leading publicist and a man of great keenness and learning, while Dr. Arroyo, who presented the Venezuelan side of every case, is the attorney general of the republic and a brilliant and shrewd lawyer. Just prior to the departure of the American party a banquet was tendered them at which time felicitations of the most complimentary character were in-

Mr. Bainbridge asserts that he heard enly favorable comment upon the work of the American umpires to foreign tribunals. It is notewortny that the blockading powers should each have selected a citizen of the sort. General Duffield of Michigan was umpire for the German commission; Dr. Frank Plumley of Vermont for the British and Dutch, and Dr. J. H. Raiston of Washingon for the Italian. It was conceded that the awards made by the American um-

pires were absolutely fair to all. Venezuelans appear to take but comparatively little interest in the Panama-Colombia affair. They consider that Columbia has only herself to blame for the present situation and take the view that Panama has had ample provocation for her acts and that the policy of this government in the affair has been correct.

Mr. Bainbridge is of the opinion that the period of revolutions in Venezuela is nearly if not quite at an end and that alongside Brazil, Chile, Mexico, Argentine and other South American republics that have evolved themselves out of the revolutionary habit. He says that with a stable government the apportunities for the gofftable investment of American capital

n Venezuela are very great, The State department is extremely well pleased with the work of Mr. Balubridge, who more than likely will be drafted for further diplomatic service, a sphere in which he is particularly well qualified to labor. Secretary Hay in commenting upon the excellent account Mr. Bainbridge had given of his stewardship, observed that the work had been well done-that was expected, as a matter of course; a fine compliment in itself-but that the department was particularly well pleased on accounof the expeditious manner in which the delicate and intricate problems involved had been handled by the American com-

Negro Politician's Oratory.

A negro politician in nominating L N. Cry for president of the Muskogee Repubican club delivered himself of the follow-

"Mistah Urah stands fo' de principles desunciated by Lincoln, unanimously adopted by Grant, scrutinized by McKinley and stamped on every nigger by Rooseveit! Kansas City Journal

PLEADS FOR NATIONAL OPERA tially completed the concession was an-

Aid to Insure Success.

the revenues of the ports of La Guayta and Asserts America is Following Lead of Other Countries in Music, but

Has Attained No Bigh

Standard.

Sparkling with an enthusiastic patriotism for things American, sharp criticisms upon the way grand opera is managed at present in this country and brimming with suggestions how to improve the conditions, Mme. the greatest American-born singers, arrived in Omaha Saturday from Des Moines. She and her husband, William F. Pendle soprano will give a recital at Kountre Memorial church Monday evening, it being The Hague tribunal has nothing to do the first time she has sung in Omaha since

"Music," says Mme, Blauveit, "has not yet obtained a foundation in the United get the first handful of cash out of the States At present it is more like an Venezuelan treasury, or whether all the ophemeral fad. In my opinion it never will powers shall share pro rata in the re- amount to anything in the larger sense ceipts. It will also determine whether without the aid of a national home for grand opera, where every word is in English, where the stars are not exploited to with the blockade. The latter bill of ex- the detriment of the ensemble and wheregenius in both composers and musicians may be properly rewarded. If we are ever upon the work of the tribunals at Caracas to rank high in music it must be with the and Venezuelan people by Commissioner assistance of the government. At present Balnbridge, who has just returned from we merely drift and follow the lead of countries where music was ancient before their country was born.

Outlook Not Encouraging.

"As at present conducted in this country grand opera is not promising for the ambitious American girl. Talk you hear of Conried, the successor of Grau and the monopolist of grand opera, encouraging American sigers is grossly exaggerated The American officials were almost the To be sure he has made offers to Ameri-

"Many American girls are signing in Few are on the road to success here.

"While it is absolutely necessary for a singer to go to Europe to achieve the very the attitude of Venezuelan officials, press highest, yet I have decided opinions upon this subject. Girls should not go abroad sion was all that could be desired. During until they have learned all they can at home-and that is everything save the can papers to the effect that great dissatis- finishing and broadening touches. Up to faction with the awards and the policy of this point they can learn as much in the the powers existed, one paper being quoted republic as any place else. Young girls in which very sensational statements were never should go abroad without one made. Mr. Bainbridge was informed by parent. The temptations are many and the Venezueian officials that no attention what- tendency to neglect study and work very

National Opera the Remedy.

"The establishment of the national opera as I have suggested will be the remedy for all the obstacles that now stand in the path of the American girl's success in grand opera. In course of time the states would each have similar centers, all tributary and dependent upon the great center. "High salaries are as necessary to produce extraordinary singers as other conditions. I have no patience with those who El Constitucional, the official governobject, save in rare cases like Adelina Parti, who certainly has exceeded the limit so far as compensation is concerned. The really great singer has to give up even most of the bare comforts of life, and his career, as a rule, is short. Few can last very long

"Every time I come west I notice there are more conservatories and mere persons studying music. This is encouraging but as to their range of accomplishment I have no means of knowing."

Mr. and Mrs. Pendleton will celebrate their fifth wedding anniversary Tuesday. They were married at Rome. band is not a musician. She is an excentionally pretty woman of the brunette type and a charming conversationalist.

Teacher-Johnny, can you tell me what classical music ts? Johnny-Yes, ma'am. It's any kind a fel-

Willie-Don't hit me with that old slipper. It's unlucky to hit any one with : Harry-Gee! Is that so? I must tell

mamma as soon as I get home.

Little Margie had accompanied her mother on a shopping tour and when they were about to return home her mother asked: "Shall we walk or take a car. Marrie?" "Oh!" answered the little miss, "I'd ruszer

walk if 'oo will tarry me." Elmer, aged 4, had been given a piece of shad at dinner, but after a while his mother noticed it still on his plate. "Why, Elmer," she said, "I thought you

were fond of fish." "I am, mamma." replied the little feilow, "but this one is full of splinters."

"Gwan'pa," said 3-year-old Elsie, whose

mamma had been reading Bible stories to her, "was 'oo in ze ark?" "Certainly not, my dear," replied the old gentleman. "Zen," continued the small inquisitor,

'why didn't 'oo det dwound?" The little boy was crying bitterly. The small girl approached and asked, sympa-

"What ails you, boy? Why are you cryng so hard?" "Because mother's gone to heaven." sobbed the child.

"Oh, don't fret so," replied the girl, consolingly, "sure maybe she hasn't."



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abian Curtains, Cluny Curtains, all odd

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