



# BULLETIN

OF THE INTERNATIONAL BUREAU OF THE

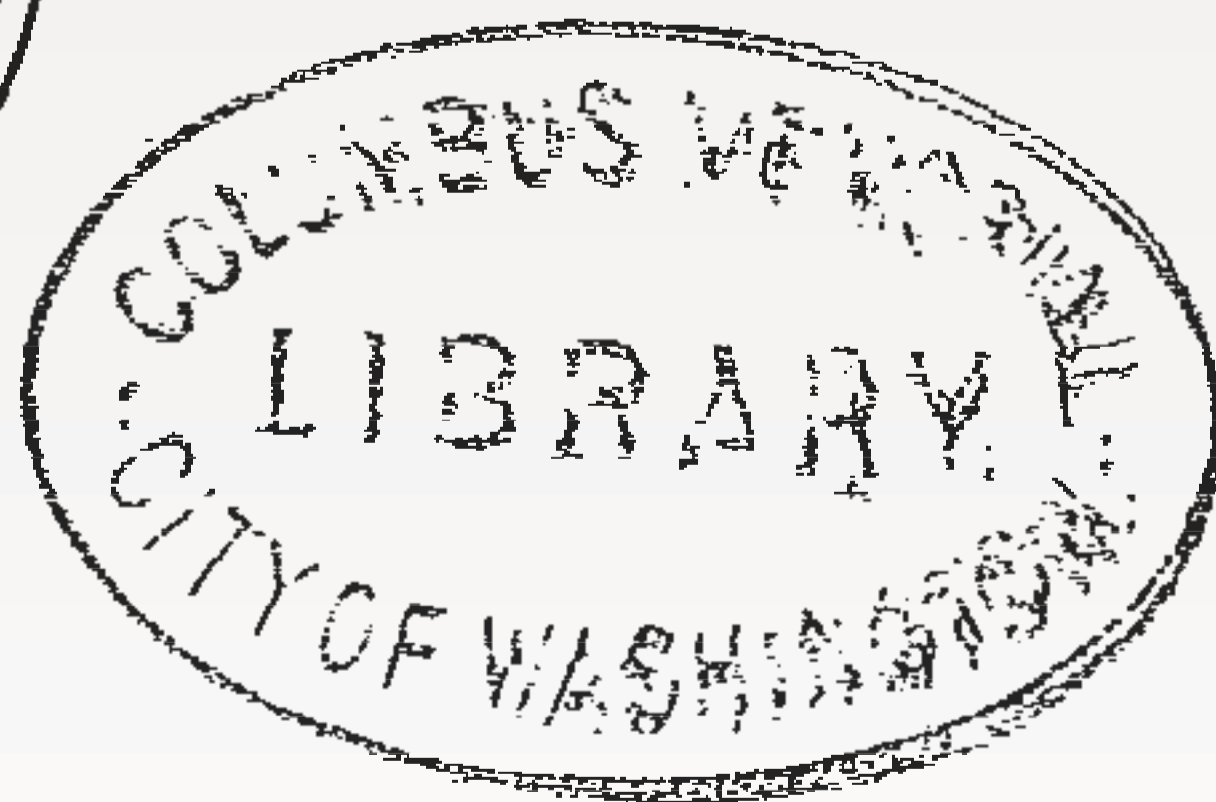
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FRANCISCO J. YÁNES, SECRETARY

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MR. PRESIDENT, MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES, AND GENTLEMEN: This is a great day for our America, when the might of right, gathering its scattered forces, gives a tangible form to a noble ideal, strengthens a useful institution, and tenders a new token of hope and encouragement to those who struggle for the mastery of peace, justice, and love.

The presence on this solemn occasion of the illustrious President of the United States, who has had the kindness to accept the invitation that the Governing Board of the International Bureau of American Republics had the honor to send him, is significant of the importance which the American Government and people attach to the victory won this day, a victory whose high moral meaning makes us forget for a moment the disappointments in our daily strife and gives us courage to go on working, believing, and hoping, as though we lived in the midst of an ideal humanity, far above all destructive passions.

The Latin Republics of this hemisphere who so cordially accepted the idea of erecting the building we dedicate to-day share—as shown by this act—in the fraternal sentiment of the American people who, while still giving ample proof of their splendid vigor and intensity of material life, proclaim at the same time their love for the lofty ideals of the higher standards of life.

History, carrying on every page the imprint of the fierce struggle for life among individuals and among races—by many considered a fatal law—will record this ceremony, exemplifying as it does the common tendencies of the two principal races which people our hemisphere, destined to achieve great deeds in the life of mankind.

Owing to the political and economical scope generally attributed to Pan-Americanism, its fundamental idea has been earnestly discussed; some have censured it, others have praised it, and the rest have considered it as an impossible Utopia.

But, when we mean by Pan-Americanism that community of sentiment, of ideas and aspirations among the American Republics tending to foster cordiality in their friendly relations, tending to strengthen the ties of interests for mutual advantage, thus increasing the respect for the rights of others; when these aspirations, in materializing, in no wise impair the essential right of self-preservation, liberty, independence, and equality before the law of the States—then, indeed, we should joyfully celebrate the completion of the home devoted to such principles.

This is the sound Pan-Americanism which has inspired our International Conferences in their work of harmony and has caused this magnificent palace to rise up, white as the flag of peace, beautiful, and filled with light like the minds of those who conceived the idea thus made a reality. It rests on its solid foundation, as firm as the love of the motherland and of justice existing in each of our countries.

This Pan-Americanism which should be interpreted as a doctrine of love, can not be expounded in an aggressive form or with exasperating exclusiveness. The brotherly feeling which brings us together to-day is not antagonistic to our affections toward those nations who have contributed with their high standards of civilization, by their good example and with their live elements of progress to our material advancement and to the improvement of our intellectual faculties. Their blood is mixed with ours; their capital, their industries, and their artistic culture have been and are elements of our own progress.

One of the most practical forms of this idea has been the creation of the International Bureau of American Republics, a most useful institution devoted to promoting better

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mutual knowledge among the nations in our hemisphere. Its success is due in a large measure to the rare qualifications of its distinguished Director, who has won the respect and affection of the representatives of the several Governments forming the Governing Board of the Bureau.

This mutual understanding, ever increasing among the Republics of America, will contribute to reciprocal esteem and, at the same time, serve to overcome certain prejudices which still exist in some of our countries.

You—Anglo-Saxons, who with your wonderful powers of assimilation have maintained and strengthened your national unity, not only through currents of immigration, which have brought from northern and western Europe elements like those brought to your shores by the first colonists of New England, but also with other elements of entirely different races who come from other lands to your own rich, free country in search of a sure and happy future—you, Anglo-Saxons, and we, who have peopled the Latin-American Republics, have been separated, more than by geographical distances, by feelings that are bound completely to disappear, since they have been gradually doing so as commerce has brought the races nearer together. This has made it evident that, rising above certain inherent deficiencies of human nature, there exist solid qualities in individuals and nations which are well worthy of esteem and admiration.

In such preeminent and practical work the International Bureau of American Republics collaborates by means of a trustworthy, intelligent, and active propaganda.

In praising this work of concord and justice which draws nearer together two great races, not to antagonize and destroy each other but for their better mutual understanding and esteem, we can not forget the name of the great philanthropist who has so magnificently and practically contributed to its realization. It is needless to mention his name; it is in our hearts and minds, and we well know how to appreciate the generous impulse of a life devoted to the noblest of purposes.

It is said of MICHELANGELO that, not finding RAPHAEL in the Farnesina Palace where the mural decoration was being finished by the painter from Urbino, he took a piece of charcoal and drew on the wall a head, which showed his rival that the great artist had been there. This may be applied to the present case; the powerful personality devoted to doing good has left its seal upon the ground of international peace making, as shown in Cartago, Costa Rica, and in The Hague, and future generations will acknowledge the stamp of a firmly directed and nobly inspired will.

The dedication of the Palace of the American Republics takes place in a year of special significance for Latin America. A century ago some of the Republics of this continent declared their independence, and to-day they hasten to celebrate the centennial of this glorious and transcendental event, showing with justifiable pride the moral and material progress they have attained.

Allow me, therefore, as one of the representatives of the nations which commemorate that glorious deed, to evoke the memory of the great heroes whose effigies the guiding mind of this monument has gathered together in the principal gallery of this building as in a grand and solemn assembly. May they be a perpetual example for the nations of America, whose rapid evolution in the sense of real progress clearly appears to the eye of those who study life from a lofty standpoint, permitting the great trail of their onward march to be followed, as it is said of the aeronaut, who on rising in the air views the great currents of the ocean.

Let us earnestly hope, ladies and gentlemen, that the dedication of the Palace of the American Republics may be the starting point of a new era of greater mutual esteem, ever more and more hearty among the nations of this hemisphere, merging their differences in a common ideal of peace, justice, and progress in the same manner in which the architects have so beautifully succeeded in harmonizing in this building, with exquisite art, the severity and grandeur of the American people with the grace and elegance of the Latin-American soul.