



PHOTOGRAPH OF THE DELEGATES

Seated.—(From left to right) Doctors Carlos Graf (Chile), Justo F. González (Uruguay), Andrés Gubetich (Paraguay), Nascimento Gurgel (Brazil), Hugh S. Cumming, Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau (United States of America); Carlos Manuel de Céspedes, Secretary of State of Cuba; Mario G. Lebrede, Chairman of Conference (Cuba); Gregorio Aráoz Alfaro (Argentina), Carlos E. Paz Soldán (Peru), Enrique Tejera (Venezuela), Alfonso Pruneda (Mexico), J. D. Long, Vice Director Pan American Sanitary Bureau (United States of America).

Standing.—(From left to right) Doctors R. Pérez Cabral (Dominican Republic), Domingo F. Ramos (Cuba), Raúl Almeida Magalhães (Brazil), Manuel Márquez Sterling (Pan American Bureau of Cuba), Charles Mathon (Haiti), José de Cubas (Guatemala), Antonio Smith (Venezuela), Diego Tamayo (Cuba), Richard Wilson (U. S. Public Health Service), Leopoldo Paz (Salvador), Arístides Agramonte (Honduras), Francis D. Patterson (United States of America), P. D. Cronin (United States of America), Joaquín Llambías (Argentina), Jaime de la Guardia (Panama), Richard Creel (United States of America), and Francisco María Fernández, Secretary General of the Conference (Cuba).

CONTENTS

	Page
Convocation	7
Delegations	9
Organizing Committee.....	10
Officers of the Conference.....	11
Committees	12
Officials of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau.....	13
Program of Sessions, Visits, Entertainments and Excursions ..	14
Program of the Conference.....	16
Regulations of the Conference	19
Transactions of the Seventh Pan American Sanitary Conference	25
Preliminary Session—November 5, 1924	27
Inaugural Session—November 5, 1924	29
Addresses of the Inaugural Session	29
First Session—November 6, 1924.....	67
Second Session—November 6, 1924	72
Third Session—November 11, 1924	77
Fourth Session—November 13, 1924	85
Fifth Session—November 14, 1924.....	98
Signing of the Pan American Sanitary Code—November 14, 1924	106
Closing Session—November 15, 1924	107
Addresses of the Closing Session	107
Appendix	123
Final Record of Proceedings of the 7th Pan American Sanitary Conference	125
Pan American Sanitary Code.....	134
Appendix of the Code.....	150
Sanitary Convention of Washington.....	155
Draft of a Model Food and Drugs Act	160
Reports of Delegations to the 7th Pan American Sanitary Conference	165
Argentina	165
Chile	180
El Salvador.....	198
United States of America	217
Haiti	242
Uruguay	245
Report of the Director, Pan American Sanitary Bureau, to the 7th Pan American Sanitary Conference.....	270
Index	277

Transactions of the Seventh Pan American Sanitary Conference of the American Republics

HELD IN HAVANA, CUBA
NOVEMBER 5 TO 15, 1924



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PAN AMERICAN SANITARY BUREAU
WASHINGTON, D. C.

PUBLISHED BY THE PAN AMERICAN SANITARY BUREAU,
WASHINGTON, D. C., U. S. A.

OFFICIAL NOTICE OF THE ASSEMBLING OF THE SEVENTH PAN AMERICAN SANITARY CONFERENCE

In accordance with the resolution adopted at the Sixth International Sanitary Conference, held in the City of Montevideo, Uruguay, from December 12 to 20, 1920, the date, November 5 to 15, 1924, has been fixed for the assembling of the Seventh Pan American Sanitary Conference in the City of Havana, Cuba.

The official correspondence in regard to the notice, the provisional program and the provisional rules and regulations for the conduct of the Conference are published herewith.

PAN AMERICAN SANITARY BUREAU

WASHINGTON, D. C., September 18, 1923.

TO THE DIRECTOR GENERAL
OF THE PAN AMERICAN UNION,
Washington, D. C.

SIR:

In accordance with a Resolution adopted at the Sixth International Sanitary Conference, held in Montevideo, Uruguay, December 12 to 20, 1920, I have the honor to request that the official notice of the assembling of the Seventh Pan American Sanitary Conference, to be held in Havana, Cuba, November 5 to 15, 1924, be issued. There is transmitted herewith a copy of the Provisional Program for the Conference and a copy of the Provisional Rules and Regulations for the conduct of the Conference.

It is requested, in accordance with the requirements of Paragraph 5 of the Resolutions relative to Sanitary Policy adopted by the Second International Conference of American States, that you take such measures as may be necessary to notify the Governments concerned, transmitting with the notification copies of the official notice, Provisional Program and the Provisional Rules and Regulations for the conduct of the Conference.

Respectfully,

H. S. CUMMING,
*Director, Pan American Sanitary Bureau,
Surgeon General, United States Public Health Service.*

SEVENTH PAN AMERICAN SANITARY CONFERENCE OF THE AMERICAN REPUBLICS

TO BE HELD IN HAVANA, CUBA, NOVEMBER 5-15, 1924
PAN AMERICAN SANITARY BUREAU OF THE AMERICAN REPUBLICS

WASHINGTON, D. C., September 18, 1923.

In compliance with the resolution adopted at the Sixth International Sanitary Conference of the American Republics, the Seventh Pan American Sanitary Conference of the American Republics will be held in Havana,

Cuba, November 5-15, 1924, under the provisional presidency of Dr. Mario G. Lebrede and the auspices of the Government of Cuba.

A number of important sanitary subjects will be discussed at this Conference, and it is expected that all the nations interested will be duly represented.

L. S. ROWE,
Director General, Pan American Union.

DELEGATIONS

ARGENTINA	{	DR. GREGORIO ARÁOZ ALFARO
		DR. JOAQUÍN LLAMBÍAS
BRAZIL	{	DR. NASCIMENTO GURGEL
		DR. RAÚL ALMEIDA MAGALHÃES
CHILE		DR. CARLOS GRAF
COLOMBIA		DR. R. GUTIÉRREZ LEE
COSTA RICA		DR. JOSÉ VARELA ZEQUEIRA
		DR. MARIO G. LEBREDO,
		<i>Provisional Chairman</i>
		DR. JOSÉ A. LÓPEZ DEL VALLE
		<i>Chairman of the Cuban Delegation</i>
CUBA	{	DR. HUGO ROBERTS
		DR. DIEGO TAMAYO
		DR. FRANCISCO M. FERNÁNDEZ,
		<i>Secretary General of the Conference</i>
		DR. DOMINGO F. RAMOS,
		<i>Secretary, Cuban Delegation</i>
EL SALVADOR		DR. LEOPOLDO PAZ
		DR. HUGH S. CUMMING
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA	{	DR. RICHARD CREEL
		MR. P. D. CRONIN
		DR. FRANCIS D. PATTERSON
GUATEMALA		DR. JOSÉ DE CUBAS Y SERRATE
HAITI		DR. CHARLES MATHON
HONDURAS		DR. ARÍSTIDES AGRAMONTE
MEXICO		DR. ALFONSO PRUNEDA
PANAMA		DR. JAIME DE LA GUARDIA
PARAGUAY		DR. ANDRÉS GUBETICH
PERU		DR. CARLOS E. PAZ SOLDÁN
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC		DR. R. PÉREZ CABRAL
URUGUAY		DR. JUSTO F. GONZÁLEZ
VENEZUELA	{	DR. ENRIQUE TEJERA
		DR. ANTONIO SMITH
PAN AMERICAN SANITARY BUREAU...		DR. J. D. LONG
OBSERVER OF THE SECTION OF HYGIENE OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS		DR. NORMAN WHITE

ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

HONORARY CHAIRMEN	{	DR. ENRIQUE M. PORTO
		DR. JUAN GUITERAS
		DR. ARÍSTIDES AGRAMONTE
		DR. MANUEL VARONA SUÁREZ
		DR. ARÍSTIDES AGUERO
		DR. SANTIAGO VERDEJA
CHAIRMAN	{	DR. JOSÉ ENRIQUE CASUSO
		DR. MARIO G. LEBREDO
VICE CHAIRMAN	{	DR. JOSÉ A. LÓPEZ DEL VALLE
TREASURER	{	DR. EMILIO MARTÍNEZ
SECRETARIES	{	DR. FRANCISCO M. FERNÁNDEZ
		DR. DOMINGO F. RAMOS
		DR. MANUEL MÁRQUEZ STERLING
		DR. HUGO ROBERTS
		DR. FRANK MENOCAL
		DR. ANTONIO CUETO
		DR. F. GRANDE ROSSI
		DR. ALBERTO RECIO
		DR. FEDERICO TORRALBAS
		DR. JUAN F. MORALES
		DR. OCTAVIO MONTORO
		DR. JOSÉ A. SIMPSON
		DR. HORACIO FERRER
		DR. FÉLIX GIRALT
		DR. A. G. DOMÍNGUEZ
		DR. NATALIO RUILOBA
MEMBERS	{	DR. A. GONZÁLEZ DEL VALLE
		DR. JUAN ÁLVAREZ GUANAGA

OFFICERS OF THE CONFERENCE

Chairman

DR. MARIO G. LEBREDO.....Cuba

Vice Chairmen

DR. ALFONSO PRUNEDAMexico
 DR. CARLOS GRAF.....Chile
 DR. A. AGRAMONTE.....Honduras
 DR. LEOPOLDO PAZ.....El Salvador
 DR. R. GUTIÉRREZ LEEColombia
 DR. HUGH S. CUMMING.....U. S. A.
 DR. ANDRÉS GUBETICH.....Paraguay
 DR. JAIME DE LA GUARDIA.....Panama
 DR. ENRIQUE TEJERA.....Venezuela
 DR. JOSÉ DE CUBAS Y SERRATE.....Guatemala
 DR. JOSÉ VARELA ZEQUEIRA.....Costa Rica
 DR. NASCIMENTO GURGEL.....Brazil
 DR. JUSTO F. GONZÁLEZ.....Uruguay
 DR. R. PÉREZ CABRAL.....Dominican Republic
 DR. CHARLES MATHON.....Haiti
 DR. CARLOS E. PAZ SOLDÁN.....Peru
 DR. GREGORIO ARÁOZ ALFARO.....Argentina

Secretary General

DR. FRANCISCO MARÍA FERNÁNDEZ.....Cuba

Secretaries

DR. RAÚL ALMEIDA MAGALHÃES.....Brazil
 DR. RICHARD CREEL.....U. S. A.
 DR. ANTONIO SMITH.....Venezuela
 DR. DOMINGO F. RAMOS.....Cuba

COMMITTEES

Executive Committee and Committee on Credentials

Doctors Mario G. Lebreto, Hugh S. Cumming, Joaquín Llambías, Nascimento Gurgel, Carlos E. Paz Soldán.

Committee on the Pan American Sanitary Code

Doctors Gregorio Aráoz Alfaro, Jaime de la Guardia, Raúl Almeida Magalhães, Enrique Tejera, Hugo Roberts, Richard Creel, R. Pérez Cabral, Carlos E. Paz Soldán, José Varela Zequeira, José de Cubas, A. Agramonte, Leopoldo Paz, Justo F. González, Andrés Gubetich, Alfonso Pruneda, Charles Mathon, R. Gutiérrez Lee, J. D. Long.

Committee on Food and Drugs

Mr. P. D. Cronin, Doctors Justo F. González, Joaquín Llambías, Nascimento Gurgel, Antonio Smith, José A. López del Valle, R. Pérez Cabral, Carlos Graf, Carlos E. Paz Soldán, J. Varela Zequeira, José de Cubas, Andrés Gubetich, Alfonso Pruneda, Charles Mathon, R. Gutiérrez Lee, J. D. Long.

Committee on Social Hygiene

Doctors Nascimento Gurgel, Domingo F. Ramos, Joaquín Llambías, Diego Tamayo, Antonio Smith, Francis D. Patterson, R. Pérez Cabral, Carlos Graf, Carlos E. Paz Soldán, J. Varela Zequeira, José de Cubas, A. Agramonte, Leopoldo Paz, Jaime de la Guardia, Justo F. González, Andrés Gubetich, Alfonso Pruneda, Charles Mathon, R. Gutiérrez Lee, J. D. Long.

Committee on Endemic and Epidemic Diseases

Doctors A. Agramonte, Enrique Tejera, Gregorio Aráoz, Raúl Almeida Magalhães, José A. López del Valle, Richard Creel, R. Pérez Cabral, Carlos Graf, Carlos E. Paz Soldán, J. Varela Zequeira, José de Cubas, Leopoldo Paz, Jaime de la Guardia, Justo F. González, Andrés Gubetich, Alfonso Pruneda, Charles Mathon, R. Gutiérrez Lee, J. D. Long.

OFFICIALS OF THE PAN AMERICAN SANITARY BUREAU**HONORARY DIRECTOR****DR. MARIO G. LEBREDO**

Director of Las Animas Hospital and Chief of the Section of Epidemiology,
Havana, Cuba

DIRECTOR**DR. HUGH S. CUMMING**

Surgeon General, U. S. Public Health Service,
Washington, D. C.

VICE DIRECTOR**DR. J. D. LONG**

Assistant Surgeon General, U. S. Public Health Service,
Washington, D. C.

SECRETARY**DR. FRANCISCO M. FERNÁNDEZ**

Professor of the Faculty of Medicine of Havana and Chairman of the
Society of Clinical Studies of
Havana, Cuba

MEMBERS**DR. GREGORIO ARÁOZ ALFARO**

President of the National Department of Hygiene of the Argentine Republic, and Professor of the Faculty of Medicine of
Buenos Aires

DR. ALFONSO PRUNEDA

Perpetual Secretary of the National Academy of Medicine,
City of Mexico, Mexico

DR. RAÚL ALMEIDA MAGALHÃES

Secretary General of the Department of Public Health of Brazil,
Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

DR. CARLOS E. PAZ SOLDÁN

Professor of Hygiene in the Faculty of Medicine,
Lima, Peru

PROGRAM OF SESSIONS, VISITS, ENTERTAINMENTS AND EXCURSIONS

Tuesday, November 4

9 p. m.—Private reception at the Medical Circle of Cuba, Paseo de Martí No. 66.

Wednesday, November 5

9 a. m.—Preliminary meeting in the Department of Health; visit to the Secretary of Health and Welfare.

10:30 a. m.—Visit to the Secretary of State.

11 a. m.—Visit to His Excellency the President of the Republic.

9 p. m.—Inaugural Session in the Academy of Science, Havana:

(a) Address of Dr. Carlos M. de Céspedes, Secretary of State, opening the Conference.

(b) Remarks by a member of each Delegation.

(c) Address of Dr. Mario G. Lebreo, Temporary Chairman of the Conference.

Thursday, November 6 (First Session)

9 a. m.—Election of the Permanent Chairman of the Conference; selection of the vice chairmen and assigning of their seats by lot; choosing of secretaries; appointment of committees.

2 p. m.—Work of the Conference.

8 p. m.—Reception at the Vedado Tennis Club to the delegates of the American Republics; Address of Dr. José A. López del Valle, chairman of the Cuban Delegation; Address by one of the members of the delegations on behalf of all.

10:30 p. m.—Reception at the Vedado Tennis Club to the delegates of the American Republics.

Friday, November 7

9 a. m.—Work of the Conference.

2 p. m.—Work of the Conference.

5 p. m.—Reception given to the delegates by the Secretary of Health and Welfare.

Saturday, November 8

9 a. m.—Work of the Conference.

2 p. m.—Work of the Conference.

5 p. m.—Reception by the Association of Students of Medicine.

9:30 p. m.—Banquet of the University Club, Hotel Biltmore Roof Garden.

Sunday, November 9

9 a. m.—Excursion to the City of San Antonio de los Baños; visit to the Maternity Hospital; visit to the City Health Department; typical rustic breakfast.

Monday, November 10

9 a. m.—Work of the Conference.

2 p. m.—Work of the Conference.

5 p. m.—Reception at the Municipal Hospital; delivery of prizes at the Maternity Contest of Havana; toast by the Mayor of Havana to the delegates of the American Republics.

Tuesday, November 11

9 a. m.—Work of the Conference.

2 p. m.—Work of the Conference.

8:30 p. m.—Homage to Finlay, Academy of Science, Havana.

Wednesday, November 12

9 a. m.—Work of the Conference.

12 m.—Visit to the Tiscornia Quarantine Station; luncheon at the station.

Thursday, November 13

9 a. m.—Work of the Conference.

2 p. m.—Work of the Conference.

5 p. m.—Visit to the Casa de Salud (Sanitarium), "La Covadonga."

Friday, November 14

9 a. m.—Work of the Conference.

2:30 p. m.—Discussion and approval of the Minutes and Recommendations of the Seventh Pan American Sanitary Conference.

8 p. m.—Farewell Banquet at the Country Club of Havana to the delegates of the American Republics; address by Dr. Diego Tamayo; remarks by one of the members of the delegations in the name of all.

Saturday, November 15

9 a. m.—Selection of the seat of the Eighth Conference; appointment of the Provisional Chairman of the Eighth Conference; selection of the members of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau of Washington.

9 p. m.—Closing session of the Conference under the Chairmanship of the Honorable Secretary of Health and Welfare; address by the Secretary of Public Instruction and Fine Arts.

Sunday, November 16

10 a. m.—The delegates were specially invited to attend the National Maternity Contest at the National Theater. The National Maternity Jury, with the approval of the Government of the Republic, held this contest in honor of the foreign delegates. Dr. Alfredo Zayas y Alfonso, President of the Republic, presided.

**PROGRAM OF THE SEVENTH PAN AMERICAN SANITARY
CONFERENCE HELD IN HAVANA, CUBA,
NOVEMBER 5 TO 15, 1924**

1. Consideration of the results of cooperative study and propaganda against tuberculosis, as an important factor in the struggle against this disease. (Resolution of the Sixth International Sanitary Conference.)

2. Consideration of reports received from Governments situated in tropical America, having cities located on elevated table lands, as to such detailed statistics as have been kept regarding pulmonary tuberculosis, bronchitis, pneumonia and whooping cough, and the conclusions deduced therefrom. (Resolution of the Sixth International Sanitary Conference.)

3. Consideration as to whether exemption from duties or taxes is in effect, as regards the importation or sale of specific products or remedies, which, in the judgment of competent authorities, are considered efficacious in the control of syphilis, as a means of cooperation in the prevention of that disease. (Resolution of the Sixth International Sanitary Conference.)

4. Consideration of the report of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau of Washington as to the centralization therein of data contributory to a better understanding concerning malaria, its extent, the damage caused, and clinical, epidemiologic and prophylactic measures for its control. (Resolution of the Sixth International Sanitary Conference.)

5. Consideration of such reports as may be received from the Governments of the countries of America, in which malaria exists, as to the results of experiments in the use of calcium hydroxide in water or on land in destroying mosquito larvae, or preventing their propagation. (Resolution of the Sixth International Sanitary Conference.)

6. Study, approval and adoption in the form of a Treaty of an International Maritime Sanitary Code, prepared and submitted by the Pan American Sanitary Bureau, in accordance with the instructions of the Fifth International Conference of American States.

7. Consideration of reports, from the Governments represented, relative to resolution 12 of the Sixth International Sanitary Conference concerning the compulsory notification of infectious and contagious diseases and the standardizing of sanitary statistics.

8. Consideration of progress reports, from the various Governments represented, relative to the establishment and organization of Bureaus charged with the compilation of sanitary and vital statistics,

and their regular publication. (Resolution of the Sixth International Sanitary Conference.)

9. Consideration of such studies as may be presented, relative to tuberculosis, venereal disease and leprosy, considered from a sanitary and social point of view. (Resolution of the Sixth International Sanitary Conference.)

10. Consideration of problems relating to Industrial Hygiene, and of such studies or reports as may be presented. (Resolution of the Sixth International Sanitary Conference.)

11. Consideration of reports relative to fly breeding and results obtained from methods employed in the control of the fly. (Resolution of the Sixth International Sanitary Conference.)

12. Consideration of results obtained and investigations made, in the various countries, relative to intestinal worms and parasites, including the hookworm. (Resolution of the Sixth International Sanitary Conference.)

13. Consideration of investigations made and methods in use relative to the discovery of germ carriers, and the precautionary measures observed to render them unable to transmit infection. (Resolution of the Sixth International Sanitary Conference.)

14. Consideration and study of a model law with respect to the production and manufacture of foods and drugs, with a view to its enactment by the various Governments, for the purpose of establishing uniform standards and guarantees. (Fifth International Conference of American States.)

15. Consideration of the following propositions referred to the Seventh Pan American Sanitary Conference by the Fifth International Conference of American States:

1. A vessel should be considered infected, if the presence of infected rats is proved, even though no human cases of plague may have been produced during the voyage.

2. The rehabilitation of any locality infected with plague shall become effective only after the lapse of thirty days following the verification of the presence of infected rats, and after the application of the most rigorous measures of disinfection.

3. Vessels carrying persons sick with or dead of yellow fever shall not be considered as infected.

4. The period of sanitary precautions in case of yellow fever shall be thirteen days.

5. On vessels proceeding from ports that are infected with cholera or yellow fever a systematic bacteriological examination should be made of the passengers and crew.

6. The presence of sanitary inspectors shall be obligatory on vessels sailing from American ports.

7. Typhus shall be included among those diseases that are compulsorily notifiable.

8. A subcommittee on Hygiene should be established in one of the South American capitals to study sanitary questions of common interest in the different countries; said committee should consist of hygienists of each country, and their decisions should be submitted, prior to being approved, for the consideration of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau of Washington.

REGULATIONS OF THE SEVENTH PAN AMERICAN SANITARY CONFERENCE

THE PERSONNEL OF THE CONFERENCE

TEMPORARY CHAIRMAN

Article 1. The Secretary of State of the Republic of Cuba, or the person whom the Chief Executive may designate, shall preside at the opening session of the Conference in the capacity of temporary chairman, and shall continue to preside as such until the permanent chairman is elected.

OFFICIALS

Art. 2. There shall be a permanent chairman, who shall be elected by a ballot vote of the absolute majority of the delegates present, and a secretary-general, who shall be a delegate appointed by the President of the Republic of Cuba.

In the first session there shall be settled by lot the numerical order of the delegations for the purpose of establishing the order of precedence of their location and the order in which each is to occupy the chair in the absence of the chairman.

When the delegation upon which it shall devolve to occupy the chair at any session consists of more than one member, it shall designate the delegate who is to perform the functions of vice chairman.

PERMANENT CHAIRMAN

Art. 3. The duties of the permanent chairman shall be:

First. To preside at the meetings of the Conference, and to submit for discussion in their regular order the subjects contained in the order of the day.

Second. To direct that each subject submitted to the Conference be referred to the proper committee, unless by a vote of two-thirds of the delegates then present it shall be decided to proceed to its immediate consideration.

Third. To concede the floor to the delegates in the order in which they may have requested it.

Fourth. To decide all questions of order raised during the debates of the Conference. Nevertheless, if any delegates shall so request, the ruling made by the chair shall be submitted to the Conference for decision.

Fifth. To call for votes and to announce the result of the vote to the Conference, as provided for by Art. 15.

Sixth. To announce to the Conference, through the secretary at

the close of each meeting, the business to be discussed in the following meeting. But the Conference may make such changes as it may deem advisable, either as regards the time of the meeting or as to the order in which the pending business shall be discussed.

Seventh. To direct the secretary, after the approval of the minutes, to lay before the Conference such matters as may have been presented since the last meeting.

Eighth. To prescribe all necessary measures for the maintenance of order and the strict compliance with the regulations.

VICE-CHAIRMEN

Art. 4. The duties of the vice-chairmen are:

Whenever occasion arises to perform the duties of presiding officer in accordance with Art. 2.

SECRETARY GENERAL

Art. 5. The duties of the secretary general are:

First. To have under his charge all the secretaries, interpreters, and other employees which the Government of Cuba may appoint for service with the Conference and to organize their respective duties.

Second. To receive, distribute, and answer the official correspondence of the Conference, in conformity with the resolutions of that body.

Third. To prepare, or cause to be prepared, the minutes of the meeting in conformity with the notes the secretaries shall furnish him, and to see that such minutes are printed and distributed among the delegates.

Fourth. To revise the translations made by the interpreters of the Conference.

Fifth. To distribute among the Committees the matters to be reported by them and to place at the disposal of said committees everything that may be necessary for the discharge of their duties.

Sixth. To prepare the order of the day in conformity with the instructions of the chairman.

Seventh. To be the intermediary between the delegations or their respective members in all matters relating to the Conference and between the delegates and the Cuban authorities.

COMMITTEES OF THE CONFERENCE

Art. 6. The Seventh Pan American Sanitary Conference shall appoint such committees as may be deemed necessary, determining the number of delegates of which they may consist, in conformity with

the subjects included in the program submitted for the consideration of the Conference.

Art. 7. The permanent chairman shall submit to the Conference for approval the appointment of the members of the different committees.

Art. 8. Delegates may attend the meetings of all committees and participate in their debates, but they shall have no right to vote.

MEETINGS OF THE CONFERENCE

NUMBER OF MEETINGS

Art. 9. The first meeting shall take place at the time and place designated by the Government of Cuba, and the further sessions at such days and hours as the Conference may determine.

QUORUM

Art. 10. To hold a meeting it is necessary that a majority of the nations attending the Conference be represented by at least one of their delegates.

READING OF THE MINUTES

Art. 11. At the opening of the meeting the secretary shall read the minutes of the preceding meeting, unless dispensed with. Notes shall be taken of any remarks the chairman or any of the delegates may make thereon, and approval of the minutes shall be in order.

ORDER OF DEBATE AND VOTES

Art. 12. When the chairman shall have submitted for discussion the subjects contained in the order of the day, the Conference shall first discuss them in a general way, and those approved shall be the subject of a second discussion in detail, taking up one by one the articles contained in the project under discussion.

Art. 13. The Conference may, by a two-thirds vote of the delegations present, suspend the rules and proceed to the immediate discussion of a motion, which shall at once be discussed in general and in detail.

Art. 14. All proposed amendments shall be referred to the respective committee, unless the Conference shall decide otherwise; and they shall be put to vote before the article or motion the text of which they are intended to modify.

Art. 15. The delegation of each Republic represented at the Conference shall have but one vote, and the votes shall be taken separately by countries and shall be recorded on the minutes.

Votes, as a general rule, shall be taken orally, unless any delegate should request that they be taken in writing. In this case each

delegation shall deposit in an urn a ballot containing the name of the nation which it represents and the sense in which the vote is cast. The secretary shall read aloud these ballots and count the votes.

Art. 16. The Conference shall not proceed to vote on any resolution or motion relating to any of the subjects included in the Program except when at least two-thirds of the nations attending the Conference are represented by one or more delegates.

Art. 17. Except in cases expressly indicated in these regulations, resolutions or motions under consideration by the Conference are approved when they have obtained the affirmative vote of an absolute majority of the delegations represented by one or more of its members at the meeting where the vote is taken. The delegation which may have sent its vote to the secretary shall be considered as present and represented at the meeting.

Art. 18. When by reason of absence or abstention the vote of the Conference should not attain the majority as required by the two foregoing articles, the matter shall be submitted for further consideration at a subsequent meeting, on motion of any delegation. But should such abstention continue at this meeting, further consideration of the question shall then be postponed.

RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF MEMBERS

Art. 19. Delegates may speak in their own language, from manuscript or otherwise, and upon the termination of any speech either the delegate or one of the interpreters of the Conference shall, upon request of any one delegation, at once render orally a synopsis of the principal points of the speech in the language or languages that such delegation may suggest. This shall also apply to the remarks of the chairman and of the secretary.

Art. 20. No delegation may, through any of its members, speak more than twice on the same subject, nor shall any delegation occupy the floor for more than thirty minutes at a time. Any delegate, however, shall have the right to speak for no more than five minutes upon a question of order, or to answer any personal allusion, or to explain his vote, and the author of a motion may speak once more, not exceeding thirty minutes.

Art. 21. Any delegate may submit to the Conference his written opinion upon the matter or point in debate, and may request that it be spread upon the minutes of the meeting in which it has been submitted.

Likewise any delegation that is not to be present at the time a vote is taken may write down its vote, and leave it with or send it to

the secretary, and at the time of canvassing the vote such votes shall be reckoned as if the delegation were present.

Art. 22. Attendance at the deliberations of the Conference shall be confined to the following: The delegates with their respective secretaries and attachés; the Director or other accredited representative of the Pan American Union and his secretary; the Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau and his assistants; the secretaries of the sessions; the interpreters and stenographers of the Conference; such representatives of the press as are properly accredited and as are approved by the Committee on Organization, and the authorized attendants; provided, however, that the Conference may by a majority vote extend the courtesies of the Conference to such persons as it may at any time designate.

Whenever any delegation may request that a meeting go into executive or secret session, the motion shall immediately be put and voted upon without discussion. If the motion be carried, the representatives of the press will at once withdraw, and all persons present will be enjoined to absolute secrecy as regards the business transacted at the meeting.

At the close of each session proper communication of the proceedings shall be made to the press, when desirable, by the secretary general, who will perform this duty, under the general guidance of the Committee on Publications.

RESOLUTIONS AND REPORTS THEREUPON

Art. 23. The reports of the Committees and the resolutions to which they refer shall be printed in Spanish, Portuguese, English, and French, and shall be distributed at the next following meeting to the delegates for their consideration, but shall not be submitted for discussion until the next meeting after they were distributed in print, at least in Spanish and English.

AMENDMENTS TO THE PROGRAM

Art. 24. The deliberations of the Conference shall be confined to such subjects as are contained in the Program, except when by a vote of two-thirds of the delegations the Conference decides to take under consideration a new matter submitted by one delegation and seconded by another.

A motion to take under consideration a new subject shall be decided without debate.

NUMBER OF MEETINGS

Art. 25. The number of the meetings of the Conference shall not exceed thirty. This limit, however, may be extended in case of a matter of vital importance, and by a vote of two-thirds of the delegations present at the Conference.

The closing meeting shall take place as soon as all the subjects in the program have been discussed.

PRINTING OF THE MINUTES

Art. 26. The minutes approved by the Conference shall be signed by the chairman and the secretary general. They shall be printed in Spanish, English, Portuguese and French, in pages of two columns, and a sufficient number of copies shall be issued so that each delegate may receive four copies. The original minutes shall be preserved in the archives of the Pan American Union, at least in Spanish and English.

SIGNATURE OF THE FINAL MINUTES

Art. 27. The day before the closing of the Conference shall be devoted to the discussion and approval of the minutes written and printed in Spanish, English, Portuguese and French, containing the resolutions or recommendations discussed and approved by the Conference. The original records shall be signed by the delegations, and the Government of the Republic of Cuba shall send, within ninety days after the actual adjournment of the Conference, a certified copy of said records to each of the Governments represented at the Conference and to the Pan American Sanitary Bureau.

AMENDMENTS TO THE REGULATIONS

Art. 28. The foregoing rules shall be transmitted to the respective Governments immediately, and they shall govern the action of the Conference, unless and until altered, amended or repealed by the Conference itself, by a two-thirds vote. Motions for this purpose shall be submitted to a vote without debate.

Transactions of the Seventh Pan American Sanitary
Conference of the American Republics

SEVENTH PAN AMERICAN SANITARY CONFERENCE
PRELIMINARY SESSION*November 5, 1924*

At ten o'clock in the morning of the fifth of November, the gentlemen composing the Delegations of the American Republics to the Seventh Pan American Sanitary Conference assembled in the Hall of the National Board of Health in an extra-official capacity.

Dr. Mario G. Lebrede, Provisional Chairman of the Conference, explained to the Delegates that, as he was anxious for the Conference to begin business in the easiest manner, he would submit to the consideration of the gentlemen present the desirability of appointing a number of committees, which might be four in number, apart from the Executive Committee and the Committee on Powers.

Dr. Aráoz Alfaro moved that the Provisional Chairman be authorized to organize the Committees and designate their members, and that each Committee designate its Chairman later.

It was agreed that the transactions of the Conference be divided into business of Committees, and plenary sessions, and that as soon as a subject had passed the respective Committee, it should be submitted to the consideration of the Conference in plenary sessions.

The Committees shall have authority to decide when their sessions shall be made public, and when they shall be secret.

Dr. Aráoz Alfaro explained, prior to the aforesaid agreements, that he wished his first words on the meeting of the Delegates to be expressive of his admiration for the work of the great men whose ideas were the genesis of our present knowledge of yellow fever, and moved that the Delegates arise in honor of Finlay and Gorgas. The motion was unanimously adopted.

Dr. Paz Soldán said that he agreed entirely with this most just decision, and added that he wished that it might be extended to include the names of Liceaga, Oswaldo Cruz, and Da Penna.

On a motion by Dr. Tamayo, it was resolved that all this should be done on the evening devoted to the Homage to Finlay.

The Delegates then called on the Secretary of Health, and accompanied by him, called on the Secretary of State, whom they greeted cordially, and by whom they were warmly welcomed.

At eleven thirty A. M. of the same morning, the Delegates were accorded a special reception by His Excellency, the President of the Republic, who bade them welcome in the name of Cuba and of his Government, greeting them warmly and expressing his best wishes

for the complete success of their tasks, and drinking to the happiness of the chiefs of States of America, and the respective Delegates.

Dr. Gregorio Aráoz Alfaro, Delegate of the Argentine Republic, replied to the President's speech in the name of all the Delegates and thanked him for the cordial reception which he had accorded them, and, together with the Delegates, drank to the health of the President and the happiness of Cuba.

SEVENTH PAN AMERICAN SANITARY CONFERENCE
INAUGURAL SESSION*November 5, 1924*

The solemn inauguration of the Seventh Pan American Sanitary Conference took place at nine o'clock in the evening, in the Hall of Honor of the Academy of Sciences of Havana, with the attendance of the Honorable Diplomatic Body, the foreign and Cuban Delegates, representatives of official corporations, the Rector of the University, etc.

The platform was occupied by the Honorable Secretary of State, Dr. Carlos Manuel de Céspedes, who presided over the meeting; the Secretary of Health, Dr. Enrique Porto; the Provisional Chairman of the Conference, Dr. Mario G. Lebrede; Dr. J. D. Long, representing the Pan American Sanitary Bureau of Washington; the Rector of the National University; the Provincial Governor; the Mayor; the President of the Academy of Sciences, and Dr. Francisco M. Fernández, Secretary General of the Conference.

In addition to the above, the following gentlemen occupied seats on the platform: The Delegates of the Conference, of Cuba and foreign countries, the members of the Organizing Committee, Drs. Federico Torralbas, Horacio Ferrer, Alberto Recio, Alfredo G. Domínguez, Natalio Ruiloba, Nestor Ponce, A. G. del Valle, José A. Simpson, the Secretaries of Interior, Justice, Finance, Public Instruction, and Agriculture, and the Presidents of the Medical Society, of the Societies of Clinical Studies, and of other institutions.

The chairs of the great amphitheater were filled with distinguished representatives of the Cuban professions, and the galleries were occupied by the wives and daughters of the foreign Delegates, and of the members of the Organizing Committee. Havana society was duly represented at this important social function by its most beautiful women.

The Hon. Dr. Carlos Manuel de Céspedes, Secretary of State of the Republic of Cuba, gave the following inaugural address: Messrs. Delegates:

Your presence in our capital is hailed with great pleasure by the Cuban people; it is a happy event in our history and through me, His Excellency the President of the Republic extends to you a most cordial welcome.

In offering you the hospitality of the nation, the government becomes the interpreter of the warm sympathy which is felt in this

country for each one of the American Republics here so worthily represented; for we have awaited the present moment with the deepest interest in the scientific features of this Conference, and with the most agreeable anticipation of its spiritual aspect.

Indeed, the meeting in Havana of the Seventh Pan American Sanitary Conference is an event of the greatest importance, and one which has long occupied public attention in our respective countries by reason of the hopes which the nations of America have placed in the success of your important labors, and particularly with regard to the principal object of the Conference and the great movement of international advancement in every field, of which our Continent is an earnest and enthusiastic exponent, because the aspirations of sanitary improvement are essential factors in the Pan American program of peace, civilization, and progress, which, in harmony with the ideal of happiness of our countries, is to receive a glorious expression at this Seventh Stage of this great work.

Notwithstanding the comparatively short time which has elapsed since its beginning, the Pan American movement can already boast of many triumphs in this sector of its manifold activities, and while it has developed so well in a limited and definite group of nations, it has not, for all that, revealed the least tendency to selfishness or isolation from the great human family.

In keeping with the thought of an eminent Pan American writer, "the preservation of the Pan American atmosphere in our Conferences implies neither exclusion nor antagonism." "We all regard our common interests from the same point of view, and we are in a position to solve, in accordance with the same method, the peculiar problems of the American nations, which does not exclude in our mind the most ample expression of universal accord with all the other nations of the earth, and of assimilation of all useful and general ideas which contribute to the welfare of the human race."

Here at the inauguration of this Conference, it is proper to outline the history of the road which has been travelled in this high endeavor, because it will afford us most eloquent details, and inspire us with well-merited confidence in the future of the Pan American ideal as the provider of many blessings, which extend beyond the bounds of our hemisphere like the powerful waves of a universal message of peace and goodwill among all men subject to the inexorable law of death, which sanitary science struggles to conquer, of suffering, which it succeeds in attenuating, and of life, which it glorifies, rendering each day more useful and more beautiful than its predecessor.

American International Cooperation is one of the fixed purposes of the republics of the Continent, which have arisen from exigencies that are inescapable, and are therefore as old as the glorious struggle sustained by the Iberian colonies of the new world to conquer and maintain their independence.

The first practical manifestation of it is afforded us by the general assembly of plenipotentiaries called by the Liberator Bolívar, on December 7, 1825, and which met at Panama from June 22 to July 15, 1826. The countries represented at this assembly were Colombia, Central America, Peru, and Mexico. The United States, which had accepted the invitation of Bolívar to take part in the assembly, appointed two ambassadors, Mr. Richard G. Anderson, Minister Plenipotentiary at Bogota, and Mr. J. Sergeant. The former died of yellow fever in Cartagena, when on his way to Panama; and the latter did not arrive in time to take part in the assembly. It is noted, however, that neither at Panama at that time, nor afterwards, at the American Congress of 1847, nor still later at that of 1864, which took place at Lima, did the subject of Sanitary Cooperation form part of the topics of discussion. As regards the Congress of 1847, invitations were sent to Chile, Ecuador, New Granada, Venezuela, Argentina, Bolivia, Central America, Mexico, Brazil, and the United States; but the only countries to participate in the meeting were, Chile, Bolivia, Ecuador, New Granada, and, of course, Peru. The countries represented at the Congress of 1864 were Peru, Argentina, Chile, Colombia, Venezuela, and Ecuador. At both these Congresses conventions were arranged regarding political alliance, post-offices, commerce and navigation, and a consular treaty, at the first, and at the second, a treaty on the preservation of peace in America.

In view of the recognized fact that sanitary cooperation is indispensable to the development of international commerce, all the nations of America, sovereign and independent states, began to put forth efforts to reach this object, particularly after the year 1881. On January 5, of that year the Government of the United States of America invited the maritime powers to an International Sanitary Conference at Washington, in order to consider an international system of notification regarding the true sanitary condition of the ports included in the jurisdiction of the said powers, and regarding vessels sailing from those ports. The initiative of this Conference was due to the National Bureau of Health of the United States of America, the Chairman of which was Dr. James L. Cabell. It was attended by Plenipotentiary Delegates of Germany, Argentina, Austria-Hungary,

Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Denmark, Spain, United States, Mexico, the Netherlands, France, Great Britain, Hawaii, Haiti, Italy, Japan, Liberia, Portugal, Russia, Sweden, Norway, Turkey, Venezuela, and Peru. Among the resolutions considered at this Conference there was one looking to the establishment at Vienna and Havana of a permanent international sanitary agency of notifications. One of the Delegates sent by Spain to this largely attended assembly was Dr. Carlos Finlay; and, it was precisely at the session of February 18, 1881, that the great Cuban savant announced to the world his famous discovery concerning yellow fever. But the Conference itself did not produce any really practical results.

The hope of imparting an impulse to sanitary cooperation has always been continental, that is, maintained not only by the nations of the Northern Hemisphere, but also by those of the Southern Hemisphere, in independent America.

On November 25-26, 1887, Uruguay, Argentina and Brazil concluded at Rio de Janeiro an international sanitary convention; and on July 3, the Government of Peru invited all the nations of America to an American Sanitary Congress, to take place at Lima, on the first of the following November, but which was not inaugurated until the 2nd of January of the following year. Bolivia, Chile and Ecuador, together with Peru, were represented at this Conference, the patient labors of which lasted until March 12, its visible result consisting of a very remarkable convention, the provisions of which referred to some exceedingly important topics, among which was the prophylaxis of yellow fever.

One of the most fundamental statements of Pan Americanism is that referring to "Sanitary Cooperation," and we shall find that, dating from 1888, this topic forms one of the principal columns upon which rest the harmony, the progress, and the peace of America.

The recent Conference of Chile, in 1923, resolved, on the motion of Señor Gondra, Delegate of Paraguay, to recommend the raising of a monument to Henry Clay, the enthusiastic friend of the independence of the Ibero-American peoples; and Mr. Frank B. Kellogg, Plenipotentiary of the United States, and its present Ambassador to London, delivered an eloquent address, from which I will translate a few passages:

"Henry Clay may be called the forerunner of Pan Americanism. As a private citizen, as a member of the National Congress, as Chairman of the House of Representatives of the United States, he labored diligently, and employed all the powers of his brilliant talent in

favor of the recognition by the United States of the independence of the South American nations.

“Owing to his personal influence, the United States appointed Delegates to the first Pan American Congress which took place in 1826. It is true that that Conference was the result of the conception of that great patriot, soldier and statesman, Simón Bolívar, whose name has been honored and revered wherever republican principles and liberty prevail. And yet, sixty-three years went by before the idea conceived by Bolívar at last became a great reality.”

Mr. Kellogg here refers, as you see, to the work of the illustrious orator and statesman, James G. Blaine, who caused Pan Americanism to crystallize in a lasting form.

And he continues:

“Henry Clay saw farther ahead than all his contemporaries, for in contemplating all the independent nations of the Southern Hemisphere of the American continent, free from the domination of the old world, and in watching them advance over the paths of human progress, he saw in them all representative democracies, similar in their general characteristics, and that they had their own laws and institutions and common ideals tending to the accomplishment of their destinies according to the standards of progress and modern civilization.

“I should recall to your minds that in the declaration of principles of the rights of the Chilean people, promulgated in the year 1810, we find this remarkable statement: ‘The day when America shall meet in a Congress, whether it be of the Nations or of its continents, or whether it be of the South, to speak to the rest of the world, her voice shall be held worthy of respect, and her resolutions shall not easily be gainsaid.’

“These words were prophetic,” continued Mr. Kellogg, “how true is all this in our day and time. We are not united as a nation, either of the North or the South of the American Continent, but as an assemblage of independent nations. We are not united by partisan ties, but by common aspirations, common ideals of liberty and independence. We are not united to form offensive or defensive military alliances, which have produced so many conflicts in the world, but we are united by the firmer ties of friendship, and of common purposes and desires.

“The Pan American Union, of which Henry Clay and Bolívar dreamt, and which they saw with their visionary eyes has come to be a reality and an instrument of universal peace. Let us hope,” con-

cludes Mr. Kellogg, "that the influence of these democracies may increase, and that the light which radiates from the western republics may continue to shine with an ever increasing splendor as the years go by."

On May 24, 1888, the President of the United States sanctioned a law passed by the Federal Congress with the following title:

"Law authorizing the President of the United States to arrange for the holding of a Conference between the United States of America, and the Republics of Mexico, Central and South America, Haiti, Santo Domingo, and the Empire of Brazil."

We have arrived therefore at that First American International Conference, with which Pan Americanism comes into being, and the way is opened for the great task to which Mr. Kellogg so eloquently alluded in his Chilean speech.

The Conference was opened on October 2, 1889, and closed April 19, 1890, after 70 sessions, and the performance of a great deal of work.

Mr. Blaine presided over the 70 sessions, and as a curious historical incident, I remember that Andrew Carnegie occupied a seat among the Plenipotentiary Delegates. The Carnegie endowment for international peace and the sumptuous building, the gift of that magnate, which is now the home of the Pan American Union in Washington, bear witness to the noble spirit with which the famous benefactor attended the Conference of 1889. Thirty-four years later, in 1923, the Conference of Chile adopted a resolution submitted by Dr. Montes de Oca, Argentinian Plenipotentiary, to honor the memory of Carnegie by placing his bust in the building of the Pan American Union.

Returning to the Conference of Washington, and going back to December 7, 1889, I may remark that at the session held on that day the representatives of the New World created a Committee (the 10th) composed of seven persons, "to consider and report on the best methods for establishing and maintaining sanitary regulations in the commerce between the different countries represented at the Conference."

The Committee was composed of the Delegates of Nicaragua, Brazil, Peru, Venezuela, and the United States, and in pursuance of its report the Conference recommended to the Republics of the three Americas the adoption of the International Sanitary Convention of Rio de Janeiro (1887), or the text of the Sanitary Convention of the Conference of Lima (1888); that is to say, that in the opinion of the Conference of Washington a great deal of useful work had been done in Rio de Janeiro (1887), and at the Sanitary Congress of

Lima (1888), and the first act of official Pan Americanism in the sanitary field was to appropriate this work to itself. And so the two conventions became Pan Americanized.

The Second Pan American International Conference met in the City of Mexico, October 22, 1901, and closed January 22, 1902. It is to be observed that Cuba did not participate in the First Conference at Washington, because at that time it was a Spanish colony; and it was not able to attend the Second Conference in Mexico, because although no longer a Spanish colony, it wanted yet six months and 28 days to rise in the constellation of Liberty, and assume the rank of a sovereign republic.

One of the most important results of this Conference was the resolution which was adopted October 22, 1889, relative to the International Sanitary Conference. In the above-mentioned resolution provision was made for the calling of a Sanitary Conference at Washington, and the organization of an Executive Committee, to be known as the "International Sanitary Bureau." This Committee was to have its home in the city of Washington.

Three almost simultaneous events lent lustre to Cuba, to this land which has the honor of receiving us today, in that interesting period of the history of Pan Americanism: The acceptance, already universal, of the discovery of Finlay regarding yellow fever, the proclamation of the Republic of Cuba on the 20th of May, 1902, and its appearance for the first time in the concourse of nations.

Indeed, the Sanitary Conference called by the Conference of Mexico met in Washington from December 2 to 4, 1902, with the participation of the Delegates of Chile, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Paraguay, United States, and Cuba, her brow adorned with the laurels of Finlay, came at last, in her own right, to take part in an International Conference.

It is no wonder then that I should be filled with emotion as I recall this moment.

"Sanitary Cooperation" became thereafter one of the powerful promoters of the Pan American Policy.

The Second International Sanitary Conference was held in Washington, from October 9 to 14, 1905, and resulted in the First Pan American Sanitary Code, which is still in force.

In the course of events all the Pan American Conferences have occupied themselves more or less extensively with Sanitary questions.

The Third American International Conference, which met at Rio de Janeiro from the 21st of June to the 26th of August, 1906, included

in its program the study of the Sanitary Convention signed "ad referendum" at Washington in 1905, and of the Convention, signed in 1904, in Rio de Janeiro, by Argentina, Uruguay, Paraguay, and Brazil; and concluded by adhering to the stipulations of Washington, above referred to.

The Third International Sanitary Conference met in Mexico, December 2 to 9, 1907 and the Fourth Conference of this character, in San José de Costa Rica, from the 25th of December, 1909 to the third of January, 1910.

Not long after, from the 12th of July to the 30th of August of the same year, 1910, the Fourth American International Conference was held in Buenos Aires and recommended the adoption of the Sanitary Code of Washington of 1905, to the Governments which had not yet done so. And from November 5 to 11, 1911, there took place in Santiago de Chile, the meeting of the Fifth International Sanitary Conference. The periodic holding of these Conferences was interrupted because of the World War, and the Sixth International Sanitary Conference took place in Montevideo nine years later, December 12 to 20, 1920. Cuba was represented by Dr. Mario G. Lebrede, and through the generous courtesy of the nations of America, Havana received the honor of being the seat of this, the Seventh Sanitary Conference.

I should be guilty of a great omission and injustice if I continued to recall the glorious history of "Sanitary Pan Americanism," without alluding to the brilliancy and the undeniable wisdom with which the scientific Congresses which have met in America have contributed to the signal results of Pan American cooperation in the matter of Public Health. These notable assemblies, which are due to the initiative of Argentina, had their first inception at Buenos Aires, in 1889, and were expressive of Latin American culture. The Second Latin American Scientific Congress was held in Montevideo, in March, 1901. The Third in Rio de Janeiro in the winter of 1905.

"The absence of the United States"—commented the distinguished internationalist, Brown Scott—"was owing to the fact that they were assemblies of Latin American intellectuals and were of an experimental nature. The success of these Conferences convinced the governments participating in them of the importance to the American continents of the continuation of these meetings. Consequently an invitation was extended to the United States to participate in the Fourth Scientific Congress in Chile, an invitation which was accepted with pleasure by the Government of Washington."

The Fourth Scientific Congress, which was the first Pan American one of that nature, took place in the hospitable city of Santiago, from the 25th of December, 1908, to the 5th of January, 1909. And the Second Pan American Scientific Congress was held in Washington from the 20th of December, 1915, to the 8th of January, 1916, but in all these Conferences, whether prior or subsequent to their Pan American metamorphosis, the topic of public health was the basis of many magnificent controversies; in Montevideo in connection with tuberculosis; in Chile, in the matter of tropical diseases; in Washington, demanding adequate legislation against yellow fever. And it is to be hoped that the Third Conference, convoked to take place in the noble City of the Kings, on the 20th of December next, will take up the study, as profitably as its predecessors, of the great problem of "Sanitary Cooperation."

Finally, the Fifth American International Conference which we might call the General Pan American Congress, met in Santiago de Chile, March 25 to May 3, 1923, and adopted, among other resolutions relative to "Sanitary Cooperation," one providing that the International Sanitary Conference and the International Sanitary Bureau of Washington should be known thereafter as Pan American Sanitary Conferences, and as the Pan American Sanitary Bureau; and another by virtue of which the said Bureau should undertake the preparation of a draft for a Pan American Maritime Sanitary Code, to be submitted at Havana to the Seventh Sanitary Conference, in order to be put in the form of a convention.

And this Seventh Pan American Sanitary Conference now assembled, promises to be the most important of all. With resolute mind it faces the great task of shaping the Pan American Sanitary Code, which is to be, in point of fact, the reform of the Sanitary Convention signed in Washington in the year 1905.

The international efficiency of this Conference, Messrs. Delegates, becomes still more evident if we but meditate on the great benefits which have resulted from the former one, and the splendid occasion which now offers for us to render another great service to the entire Continent.

The atmosphere of peace and quiet investigation, of humanitarian foresight, and of noble scientific emulation which prevails in these Congresses, renders ever more repugnant the smell of powder, the wages of war, the fatal effects of ignorance and brutal rivalry which, from whatever angle they may be viewed, have no longer any place or reason of being in a society ruled by the Christian doctrine, illu-

minated by the genius of an Edison and a Marconi, and fortified by the teachings of the great benefactors of humanity, from Hippocrates to Pasteur, whose endeavors, abnegation, and self-sacrifice are healing the ailments of the inhabitants of the earth, as it rolls onward in the infinite toward those far-away and unknown regions where worlds are dissolved and born again in the ether of immortality.

In the order of purely material things, a noted scientist once exclaimed,—and after all he was more or less right—that however closely he had searched, he had never found the human soul under his lancet. But it would be difficult to maintain that the American soul has no home in the mysterious currents of life and sympathy which ebb and flow with a generous impulse in these Conferences. In them a beautiful reality has come into being: the harmony of the American people, to serve practically, an ideal which we all are seeking: the improvement of the community and of the individual through the efforts of all and everyone.

The glory, the honor, the prosperity, and even the power of the State are concepts which cannot be separated from the idea of international responsibility, whose ripe fruit is the cooperation of nations, which in its turn implies the fulfillment of the most lofty duties. This Conference is about to fulfill its duties, under the most happy auspices; and as Secretary of State of the Republic of Cuba, I declare it inaugurated.

After finishing his address, the orator was accorded warm and lengthy applause.

The Chairman of the Conference: The Delegate of the Republic of Argentina, Dr. Gregorio Aráoz Alfaro, has the floor.

Dr. Gregorio Aráoz Alfaro: Your Excellency, the Chairman of the Conference; Messrs. Delegates:

The Argentine Republic comes once more to take part in these American Sanitary Conferences with the fixed purpose of cooperation, and with the best and noblest spirit of fraternal Americanism.

The great work which the Pan American Sanitary Bureau, and these Conferences, are carrying on for the welfare and sanitary progress of our continent is highly appreciated by the Government and leaders of our country.

Tropical America, which in former times was a vast hospital where the immigrant paid with serious maladies, and often with his life, for his bold design of realizing a fortune in the New World, is now in great part sanitated.

The chief ports of Brazil and Mexico are now fully open to the foreigner, being free from the scourge of yellow fever, and it is hoped that before long a like condition will obtain in other countries, whose reputation for insalubrity served in the past as a barrier to the influx of immigrants and laborers, who otherwise would have been attracted to them by the richness of their privileged soil.

In Panama, the admiration of the whole world has been centered on the greatest sanitary wonder of all times, thanks to the wisdom and tenacity of the American spirit which realized there in a few years a really marvelous work. A similar work is now being carried on in Porto Rico and other regions, both by the direct action of their governments and through the Rockefeller Foundation, which, for its noble unselfishness and efficiency in its self-imposed task, is an honor and glory to America.

But Cuba, Gentlemen, the opulent and magnificent Island, the tale of whose titanic efforts to become an independent people would sound like a legend if we had not witnessed them in our own generation,—the Island of Cuba, the beautiful, the fertile, the center of an old and vast culture, was destined to be the first nation to offer to the world the example of its stupendous work in sanitation and hygienic progress.

And it was right that it should be so, for to a great Cuban, the immortal Finlay, humanity is indebted for the transcendental discovery of the transmitting rôle of the mosquito, which was to save millions and millions of lives, and effect a radical transformation in the sanitary and economic conditions of the richest and most beautiful regions of the world.

All these efforts are highly appreciated and enthusiastically applauded in my country. We quote them constantly as an example and stimulus for our students and our rulers.

The names of Finlay, of Agramonte, of Guiteras, of Liceaga, of Gorgas, of Oswaldo Cruz, are known and venerated in Argentina.

The Argentine Republic fortunately has no important endemics other than those which are common to the greater part of the peoples of America; malaria in some of its provinces, and hookworm in a limited area of its territory.

Nearly all of its soil is fertile and healthy, and millions of foreigners find there their welfare and fortune. The general mortality during these last years has not exceeded fifteen per thousand, but there still remains much to be done, not only to exterminate these endemics, but also to reduce to as narrow limits as possible the domin-

ion of tuberculosis, of venereal affections, of the diseases of childhood; to attain, in short, the low rate of morbidity and mortality which has been obtained in the Great Republic, our elder sister, whom we admire and respect, and whose luminous example we are anxious to follow in sanitary matters, as we have done in the matter of political institutions.

The great endemics and epidemics—the diseases which we used to call pestilential, are gradually disappearing from our civilized communities, and before long their terrible ravages will be no more than a memory. And yet physicians and hygienists will still be called upon to struggle against the other permanent causes of diseases and death, to a great extent avoidable and susceptible of limitation. In this sense I believe that the programs of the work of the future conferences will be changed to meet these circumstances.

As I have just said, the Argentine Delegation which has come to take part in this assembly with the high purpose of cooperating in the measure of its powers toward the study and solution of these problems, and toward the establishment of a Maritime Sanitary Code, feels sure of acquiring during these days of close touch with the most able men of America, data and knowledge which may be used in their country, the people and government of which are deeply interested in sanitary improvement.

We could not have met in a better place. Here at the very door of the great Republic whose progress is admired throughout the world, in sight of the wonder of Panama, in this land of Cuba, whose generous hospitality, together with the wonderful spectacle of all that she has done and continues to do in the matter of hygiene and sanitation, cheers us. Here we shall discuss with the representatives of all the countries of the New Continent the sanitary questions of America, the highest and the most transcendental questions which can arise in nations which, with the single exception of the United States, still require a great increase of population to develop their immense natural wealth, now lying to a great extent in a dormant condition.

Under the beautiful blue sky of the tropics, amid the splendid scenes of a nature which has no equal, and in a center of incessant progress and intellectual culture which all of us Americans admire, we shall study, and seek a solution for many sanitary and social problems which are common to us all.

I express the wish, in the name of the Argentinian Government and people, that these discussions may reach a happy ending through the open-hearted cooperation of friendliness and companionship.

Within the bounds of our young America there is no room for antagonisms, for fears, for the hereditary hatreds which poison some of the nations of the old world. In the solution of our questions there must not be great and small nations, neither must there be strong or weak nations. We must all be equal and united in the noble struggle for the happiness and progress of us all. The great Republic of the North has proved sufficiently that she does not aspire to be anything but our counsellor, and that she cannot, in her greatness, entertain the slightest intention of subjecting or oppressing weaker nations.

We live in an immense world which, from the Atlantic to the Pacific, from Canada to Tierra del Fuego, contains all climates, all the products of every imaginable resource. With our peoples united in a lofty spirit of fraternity—a spirit which animates and always has animated the Argentinian Republic—with our eyes fixed on high ideals of liberty, of humanity, and of progress, let us go forward, with our hands joined in one single and common effort, whose object shall be to insure the health and welfare of our people, of our children, and of all free men who may desire to live in our America, in peace, in justice, and in industry.

The Chairman: The Delegate of the United States of Brazil, Dr. Nascimento Gurgel, has the floor.

Dr. Nascimento Gurgel: Gentlemen:

Among the many tender legends which with the passage of the years have come to be the objects of fervent belief and faith among the Hindu people, there is one, Gentlemen, among the most beautiful of them all, wrapped in a veritable liturgy, which requires of the native and of the stranger constant proofs of love and obedience to the chiefs and ruling spirits of the holy and enchanted city, the city of light, the new Heliopolis, the center of faith and mysticism, characterized by minds and hearts filled with kindness.

The ceremony laid down by tradition is performed in all details, to the end that humiliation and desecration may be spared the tutelar god of the time-worn, mouldering temple in whose compass succeeding generations have given proofs of affection and gratitude.

On a certain day, at the precise hour in which the sinking sun gilds with his parting rays the mirror-like waters that surround the holy place, the doors of the temple are thrown open, and sad music announces the beginning of the ceremony.

Those who stand before those arches for the first time bear white

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PAN AMERICAN SANITARY BUREAU
WASHINGTON, D. C.

lilies as they walk, with slow steps and lofty thoughts, to the great stone altar, sacred through many centuries and destined to receive as an offering the lilies of those who desire to be initiated in the new faith, and marvel at all its grandeurs, and thus acquire the right to see and touch, admire and feel, all the beauties which the Hindu god poured out upon that resplendent nature.

Those who have already been initiated and admitted to the faithful flock, renew on a certain and unchangeable date the vows they have made before, and place in another part of the holy house the offerings which they bring in obedience to the commands of the spirit of faith and conviction. These last follow after the first, and all raise prayers to Heaven for the welfare of the great flock, the white lilies of the converts representing the purity of their ideals.

One day there came to the door of the temple one who had already been admitted to the contemplation of those beauties and riches, bearing, however, not the offering that he should have brought, but still the white lilies which are only permitted to the neophytes, to those who have not yet been charmed with that interior filled with dazzling effulgence and promises.

An alarm was raised in consequence of the breach of the laws and customs by the pilgrim, who, impassive and confident in his conduct, heeded not the outcry that was raised about him, but walked calmly on with the emblem of the neophytes to the place where he did not belong.

When questioned by the chief of the mission and of the ceremony, he replied: "Forgive me, Sir, for the fault which I have committed. When I came here for the first time I felt so happy, my spirit was transported to such ethereal regions, that I desired, this time, to bring again the symbolical white lily, that I might enjoy the same impression and the same delights which I felt on that day of my admission to this city, the center of truth and of faith. Forgive me, Sirs."

No penalty was imposed upon him. He obtained his pardon, for the great judge saw in his justification the proof that there still lived in that soul the vivid sentiment of a deep-rooted belief, together with the indelible impression of the first and happy hour of initiation.

On reading these words, which I have reproduced, I have tried to apply to myself the philosophy of the ineffable Tagore.

On returning for the second time to these blessed Caribbean shores, I desired on coming to Cuba and seeing Havana again, where I had already been admitted through the great benevolence and

friendship of this great people, to conjure up the illusion that I was landing here, having come from far-away lands, for the first time, in order that I might feel once more all those emotions which I hold imperishable in my soul among the happiest of my life!

Like that pilgrim of Tagore's, I bring, in all their whiteness, the reminiscences of those days of 1922, when the scientists of Latin America met here in a memorable congress, all filled with one single ideal: the welfare and health of the peoples of America.

I shall not forget, nor can I forget, those hours when, as the Delegate of Brazil, I made the acquaintance of this cultured city and its men, exchanging ideas with them, and signing resolutions in the field of the biosocial sciences, for the joy and happiness of our America.

And now, two years later, I am here once more, this time with the distinguished and worthy Secretary General of the National Department of Public Health, and still as a Delegate of the Government of Brazil, but this time to the Seventh Pan American Sanitary Conference.

Overcoming obstacles of all sorts I joyfully accept the invitation of my Government to come again to Havana, and say before the Seventh Sanitary Conference which is being opened today, that Brazil does not forget the fulfillment of whatever concerns Hygiene and Sanitary subjects; she is always attentive to the responsibilities which she has received from the former conferences, she heeds and practices the teachings given out by the sister nations and by the nations of the Old World. Today she is free from those epidemic scourges which in the past impeded the march of her progress; in all her States, throughout her vast territory, remarkable progress has been made in connection with the sanitary problem, and the patriotic work for the good of her children never ceases for a single instant. She sees with pleasure that the family of scientists organized by Oswaldo Cruz has been joined by the entire class of physicians, politicians, rulers, and people, all of whom place absolute confidence in the results derived from the intelligent and opportune application of the dictates of hygiene. She offers on the Atlantic her great Metropolis, perfectly sanified, and Hygeia finds beside the resplendent Guanabara endless forests and lofty mountains, which are her favorite dwelling place. And so she comes tranquil and confident to the Seventh Pan American Sanitary Conference, proclaiming, without boasting, but rather with modesty, her great achievements, trusting more than ever in the determinations which may be given out by this Conference, and which will be of extraordinary interest to the American nations and in particular to the Latin American ones.

With the best hopes for success, and in the name of Brazil, I cordially salute all the nations of America, the Seventh Pan American Sanitary Conference, and all its members. To Cuba, the seat of the present Conference, the birthplace of great men, the land which has given out great lessons in Hygiene and Prophylaxis, one which contributed to the immortalization of a learned Brazilian, the great Oswaldo Cruz, a country of great ideals, built with the blood of its martyrs, to Cuba the glorious, Brazil renders her sincere homage and her most devoted affection.

The Secretary read the following letter from Dr. Ricardo Gutiérrez Lee, Delegate of Colombia:

Havana, November 5, 1924.

Dr. Mario G. Lebrede,

Chairman of the Seventh Pan American Sanitary Conference,
City.

Mr. Chairman: I regret to inform you that I shall not be able to be present today at the inauguration of the notable event which has for its object the discussion of social and scientific problems, to the end that they may be laid before the different countries, where these seeds of wisdom may develop and bear adequate fruits for the use of all diligent inquirers.

During these last two months my illness has assumed the character of a crisis, to the extent that I am deprived for the present of the honor of being with you personally, but I am with you in spirit. As Delegate of Colombia, I send you in her name, and in my own, a message of sympathy, admiration, and respect for the Cuban nation, which is devoting so much attention to these subjects, not so much for herself as for the good of the sister nations, who seek in her topography and scientific elements, rules for their own development, that it may equal the splendor shown by Cuban progress at all times. At the same time I beg to offer to the Delegates of our sister Spanish-American nations my greetings of welcome and to express the wish that not only may their stay in this city be pleasant, but that they may obtain the mutual benefits which human wisdom sheds through such efficient means as are represented by the Delegates here present.

With the expression of my most distinguished consideration, I subscribe myself,

Yours very truly,

GUTIÉRREZ LEE.

The Chairman: Dr. Leopoldo Paz, Delegate of El Salvador, has

also expressed his inability to attend this session, on account of illness.

Dr. José Varela Zequeira, Delegate of Costa Rica, has the floor.

Dr. José Varela Zequeira: Mr. Secretary of State, Mr. Provisional Chairman, Messrs. Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen:

The stirring notes of the Costa Rican anthem have sunk deep into my bosom, no less than have the notes of the national anthem of my own country, and awakened in me undying memories of those long and agonizing years of emigration and exodus of Cubans to foreign countries, when the storm of revolution had swept over their native land and turned Cuba into a floating spot of blood in the midst of the ocean. When Cuban families turned from their impoverished and desolate homes to seek refuge in foreign parts that they might not be forced to dwell in the midst of oppression and despotism in the land of their birth, when, like branches laden with flowers and fruits, their families emigrated to every part of the world, it fell to my lot to emigrate with my family to Costa Rica, which I look upon as my adopted country, there to receive the warm-hearted and generous hospitality of that country, of that lovely people, of that Republic, small in the size of its territory, but great in the virtue of its children, in the ineffable charm of its women, in the industriousness of its inhabitants, and in the incomparable beauty of its climate.

The grateful memories of the hospitality bestowed upon Cuban physicians in Costa Rica will live in our hearts forever.

You see, Gentlemen, why I could not do otherwise than accept, and I have accepted with pleasure, the honor of representing Costa Rica at this memorable Conference; and I have done so, not only as a duty of undying gratitude toward the Costa Rican nation, but because, as a Cuban, and as a Costa Rican Delegate, I desire to cooperate, in the measure of my modest powers, toward the solution of the problems, and to facilitate the profitable work which will evolve during these coming days as one of the ripest fruits of Pan Americanism, because it is in accord with the law of the international solidarity of the American Republics.

Much discussion has been carried on between the strenuous defenders and the assailants of Pan Americanism, but at the present time the problem appears to be settled for all statesmen and men of science. There would be no reason for Pan Americanism to exist, neither would it have crystallized into a reality, nor be possessed of any vitality, if it did not rest on two great postulates. The first of these is respect for territorial integrity, the independence and freedom

of every people, and particularly of all those who occupy the American continent—those who abide upon its fertile hillsides, on its high table-lands, or on the slopes of the Andes, and in the smiling valleys that lie between them—those who have already reached the summit of their greatness and glory, and those who still labor in the process of a slow but sure evolution; but all of whom are filled with the earnest desire and hope of attaining to a higher stage of civilization and culture, and all of whom are clear and outspoken in their demands of respect for their national integrity, their liberty and their independence. And they desire it, not only in this sense, but they claim and demand that they be not disturbed in their natural evolution; for nations, like individuals, are born, grow, develop, and die; and the evolution of nations is slow and constant, but sure. The other postulate, no less important than the first, is the adoption of an international treaty of maritime health. Yes, gentlemen, because, throughout the whole scale of human values, whether material or spiritual, public health occupies the highest place. This is so, because it opens the doors of all the nobilities of life, because it facilitates commercial interchange, preserves the people against epidemics, causes industry to flourish, opens the flow of a fertile and fruitful immigration. For this reason, the Pan American Sanitary Bureau of Washington has prepared a draft of a Maritime International Code, and the purpose and object of this Conference is to discuss and approve this draft, in order that it may be converted into an international treaty.

A fruitful task, as the Honorable Secretary of State has said in his splendid address, is this which we are about to undertake, and one which no doubt will prove a profitable and useful work for the entire American continent.

In conclusion, I cordially greet all the Delegates of the American Republics and earnestly hope that with our hands joined in the task which we have at heart, we may proceed in a spirit of fraternal amity as we approach the shrine of modern life, the strenuous life, life full and complete, beautified by art, dignified by science, ennobled by a regard for truth and the law, and for the independence of the fatherland.

The Chairman: The Delegate of the Republic of Chile, Dr. Carlos Graf, has the floor.

Dr. Carlos Graf: Your Excellencies, the Ministers; Mr. Chairman of the Seventh Pan American Conference; Messrs. Delegates; Ladies and Gentlemen:

The Republic of the Lone Star of South America sends her most cordial greetings to the Republic of the Lone Star of the North, and to all the other American Republics in the persons of their Delegates to this Conference here assembled.

On this new occasion, she desires to express once more her admiration for the progress attained by her younger sister; for her glorious liberators Gómez, Maceo and Martí and their companions; for her men of science, who are the heroes of peace, as deserving as any of the gratitude of the human race,—heroes incarnated here in the genial intuition of Carlos Finlay, in the martyrdom of Lazear and the prodigious labor of him who was your venerable master, the initiator and founder of the able, numerous and brilliant Cuban Medical Press.

A people who have overcome the most terrible forces of destruction with weapons of energy and character and the creative forces of science, need have no fear of any forces destructive of life, whether determined by man under the power of the atavism of his primitive existence, or by the mighty forces which lie bound up and latent in the tiny germs of disease and death.

Chile rejoices, with the joy of an elder sister, as she applauds the progress and predicts the grandeur of this Pearl of the Antilles, and she hastens to join her other sisters in their expressions of affection.

We have met once more as the representatives of all the sister countries of the World of Columbus, who are anxious to secure the progress and improvement of our sanitary institutions and are advancing with firm and sure steps, in harmony with the spirit which animates us, in the pursuit of the health, well-being and adequate development of our races, free from the ravages of the hundred-headed Hydra of vice and pain, and to extend, as far as possible, these benefits to all the other countries of the world, seeing that by the laws of Nature, younger beings should lend their aid to their elders.

Let us work and hope to the end that our efforts may lead to action at once intense, foreseeing and energetic, and calculated to restore or create a healthier, happier and more honorable human race.

The Chairman: The Delegate of the United States of America, Dr. Hugh S. Cumming, has the floor.

Dr. Hugh S. Cumming spoke in English.

The Chairman: Dr. José de Cubas, Delegate of the Republic of Guatemala, has the floor.

Dr. José de Cubas: Honorable Secretary of State, Mr. Chairman of the Seventh Pan American Conference, Messrs. Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen:

The Government of the Republic of Guatemala has done me the honor of appointing me its delegate to this Conference, which begins its labors with this solemn session.

The sanitary questions which are to be submitted to its consideration and resolution are of capital importance and positive results to the sanitary future of humanity.

Allow me, in the name of the Republic which I represent, to present my respects to the Organizing Committee, to address my fraternal salutations to the Delegates of the Republics represented at this Conference, and to express my best wishes for the success of the same.

The Chairman: The Delegate of the Republic of Haiti, Dr. Charles Mathon, has the floor.

Dr. Charles Mathon: Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen:

In the name of the Republic of Haiti, I thank the Republic of Cuba for the great honor of inviting us to take part in the work of the Seventh Pan American Sanitary Conference, and to cooperate here in the advancement of sanitary hygiene.

From this meeting I am sure that great good will arise for the prosperity of the nations of the New World. Indeed, what is the end sought in assemblies of this kind? It is to diminish those diseases to which humanity is exposed, to restrict their chance of contamination and their virulence, to increase the birthrate, and to increase the span of life as much as possible, and thus render nations prosperous and strong.

Moreover, I am convinced that the Seventh Pan American Sanitary Conference which is being opened today will not only prove profitable for the community, but will also serve to strengthen the bonds of fraternity and solidarity which ought to exist between the members of the great medical family.

In expressing my most ardent wishes for the fruitful and happy results of your deliberations, I beg you to accept, Mr. Chairman, the expression of the deepest gratitude of the Republic of Haiti.

The Chairman: The Delegate of the Republic of Honduras, Dr. Arístides Agramonte, has the floor.

Dr. Arístides Agramonte: Honorable Secretary of State, Hon-

orable Rector of the University, Mr. Chairman of the Seventh Pan American Sanitary Conference, Messrs. Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen:

The Government of the Republic of Honduras, notwithstanding the grave political problems with which it is compelled to cope at the present time, has been duly impressed with the necessity of attending this important meeting, and being prevented by the shortness of time from being represented by one of its well-known professionals, has done me the honor to select me to be present and report the proceedings of the meeting and such resolutions as may be adopted thereat.

It is particularly gratifying to me to take part in this Conference, the more so because it is now exactly twenty-three years since the kindred occasion of the meeting in this city of the Congress of Pan American Physicians, which announced to the scientific world, in the Spanish language through me and through the lamented Colonel Reed in English, the refutation which has converted into a doctrine the theory maintained by our illustrious countryman Carlos Finlay, which served to eradicate, I hope forever, the plague of yellow fever which abounded in the countries here represented. And while I am conscious of my deficiencies, I can assure you, gentlemen, that you will have in me an attentive hearer and an enthusiastic collaborator.

And so, in the name of the Government of Honduras, and more particularly of its Provisional President, the Honorable Vicente Tosta, I present my greetings to the Seventh Pan American Sanitary Conference at this solemn inaugural session, and express my sincere and fervent wishes for its complete success.

The Chairman: Dr. Alfonso Pruneda, Delegate of the United States of Mexico, has the floor.

Dr. Alfonso Pruneda: Mr. Secretary of State, Mr. Chairman of the Conference, Messrs. Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen:

I have the feeling that the Organizing Committee was inspired with the thought of that great man who, next to being a Frenchman, has deserved to be called a citizen of humanity, Pasteur, when he said that every man of science must have a country to which he may offer whatever he has done for science and for humanity, seeing that science and humanity have no country.

The Organizing Committee, Ladies and Gentlemen, has had the extreme goodness to cause us to hear the anthems of our countries, and we all have felt what I have felt in these moments, and what the honorable

Delegate from Costa Rica has felt as well, on hearing our national anthems far away from our native land; for it recalls to mind our traditions, the blood of our heroes, and also—even when their efforts have not yet been crowned with success—the future of our countries. And it seems to me gentlemen, that this delicate thought, united as it is with that other one of adorning this hall with the banners of our countries, serves to interweave with joyous and beautiful wings this Pan American idea, this soul of America which the Honorable Secretary of State beheld hovering within the spirit of the eloquent address with which he favored us a moment ago.

To Mexico belongs the credit of having been the seat of the Second Pan American Conference, whence arose the idea of these conferences. She may well feel pride and satisfaction that the work which had its beginning there in those old colonial halls which we cherish so lovingly, continues developing, until it shall have reached the goal we expect of it. But there is another reason why Mexico should not fail to take part in such an important meeting as this. First, because Cubans know that there are few countries by whom they are as well beloved as by Mexico, for there have been painful moments in our histories, difficult and sorrowful passages in which Cubans have found the doors of Mexican homes open to them, and in which we Mexicans in our turn have found the doors of Cuban homes wide open to us, and these things, which are done with the heart, and which are done in love, are the things that serve as ties between peoples, and sink deep into their minds to bind them closer and closer in their mutual relations.

There was still another reason why Mexico could not be absent. In consequence of her geographical situation and her biological condition, it has fallen to the lot of Mexico to be one of the principal objects of these sanitary meetings. It may be true or not that Yucatan is the starting point of yellow fever, it may be a matter of discussion whether the rich and beautiful civilization of the Mayas, as some American historians have long maintained, was destined to be its grave; but it is certain that our country for many years presented to the world the spectacle of a coast ravaged by that terrible scourge. Mexico, gentlemen, has not stood still in the movement begun by Don Eduardo Liceaga, the record of which has floated here, thanks to the generosity of the Delegate from Argentina, and little by little, with the efforts of her children, and within the limits of her possibilities, and in the midst of her sufferings and struggles, she is approaching slowly—I feel sure that she is approaching the end

of the campaign which is destined to bring to a close the terrible scourge in her bosom. And so it is our particular duty to be present at this Conference. This presence of Mexico, on the other hand, is nothing more than one of the chapters of the international sanitary policy which the outgoing government has laid down from the beginning:—A policy of frank cooperation, first with the American peoples, and then with the peoples of the whole world, this interest which is not only American, but is human. Willingness to lay its sanitary situation in all frankness before the whole world, and a sincere desire to learn whatever other nations and whatever other men of science are capable of teaching, and moreover a desire to receive with gratitude, love, and interest, generous help such as has been given by the Board of Health of the Rockefeller Foundation and by the people of the United States to help carry on the fight with greater strength, energy and resources against our principal diseases.

Mexico has sent one of its most modest citizens. He comes to you animated by the best intentions to learn as much as he can; and he also comes with a sincere desire to submit to the consideration of the Conference what Mexico has done and what she proposes to do. Above all, he comes with the honest hope of learning from his older brethren what there is to be done in the matter of hygiene, to contribute, as we all should, whether individuals or institutions, to the welfare of our countries, and consequently, to the welfare of humanity.

Mr. Secretary of State, the country of Hidalgo, of Juárez, and of Liceaga sends by me as her humble messenger, a laurel for the country of Maceo, of Martí, and of Finlay.

Messrs. Delegates of the Conference: Mexico bids me present to you her respectful salutations and her best wishes to the end that this Conference, which meets under the auspices of the glorious banner of Cuba, may fully attain the great objects which it has in view

The Chairman: The Delegate of the Republic of Panama, Dr. Jaime de la Guardia, has the floor.

Dr. Jaime de la Guardia: I hold it a great privilege to raise my voice in the land of Finlay, a name which symbolizes one of the primary causes in the rapid development of the Panamanian Republic during the short twenty years of its existence—the genial discovery of the superman whose creative mind opened the way for all the possibilities of the greatest work of engineering of all times—

and indirectly made possible the realization of the aspirations of a people who fervently desired to enter into the concourse of free nations.

I am, gentlemen, the bearer of a message of close fraternity from a country where I should be very happy indeed to see you. The Republic of Panama, which arose in conditions very similar to your own, and which was influenced by similar international currents, feels the necessity of maintaining the closest relations with Cuba, for the triumphs and adversities of the one are lessons of achievement for the other. It is logical, therefore, that on the mutual state of their contemporary problems should depend to a great extent the brilliant future to which both, for geographical reasons as well as others, are inescapably destined.

Now, gentlemen, it is a psychological fact, ably expressed by a great Argentinian thinker, that close understandings are the result of close friendships. It is thus that we understand it in Panama, and we are the unconditional friends of the Pearl of America, as on a memorable occasion this hospitable and generous land has been christened by the eminent Argentinian surgeon, Doctor José Arce.

Indeed, it was but yesterday that the visit to our shores of a representative group of the younger generation of Cuba (the Caribes), enabled us to realize that this feeling of frank fraternity and sincere love for your country, was not limited to the directing classes, who from being familiar with the Homeric epic of your independence, admired and cherished this fruitful land, mother of Martí, of Agramonte, of Céspedes, of Maceo, but extended to the most humble classes of our people who assembled in crowds at the railway stations to give a cordial welcome to the Cuban students; a welcome which took on the character of a veritable ovation. The idiosyncrasy of our peoples is so similar that Cubans and Panamanians were soon seen about our gay and hospitable city in frank comradeship. And this fact, gentlemen, will undoubtedly prove of capital importance in the approximation of our peoples, for it means that the youth of both countries, before aiding one another, have learned to understand and to love one another.

This simple story of a fact—which to me is very representative, tends to explain the intense sincerity of the affectionate greeting which the Republic of Panama sends you through me.

It cannot be doubted that the Seventh Pan American Sanitary Conference, from the favorable auspices under which it meets, and from the potentialities of the representatives of which it is com-

posed, will be crowned with success and will bring as a logical result the closest approximation between all the peoples of America, an ideal which should live perennially in the mind of every American.

The Chairman: The Delegate of the Republic of Paraguay, Dr. Andrés Gubetich, has the floor.

Dr. Andrés Gubetich: Your Excellency the President; Messrs. Ministers; Messrs. Delegates; Ladies and Gentlemen:

In the name of the Government of Paraguay, which has entrusted to me the honorable mission of representing it at this Conference, I fulfill the pleasant duty of saluting the heroic Cuban nation, and expressing the most cordial and fraternal friendship for the noble and brave Cuban people, and my best wishes for the happiness of the Delegates of the American Republics here assembled, and for the distinguished Cuban ladies who bring to this assembly the perfume of their virtues and the charm of their beauty.

I bring to this important conference the expression of the wish of my Government for the approval of such resolutions and conventions as may contribute to the betterment of the peoples of our continent.

And I salute, as an expression of America, this Atlantis, this hope of the human race, dreamed of by poets and deduced as a necessity of geographic equilibrium by the wise men of the ancient world. To America, to the men of our generation, belongs the task imposed by the mandate of history directing the great work of reconstruction after the European War. Let us set about it in the full consciousness of our inexorable duty and of our grand destiny.

With our thoughts and our hearts let us bridge our political frontiers to form the collective American soul which is to be the soul of future humanity.

Let us perform a solid and profitable work for the benefit of those noble ideals which have been entrusted to us, that is, for the benefit of the defense of the health of the nations.

In the name of my country, Paraguay, I have the honor of co-operating sincerely in the labors and resolutions of this Conference, at which the most interesting sanitary problems are to be discussed, in the sincere hope that our Conference may be as useful and fruitful in practical resolutions as the former ones, and may contribute to strengthen more and more the bonds that unite us.

The Chairman: Dr. Carlos Enrique Paz Soldán, the Delegate from Peru, has the floor.

Dr. Enrique Paz Soldán: Your Excellency, the Minister of Foreign Affairs; Your Excellency, the Minister of Health and Public Welfare; Your Excellency, the Chairman of the Conference; Ladies and Gentlemen:

"Let all Cuba know the depth of our affection and our devotion to Peruvo-Cuban cordiality," were the words with which our eminent President, Don Augusto B. Leguía bade me adieu in Lima, and indeed I am not sure whether I shall be able duly to accomplish this delicate mission, because these words are not only the thought of my Government, but they come from the soul of the Peruvian people who, for many years, have learned to think of all the glories, the sufferings, the discouragements and the joys of this splendid country as their own.

And yet the hour is propitious. This Seventh Pan American Sanitary Conference has a greater significance than any which preceded it in this task of insuring a better medico-social future for America. Indeed, this Seventh Conference ought to bring forth from the mysteries of science those definite acquisitions which, applied by governments, must have the effect of determining health, and with it biological well-being, both of which are irreplaceable motives of human justice, labor and progress.

This is the lesson which Europe offers us after the close of that terrible and merciless war which destroyed all the utopias and all the hopes of cordiality among her people, as she turns her attention to the creation of technical and political organisms calculated to restore to mankind the inestimable treasure of a healthy life. The Section of Hygiene of the League of Nations is the means which has been employed to convert into fruitful realities this ideal of reinvigorating the old races which inhabit Europe.

America must follow this example, but without falling into imitation, which often leads to harmful results. And it is precisely at this point that appears, fortunately for our continent, the full force of the cordial feelings which inspire my speech and which circulate in the pronouncements of this evening, and which tend to create, above traditional frontiers, the great confederation of Pan American friendship. There is nothing throughout the whole extent of the Columbian World capable of serving as an obstacle to our cordial communion. And even the two great centers of different races which characterize our continent, far from appearing antagonistic and hostile, are like

the two great aerals whose function is to receive the voice of peace and concord, as it proclaims the political culmination of the World of Columbus in the future of the globe.

From this feeling of brotherhood among men; from this magnificent spectacle which we now present to America, in this hall in which are assembled the representatives of 200,000,000 souls and 21 different countries in a close union of brotherhood and common aims, and from the fact that this meeting takes place in Cuba, I feel, deep down in my American heart, that a decisive hour is striking in the common and lasting destinies of the Continent.

But before I conclude, I desire to justify my optimism by showing how important for the attainment of this ideal of fraternity is the fact that the Island of Cuba is the providential scene of our task.

The setting of these events for our own day and time is in obedience to the mandates of History and Geography, which take no heed of the opinions of men. Historically, Cuba represents the door through which Europe penetrated the virgin mysteries of the Continent, whither she had been brought by Spain and her children, in a union which had for its witnesses the Tropic, the Sky and the Sun, and for its nuptial couch the dazzling range of the Andes; and it was again through Cuba that the nation which filled the whole compass of history with her deeds, once her providential mission had been fulfilled, returned to her old and original home; but when she folded her banner, she left behind her, as the perennial reflex of its colors, the glittering gold of her language and the glorious purple of her adventurous and illustrious blood.

And as if this were not enough, we have yet the command of Geography, which allots to whatever work is undertaken here a destiny of triumphs that no man would dare deny. When we look at a map of the New World, we have the impression that Cuba had yielded to her impatience and separated herself from the rest of the Continent in her haste to lay the broader mainland at the feet of Columbus and his companions, as the reward of their legendary voyage; and, in the pride of her insular position, she has become a fortunate spectator, as sitting apart from a multitudinous sum of activity and grandeur, she is able the better to watch its phenomenal progress. Cuba seems absorbed in the contemplation of the panorama of the three Americas, who seem desirous of imprisoning her in their fond embrace.

All these living forces—the cordiality of men, the dictates of History and Geography, exceed the bounds of my enthusiasm and cause me to seal my lips in order that we may all commune in silence on

the pregnant future that unfolds itself before us. Therefore, in the name of Peru, I express the hope that this Seventh Pan American Sanitary Conference may be inscribed in letters of gold in the annals of the internationalization of American Public Hygiene.

Gentlemen, please accept the greetings of my country, and her best wishes for the success of the Conference.

The Chairman: The Delegate of the Dominican Republic, Dr. R. Pérez Cabral, has the floor.

Dr. R. Pérez Cabral: Honorable Secretary of State; Mr. Chairman of the Conference; Messrs. Delegates; Ladies and Gentlemen:

The Dominican Republic, whose representative I have the honor to be, sends you cordial greetings. She is happy to attend this assembly, which is a great event as being devoted to the all-important subject of Public Health, and for the select character of the representation of the nations taking part.

The Dominican Republic, which, like all tropical countries, paid a heavy toll to the spectre of yellow fever and malaria, will ever retain the deepest gratitude for that apostle whose doctrine made possible the opening of communication with the Pacific, and opened a luminous horizon to science as the forerunner of the scientific and invaluable truth of the transmission of diseases by insects as intermediate hosts; a doctrine to which, as an act of justice, we should give the name of Finlayism.

I have said.

The Chairman: The Delegate of the Republic of Uruguay, Dr. Justo F. González, has the floor.

Dr. Justo F. González: Your Excellencies the Ministers; Mr. Chairman of the Conference; Messrs. Delegates; Ladies and Gentlemen:

The Government of the Republic of Uruguay has joined the Seventh Pan American Sanitary Conference, owing to the interest awakened by these scientific meetings which contribute to the welfare of the nations of America. The defense of the collective health is today a constant preoccupation of the American States, and it is chiefly the desire of attaining a higher degree of improvement in hygiene that determines these scientific meetings, at which questions of varied natures are considered, discussed and sanctioned, among them being those which are at present capable of insuring the prompt elimination of a great number of diseases from our territories through

private, collective and common action. It is necessary to protect health and avoid disease. We must lean on the progress of preventive medicine. In this regard, we must call attention to the manner in which the United States stands out in singular relief, and to the practical welfare work which has been going on for some time in that great country, and which now holds a place of preference in the social organization.

Every modern State should give proper fulfillment to this function, and we may say that, both on the Atlantic and Pacific coasts, the present tendency is to improve the conditions of life of all the people. The same may be observed in Central America, and particularly in this beautiful Republic of Cuba, whose sanitary organization is of a model character.

Undoubtedly each country has local problems of hygiene to solve. There are also problems that refer to certain zones, in which are included various nations. Regarding all those questions which pertain to the health of the people, it is convenient to undertake a common defensive action, with an exact knowledge of the diseases which develop in each State and particularly of those which are called preventable ones. At the former Conferences prophylactic themes of the greatest importance for the public and collective health have been analyzed, and at this meeting we are called upon to take up an important problem of an international character regarding Maritime Health, which had been studied and put in the form of a draft by the Pan American Sanitary Bureau of Washington, and this augurs a greater sanitary intelligence throughout the continent.

Gentlemen: We meet today in this beautiful country, the birthplace of Finlay and other illustrious investigators, on this fertile and prodigal soil, in this Pearl of the Antilles, as we are accustomed to call it, in Cuba, in the lovely and hospitable city of Havana, where such a hearty welcome is being given us, and to which I bring from my far-away homeland a cordial message of fraternal greeting. On beginning our labors in this Republic which ceases not in her progressive movement, in her constant advancement to the goal through the persevering efforts of her children, I express my best wishes for the complete success of the Seventh Pan American Sanitary Conference, of this important meeting of scientific Pan Americanism.

The Chairman: Dr. Antonio Smith, Delegate of the United States of Venezuela, has the floor.

Dr. Antonio Smith: First of all, allow me to present to the beauti-

ful and prosperous Cuban nation and its most worthy President, the cordial greetings of the Government and people of Venezuela, whose delegates we have the honor of being. Our Government received with special pleasure and enthusiasm the kind invitation of this sister republic to take part in this learned Pan American Sanitary Conference; at which, no doubt, subjects of the greatest interest for the peoples of America will be discussed. Its participation is the more natural since our country, animated as she is by the noblest ideal of Pan American fraternity, could do no less than bring her grain of sand of good-will to the realization of this grand work of civilization and culture, which the prominent scientific personalities of these sister nations are building with unceasing industry and care.

Honorable Delegates: In this serene atmosphere of the most exquisite cordiality, in these solemn moments in which the representatives of the different groups which compose the American world are met to render closer the bonds of fraternity which hold us together for the race and for our vital common interests, in these moments, I repeat, it is exceedingly gratifying to us Venezuelans to pronounce with deep national feeling the name of our father and liberator, Simón Bolívar, a name which under this cerulean Cuban sky will vibrate in unison and radiant harmony with the name of the glorious José Martí, the spiritual pinnacle of Latin America, the heart and brain of the gallant Cuban nationality. Bolívar it was, indeed, who, as a true representative of the American race, with a gesture of his genius, conceived the idea of convoking the memorable Pan American Congress which took place in the city of Panama; if the adverse circumstances of the times rendered impossible an immediate result of that meeting, there remained, on the other hand, in the furrow the seed of that good idea which, with the passage of time, was destined to germinate and transform itself into these most learned scientific meetings which have been so fruitful in positive good for all the nations of America. At the first glance we perceive the transcendental importance embodied in the patriotic ideal which has centered today in this Seventh Pan American Sanitary Conference. From the practical results which are derived from preventive medical science, we are shown the facts, which express better than words what the will of man can do, when guided by intelligence, for the happiness and welfare of the nations.

And indeed, we have a grand example of this in the sanitation of this beautiful Capital City. The splendid work which her men of science have realized under the impulse of the purest love of country

has given to the world in a supreme effort of the will, the miracle of the annihilation of the terrible scourge of yellow fever, and reduced to zero this factor of death and stagnation which twenty-five years ago laid a grievous toll on the progressive development of this fertile piece of American soil. Thus, through this patriotic work, Cuba has undergone a complete transformation and is now moving forward with rapid and sure steps toward the goal of its material and intellectual perfection. And now, through this work, this beautiful city of Havana is developing in health and strength and the joy of living, and is becoming a populous and happy city, a gallant and lovely city, the ornament and pride of Latin America.

Honorable Delegates who compose the Preparatory Committee of this Sanitary Conference, on shaking your hands I give you our cordial congratulations for the efficient and brilliant manner in which you have fulfilled your arduous task,—in the name of our beloved Venezuela, we express our most fervent wishes for the complete success of the deliberations of this Seventh Pan American Sanitary Conference.

The Chairman: Dr. J. D. Long, Representative of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau, has the floor.

Dr. J. D. Long: Mr. Secretary of State, Mr. Provisional Chairman of the Conference, Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen:

On behalf of the Pan American Union and the Pan American Sanitary Bureau, both of which agencies I have the honor to represent here, I wish to extend to you the warmest of greetings. That this Conference cannot fail to be productive of good, a glance at the program will show. While much has been accomplished by previous gatherings of this kind, let us hope that more complete international sanitary cooperation will result in the future than has in the past.

In conclusion, I am authorized to offer the complete cooperation and assistance of the Pan American Union and Pan American Sanitary Bureau and the cordial good wishes of both for the success of this Conference.

ADDRESS OF DR. MARIO G. LEBREDO

Provisional Chairman of the Conference

The event of the opening of the Seventh Pan American Sanitary Conference will be marked as a date of peculiar significance for Cuba. So highly gratifying for the national pride is this event, which affords us an occasion to receive our Pan American brethren

in our little Caribbean Republic, that I cannot find words to express fully our feelings on this occasion when, in the capacity of provisional chairman of the Conference, I fulfill the pleasant task of bidding you welcome.

I cannot refrain from referring to the representative quality of the illustrious delegates—many of them old acquaintances—who now come to us invested with a high plenipotentiary character and the delicate mission of uniting the interests of their own countries with the collective Pan American interests, within the vast international sanitary system which is beautifully represented at this Conference. Here we have: representing the great Argentine nation, Professor Gregorio Aráoz Alfaro, president of the National Department of Hygiene, whose works and high official character invest him with marked authority at this meeting; and Doctor Joaquín Llambías, professor of pathological anatomy and member of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau, who, at the Sixth Sanitary Conference had the extreme kindness, for which we shall ever be grateful, to request in words of fraternal cordiality for Cuba, that the Conference designate by unanimous vote the city of Havana for the seat of the present Conference, a motion which was carried by acclamation: the learned Doctor Carlos Enrique Paz Soldán, professor of hygiene of the University of Lima and a representative figure of great value of the intellectual younger generation of Peru, who was also a delegate at the former Conference: Professor Nascimento Gurgel, representing Brazil, who, with his wisdom and the charm of his eloquence filled us with admiration and pleasure at the Latin American Medical Congress which took place recently at Havana, and his colleague in the Delegation, Doctor Raúl Almeida Magalhães, Secretary General of the Department of Public Health of Brazil: Doctor Justo F. González, of the National Council of Hygiene, and professor of the faculty of medicine of Montevideo, a distinguished member of the Uruguayan Delegation at the former Conference: Doctor Alfonso Pruneda, eminent representative of the Mexican nation, Sub-Director of the Department of Health of Mexico: Doctor Carlos Graf, Secretary of the Institute of Hygiene, and learned delegate of Chile, which was the seat of a recent conference of great importance: Doctor Enrique Tejera, Director of the Laboratory of Health of Venezuela, and Doctor Antonio Smith, representing the cultured Venezuelan nation: Dr. Charles Mathon, clinical professor of the University of Haiti: Doctor Andrés Gubetich, who comes to us from the Congress which was held in Chile, and Doctor Leopoldo Paz, important delegates

of the Republics of Paraguay and El Salvador: Doctors Jaime de la Guardia and Pérez Cabral, our dear friends representing the Republics of Panama and Santo Domingo: and lastly, Doctor J. D. Long, who was for many years Director of Health in the Philippines, and who was a most competent assistant of the Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau in the preliminary work of this Conference: Dr. Richard Creel, expert of the United States Public Health Service, with whom we have had occasion to maintain official and friendly relations during the various missions on which he has been sent to Cuba; and also with the American Delegation we have Doctor Francis Patterson and Mr. P. D. Cronin, experts of the Department of Agriculture of Washington in industrial hygiene, and as chairman of that important Delegation, the Surgeon General of the United States Public Health Service, Doctor Hugh S. Cumming, who to his personal merits adds the great prestige of the high representative position which he holds in these Conferences as Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau.

Costa Rica, Guatemala and Honduras have honored our country by appointing as their representatives three Cuban scientists, Doctor José de Cubas, a distinguished physician held in high public repute; Doctor José Varela Zequeira, an eminent and conspicuous physician, who as a man of letters and genial speaker, ranks very highly among our most admired intellects; and Doctor Arístides Agramonte, who, by reason of his achievements in the classic investigations on yellow fever with the famous American Commission of which he formed part and is the last surviving member, and for his works on parasitology and epidemiology, has succeeded in acquiring a well-deserved and world-wide reputation. Lastly, Colombia has chosen as her representative her minister in Cuba, Doctor Gutiérrez Lee, a dear friend of the Cubans, with whom he has been in friendly touch for many years—Colombia, which has as its Director General of Health, Doctor Pablo García Medina, distinguished for his unbounded enthusiasm at the former Conference, and whose absence we lament, as he holds the enviable post of Honorary Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau.

But, gentlemen, it is with deep regret that I must add that three sister republics have not been able to attend: Bolivia, Nicaragua, and Ecuador. The absence of Ecuador is particularly to be regretted in view of the brilliant campaign which she led against yellow fever in accord with the celebrated plan of Gorgas to wipe out this plague from America.

Before going further we must dedicate a tribute of gratitude to the memory of Doctor Ernesto Fernández Espiro, recently deceased, who was president of the Sixth Sanitary Conference, and who, with admirable tact and great ability, directed the proceedings of that important meeting at Montevideo and to whom I owe personally the kindness of proposing me for provisional chairman of this, the Seventh Pan American Sanitary Conference. To him I am indebted for the great honor which I now have of opening the proceedings of organization, sharing the work of my esteemed companions who have been and who are animated by the firm purpose of doing everything in their power to the end that you may take with you the most pleasant impressions of our country. It is useless to say that if the Organizing Committee has carried its task to a successful termination, with entire satisfaction, in their desire to extend to you a worthy reception, it is because of the decisive support which the Honorable President of the Republic and the Secretaries of State and of Health and Welfare have rendered from the very start. This Conference is no doubt destined to be fruitful in practical results. To entertain this hope it is enough to peruse the program, a product of resolutions adopted at the Sixth International Sanitary Conference and at the Fifth International Conference of American States (now called Pan American Conferences), and to reflect that one of the most important subjects—if not the most important of all—to be considered and approved is the Sanitary Maritime Code, which is to take the place of the sanitary precepts by which we have been governed since the year 1905, in point of fact, the first Pan American Sanitary Code, adopted at the Second International Sanitary Conference held in Washington and ratified later by the governments of fourteen of the Republics represented at that Conference.

The mention of this code which we are about to consider brings to mind the memory of three illustrious men, the historical champions of the new science, who, by efforts exerted without intermission in the first conferences, laid, so to speak, the solid foundation on which the new Pan American International Sanitary organization now stands: Finlay, Gorgas, and Liceaga, who have disappeared forever, and Guiteras, now absent at his retreat of "San Augustin." Finlay, the genial discoverer of the transmission of yellow fever by the mosquito now called *Aedes aegypti*, and to whom humanity is deeply indebted: Gorgas, the wonderful applier of the methods derived from that discovery,—lofty figure of a marvelous era which showed to an astonished world in a positive manner how absolute may be the con-

quests of sanitary science: Liceaga, the beloved Mexican whose memory gives rise to feelings of affection and admiration from the goodness of his character, from the high moral worth of which he gave proof in the fulfillment of his international sanitary engagements, and from his powerful mental capacity both for great conceptions and for their complete execution. And Guiteras? He should be here in this same place where he has so often been before, speaking words of experience and wisdom, words of a venerable and revered master, as was said of him in a memorable speech at Matanzas by Doctor Nascimento Gurgel. Nor must we fail to render a tribute to the memory of another great figure of the American continent, the illustrious Oswaldo Cruz, for his important contribution to the progress of hygiene in the Western Hemisphere.

Gentlemen, I believe that the hour of the greatest splendor of hygiene has struck; if we turn to the past to dwell on the progress that has been made since the time of Pasteur, we can but marvel at the speed with which the important discoveries regarding transmissible diseases have taken place. The isolation and study of a great number of causative micro-organisms, and with them the possibility of proving the diagnosis in many cases; the complete control of the epidemiology of these diseases through the knowledge of the natural vectors of their etiological agents, and through it, the control of the agents of their propagation; and the multitude of biological principles which have arisen from the manipulation of these causative agents, have placed the sanitarian in the best position imaginable to carry on the fight and conquer these agents of disease.

But the point at which hygiene showed itself a mighty torrent of practical benefits and the very climax of human genius, was on the application of its faculties to the investigation and solution of important biological and epidemiological problems, such as those corresponding to the propagation of malaria, filaria and yellow fever, the plague, typhus, etc., through the medium of insects. Nothing can be more wonderful than these acts of propagation perfectly defined and verified with mathematical exactness, which would seem rather the work of intelligence than the reactions obedient to inflexible stimuli, prodigious agencies of epidemiology which nature employs for the perpetuation of the races of these tiny organisms.

Armed with these assurances, contemporary hygiene has been able to dictate precise and insuperable precepts and methods, of such capital importance in the matter of preventing the propagation of a great number of transmissible diseases, and with such positive success when

applied, that they have been declared "obligatory" by reason of their special prophylactic action.

And it was natural that in order to comply with the justifiable requirements of those countries which form part of the concert of civilized nations, they should engage to maintain definite organizations and official technical experts in accordance with those important features of modern sanitary science. These organizations and technical experts, were, until a short time since, reduced to terrestrial and maritime agencies, but the indisputable conquest of the air has brought with it the need of instituting sanitary protection against the possible invasion of epidemics by means of aircraft.

But gentlemen, this conditional "obligation" of which we have spoken, which was susceptible of being imposed locally by means of national sanitary ordinances, carried out to the point of practically solving the national sanitary problem in all countries of America which have a scientific sanitary organization, to a point where many of them have succeeded in eradicating epidemic diseases and even century-old endemics in their territory, fostering a high degree of popular discipline as regards hygienic subjects; this conditional "obligation," I repeat, could hardly be required of other countries, unless true formulas were sought for reciprocal engagements.

And yet it was necessary to seek formulas with great industry, seeing that the care of epidemiological defense ceased to be an exclusively national preoccupation, to become an international and more important one.

Those nations which succeeded in freeing themselves from grave diseases, thanks to their active sanitary work, in the fear of the possibility of new invasions from abroad, particularly from insular countries, were forced to seek formulas of collective international defense, and these they found at first in the shape of timid private arrangements, stipulations maintained through the cordial mutual identification of views and through the resulting spirit of companionship among the sanitary authorities of some of the neighboring nations, rather than through legal or diplomatic engagements based on written documents. Very soon there arose, as a result of the work of associations and congresses, several agreements of more or less extensive Pan American scope, in which, notwithstanding their lack of a legal character, as they were not reached by plenipotentiary delegates, favorable conclusions were suggested and even recommended for the solution of every important international epidemic question. And lastly, a method is being sought and attained in these Conferences to

which the delegates come invested with the high official authority of the governments which they represent, and in which all questions are discussed and resolved in open session, for the securing of regulations and codes which govern us in an equal manner, which comprise already a strict obligation and a most sacred Pan American international engagement, in which good faith prevails and must always prevail, and in which we are animated by a most intense spirit of fraternity and cooperation.

This rapid sketch makes clear what I said a moment ago, that the most splendid hour of Hygiene has struck when, through the changing spirit of purely curative medicine there has arisen as a true science, the science of sanitation. Sanitation exists as a single, positive, science and its teachings are as incontrovertible as are those teachings which have arisen under the impulse of necessity and experience in the daily struggle with disease, which at last we have been able to control in the sanitary field.

We have methods and we have teachers; we feel the thrill of the aspiration of the centuries—we are able to foresee without a shadow of doubt the Century of Hygiene—in the desire and the necessity of cleansing our territories of their avoidable diseases for the conquest of national well-being, riches and credit. The cooperative movement which has been going on so intensely in America, and in so practical and generous a manner through the wonderful Rockefeller Foundation, has passed over to the Eastern Hemisphere where it has carried not only the advantages of practical services, but also the means of education in sanitary hygiene; there exists an impetuous current of world-wide international cooperation, and the interchange of technical experience between the different nations of the world is an accomplished fact; the experts of the world have gone out to help in the great sanitary crises of the Far East. Today, the League of Nations is on the watch and is anxious to extend, and is extending its action in a practical manner, seeking means of acquiring information and of intervening in a cooperative fashion wherever the sanitary interests are threatened. Everything tends to the desire for the spreading of intellectual culture, and we may hope that in the end we shall have, concluded and in action—the fond aim and imperious necessity of which we have dreamed so long in Cuba—a Pan American school charged with directing the Pan American organizations which have been founded in view of the growing need of securing technical hygienists and thorough experts to control them, a school which shall be not only one of preventive medicine but also of sanitary science, be-

cause prevention is only prophylaxis, and this is not sufficient to combat transmissible diseases, which often have to be fought by additional means.

With this hope I shall conclude, gentlemen, but also with another vehement hope, which is that in the days which you are to spend here among us you may receive such expressions of respect and affection, of solicitous attentions and recognized esteem for yourselves and for your countries, and for the illustrious Chiefs of your respective nations, that you may always remember them as something very dear in your own lives, as something belonging to your own hearts.

(The session adjourned at midnight.)

MINUTES OF THE FIRST SESSION HELD BY THE SEVENTH PAN AMERICAN SANITARY CONFERENCE

November 6, 1924—Morning Session

In the city of Havana, on the sixth day of November, nineteen hundred and twenty-four, at ten o'clock in the morning, the Delegates to the Seventh Pan American Sanitary Conference assembled in the Hall of Honor of the Academy of Sciences, under the chairmanship of the Secretary of State of the Republic of Cuba, Dr. Carlos Manuel de Céspedes, and with the attendance of Dr. Gregorio Aráoz Alfaro and Dr. Joaquín Llambías, Delegates of Argentina; Dr. Nascimento Gurgel and Dr. Raúl Almeida Magalhães, Delegates of Brazil; Dr. Carlos Graf, Delegate of Chile; Dr. José Varela Zequeira, Delegate of Costa Rica; Drs. Mario G. Lebrede, José A. López del Valle, Hugo Roberts, Diego Tamayo, Francisco María Fernández, and Domingo F. Ramos, Delegates of Cuba; Dr. Leopoldo Paz, Delegate of the Republic of El Salvador; Dr. Hugh S. Cumming, Dr. Richard Creel, Mr. P. D. Cronin, and Dr. Francis D. Patterson, Delegates of the United States of America; Dr. José de Cubas y Serrate, Delegate of Guatemala; Dr. Charles Mathon, Delegate of Haiti; Dr. Arístides Agramonte, Delegate of Honduras; Dr. Alfonso Pruneda, Delegate of Mexico; Dr. Jaime de la Guardia, Delegate of Panama; Dr. Andrés Gubetich, Delegate of Paraguay; Dr. Carlos E. Paz Soldán, Delegate of Peru; Dr. R. Pérez Cabral, Delegate of the Dominican Republic; Dr. Justo F. González, Delegate of Uruguay; Drs. Enrique Tejera and Antonio Smith, Delegates of Venezuela, and Dr. J. D. Long, Representative of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau. The Secretary General of the Conference, Dr. Francisco María Fernández, served as Secretary of this Session.

The Secretary of State of the Republic of Cuba called the meeting to order, and announced to the Delegates that the election of a permanent Chairman of the Conference was in order.

Dr. Gregorio Aráoz Alfaro (Argentina): Mr. Chairman, I move that a vote of thanks be given to the Organizing Committee, for the efficient manner in which they have acted in the organization of the Conference, and that Dr. Mario G. Lebrede, who was designated four years ago at Montevideo as temporary Chairman, be made permanent Chairman.

Dr. Nascimento Gurgel (Brazil): I second the motion of Dr. Aráoz Alfaro.

Dr. Carlos M. de Céspedes, Secretary of State: I proclaim Permanent Chairman of this Seventh Pan American Sanitary Conference,

Dr. Mario G. Lebrede, and I congratulate him on his election, and also the Conference, predicting the most brilliant success of its important labors. It has been very gratifying to me to have been able to take part in this important Conference, and I assure you that my short stay among you has given me great pleasure.

Dr. Mario G. Lebrede: I desire to place on record my gratitude to the Delegates who have honored me by ratifying me in the office which I held provisionally, although I sincerely believe that the Chairmanship of this important Conference would have been filled to better advantage by any one of the other Delegates, and I wish to call special attention to the fact that it was on the motion of Dr. Llambías, also a Delegate of Argentina on that occasion, that Cuba was designated as the seat of this Conference.

I invite the Delegates to accompany to the door of this building, the Honorable Secretary of State to whom we owe a debt of gratitude for the constant help which he has given us.

(The Delegates accompanied the Secretary of State to the door of the building, bidding him an affectionate adieu. The session was resumed with Dr. Mario G. Lebrede as Chairman.)

The Chairman: It is in order to proceed to the drawing of lots, as is provided for by the rules, for the purpose of determining the order of placement of the Vice-Chairmen.

This formality was carried out by the Secretary General, and the drawing of lots resulted in the following order:

- 1.—Mexico, Dr. Alfonso Pruneda.
- 2.—Chile, Dr. Carlos Graf.
- 3.—Honduras, Dr. A. Agramonte.
- 4.—El Salvador, Dr. Leopoldo Paz.
- 5.—Colombia, Dr. R. Gutiérrez Lee.
- 6.—United States, Dr. Hugh S. Cumming.
- 7.—Paraguay, Dr. Andrés Gubetich.
- 8.—Panama, Dr. Jaime de la Guardia.
- 9.—Venezuela, Dr. Enrique Tejera.
- 10.—Guatemala, Dr. José de Cubas.
- 11.—Costa Rica, Dr. José Varela Zequeira.
- 12.—Brazil, Dr. Nascimento Gurgel.
- 13.—Uruguay, Dr. Justo F. González.
- 14.—Santo Domingo, Dr. R. Pérez Cabral.
- 15.—Haiti, Dr. Charles Mathon.
- 16.—Peru, Dr. C. E. Paz Soldán.
- 17.—Argentina, Dr. G. Aráoz Alfaro.

Dr. Francisco M. Fernández, Secretary General: It is in order to designate the Assistant Secretaries of the Conference.

Dr. Aráoz Alfaro: I move that the designation be made by the Chair.

The motion was carried.

Dr. Fernández: The Chair has designated Drs. Raúl Almeida Magalhães, Richard Creel, Antonio Smith, and Domingo F. Ramos.

Dr. M. G. Lebreto: It is my duty to say that in the capacity of Provisional Chairman, and in anticipation of whatever might be resolved definitely by the Conference, the Chair extended an invitation to the Section of Hygiene of the League of Nations to send an observer to this Conference. This invitation was made because it was known that the same would be accepted with pleasure, in the afore-said conditions. The Section of Hygiene designated as an observer the distinguished physician, Dr. Norman White, who will reach this city tomorrow. I submit this matter to the consideration of the Conference in accordance with the provisions of Article 22 of the Rules and Regulations.

Dr. J. de la Guardia (Panama): I move that the invitation made by the Chair be ratified.

The motion was carried. The invitation was ratified in accordance with Article 22 of the Rules.

The Secretary General: It is in order to proceed to the designation of the Committees into which the Conference will be divided, and I desire to read the draft drawn up by the Chair, by virtue of the vote of confidence which was given him at a preliminary meeting which took place yesterday morning.

1st.—Executive Committee.

2nd.—Committee on the Pan American Maritime Sanitary Code.

3rd.—Committee on Food and Drugs.

4th.—Committee on Social Hygiene.

5th.—Committee on Endemic and Epidemic Diseases.

Dr. Joaquín Llambías: I move that it be accepted.

The Chairman: The motion is under discussion.

(The motion was carried.)

Dr. G. Aráoz Alfaro: I move that the Chair be authorized to submit at the next session the names of the Delegates who are to compose the different Committees.

(Carried.)

The Secretary General: It is in order to elect the Honorary Chairmen of the Conference, and I propose that the Honorable Chiefs of

the Nations here represented be designated Honorary Chairmen of the Conference.

Dr. Aráoz Alfaro: I second the motion.

Dr. Nascimento Gurgel: I also second the motion.

(The motion was carried unanimously, and it was resolved to communicate the fact by cable to the high dignitaries who had been designated.)

Dr. Joaquín Llambías: Mr. Chairman.

The Chairman: I recognize Dr. Llambías.

Dr. Llambías: I move that the Committees work at stated hours as soon as they have been installed.

Dr. Raúl Almeida Magalhães: I would suggest that the work of the Committees be divided so that two could work in the morning and two in the afternoon.

Dr. A. Agramonte: I do not think it necessary for all the Delegates to attend all the sections, but rather that it would be preferable for them to choose the section in which they are best informed.

Dr. Francisco M. Fernández: I wish to call attention to the fact that it will be impossible to hold plenary meetings for the present, as each one of the Committees is made up of almost all the Delegates. It would appear practical for each Committee to take up the study of matters pertaining to it and send its reports to the Executive, to the end that a plenary session might be called whenever there were finished matters to consider.

Dr. Carlos E. Paz Soldán: The Committees on the Code and on Food and Drugs should be installed, if possible, this afternoon at the close of the afternoon plenary session, in order that there may be material for the holding of a plenary session shortly afterwards. The order of the progress of matters should be, I think, first the plenary session; second, the Committees; third the Executive; and fourth, the plenary again.

Dr. Alfonso M. Pruneda: I move that any Delegate having work or motions submit them to the respective Committee, and that each Committee cause its subjects to be passed on to the Executive and from there to the Conference. One session might be devoted, if there were time enough, to the reports of the Delegations, although this subject is outside the Program.

Dr. G. Aráoz Alfaro: I move that we meet again this afternoon, in order that when the names of the gentlemen who compose the Committees have been made known, the latter may be installed, and a plenary session be held within two or three days.

The Secretary General: I request the appointment of a Committee on Credentials to examine the full powers of the Delegates, which have been handed me. Thinking that the Executive Committee itself might be designated in the capacity of Committee on Powers, the Chair submits the names of Drs. Cumming, Gurgel, Paz Soldán, Pruneda, and Llambías to form the Executive Committee.

Dr. Aráoz Alfaro: I move that the two points contained in the motion of the Secretary General be accepted.

Dr. Llambías: I submit to the Conference that the Executive Committee, with the Chairman and the Secretary General, be also designated.

(The motion was carried.)

Dr. Carlos E. Paz Soldán: Mr. Chairman.

The Chairman: I recognize Dr. Paz Soldán.

Dr. Carlos E. Paz Soldán: Mr. Chairman and Messrs. Delegates: I move that the Conference send a message of admiration and affection to the learned hygienist, Dr. Juan Guiteras, who commands the admiration and affection of us all.

Dr. Nascimento Gurgel: I second, with enthusiasm, the motion of Dr. Paz Soldán.

The Chairman: I submit to the Conference the motion of Dr. Paz Soldán, seconded by Dr. Gurgel.

(The motion was unanimously carried.)

This resolution was put into effect immediately.

The Chairman: If none of the Delegates desire to take the floor, I shall suspend the session until three o'clock in the afternoon.

(The session was closed.)

MINUTES OF THE SECOND SESSION HELD BY THE SEVENTH PAN AMERICAN SANITARY CONFERENCE

November 6—Afternoon Session

In the city of Havana on the sixth day of the month of November, nineteen hundred and twenty-four, there assembled in the Hall of Honor of the Academy of Sciences, the Delegates of the Seventh Pan American Sanitary Conference, Drs. Aráoz, Llambías, Gurgel, Magalhães, Graf, López del Valle, Roberts, Tamayo, Fernández, Ramos, Paz, Cumming, Creel, Cronin, Cubas, Mathon, Agramonte, Pruneda, La Guardia, Gubetich, Paz Soldán, Pérez Cabral, González, Tejera, and Smith; and Dr. J. D. Long, Representative of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau, and Dr. Norman White, Observer of the Section of Hygiene of the League of Nations.

Dr. Mario G. Lebreto presided, and with him on the platform were Drs. Long, White, Cumming, Aráoz and Gubetich.

The Chairman: I call the meeting to order and grant the floor to the Secretary to read the minutes of this morning's session.

The Secretary General read the minutes, which were approved.

Dr. F. M. Fernández (Secretary General): Mr. Chairman, with the permission of the Conference, I shall proceed to read the report of the Committee on Credentials approving the full powers of the Delegates to this Seventh Conference.

(The report was read.)

The Chairman: If the Conference so order, the following gentlemen will be considered accepted as Plenipotentiary Delegates for their respective countries:

Argentina: Drs. Gregorio Aráoz Alfaro, and Joaquín Llambías.

Brazil: Drs. Nascimento Gurgel, and Raúl Almeida Magalhães.

Chile: Dr. Carlos Graf.

Colombia: Dr. Ricardo Gutiérrez Lee.

Costa Rica: Dr. José Varela Zequeira.

Cuba: Drs. Mario G. Lebreto, José A. López del Valle, Hugo Roberts, Diego Tamayo, Francisco María Fernández, and Domingo F. Ramos.

El Salvador: Dr. Leopoldo Paz.

United States of America: Drs. Hugh S. Cumming, Richard Creel, Francis D. Patterson, and Mr. P. D. Cronin.

Guatemala: Dr. José de Cubas y Serrate.

Haiti: Dr. Charles Mathon.

Honduras: Dr. Arístides Agramonte.

Mexico: Dr. Alfonso Pruneda.

Panama: Dr. Jaime de la Guardia.

Paraguay: Dr. Andrés Gubetich.

Peru: Dr. Carlos E. Paz Soldán.

Dominican Republic: Dr. E. Pérez Cabral.

Uruguay: Dr. Justo F. González.

Venezuela: Drs. Enrique Tejera and Antonio Smith.

The Conference declared the full powers of the Delegates as unanimously accepted.

The Secretary General proceeded to the reading of the lists of members of the Committees, which were made up as follows:

Committee on the Maritime Sanitary Code

Drs. Gregorio Aráoz Alfaro, Jaime de la Guardia, Raúl Almeida Magalhães, Enrique Tejera, Hugo Roberts, Richard Creel, R. Pérez Cabral, Carlos E. Paz Soldán, José Varela Zequeira, José de Cubas, Arístides Agramonte, Leopoldo Paz, Justo F. González, Andrés Gubetich, Alfonso Pruneda, Charles Mathon, Ricardo Gutiérrez Lee, and Dr. J. D. Long, as Adviser representing the Pan American Sanitary Bureau.

Committee on Food and Drugs

Mr. P. D. Cronin, and Drs. Justo F. González, Joaquín Llambías, Nascimento Gurgel, Antonio Smith, López del Valle, Graf, Paz Soldán, Varela Zequeira, Cubas, Agramonte, Paz, La Guardia, Gubetich, Pruneda, Mathon, Gutiérrez Lee, and Long.

Committee on Social Hygiene

Drs. Gurgel, Ramos, Llambías, Smith, Patterson, Tamayo, Pérez Cabral, Graf, Paz Soldán, Varela Zequeira, Cubas, Agramonte, La Guardia, González, Gubetich, Pruneda, Mathon, Gutiérrez Lee, and Long.

Committee on Endemic and Epidemic Diseases

Drs. Agramonte, Tejera, Aráoz, Almeida, López del Valle, Creel, Pérez Cabral, Graf, Paz Soldán, Varela Zequeira, Cubas, Paz, La Guardia, González, Gubetich, Pruneda, Mathon, Gutiérrez Lee, and Long.

Dr. G. Aráoz Alfaro: I move that the lists submitted by the Chair be accepted.

(The lists were accepted.)

Dr. Nascimento Gurgel: I propose Dr. Aráoz Alfaro for Chairman of the Committee on the Sanitary Code.

(Accepted.)

Dr. Arístides Agramonte: I propose Dr. Jaime de la Guardia for Secretary of the said Committee.

(Accepted.)

Dr. Justo F. González: I propose Mr. P. D. Cronin for Chairman of the Committee on Food and Drugs.

(Accepted.)

Dr. Arístides Agramonte: I propose Dr. Justo F. González for Secretary of the said Committee.

(Accepted.)

Dr. Joaquín Llambías: I propose Dr. Nascimento Gurgel for Chairman of the Committee on Social Hygiene.

(Accepted.)

Dr. José López del Valle: I propose Dr. Domingo F. Ramos for Secretary of the said Committee.

(Accepted.)

Dr. Joaquín Llambías: I propose Drs. Arístides Agramonte and Raúl Almeida Magalhães for Chairman and Secretary, respectively, of the Committee on Endemic and Epidemic Diseases.

(Accepted.)

The Secretary General: I request the Conference to designate the Delegates who are to speak this evening at the reception tendered to the Delegates.

Dr. Jaime de la Guardia: I propose Drs. Cumming and Paz Soldán.

(Accepted.)

The Secretary General: I have in hand a report handed me by Dr. J. D. Long of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau of Washington, and I request the Conference to determine to which Committee it is to be referred.

Dr. Paz Soldán: I move that it be laid before a special committee or before one of the existing committees.

Dr. Agramonte: I think it ought to go to a new committee, as small a one as possible.

Dr. Pruneda: My opinion is that it should go to the Committee on the Sanitary Code.

Dr. Agramonte: It might go to the Executive Committee.

Dr. J. D. Long: The Draft of the Code contains a part which is devoted to the Pan American Sanitary Bureau. The Sixth Conference ordered a reorganization, which was put into effect by the Bureau. The Director designated Drs. Dominici, Lloyd, and myself to draft new rules and regulations which we did in accordance with

the provisions of the Sixth Conference. It is my opinion that the Committee on the Sanitary Code should be charged with the Sanitary Bureau, as it is included in the Draft of the Code.

Dr. Paz Soldán: I believe the Code should refer only to Maritime Sanitary matters and that it would be of the greatest advantage to adopt, along with the general Convention of the Code, another devoted exclusively to the Bureau.

Dr. Llambías: I move that the report of which the Secretary has just spoken be referred to the Committee on the Sanitary Code.

(The motion of Dr. Llambías was carried.)

Dr. Soldán: We should consider the manner in which the committees are to work, and these should be constituted today in order to begin their work at once.

Dr. Pruneda: I think that if each committee were to work on its own account on the topics which had been assigned to it, it would advance the work considerably.

Dr. Paz Soldán: I think that each country should submit to the Assembly its points of view on matters to be dealt with.

Dr. Pruneda: I agree with the idea, but I do not recollect any article in the Rules and Regulations establishing the right or duty of each Delegate to submit a report on the sanitary condition of his country.

The Secretary General: Up to the present, the Secretary General has only received one report, which is from the Republic of Uruguay. If any of the Delegates have brought such a report as has been spoken of, they can hand it in at the Secretariat.

Dr. Aráoz: Whatever Delegates have brought such a report have done so voluntarily, and it is not necessary to emphasize that this is not required by the Rules and Regulations.

The Secretary General: I move that no plenary session be held until some of the committees have delivered their work.

The Chairman: I will request the Secretary to refer to a cable from Dr. García Medina, Honorary Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau, expressing regret at being prevented from attending the Conference and expressing his best wishes for its success.

Dr. García Medina's cable having been read, it was ordered, on the proposal of Dr. Lebreto, to thank him for his congratulations and express regrets for the absence from the Conference of so distinguished a personality.

The Secretary General: The Executive Committee has distributed the points of the provisional program as follows:

Committee on the Pan American Sanitary Maritime Code
Points 6 and 15 of the Provisional Program.

Committee on Food and Drugs
Point 14 of the Provisional Program.

Committee on Social Hygiene
Points 2, 3, 8, 10, and 11 and section 8 of point 15.

Committee on Endemic and Epidemic Diseases
Points 1, 4, 5, 7, 9, 11, 12, and 13.

The Chairman: As the Committee on the Sanitary Code is to be constituted at the conclusion of this session, should no Delegate desire to speak, I shall adjourn the session.

(No Delegate having asked for the floor, the Chairman adjourned the meeting.)

MINUTES OF THE THIRD SESSION HELD BY THE SEVENTH PAN AMERICAN SANITARY CONFERENCE

November 11, 1924

In the city of Havana, at two o'clock in the afternoon of November the eleventh, nineteen hundred and twenty-four, the Seventh Pan American Sanitary Conference met to hold a plenary session, with the attendance of all the Delegates, with the exception of the Delegates of Colombia and Costa Rica, who excused their absence.

The Chair was occupied by Dr. Mario G. Lebrede, the other officers being Drs. Gurgel, Llambías, González, Mathon, Long and White.

Drs. Fernández and Magalhães served as Secretaries.

The Secretary General: It is my duty to inform the Conference that the General Secretariat has received the replies of all the Chiefs of States of the American Republics, expressing thanks for their designation as Honorary Chairmen. If the Conference so order, I shall proceed to the reading of the same.

Dr. Joaquín Llambías: These documents have already been published in the Bulletins which the Secretary has kindly presented to us each day.

The Chairman: In the name of the Conference and my own, I desire to welcome Dr. Norman White, Observer of the Section of Hygiene of the League of Nations, who has been with us for some days.

Dr. Norman White: I wish to thank the Chairman and the Conference in the name of the General Secretariat of the Section of Hygiene of the League of Nations for the high honor of having been invited to send an observer to this important Conference.

The Chairman: I desire to express the sympathy of the Conference toward the Delegate of the United States of America, Dr. Francis D. Patterson, for the deep loss which he has suffered in the unexpected death of his father.

Dr. Aráoz: I participate most sincerely in the expressions of the Chairman.

Dr. Gurgel: I also desire to express my deep sympathy for Dr. Patterson in his loss.

The Secretary General proceeded to the reading of the Minutes of the last session, which were approved.

The Chairman: The Chair has at hand several motions which have been approved by the Executive Committee, and if the Conference so orders I will proceed to read them.

The Secretary General: The Executive Committee has approved the following motion:

"The Seventh Pan American Sanitary Conference expresses its thanks to the Governments who have facilitated the presence at its labors of Drs. Hugh S. Cumming, J. D. Long, J. Llambías, and Mario G. Lebrede, members of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau, who have brought the valuable contribution of their high technical equipment in matters of international hygiene; and recommends to the Governments that in the future, they seek to designate as Delegates to the Sanitary Conferences the members who compose this Bureau."

The Secretary General: I desire to inform the Conference that in order to secure the adoption of this motion it was necessary for Drs. Gurgel, Pruneda, Paz Soldán and myself to overcome the obstinate resistance and modesty of Drs. Lebrede, Cumming, and Llambías who opposed its approval. It was only in view of the formal command of the majority of four over three that we succeeded in carrying this motion.

(The motion was adopted.)

The Secretary General read the following:

"The Seventh Pan American Sanitary Conference expresses its thanks to the League of Nations for having sent a representative to its debates in the person of Dr. Norman White, who not only has brought to us his vast technical preparation in matters of Hygiene, but who also symbolizes human solidarity in the field of international health."

(The motion was adopted.)

The Secretary General read the following:

"The Seventh Pan American Sanitary Conference resolves: 1st, To address to the Government of Cuba a message of enthusiastic congratulation on the wonderful sanitary organization of the country, and on the splendid results obtained in the course of a few years, as is shown by the extermination of yellow fever, and by the considerable reduction of malaria and other infectious and parasitic diseases, and of infant morbidity and mortality: 2nd, To request of all the Governments of America who have not done so, that, after the example of Cuba and within the political organization of each State, they organize their National Health in a stable and definite form, giving it a superior technical and autonomous direction calculated to standardize sanitary action throughout the country, and endowing it with the ample resources which it requires to be really efficient and at the same time afford the greatest possible profit to the nation from an economic point of view."

Presented by Drs. G. Aráoz Alfaro and Joaquín Llambías, for the Argentine Delegation.

(The motion was adopted.)

Dr. Hugh S. Cumming: I should like to know whether the office or bureau proposed is to be associated with the Bureaus of Health of the respective nations, or if they are to be independent of them.

Dr. Aráoz Alfaro: I will take the liberty to offer a brief explanation in satisfaction of the wishes of all, and especially of Dr. Cumming who has requested it.

My request to the colleagues of other nations to be allowed to include this question, which is not in the program of the Conference, was made in obedience to my conviction that perhaps no other question is as important for Latin America as that of the protection of childhood. In our country, active work has been carried on for many years in this field, and it has been my privilege to devote the greatest attention to it, although a great deal still remains to be done. In Buenos Aires and other principal cities, the mortality has fallen to figures equal to those of the most advanced countries, 80 or 88 per thousand births. On the other hand, we still have in the more remote territories, in the hot regions, places where the mortality is three times as great as in the other countries of America, in which, according to available data, 120 or 200 infants die for every thousand children born. Consequently, it appears to me, that for those countries which still require a greater population in order to develop their latent wealth, there is nothing more important than the protection of childhood. The United States has shown, through a constant and sustained effort, how it is possible to effect a great decrease in a few years. It is necessary to help carry out this work against infant mortality.

In Buenos Aires, little remains to be done to reach the enviable conditions which in this respect have been attained by New Zealand and Australia, and this little will be effected before very long.

To explain the motion properly, I must add that in the greater part of the countries, the work which is carried on for the protection of the mother and the child is done through philanthropical institutions. In Argentina, the government has direct charge of a great part of the public relief, but undoubtedly the principal part of the work is in the hands of philanthropical institutions. My idea is that the government assume the official direction of all these services, and if the cooperation of all these institutions is to be accepted, the government must have charge of the central direction of the co-

ordination of both official and private agencies. Possibly Uruguay is one of the countries which has attained the greatest success in this particular.

Now, there is in my country, as well as in others, such as the United States, the disadvantage that this matter gives rise to controversy, it being impossible to reach an absolute standardization, owing to the fact that each state looks after its own questions of Health and Hygiene. My idea is that there ought to be a general coordination among all the institutions of each country, in order that the work of child-welfare be carried on, as far as possible, through the combined action of private and governmental agencies; it being kept in mind that the governments have in their hands a great amount of power, consisting in the control of subsidies for the protection of these institutions.

I take advantage of the opportunity to express praise of the action developed in the United States and in Cuba, in the maternity festivals which we are witnessing almost daily, and to propose to the governments that they agree on coordinate private and official action in child welfare work. (Applause.)

The Chairman: Is the motion adopted? (The motion was carried.)

Dr. Domingo Ramos: Before anything else, I must thank the Delegation of Argentina for the resolution which has been adopted on the initiative of Dr. Aráoz, and also for the praise which he has expressed of my country, as well as for having touched on so important a point for the future, and still more important for the present, as is Hygiene in America. In Cuba we have endeavored to advance, after having sanified the surrounding media in our struggle with epidemic diseases, occupying ourselves with the individual and beginning with the mother, the unborn child, and the infant, and continuing the work in all ages of the individual. At present, action is being taken to push the campaign for the control of venereal diseases and for the preparation of the fathers who are to figure in the coming stage of individual evolution. This is why we are moving a little in advance of other countries in the campaign concerning eugenic fertility and maternity in general. We are going to carry this campaign into the field of immigration, and, in this sense I desire to call the attention of the Delegates to the resolution of the Fifth Conference of American States, presented by the Delegation of Cuba, which was also carried to the Sixth Latin American Congress, which resolved to appoint a committee under the Chairmanship of Dr. Agramonte, and of a Delegate from Chile, another from Mexico, and myself from

Cuba, for the purpose of laying this subject before the Child Welfare Congress in Chile.

This was approved, but with the addition to this Committee of a Delegate from the United States, in view of the fact that that nation did not form part of the Congress, which was exclusively Latin American. This Committee will study the matter, and call a conference similar to the Sanitary Conference, on eugenics and homiculture. After the agreement had been reached, advantage being taken of the presence here of Dr. Long, a member of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau of Washington, it was found desirable to inquire of him if he thought it possible for these conferences to be undertaken, his reply being in the affirmative.

It is exceedingly gratifying to me that the Argentine Delegation has also foreseen this subject, and has submitted the same motion. For this reason I think that in a no distant future we should begin to think of taking up these conferences on eugenics and homiculture.

The day will come in which we shall be constituted judges, to defend not only the situation of the mother in America but of the individual who is to people the continent, occupying ourselves first with the culture of the child and then of the culture of the man, from the point of view of immigration; taking into account that the modern works on the law of heredity permit us both to protect ourselves against the transmission of hereditary evils, and to secure the transmission of good qualities, which results are rendered attainable through investigations on the parasitology of infectious diseases.

It also behooves us to seek practical means, under the guidance of the Pan American Union, for our defense against the disturbing influence of heredity, and to fortify ourselves for the evolution of the individual man in America.

Dr. Araújo Alfaro: I desire to explain that in the off-hand statement which I made a moment ago, I omitted the data on which my ideas are based. I wish to say that within a few hours the Delegates will receive a pamphlet containing the description of the establishment by my Government of a section of child protection and welfare, under the National Department of Hygiene, which is directly under the Central Government. This has been effected by virtue of an Executive Decree, but we have as yet no legislative action to authorize it.

Dr. Raúl Almeida Magalhães: The culture of a people may be inferred among other things, from the preferential attention which they bestow on such important problems as that of infant mortality. Two years ago we instituted officially the services of Child Hygiene and

prenatal and postnatal care. Our medical institutions are intended to care for the child up to the school age. In a few days we shall inaugurate a compulsory service of child welfare with respect to the feeding of children.

Among us it may be said that ninety per cent of premature births are due to syphilis, and the cases of death are not recorded in our dispensaries. I take the liberty of calling the attention of my colleagues to the subject of the nutrition of mothers. Sixty per cent of the children nursed at the breast escape death, and it is necessary that the problem of feeding be included among the medical specifications.

In view of these facts, I will say that I am decidedly in favor of the motion submitted by the Argentine Delegation.

Dr. Nascimento Gurgel: The Brazilian Delegation is exceedingly pleased to approve the motion submitted by Dr. Aráoz Alfaro, the eminent champion of Public Hygiene representing the Argentine Delegation. I agree entirely with Dr. Aráoz as to the necessity of coordination between government and philanthropical institutions.

Dr. Justo F. González (Uruguay):

I desire to express my most enthusiastic approval of the motion submitted by Dr. Aráoz Alfaro. In Uruguay we have the three following classes of institutions: official, private, and semi-official, but we lack the centralization of the work, which has recently been approved by the Superior Council of Hygiene, and should be sanctioned by this time by the Government.

The Secretary General read the following:

“The Seventh Pan American Sanitary Conference resolves: That in view of the policy and progress of the United States of America in the matter of the alimentation of man, the respective countries be advised to request data concerning this question of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau, in order to undertake the study of this important matter at the next Conference, this topic to be included in the respective program.”

Dr. Justo F. González, seconded by Dr. J. Llambías.

(The motion was carried without discussion.)

The Secretary General read the following:

“The Seventh Pan American Sanitary Conference, resolves: *First:* To recommend to all the American Governments the vital importance of an intensive campaign against alcoholism, such campaign to be carried on by legislative and other adequate means on the part of the government and the police. *Second:* To stimulate, besides, the zeal of the sanitary authorities of the various countries in regard to the

intensification of a popular propaganda against alcoholism by every possible means and especially by the schools and among the teaching body." Dr. Gregorio Aráoz Alfaro.

Dr. Hugo Roberts: I congratulate Dr. Aráoz on his stand against a menace which, fortunately, does not give rise to evil consequences in Cuba, although there is a tendency on the part of manufacturers to advertise their beverages in an exaggerated style. I myself had the honor of submitting to the National Board of Health a report condemning this sort of advertising, which seems calculated to encourage drinking.

(The motion was unanimously carried.)

The Secretary General read the following:

"The Seventh Pan American Sanitary Conference resolves: To recommend as a fundamental topic for its next meeting the study of bubonic plague in its nosological, epidemiological, and medico-social aspects, and recommends to the Governments the appointment of technical committees to undertake in each country the preparation of investigations leading to the elucidation of problems connected with this endemoepidemic." Dr. Carlos E. Paz Soldán.

(The motion was unanimously adopted.)

The Secretary General read the following:

"The Seventh Pan American Sanitary Conference resolves: *First:* To call the attention of all the American Governments to the urgent necessity of undertaking, wherever it has not been done, an energetic child-welfare campaign from the triple point of view of the hygiene of the surroundings, of eugenics and of homiculture. *Second:* To recommend to all the American nations the institution of the *guardianship of the State over the child*, and the establishment of the legal, medical and social agencies requisite, to the end that the protection and care of children and mothers be secured in the most complete and efficacious manner, and to seek to unite under a central direction the action of the government and the coordination of official institutions with private institutions cooperating in this great work, on the success of which chiefly depends the future of America. *Third:* To fix as one of the principal topics of the next Conference the study of infant morbidity and mortality, and of the respective demographic data and of the most efficacious means of combating them." Dr. G. Aráoz Alfaro.

(The motion was unanimously approved.)

The Secretary General read the following:

"The Seventh Pan American Sanitary Conference recommends to the Governments the constant construction and maintenance of good

roads, in view of the benefits which they bring about as efficient factors both of the promotion of public health and of medico-social improvement, and sends its most enthusiastic congratulations to the Governments which devote their constant attention to this work.”

Dr. C. E. Paz Soldán.

(The motion was carried unanimously.)

The Secretary General: I have in hand a communication from Mr. P. D. Cronin, Chairman of the Committee on Food and Drugs, stating that this Committee has concluded its work, and that the Delegate of Uruguay, Dr. Justo F. González has been designated to report on said work.

Dr. Justo F. González: I have in hand the report of the Committee on Food and Drugs, and shall proceed to the reading of the same, if it is so desired.

The Chairman: You may do so.

Dr. Justo González read the Food and Drug Law, as it has been accepted by the Committee.

(See Appendix.)

Dr. Llambías: In the name of the Argentine Delegation I wish to express a vote of thanks to the Pan American Sanitary Bureau, for the admirable and scientific manner in which it has drafted this law. I am sure that in this I have the support of my colleague of the Delegation, Dr. Aráoz Alfaro.

Dr. J. D. Long: I will state that this subject arose from an agreement reached at the Conference of Chile on the motion of the Sanitary Technical Attaché of the Delegation of Brazil, and also that Mr. P. D. Cronin has taken a principal part in drawing up the draft.

Dr. Llambías: Consequently, I move that these congratulations be extended to all those who took part in the drafting of this Law, and very especially to Mr. Cronin, member of the American Delegation.

The Conference decided to include in its resolutions the vote proposed by Dr. Llambías in the name of the Argentine Delegation.

The Chairman: If no Delegate desires to speak I shall declare the meeting adjourned.

(As no Delegate asked for the floor the session was declared adjourned, with the announcement that a new plenary session would be held whenever there were matters to be taken up thereat.)

MINUTES OF THE FOURTH SESSION HELD BY THE
SEVENTH PAN AMERICAN SANITARY CONFERENCE*November 13, 1924*

In the city of Havana, at 3 o'clock in the afternoon of the 13th day of November, 1924, the Seventh Pan American Sanitary Conference met, there being present all the Delegates of the same, for the purpose of holding a plenary session. The Chair was occupied by Dr. Mario G. Lebrede, the other gentlemen on the platform being Drs. Long, White, Paz, Paz Soldán, Pruneda, and Almeida. Dr. Francisco María Fernández acted as Secretary.

The Chairman: I call the meeting to order. The Secretary will be good enough to read the minutes of the last session.

The Secretary read the minutes.

The Chairman: Are the minutes approved? (Silence.) Approved.

As there are several motions submitted, which have not been reported from the Committees, I think we can take them up at this plenary session.

The Secretary read the following:

"That there be included in the program of the next Conference the study of intestinal parasitosis on the American Continent." Drs. Justo F. González, Uruguay, and Enrique Tejera, Venezuela.

The Chairman: Is it approved? (Approved).

The Secretary read the following:

"Resolved: To recommend very especially to the Governments represented at the Conference, that in as short a period as possible, they take measures to safeguard the supply of drinking water in the cities, towns, etc., in order to avoid a great number of diseases (microbial and parasitic), which are transmitted through drinking water, the number of which is very great in the tables of morbidity and mortality of the different countries of America, and to consider its clarification and purification by means of chlorine." Dr. Justo F. González, Uruguay.

(The motion was adopted.)

The Secretary read the following:

"The Seventh Pan American Sanitary Conference recommends to the respective Governments that they intensify the campaign against typhoid fever, putting into practice all the present prophylactic resources, and particularly vaccination, to combat endemics and avoid epidemics, and attain the gradual elimination of typhoid and paratyphoid fever, or their practical extinction in America." Dr. Justo González, Uruguay.

(The motion was adopted.)

The Secretary read the following:

“Motion: Resolved that suppression be recommended of the disinfections which are usually effected in homes after the recovery or death of the patient, and that this sanitary measure be replaced by concomitant disinfection carried on during the whole course of the disease, and effected exclusively on such objects as have been in contact with the patient.” Raúl Almeida Magalhães.

Dr. Raúl Almeida Magalhães: I do not think it necessary to insist a great deal in order to secure the approval of the Conference of this motion, which embodies the most modern principles of public health, as has been shown by numerous authors.

Dr. Aristides Agramonte: I have asked for the floor in order to express my cordial approval of the words of Dr. Magalhães, for I have long been convinced of the uselessness of disinfections *a posteriori*, in which considerable sums of money are spent to no purpose. This conviction, as has been well said by Dr. Magalhães is more in accord with the canons of science and the knowledge that we now have of germ life, and we must take into account the same source, that is, the patient during the course of the disease, and not after his recovery or death. We must not lose sight, as Dr. Magalhães has said, of the rôle that is played by the carriers of germs.

The Chairman: Are the Delegates in favor of the motion submitted? (Affirmative signs.) (Approved.)

The Secretary read the following:

“The Seventh Pan American Sanitary Conference invites the Governments of America to create a Ministry of Hygiene and Public Welfare, as the essential basis of national sanitary progress and the most effective international cooperation.” Dr. Leopoldo Paz, Delegate of El Salvador.

“*Addendum*: In order to complete the motion which has just been submitted we would suggest that it would be desirable for the Seventh Conference to recommend that these ministries, whatever be the name under which they are established, be independent of the political movements affecting other ministries.” Dr. Carlos Graf, Delegate of Chile.

Dr. Aráoz Alfaro: I wish to call attention to the fact that the proposition which I had the honor of submitting a short time ago in the name of Argentina, invites the governments to create a Board of Health, which, after the example of Cuba, should be autonomous and free from all political interference. The motion which has just been submitted by the distinguished colleague of El Salvador, is in the

same sense, the only difference being in the name, as in his, he says "Ministry" while in mine the word "Secretariat" was used. I accept his proposition with great pleasure, but I think that if we put the two together we shall see that they are identical.

Dr. Carlos Graf: There is no reason why they should not be put together and both made into one.

The Chairman: Is the Delegation of El Salvador agreed?

Dr. Leopoldo Paz: Agreed.

The Chairman: Then let it be approved in the form indicated by Dr. Araújo Alfaro. (Approved.)

The Chairman read a motion of the Cuban Delegation relative to the commerce and transportation of vegetable products:

"Having in view the importance attached to the transportation and commerce of different vegetable products, and to the urgent need in which we stand of adopting uniform sanitary measures to guarantee and protect the interests both of a commercial order and those connected with public health, the Cuban Delegates propose to the Conference that on a future occasion a proper study be effected and adequate rules on Vegetal Health and Quarantine be established, with regard to each case." Drs. Lebrede, López del Valle, Roberts, Tamayo, and Fernández.

The Chairman: Are the Delegates agreed? (Approved.)

The Secretary read the following:

"The Delegation of Brazil proposes that the Seventh Pan American Sanitary Conference recommend to the Governments represented thereat that they establish schools of Public Health for the technical improvement of this specialty." Almeida Magalhães.

Dr. Paz Soldán: I heartily approve the motion which has just been made, but it requires an addition, because the tendency observed today in contemporary medicine is for every practitioner to be a hygienist. And the fact is that hygiene sinks into the mind of the student very deeply during the first years of study, from anatomy to preparatory science.

The statement constantly repeated at the last Sanitary Conference on the necessity of creating health officers as persons apart from the physicians, is forever leading the Governments and the public into error by causing them to believe that hygiene constitutes a different specialty from medicine in general. We all know that the great stumbling-block of hygiene in its practical relations consists in the contempt and disdain with which practitioners look on sanitary indications. Practitioners coming in contact with the reality of

clinical cases without having reached a true concept of what hygiene is from the point of view of public health, are responsible for the fact that the health officer is forever arriving late, after the infection has already made its appearance.

In this I voice the words pronounced at the Seventy-sixth Meeting of the American Medical Association, namely:

"That the best means to see and represent most precisely the concepts of hygiene is to create health experts to execute the sanitary policy of each country, and to intensify it in the hygienic sense of medicine and education in general."

I approve the idea of Dr. Almeida, Delegate of Brazil, and I move to add to it the following:

"Provided there is an intensification of the hygienic spirit of medical education in general."

Dr. Agramonte: I accept the addition.

Dr. G. Araújo Alfaro: I ask for the floor in order to second enthusiastically in the name of Argentina the motion which has been submitted by the Delegate of Brazil. We should bear in mind also that in the greater part of our countries we do not give to our expert sanitary officers the importance which they should have. In the year 1911, I had the honor of submitting to the Faculty of Medicine a plan for the establishment of a higher institute of public hygiene and medico-social medicine, which unfortunately did not meet with the approval of Congress, but which has been carried on in part in some places. I promise to further the idea in the university of my country.

I believe that a vote in this sense, recommending to the Governments the establishment of special schools for sanitary experts, with preparation in bacteriological and social chemistry, which the physician in general cannot have, is indispensable, although I recognize that Dr. Paz Soldán is quite right in what he has just said. It is necessary for all physicians to realize the social rôle in which they are called upon to take part. And then, in order not to detract from the motion of Brazil the vital importance with which it is invested, I would propose, if Dr. Paz Soldán is agreed, the following:

"To recommend to the Governments, provided the intensification of health education does not suffer thereby, the teaching of health education to medical practitioners and the establishment of the necessary schools to prepare health officers."

Dr. Pruneda: I am highly gratified, gentlemen, with the motion which has just been read. I have the honor of announcing to the

Conference, as this seems to be a favorable occasion to do so, that the Department of Health of Mexico, in view of certain very plausible reasons, has established and maintained during the last three years, a School of Salubrity in connection with the Department of Health. Physicians who have already finished their course enter this school for the purpose of taking special courses in sanitary administration, bacteriology and examinations in questions of health, as well as of statistics and any other matters useful to hygienists. The school has two grades: the more elementary may be said to last one year, and serves to prepare the Inspector of Health, while the second grade prepares the Heads of Service. In the establishment of this school the Department had two ends in view: first, to secure specialists and second, to secure officials. Consequently those who take these courses engage to serve the Department while the latter, on its part, engages to place them in such vacancies as may occur. As a complement to this school, Mexico, with the help of the Rockefeller Foundation, has already sent abroad a number of its students, the Foundation providing half of the expenses and the Mexican Government the other half. Those students who have finished their studies in hygiene have returned home and are now working with us.

I think it very important to insist on better education for the practicing physician in matters of hygiene, and precisely in this regard, on the occasion of a visit paid us a few years ago by Dr. Creel, Sub-Director of the Division of Medical Education of the Rockefeller Foundation, that gentleman expressed his authoritative opinion as to the desirability of placing the course on hygiene in the middle of the medical course instead of leaving it for the end.

In view of what I have just said, I give my adhesion to the ideas of Dr. Aráoz Alfaro on health schools.

Dr. Justo F. González: It is of great importance from the point of view of the prophylaxis of contagious diseases that the Conference agree on the acceptance of the motion submitted by the Delegation of Brazil, and which has been seconded by the Delegates of Argentina, Peru, and Mexico.

I think it of interest to remark that these schools, at least in my country, would best be annexed to the Faculty of Medicine. In Uruguay the greater part of the physicians are earnest collaborators of the public health. I wish to call attention to the fact that these physicians are not only obligated to attend the patient but to immunize all persons in contact with him, and even to accompany or observe the patient during a certain period of time after his discharge,

because in cases of diphtheria, for instance, we all know that the danger continues for some time, and if the physician is careless he commits a grave fault which may be detrimental to the community.

The physician is a very useful instrument and an indispensable collaborator in the prophylaxis of public health. Consequently, by intensifying the study of hygiene in the Faculty of Medicine, and establishing the annexed school, which is very useful, we shall solve the problem. I cordially congratulate the Delegate of Brazil and take great pleasure in joining the other Delegates in the approval of this motion.

Dr. Almeida Magalhães: I wish to express my deepest appreciation to the Delegates of Peru, Argentina, Mexico, and Uruguay for their valuable support of the motion which in the name of Brazil, I had the honor of submitting this afternoon.

The Secretary General: This means, Gentlemen, that the motion will be drafted as follows:

“The Seventh Pan American Sanitary Conference recommends to the Governments that, without detriment to the intensification of health education for all physicians, they establish special schools of public health, for the technical improvement of this specialty.”

Dr. Aráoz Alfaro: Agreed.

Dr. Justo F. González: I think the wording very good.

Dr. Richard Creel: In the United States the schools do not belong to the Government; they are private institutions.

Dr. Aráoz Alfaro: This may vary in all countries.

The Chairman: Is the motion adopted? (The motion was adopted).

The Secretary General read a report from the Delegation of Chile on abstinence.

Dr. Graf (Chile): Amplifying a little the antecedents which have inspired me to present this motion, I will say that I think it a bold step, calculated to give rise to ironical ideas in some, but it appears to me there is an absolute need of insisting on this point, because hitherto there has been great insistence on, and much importance has been given to, the subject of anti-sensual substances and antiseptic products. I have believed that in this there is a double-edged sword, for by accustoming either sex to the use of these products, we insensibly induce a condition of anti-sensualism. Consequently, I have come to the conclusion that we should give a place of the greatest importance to abstinence in the education of youth. I am aware that this subject of abstinence, prolonged or permanent, is not sanctioned by all men of science, or by all hygienists. But I will take

the liberty of reading a few paragraphs from a little book, in which different opinions are given on this subject. It was published by the League of Social Hygiene of Santiago.

(The Delegate read from the pamphlet.)

I am going to tell you something personal concerning myself, and that is that I passed the most difficult period of my life in complete abstinence, owing to my great difficulties. Later, when I had known the pleasure of sensual acts, I arrived at the conviction that one can remain in a state of abstinence, as I had done, up to the age of eighteen.

Now, I have two sons in the same situation, and in the same condition, and although not for motives of religion, for neither one professes any, I am almost sure, if not quite, that they both keep themselves perfectly healthy in a state of abstinence. I know it is very difficult, in view of the present currents of sensualism, to maintain these ideas, seeing there are many who affirm that no progress is possible without sensual pleasures. I know it is very difficult to insist, but I have made bold to insinuate these ideas, although they may produce no positive results, and may not be accepted.

Dr. Agramonte: In view of the proposition, which is really interesting, and involves a series of points which are subject to controversy, I propose that the motion be referred to the proper committee before coming here.

Dr. Aráoz Alfaro: I propose that the motion be referred to the Committee on Social Hygiene.

The Chairman: Are the Gentlemen agreed? (The motion was accepted.)

The Secretary General read the following motion:

"The Delegation of Venezuela begs to submit the following motion: The Governments are invited to prevent by all possible means the commercial propaganda of pharmacological quackery, and to oppose the advertising of medicines announced as specifics and which, in the opinion of competent authorities, represent a fraud practiced on the public." Dr. Enrique Tejera.

Dr. J. Llambías: I think the motion submitted by the Delegation of Venezuela is very good, and I think it ought to be adopted and placed in the order following that of the draft of the Food and Drugs Law.

Dr. Aráoz Alfaro: Just two more words, to express my interest in this matter, for no doubt this motion will be approved by all the other countries. Our distinguished colleague of Venezuela requests

the Governments to find a remedy for the lamentable propaganda which in my country, and I know not whether in all the others, has come to be a real calamity. So important is it that the National Department of Hygiene, over which I have the honor of presiding, has taken up this matter with great energy, with the result that a bill has been presented in Congress providing that no advertisement of a specific medicine may be published without the consent of the sanitary authorities of the Nation. It is a bill submitted to Congress in my country, and it is thought that it will prove efficacious in putting a stop to the practice. I adhere to the motion of the Delegate of Venezuela, as I am in perfect agreement with my friend Dr. Llambías.

The Chairman: Is it approved? (Approved.)

Mr. Cronin: Does this refer to advertisements published in the newspapers, or only to the label on the containers?

Dr. Tejera: It refers to newspaper advertisements.

Dr. Paz Soldán: I desire to submit a motion, but the Chair will be good enough to allow me to read it outside the usual channel, owing to its extraordinary nature. The motion is as follows:

(The Delegate read.)

“The Delegations present at the Seventh Pan American Sanitary Conference offer their most enthusiastic applause and the expression of their profound gratitude to the Organizing Committee of the Conference, for the splendid order which they have given to the labors, and especially express their gratitude to the Chairman, Dr. Mario G. Lebreto, and the Secretary General, Dr. Francisco María Fernández. And they request that this vote be transmitted, not only to the members of the Organizing Committee, but also to the Government of Cuba.” Carlos E. Paz Soldán, H. S. Cumming, G. Aráoz Alfaro, Carlos Graf, Jaime de la Guardia, Enrique Tejera, Nascimento Gurgel, Almeida Magalhães, Alfonso Pruneda, Richard Creel, Andrés Gubetich, A. Agramonte, J. Llambías, R. Pérez Cabral, Justo F. González, Charles Mathon, Antonio Smith, and Leopoldo B. Paz.

Dr. Aráoz Alfaro: This is a plebiscite, and the only manner to approve it is by acclamation. (Applause; Approved.)

Dr. Mario G. Lebreto: I cannot find words sufficiently expressive to manifest my gratitude for what is only an act of kindness on the part of the Delegates who have subscribed the motion. And in my name, and in that of my companions on the Committee, I offer you the most expressive thanks.

Dr. Francisco María Fernández: And I also, Messrs. Delegates, wish to thank you for the honor which you have given us in the

presentation and adoption of the motion. If the organization of the Conference has been good, it has been due chiefly to the wise and well-ordered procedure worked out by the Delegates themselves.

The Chairman: It is in order to proceed to the reading of the Sanitary Code, as it has been drafted by the Committee.

Dr. Paz Soldán: Seeing that in the drafting of the Code and in the discussions of the Revising Committee nearly all the Delegates from the countries here represented have taken part, I move that the reading of this document be omitted, the more so because it will have to be read opportunely by each Delegate, in the final act of the signing; besides this, all the Delegates are quite sure that in the Code all the due processes of law have been observed.

Dr. Aráoz Alfaro: In the name of the Committee on the Code I thank Dr. Paz Soldán for the deference which he has observed for the said Committee, and for the confidence implied in his motion, for we have all put our best efforts into the work, in which we have taken the greatest interest, to the end that the broadest American spirit prevail in the decisions of this Conference, and we are sure that in this way we shall insure positive progress in America. (Applause.)

Dr. Agramonte: I wish to place on record, Messrs. Delegates, that there exists a paragraph in the report of the Committee in which I have expressed thanks for the distinction which has been accorded it.

The Secretary: There is an addition to the Code proposed by the Delegation of Peru:

(The Secretary read the following motion.)

"That there be added to Article 36, section 3, of the Pan American Code, the following paragraph: 'The Sanitary authorities will take into account, however, if the ship did not come alongside the wharf for the attenuation of the sanitary measures.' " C. E. Paz Soldán.

Dr. Hugo Roberts: I think the proposition made by the Delegation of Peru is possessed of great importance. Precisely on the point in question there is a clause on the greater or less time during which a ship may have been lying alongside. It is not the same thing for a ship to have been lying alongside two or three hours as to have spent a week, and in this sense what has just been proposed is within the scope of quarantine service.

Dr. Aráoz Alfaro: The remarks which have just been made by the representative of the Republic of Cuba, are true if that is taken into account, but the Delegate of Peru believes that it would not be too much to lay it down expressly, and it is enough for him to believe that in his country it would serve to hasten the ratification of

the Convention, for us to agree to his proposition with the greatest pleasure. It is a redundancy, if you will, but this redundancy may be useful, and it seems to me it ought to be accepted.

Dr. Paz Soldán: I am very grateful for the cordial reception which has been accorded this motion, which forms part of the usual sanitary practices and is also possessed of the greatest importance from a political and administrative point of view, for the future approval of this Code. So I thank all the Delegates for the kindness of their acquiescence to my proposition.

And since I am on the floor I will take advantage of the opportunity to record a spirit which has existed among all the Delegations and which, up to this moment has failed to crystallize, a crystallization which must take the form of a very special vote of thanks to the Chairman of the Committee on the Code, Dr. Aráoz Alfaro, whose ability in the direction of the debate is in the mind of us all. (Applause.) Dr. Aráoz Alfaro has put into this Chairmanship all his calm and tranquil temperament. As I am speaking in his praise, I will say no more, for he well knows the friendship and high esteem in which I hold him. (Applause.)

Dr. Aráoz Alfaro: I know that I have not deserved the praise which the Delegate of Peru has bestowed on me. The credit belongs to all the colleagues, who have placed at the service of the Committee a broad spirit of tolerance and cordiality. I am deeply gratified at having been the mere interpreter of the will of the members of the whole Committee. I am very grateful for your courtesy. (Applause.)

The Secretary General: I understand that the remaining committees have finished their work, and it would be desirable to proceed to as rapid a reading as possible of their reports, for I am informed that the United States Delegation is obliged to leave Cuba next Saturday, in which case it might be arranged for us to sign the final act tomorrow. We could then change the Saturday program to tomorrow, Friday, on which day it is furthermore necessary to proceed to the election of the seat of the next Conference, and the designation of its provisional chairman, as well as to the reorganization of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau. All this must be recorded in the final act, and must be signed by all the Delegations.

The Chairman: The program reads as follows:

The Chairman proceeded to read the program.

The Secretary General: Before that session, or at it, or before the final session, it is necessary to effect the choice of the seat of the

next Conference. Everything that is mentioned in the program for Saturday can be done on Friday.

Dr. Paz Soldán: From the experience which I have of the Conference of Montevideo, I can state that the final act does not require to be signed by the Delegates, but only by the officers of the Conference. I think that what we have to sign with the character of full powers is the Code, which is the Convention, which is later to become the Law of the different signatory countries. So that the problem, in my opinion, is easy, for tomorrow morning we shall accomplish the program intended for Saturday, and in the afternoon we shall sign the Code, and vote the resolutions in the plenary session, the Board of the Conference being charged with the duty of communicating the fact through the Department of State of Cuba to all the Governments of America represented. This was the procedure adopted at Montevideo.

The Secretary General: I think it can be done, although it implies an alteration of the rules.

The Chairman: Is the Conference agreed? (Approved.)

Dr. Paz Soldán: Tomorrow we can proceed to the election of the seat. The Saturday session will be held tomorrow morning, and in the afternoon we shall sign the Treaty.

The Secretary General: I am highly gratified with this resolution, although not on account of the labor of which it relieves the Secretariat. Although the Rules and Regulations in Art. 27 state that the final act is to be signed by all the delegations, the Conference has just modified them, and in this case the final act will be signed by the Board of Officers.

The Chairman: In that case it would be desirable for us to meet in the morning in plenary session in order to hear the reports of the remaining Committees and any new motions which may be submitted. (Approved.)

Dr. Cumming: The Delegation of the United States desires to place on record that the approval of the Code does not in any way imply the annulment or derogation of the validity of any of the treaties, conventions or agreements between the United States and any other country or countries, excepting, of course, those of the American Continent.

Dr. Paz Soldán: It appears to me that the proposition of the United States is of great interest, because it defines exactly the character of a *Charta Americana* which invests the Treaty that we are about to sign, but this does not invalidate the relations established

throughout the world, such as the Treaty of Rome and the Convention of Paris. So that the suggestion of the United States Delegation, made by the authorized representation of Dr. Cumming, should be recorded in the body of the Treaty. This is essential, the more so because this declaration is assuredly a total declaration for all America, since the greater part of the American countries are signatories of the Treaty of Versailles and of the Convention of Paris, which is the expression of the International Sanitary Organization. Therefore I believe that the proposition of the Delegation of the United States should form part of the final draft, the more so because in the future it will permit the Americanization of international agreements.

Dr. Pruneda: Once more I am in accord with Dr. Paz Soldán; but I would suggest that the idea which he has sketched be explicitly recorded, it being made clear that the reservation of the Honorable Delegation of the United States is made as well by the other signatory countries.

The Secretary General: That is Dr. Cumming's idea.

Dr. Agramonte: It might be taken as a new Chapter.

Dr. Paz Soldán: That appears well to me.

Dr. Aráoz Alfaro: It might be placed after Chapter XI in a separate Chapter which would bear the number XII.

The Secretary General: Is the Conference of the opinion that this alteration be referred to a Committee?

Dr. Paz Soldán: Dr. Agramonte, with the English text, and with what has been said, could draft it.

Dr. Agramonte: As I understand, it refers exclusively to the United States, and I think it ought to be worded to include all the signatory countries.

The Chairman: Is the Conference agreed that the motion be inserted as a Chapter of the Code, as Dr. Aráoz Alfaro has proposed? (Approved.)

Dr. Aráoz Alfaro: I request the floor.

The Chairman: I recognize Dr. Aráoz Alfaro.

Dr. Aráoz Alfaro: Mr. Chairman, this Conference is assuredly one which is destined to leave a most important record in America for the resolutions which it has adopted, but there is none so important as that on the Sanitary Code, for this is a Convention of vital moment for all America, and it appears to me that we should not leave the session without fulfilling a grateful task which only by an oversight has been omitted.

If we have sanctioned this Code so quickly, it is because the Pan American Sanitary Bureau has helped us with an abundant study of all our former agreements, because that work, and especially that of Dr. Long, who has been our referee, has been carried on in a spirit of American culture and interest which most assuredly compels our gratitude. Consequently, I request a special vote of thanks and applause to the Pan American Sanitary Bureau, and to Dr. Long for the drafting of the Sanitary Code. (Applause.)

Dr. Long: I request the floor.

The Chairman: I recognize Dr. Long.

Dr. Long: I do not know how I can sufficiently thank the Argentine Delegate for what he has just said, but I must place on record something about the Code. The idea was advanced by the Delegate of Colombia at the Conference of Santiago de Chile, in the shape of a resolution which was adopted, recommending the preparation of the Code to the Seventh Pan American Sanitary Conference. It was drafted by the Pan American Sanitary Bureau on the basis of the agreements reached at former Conferences, from the First to the Sixth, and I had the cooperation of Dr. W. C. Rucker, former Chief Quarantine Officer of the Panama Canal, and of all the other physicians of the United States Bureau of Public Health to make sure of its being entirely clear. So there are many who have cooperated in the preparation of the Code, and who have devoted much study to it, and in the name of the Pan American Bureau and in my own, I wish to offer to all the Delegates the most expressive thanks. (Applause.)

The Secretary General: If the Conference is agreed to hold a plenary session at 9 o'clock tomorrow morning, we might meet at that hour to hear the reports of the Committees on Epidemic Diseases and Social Hygiene, to choose the seat of the next Conference, to designate the Provisional Chairman and for the reorganization of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau; and in the afternoon at 3 o'clock we can meet again for the signing of the Sanitary Treaty.

The Chairman: Are the Delegates agreed? (Signs of assent.) Does no other Delegate desire the floor? (Silence.)

(The session was adjourned.)

MINUTES OF THE FIFTH SESSION HELD BY THE
SEVENTH PAN AMERICAN SANITARY CONFERENCE*November 14, 1924*

In the city of Havana, at nine-thirty a. m., on the fourteenth day of November, the Seventh Pan American Sanitary Conference met, all the Delegates being present with the exception of the Delegates of Costa Rica, Colombia and Guatemala, who sent excuses. The meeting was presided over by Drs. Mario G. Lebreto, Long, White, Aráoz and Gurgel. Dr. Francisco María Fernández acted as Secretary.

The Chairman: I call the meeting to order. The Secretary will be good enough to proceed to the reading of the minutes of the last session.

The Secretary read the minutes.

The Chairman: Are the minutes approved?

(Silence.) (Approved.)

The Chairman: We will now take cognizance of the report of the Committee on Epidemic and Endemic Diseases.

Dr. Tejera read the report.¹

Dr. Arístides Agramonte: I request the floor.

The Chairman: I recognize Dr. Agramonte.

Dr. Agramonte: Messrs. Delegates, I have requested the floor in order to thank the Conference for having honored me with the Chairmanship of the Committee on Infectious Diseases, and I extend my thanks to all the members of the Committee, and particularly to Dr. Tejera for the active and enthusiastic cooperation which he has lent to our work. (Applause.)

Dr. Aráoz Alfaro: I request the floor.

The Chairman: I recognize Dr. Aráoz.

Dr. Aráoz: Mr. Chairman, as in the report which has just been read reference is made to the fact that no report on tuberculosis has been submitted, I wish to say that the Delegation of Argentina had thought that this report might be submitted at the plenary session, and that is the reason why a report on tuberculosis, leprosy, etc., was not laid before the special committee on Infectious Diseases by the Argentinian Delegation. Consequently, I will request permission of the Chairman to hand to the Secretary a short report to the end that it may be included in the Appendix of the Proceedings of the Conference.

The Chairman: Do the Delegates agree with the proposal of the Argentinian Delegation? (Affirmative signs.) (Approved.)

Is the report of the Committee on Epidemic and Endemic Diseases approved as well? (Approved.)

The Committee on Social Hygiene will now submit its report.

Dr. Domingo Ramos, referee of the Committee, read the report of the same.¹

The Chairman: Is the report approved?

Dr. Long: I should like to know what resolution has been adopted regarding the eighth section?

Dr. Domingo Ramos: It was rejected.

Dr. Joaquín Llambías: I request the floor.

The Chairman: I recognize Dr. Joaquín Llambías.

Dr. Joaquín Llambías: Gentlemen, I desire to refer to the measures put in practice in Buenos Aires for the extermination of flies. We must remember, Mr. Chairman and Messrs. Delegates, that the fly lays its eggs chiefly in manure, and due to the fact that in large cities there are great numbers of horses, the fly becomes a true scourge, as it not only prevents the preservation of the manure as a useful fertilizer, but also its utilization for other purposes. In Buenos Aires we have made the following experiment: we take the manure and put it in large tanks with a great number of perforations in the bottom. Under the tank is placed a tub of water. The fermentation of the larvae sets in at once in the manure and they pass through the holes in the bottom of the tank and fall into the water in great numbers. At the end of 36 hours the manure is perfectly free of larvae. Then we make use of compressing machines, which convert the manure into cakes, permitting its being used both as a fertilizer and as a fuel. An electric company in Buenos Aires has offered to buy of the Municipality the entire supply of manure. You must know, gentlemen, that in the city of Buenos Aires there are great numbers of horses which give an average of 500 tons of manure a day. With the procedure which I have just explained there is no doubt that the propagation of flies is checked. With this system and without the addition of any substance capable of altering the quality of the manure for fertilizing purposes and use as a fuel, I believe we have secured something useful, as has been demonstrated in the principal stables of Buenos Aires since the year 1918. I wished to tell you this, gentlemen, because I thought it might interest you to know this simple and easy method, especially in view of the fact that the

¹ The reports of the Committees on Endemic and Epidemic Diseases and on Social Hygiene will be found incorporated in the Final Proceedings. (See Appendix.)

domestic fly makes use almost exclusively of this material in which to lay its eggs.

Dr. J. F. González: I request the floor.

The Chairman: I recognize Dr. González.

Dr. González: In Uruguay also, we have been confronted with the necessity of exterminating the fly, and a great deal of propaganda has been carried on to educate the public as to this need. We have employed all sorts of methods, carrying on the fight from a biological point of view, and harassing the insect by the employment of all kinds of larvicides, with a view of effecting their extermination. In this regard it is worth while to mention a method which bears some resemblance to that which has just been described by the Delegate of Argentina. There is a large rubble receptacle in which is placed all, or the greater part of the manure collected throughout the city. The larvae are destroyed and those which escape rise to the surface, but as this receptacle contains a vessel filled with water, the larvae fall into it. We have also taken special care to transport the manure in closed vehicles in order to avoid its being scattered along the way.

Dr. Charles Mathon: I request the floor.

The Chairman: I recognize Dr. Mathon.

Dr. Mathon: I desire to proceed to the reading of the report of my country on the points of the program. (Dr. Mathon proceeded to the reading of the report.) (See Appendix.)

The Chairman: Is the report on Social Hygiene approved? (Approved.)

Dr. Domingo Ramos: As referee of the report, I thank you very much for the kindness which you have extended to us, and as a Delegate of Cuba, I wish to refer particularly to two points which I consider of the greatest importance. One of them, referring to the fly, impressed me very favorably as it afforded me an opportunity to learn of the work that has been done in Argentina and Uruguay, and of the importance which is given in those countries to the extermination of flies; and to a study which I had the honor of performing with Dr. Guiteras on infantile intestinal infection in Cuba, and its relation to fly plagues. I will remark that in places where flies were abundant, the number of infected children was greater, and vice versa. I should remark that we use iron sulphate to kill flies, and with very good results. I am very grateful for the report of the Argentinian Delegation on the work effected by Dr. Llambías, and which will be taken into consideration at the next Conference. The other point refers to the great kindness of the Delegate of Brazil, my distinguished friend

Dr. Gurgel, in submitting a vote of thanks from the Committee on Hygiene to the Government of Cuba, and especially to myself for my work on horticulure.

I welcome this proposition most cordially, because it is one which touches me very closely, referring as it does to a subject to which I have devoted the best years of my life, and also because it expresses the wishes of the nations of America; and I will add before closing that I not only welcome it for myself, but also for Dr. Eusebio Hernández, my honored teacher, with whom I performed this work.

The Chairman: Messrs. Delegates, the business of the Conference is practically finished, and before taking up the matter of the election of the next seat, I wish to thank all the Delegates for the industry which they have put forth, and which has enabled us to perform our duties with the greatest possible speed. And so, with the expression of this vote of gratitude on my part, let us proceed to consider the election of the next seat.

Dr. Almeida Magalhães: I request the floor.

The Chairman: You have the floor.

Dr. Almeida Magalhães: I have requested the floor in order to propose that the next Conference have its seat in the city of Lima.

Dr. Andrés Gubetich: I propose that the election be made by acclamation.

The Chairman: Is it resolved to designate the city of Lima as the seat of the coming Eighth Conference? (Prolonged Applause.) (Approved.)

Dr. Carlos Graf: I wish to place on record that I did not vote for this measure.

Dr. Paz Soldán: Messrs. Delegates: The spontaneous election which has just been made in pursuance of the proposition of the distinguished Delegation of Brazil, to the end that the city of Lima be designated as the seat of the Eighth Conference, fills my heart of a patriot and an American with an emotion which I cannot find words to express. I see in this designation of the capital of my country the generous cooperation of America directed to the old colonial city where I first saw the light, there to carry the all-powerful support of its influence to help us to perform the gigantic task in which the government of my country is engaged in order that the old empire of the Incas, where the Sun was worshipped as the fountain of life and health, may once again be ruled by the omnipotent goddess Hygeia. Messrs. Delegates, you may tell your respective governments that the city of Lima and its government, and its delegate, now addressing you,

are deeply grateful for the gesture of Americanism which has just been made here. The spontaneous designation of Lima, as the seat of the Eighth Conference, provides us with the wished-for opportunity through which we shall be enabled to carry our services to all America, and contribute our share toward the final achievement of a sanitary policy in social medicine. And so, in the name of my government, and in my own—which means nothing in these moments—in the name of my country I thank the Delegates with all my heart.

The Chairman: I believe that we all have in mind the name of Dr. Paz Soldán for the office of Provisional Chairman of the Eighth Pan American Sanitary Conference. (A number of Delegates manifesting approval.) (Applause.)

We will now take up the other matters which form part of the order of the day, namely, to designate the members of the Sanitary Bureau of Washington.

Dr. Paz Soldán: I request the floor.

The Chairman: I recognize Dr. Paz Soldán.

Dr. Paz Soldán: Perhaps few of the Delegates will have found themselves in a more embarrassing situation than mine, being called upon to choose among so many distinguished colleagues, the ones who are to be designated for Members of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau of Washington. Two of them are naturally entitled to our consideration, both from motives of fitness, and for goodness of heart, qualities which cannot be over-estimated, and these two members are to occupy the posts of Honorary Chairman and Secretary of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau. They are, Messrs. Delegates—you all must have surmised their identity—our worthy Chairman, Dr. Lebrede, and our honored Secretary General, Dr. Francisco María Fernández. (Applause.) I request that we suspend the rules in order to omit the formality of a ballot, and open wide our hearts to welcome this suggestion, which is the suggestion of all America here represented. (Great applause.)

The Chairman: I desire once again to express my gratitude for the proposition and its acceptance by you all, and for the unmerited honor which it confers on me.

The Secretary General: I wish to place on record my immense gratitude to all the Delegates, and particularly to my honored friend Dr. Paz Soldán, for the unmerited honor which his proposal has conferred on me. Let me assure you that the Pan American Sanitary Bureau will never have had a more modest and a more humble Secretary, but at the same time I will say that I shall perform the func-

tions entrusted to me with the same zeal and the same good faith with which I have always tried to fill the different public offices with which I have been honored in my country. (Applause.)

Dr. Llambías: In view of the fact that all the American nations cannot be represented in the Pan American Sanitary Bureau, I will submit the following motion:

“That it be resolved that the Pan American Sanitary Bureau of Washington shall be invested with the power of designating Corresponding Members of the said Bureau in the countries not represented directly in it.”

The Chairman: Is the motion adopted? (Adopted.)

Dr. Andrés Gubetich: I propose Dr. Cumming and Dr. Long for the posts of Director and Assistant Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau. (Great applause.) And at the same time I propose Dr. Aráoz Alfaro, of Argentina; Dr. Magalhães, of Brazil; Dr. Pruneda, of Mexico; and Dr. Paz Soldán, of Peru for Members.

Dr. Aráoz Alfaro: I am very grateful for the expressions of my distinguished colleague, Dr. Gubetich, but I will take the liberty to say that it is usual for these designations to be made by ballot, not with regard to the posts of Director and Assistant Director, but with regard to those of Members.

The Chairman: Is this proposition adopted? (Adopted.)

The Secretary General: This means that in regard to Drs. Cumming and Long, the wish of the Delegates is unanimous.

Dr. Cumming: I wish to express my thanks for this courtesy, and also to signify the assurance of my deep appreciation.

Dr. Long: I also wish to express my feelings of gratitude for the confidence which the Conference has placed in me, in appointing me Vice Director of the Bureau. I can add nothing more to the words of Dr. Cumming, but I wish to place on record that I shall do everything in my power to promote these sanitary matters, which are so useful to all. (Applause.)

The Chairman: The ballot will now be taken. (The Delegates of Argentina, Brazil, Chile, El Salvador, United States, Haiti, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Dominican Republic, Uruguay, Venezuela, and Cuba placed their ballots in the box.)

The Chairman: I request Dr. Jaime de la Guardia, Delegate of Panama, to assist in counting the ballots. (The ballots are counted.)

The Secretary General: The result of the count is as follows: Dr. Pruneda, 13 votes; Dr. Aráoz Alfaro, 11 votes; Dr. Almeida, 9 votes; and Dr. Paz Soldán, 9 votes. These are the four Delegates who have

obtained the largest number of votes. The rest of the vote is as follows: Dr. González, 7 votes; Dr. Llambías, 2 votes; Dr. La Guardia, 1 vote; Dr. Gurgel, 2 votes, and Dr. Tejera, 1 vote.

The Chairman: I therefore proclaim Members of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau, Drs. Alfonso Pruneda, Gregorio Aráoz Alfaro, Raúl Almeida Magalhães, and Carlos Enrique Paz Soldán. (Applause.)

Dr. Paz Soldán: I request the floor.

The Chairman: I recognize Dr. Paz Soldán:

Dr. Paz Soldán: In view of the fact that there will be no other session except the solemn closing session, I desire, Mr. Chairman, as a token of Americanism, to propose that we advance the hour in order to express our congratulations to the Brazilian people for the festival of the fifteenth of November, the glorious date on which Brazil, abandoning the transitional period of the Empire, which marked its independence, incorporated itself definitely as a democratic force of the American Continent. Tomorrow is the anniversary of the proclamation of the Republic of the great American nation, and I propose that we voice this continental event, and express our feelings of affection and admiration for the worthy representatives who have come to this Conference bearing the gold and green standard, and I propose that, as a tribute of admiration, we offer our cordial congratulations to the brilliant Delegation of Brazil on the event of the fifteenth of November, and the expression of our best wishes for the continuance of the wonderful triumphs that compose the history of Brazil, for the glory of America in the concert of free nations. (Applause.)

Dr. Nascimento Gurgel: I wish to express my thanks for the words of Dr. Paz Soldán, and for the sincere applause of my companions at this Conference. (Applause.)

Dr. Aráoz Alfaro: I request the floor.

The Chairman: I recognize Dr. Aráoz Alfaro.

Dr. Aráoz Alfaro: I wish to submit a proposition to the Conference, which I hope will be accepted. We have had the honor of the presence at our sessions of Dr. Norman White, in his capacity of Observer of the Section of Hygiene of the League of Nations, and although he has been saluted by the Chairman and us all, it appears to me that before closing the Conference, it is opportune for us to request Dr. White to be the bearer to the Council of the League of Nations of a message from us, in which we would say, that notwithstanding the distinctly American character of this Conference, we always have our eyes fixed on all the nations of Europe and the

world, that we desire the progress of all humanity, and that we therefore extend our arms in this work to old Europe, and to the Section which he represents at this Conference. (Applause.)

Dr. Norman White: I am very much obliged for the friendly expressions of Dr. Araújo, whom I thank deeply.

The Chairman: Messrs. Delegates, I believe it is time to close. The importance of the Conference is shown by the quantity of work which has been accomplished in these few days. The mere fact of adopting a Sanitary Code of the importance of the one which has just been discussed, and the consideration of the other questions which have been dealt with, is enough, I believe, to assure us that this Conference will be productive of practical results. As Chairman of the Conference during all this time, I desire to express my gratitude to you all for the courtesies which you have extended to me, and will now say farewell, or rather, until we meet again. (Applause.) We shall assemble at three o'clock this afternoon for the purpose of signing the Code.

(The session was adjourned.)

THE SIGNING OF THE PAN AMERICAN SANITARY CODE

November 14, 1924

At 3:00 P. M. on the 14th day of November, 1924, in the presence of all the Delegates to the Conference, the Pan American Sanitary Code was signed by the said Delegates of all the American Republics represented at the Conference.

CLOSING SESSION OF THE SEVENTH PAN AMERICAN SANITARY CONFERENCE

November 15, 1924—Night Session

In the city of Havana on the 15th day of November, 1924, at nine in the evening, the Delegates to the Seventh Pan American Sanitary Conference, less the Delegation of the United States of America, met in the Hall of Honor of the Academy of Sciences. The Honorable President of the Republic of Cuba, Dr. Alfredo Zayas y Alfonso presided, and had with him on the platform the following gentlemen: Drs. Luis Ortega, J. D. Long, Norman White, Mario G. Lebredo, Enrique Porto, Francisco María Fernández and Eduardo González Manet.

The Chairman (Dr. Alfredo Zayas y Alfonso, Honorable President of the Republic): I call to order the closing session of the Seventh Pan American Sanitary Conference, and grant the floor to the Honorable Secretary of Public Instruction and Fine Arts, Dr. Eduardo González Manet.

Dr. Eduardo González Manet: Your Excellency the President of the Republic, Honorable Delegates to the Seventh Sanitary Conference, Ladies and Gentlemen:

Not having taken part in the scientific activities which are closing today, I am indebted entirely to the kindness of the distinguished Cuban professors who compose the Organizing Committee of the proceedings related to the Conference for the high honor of addressing you at this closing session, which is at once a solemn and magnificent occasion, not only because it marks the conclusion of a wise and useful labor, but also because of the splendid cooperation and earnest attention which have been bestowed upon its humanitarian efforts by our most select society, as is shown by the presence at this session of the Honorable President of the Republic and of representatives of our most distinguished social and intellectual personalities.

And how could I fail, Gentlemen, at this admirable concert of wills and understandings placed at the service of a most noble cause, to refer to the high moral and spiritual value with which the women of Cuba have enhanced these meetings, rendering a tribute of affection and hospitality to their sisters of the continent, heightening the enthusiasm of the Conference with the charm of their beauty and the magic encouragement of their smiles in the fulfillment of an arduous and difficult task; relieving with a wonderful note of color and gaiety the sometimes sombre picture of scientific discussion, and causing our thoughts to move in an atmosphere of lofty emotion and

beauty, as we think of those fabulous festivals at which the ancient Greeks incarnated the loftiest expression of science and art, and beauty and grace.

Accept, illustrious Delegates of our sister nations, the most expressive message of congratulation and gratitude of our people and our government for the brilliant success of this Seventh Conference, at the sessions of which you have brought to a happy termination, with the adoption of the Pan American Sanitary Code, one of the most beautiful works of international altruism, and one of the most remarkable scientific efforts of modern times, capable of making good the proud statement of the illustrious Vargas Vila, when he affirmed that the caravels of civilization are now anchored on this side of the Atlantic.

I have always thought of sanitarians as a sort of wonderful policemen of science, sent out as an advance guard to meet an invisible and mysterious foe, against whom they lead a superhuman struggle with no other weapons than their lancets and their microscopes. Whether they labor in the silent solitude of a laboratory or in remote and inhospitable regions, they seek the virus of disease or a treacherous and subtle transmitting agent which is liable to turn and strike them with death in the dark and terrible warfare in which they fight without defense, as only the apostles and martyrs in the cause of community ideals can fight.

I look upon sanitarians as the greatest heroes when, in the face of a dreadful epidemic, they engage in a Dantesque struggle against the invisible army of death as it strikes terror in the nations, despising the danger to their own lives, attacking the evil that threatens others, rushing to those places where the danger is greatest, ever wearing a calm and serene countenance, as becomes the knights of an ideal.

There is no mission more beautiful, Ladies and Gentlemen, than that which the governments of civilized peoples entrust to these Crusaders of Right. This Sanitary Code is not merely one more legal form, filled with international conventionalisms, of doubtful application and efficacy; it is a brilliant treatise on tactics and strategy against the secret and indiscernible assaults of evil. It tends to eliminate the most effective means of transmission of disease by exterminating the agent, wherever found. By means of wise and appropriate rules, it provides for the particular activities which each nation should undertake, within the limits of its territory, in the defense of its interests, and the adequate functioning of the international springs of cooperation. We can understand its immense importance, if we

note the extraordinary facility with which epidemics were spread in former times, and the favorable field which they found in the countries which they invaded, owing to an absolute lack of any real sanitary defense.

There are other factors in the activities of this most interesting Conference which are also worthy of consideration and applause.

To the study of the means of preventing and controlling infections which have long been the object of persistent effort, tuberculosis, typhus, malaria, contagious and parasitic diseases, we have to add the study of formulas and provisions to regulate the production and manufacture of foodstuffs and drugs which, at times, Gentlemen, are converted by avarice and ambition into media of toxins and toxic substances, sometimes as dangerous as are epidemics themselves. There are preserved foods, especially shell-fish, which, with a single particle hidden in a handsome tin can, are capable of destroying a whole family through the action of a poison so subtle that not even the traces of its composition can be discovered, and for which, therefore, it is impossible to discover the proper antidote.

There is the indiscriminate use of pharmaceutical products, especially those for hypodermic use, which are administered sometimes with the most unconscionable imprudence as an easy means of treatment by men who do not look upon science as a sacred priesthood, but merely as the accomplice of illegitimate ventures.

The measures against drunkenness proposed in these Conferences for later investigation constitute a valuable beginning.

There is to be added another tremendous evil that afflicts humanity, more terrible than many of those which have been combated up to the present; and yet it has not been attacked fundamentally, but, on the contrary, has been protected by the double cuirass of the interests of the producer and the interests of the excise. And nevertheless I cannot but believe that the action of the narcotic drug that enervates, stupefies and even slowly extinguishes the life of the individual in the silence of the alcove and in unutterable agony, is less harmful than the action of alcohol, scandalous and repugnant, which drives a man to the filthiest and most criminal acts, which fills the madhouses and prisons with its victims, and produces stigmas of hereditary degeneration which deeply affect the social type, and exert a profound influence on the collective character.

And it is worth while for you, Messrs. Delegates, to think of the desirability of also devising measures against the spiritual diseases which are imported among us from the other side of the ocean, and serve to disturb the social and moral equilibrium of our peoples. I refer to what we might call red literature, and depressive literature.

The many years which I have devoted to public life will not lend me the character of a reactionary, either in ideas or in actions. I have defended persistently and disinterestedly the sane policies of the laboring classes of my country, whose want of experience has been exploited by others under the guise of ideal liberalism; and that is why I tremble, as every good American should tremble (I refer to the inhabitants of all latitudes), in the face of the advance of those propagandas of the apostles of destruction, who preach the necessity, for instance, of blowing up the skyscrapers of New York because in Siberia there is need of shelter for the poor; or who would attempt to destroy our industrial wealth in order that the Cuban laborer may join the black army of European despair, for which we are not responsible.

What I call depressive literature is that literature which exerts so great an influence, even on our fashions, with the powerful aid of the moving picture film to which it hastens to carry its activities and its arguments. In this regard it is sufficient to remind you, for instance, of the influence of the latest work of Victor Marguerite, which has caused such great visible damage by mutilating heads of hair that were once a precious ornament to woman, and masculinizing her dress in an ignoble manner.

I do not wish to fatigue you, Gentlemen, but before I conclude, I must refer to the splendid influence of your visit, which not only fills us with pride in view of the honor which our country has received, and of the manner in which it confirms the concept of our nationality as a free and sovereign people, but because it proclaims louder and clearer from day to day the ties of Pan Americanism, binding in a close embrace of cordiality and love all the nations on this side of the ocean, from the most powerful to the most humble, with the bonds of absolute acceptance of the necessity of defending the sacred citadel of our common interests.

Take back to your governments and to your people, with the most cordial greetings from ours, the assurance that Cuba, upon whom destiny has bestowed, with her privileged geographic situation, the role of advanced sentinel to the Pan American world, with regard to the ways that lead to Europe, and of an emerald brooch to join the interests of the North and the South, is ever ready to play her part worthily as the barricade against which all invasions of the sanitary order shall be shattered, as well as all other invasions affecting the interests of our beloved sister nations.

The Chairman (Dr. Alfredo Zayas): Dr. Alfonso Pruneda, Dele-

gate of the Republic of Mexico to the Seventh Conference, has the floor.

Dr. Pruneda: Your Excellency the President of the Republic, Messrs. Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen: • •

The signal honor of speaking at this session in the name of the Spanish-speaking Delegates to the Conference has been bestowed upon me, owing, perhaps, to the fact that Mexico as the seat of the Pan American Conference of 1901, can boast of being the origin of these Pan American International Sanitary meetings, and, perhaps, to the thought that the special geographic situation of my country makes it a point of contact between the two civilizations whose fraternal embrace constitutes Pan Americanism. And I must confess to you in all sincerity that I accepted this great responsibility and high honor because, here in my heart, I felt it to be a proof of confidence and optimism in my country, which honestly, diligently and bravely seeks to solve the problems that weigh upon her, problems which are not only her own, but which in many cases are problems burdening the whole world. May it be my good fortune to be able to interpret faithfully, as my heart would wish to interpret, the feelings and impressions that we carry away from this memorable Conference.

We came here animated by sincere good will and an earnest purpose to labor; we brought our portfolios filled with data on what we have done in our respective countries; we came anxious to know what others have done, and in the hope of seeing, as we have seen, that the sanitary progress of Cuba is always advancing by leaps and bounds, and we set to work after we had been received with open arms, with a hospitality that has never failed, with a generosity that has never ended, with a degree of cordiality on the part of the Government, of all the authorities, of the medical profession, and of Cuban society, that has filled our hearts with gratitude and joy. Only ten days have we labored. These ten days have been long considering the task that we have accomplished, and yet short because the work has absorbed all our time and left us little leisure. Now, at the end of these ten days we must return to our respective countries, whither we go filled with the sense of our responsibility and burdened with a yet greater task. For we now carry back to our countries in our portfolios, not only the modest data which we brought to lay before this assembly, but something more serious, for we carry this *Magna Charta*, to which the Secretary of Public Instruction has made reference, and to which we have affixed our signatures with hands that trembled, because we felt that at that moment our country rested her loving hand upon our shoulders, saying: "Take care, for it may

be that in this moment you are compromising our future; but we trust you; therefore sign, as you should, with the clear conscience of a duty done, and with the energy of one who knows he has not weakened! Sign; for if you have not all the material means which might be desired, you have the honor of your hearts, and all the good will of your noble thoughts." (Great applause).

Also, Gentlemen, we take with us another draft to which the Secretary of Public Instruction has referred. We take it, not as an engagement, but as an example, as a model for the care of that which is so important for the preservation of human life, food, as is medicine for the preservation of human health. And we carry the determination to write into this general document something which may serve to revolutionize many concepts, and to introduce measures which will safeguard the health of our beloved peoples; and we carry also the purpose of continuing to study for future Conferences; we carry topics which we shall deliver to the watchful solicitude of our scientific institutions, and to the watchful authority of our republican institutions, in order that they may undertake to put them in practice. We also carry, engraved in our hearts and in our minds, things of immense importance, for they touch upon something very deep in the social life of our people. We are deeply impressed with the thought that we must see to it that our children are protected, as we have seen yours protected here, with diligence and intelligence. And I am quite sure that the Delegate of Argentina, who has devoted himself to this subject, was impressed with the presence of a favorable atmosphere as he expressed his feelings and thoughts in the introduction of a resolution which, in matters of social hygiene, appears to me the most important of all; because, Gentlemen, I who have devoted my whole life to hygiene, and who at times to a certain extent feel sceptical in matters of social hygiene by reason of the difficulties to be met with, believe that if hygiene is to be established in our countries, and if the people are to live in the future as they should, they must look after their children in a maternal and intelligent fashion. Therefore the resolutions referring to childhood should be held in the light of something of vital importance, to be guarded in our travellers' portfolios.

And we carry also a most grateful remembrance of this generosity and of this amiable hospitality in which a part has been taken by the Secretary of Public Instruction, and, for three times, by the honorable ladies of this beautiful capital, who have imparted to this severe meeting a tone of beauty, and have encouraged us, as they well know how, because no effort of man can succeed unless he finds about

him the lovely voice of a friend, of a companion, of a counsellor, of a wife, and of a mother.

All this work has been realized in this atmosphere, thanks to something which we must emphasize once more, because it would be an injustice not to do so before we separate—thanks to the wonderful preparation effected by the Organizing Committee of this Conference, and by the direction which they have imparted to the work. We should have been able to do nothing, and I believe that in this I express the sentiments of all my Spanish-speaking colleagues,—without this intelligent direction, and without the cordial cooperation of the Governing Board of the Conference, to whom we now render the tribute of our homage and of our thanks. (Applause).

The Conference has studied important problems which need no more stressing, but which constitute one more stone which we have laid in the edifice of Pan Americanism, but this one a cornerstone, a foundation-stone, which is to be independent of all contingencies, political or otherwise, because we have assembled here in this feeling of Pan Americanism, thinking of things that are beyond politics, and beyond any interests that might separate the nations,—thinking of health, that great benefit without which no other benefit can exist. And at this Pan American meeting, it appears that we have been accompanied,—and I think we should record this name with affection, with respect, with gratitude, since it was he who gave to the Old World this precious new continent; it seems that we have been accompanied,—at times I have seen it hovering over us,—by the spirit of the wonderful Genoese Admiral, Christopher Columbus, contemplating, embodied in this Pan American meeting, his wonderful and genial discovery.

Ten days ago, when we called the roll of the Delegates of the American Republics, we felt our hearts beat with enthusiasm and longing as we listened to the martial notes of our countries' anthems. And today in this hall we still see our flags, which bring to our minds the memory of our heroes, our glorious traditions, our sorrows, and our joys, and which are a constant stimulus for our efforts. (Applause.)

Tomorrow, when on our legation buildings, on solemn days in commemoration of our countries' glories, we behold our festive banners to remind us of our days of glory, we shall certainly feel, living in our minds and palpitating in our hearts, the unforgettable memories of what we have experienced together in this attractive, cultured, and inspiring capital of the Cuban Republic.

In this atmosphere we have seen floating, as if crystallized in the eloquent thought expressed by the Secretary of State at the opening

session, a new flag, a flag which at this moment I seem to see in the hands of Columbus, a flag made of all our colors, of all our joys, of all our riches, of the murmur of our woods, of the fierceness of our waters, of the efforts of our men, of the beauty of our women,—the Pan American banner. At this moment I seem to see all those banners move from the places where they have been, and leave in the single, permanent place the glorious banner of the Republic of Cuba, the beloved flag of the Lone Star, and I feel that they all approach to encircle in their fraternal and cordial embrace that beloved banner which is not only the advanced sentinel as regards old Europe, but which represents as well, within the Pan American ideal, one of its greatest institutions and one of its greatest conquests. (Great applause.)

The Chairman: The Delegate of Brazil, Dr. Raúl Almeida Magalhães, has the floor.

Dr. Raúl Almeida Magalhães: Your Excellency the President of the Republic, Messrs. Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen:

In my capacity of a Delegate of Brazil to the Seventh Pan American Sanitary Conference, I have the high honor, on the occasion of the close of the labors of this important scientific meeting, to offer in the name of the Brazilian Government and nation, to all the sister republics here represented, the expression of our homage and the assurance of our friendship.

The Conference which is now drawing to a close with the honorable and encouraging presence of His Excellency the President of the Republic will be productive, I am sure, of the greatest benefits throughout all the signatory countries of this Convention, in consequence of the wise and salutary measures embodied in the Pan American Sanitary Code, which has been studied in its minutest details and appropriately redrafted along the lines of tolerance and freedom, in accord with the most modern conquests of public hygiene.

The very fact of the adoption of this Pan American Sanitary Convention is sufficient proof of our efforts and of our desire to produce something useful and practical in response to the confidence which has been placed in us.

Other problems, each one of them of vital importance and of the highest and most urgent interest for the sanitary defense, have received special care on the part of the Delegates, and appropriate measures have been fully discussed and approved with a view to their being recommended to the authorities whose province it will be to decree their application.

And we have been enabled to do all this within the narrow limits of time set for the business of the Conference, because in our discussions and divergencies, which have lain entirely along technical lines, there has always prevailed an atmosphere of cordiality and respect, and we all have been animated by a desire to safeguard the sanitary conditions of each country without encroaching on the sovereignty of any other, and thus contribute to render still closer and stronger the ties of American confraternization.

In accord with this principle, it has not been difficult for us to reach an agreement while purging the Sanitary Code of measures that might be harmful to each country, while at the same time we have taken care to do nothing that might impair the efficacy of its provisions.

One thing that has contributed greatly to the success of the Conference is the policy and working method adopted by the Executive Committee, which formed four committees, charged with investigating the subjects and laying them before the plenary sessions, after having been properly discussed and reported.

In this manner it has been possible to avoid what would sometimes have been useless and barren discussions in the plenary session, which was only reached by topics which had been perfectly elucidated beforehand.

And if, in the scientific field, the Committee outlined the progress of the work in advance with safety and high views, in the part devoted to honors and entertainments for the Delegates they have been conspicuous for the refinement and distinction which they imparted to each number of the program, token of the knightly hospitality of this charming city and of the Pan American spirit of friendship of this great nation,—the last one who, by the insuperable energy of her children and by the sacrifice of her heroes, has taken her place in the American community, after throwing off the yoke which paralyzed her movements in the past.

And although the last to secure the benefits of liberty, Cuba has become in a very short time one of the first American nations, amazing the world by the immense volume of her commerce in comparison with the small number of her inhabitants.

This prodigious economic expansion is a proof of the laborious energy of this great people, who, as they once drew the sword to maintain their right to a place in the sun—as was said by the famous German Chancellor at the beginning of the World War—have likewise been able to handle with proficiency the peaceful weapons of

agriculture, and evolve a constructive program of order, wealth, prosperity and welfare for the good of humanity.

Before closing I must not forget to express to the Seventh Pan American Sanitary Conference the gratitude of the Delegates of Brazil for the adoption of the vote of congratulation submitted by the representative of Peru, the eminent Dr. Paz Soldán, to my government on the day on which we commemorate the entrance of Brazil into the republican régime of Pan America. This glorious date of our country records the end of an intense political campaign, through books, the press, and the spoken word, wherein our enthusiastic youths of '89 preached their political faith, and secured its sanction in the republican form of government which had been planned by Ruy Barbosa and was embodied at last in our most liberal constitution.

This spontaneous manifestation of the Seventh Pan American Sanitary Conference of all the Americas, celebrating the beginning of our Republican calendar, has brought to us with the balm of your kind thoughts, the illusion that we are back in our own country, celebrating the greatest Republican date of our history.

And on leaving this glorious land, we feel we have listened, in the cordial hospitality of your welcome, to a thrilling appeal of fraternal Americanism, and as we bid adieu to this charming city where we have enjoyed the privilege of admiring the high medical culture of its professionals, we, the Delegates of Brazil, in the tender hour of parting, wish to express once more the assurance of our most sincere and profound gratitude.

The Chairman: Dr. J. D. Long, representative of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau, has the floor.

Dr. J. D. Long: Your Excellency the President of the Republic, Mr. Minister, Mr. Chairman of the Conference, Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen:

I have been asked to address in English this closing session of the Conference because the members of the Delegation of the United States have been compelled to return to Washington on account of urgent business requiring their presence there. Before proceeding further, I wish on their behalf, by personal direction of Surgeon General Cumming, the chairman of the Delegation, as well as on behalf of the Pan American Union and the Pan American Sanitary Bureau which I am honored in representing here, to express our deep appreciation of the cordial hospitality that we have received from every one with whom we have come in contact.

This Seventh Pan American Sanitary Conference has been, in my judgment, the best in regard to practical accomplishment of all the Sanitary Conferences that have been heretofore held.

The Pan American Sanitary Code is a most notable advance in international sanitation; none of us can yet visualize just how far-reaching it is, though all of us, I think, are firmly convinced of its ultimate great practical utility. As soon as ratified by all the countries of the Pan American Union and placed in effect, it will do much in expediting commerce and communications, thereby reducing the cost of living; it will facilitate the interchange of knowledge, thus furthering progress in sanitary matters, in cultural knowledge and in social welfare generally; it will bring about the use of uniform sanitary procedures in all the signatory countries, and will promote mutual confidence between them.

The model pure food and drug law that we have just adopted is also a big step forward, as its tendency will be to bring about uniform standards in the production and manufacture of drugs, medicines and foodstuffs, and ultimately to do away with the necessity for long, tedious and expensive examinations by importing countries, thereby assuring a constant and reasonably priced supply of the necessities of life and an increase in the health and physical vigor of the consumers.

Other important resolutions adopted cannot fail to stimulate study and research which will eventually solve problems until now obscure, and thus help to further prevent the propagation and spread of disease.

So far we have thought only of preventing the international spread of disease. There is, however, no country that will place in effect measures that this Conference has recommended, from the international viewpoint only. They will also apply useful measures for the prevention of the propagation and spread of disease within their boundaries, with resulting benefit to their own peoples and a universal lowering of death rates.

In this connection it may be well to touch briefly upon what the intelligent application of public health measures means to a country. It means, firstly, a lengthening of the average expectancy of life; a reduction in the percentage of deaths; a decrease in the number of cases of illness, with their attendant suffering, expense and loss of time from useful occupations; an increase in happiness, contentment and the power to enjoy. It means, secondly, clean water to drink, good houses to live in, a varied and sufficient diet for the needs of

the body; and as a consequence of these, increase in earning power and in usefulness to one's family and to society.

There are countries represented here whose death and morbidity rates are low, there are others whose rates are moderate and still others whose rates are too high. But from what I have seen, heard and learned in visits to almost all of these countries, I am satisfied that not many years will pass before notable reductions will take place in those countries whose rates are now moderate or high, and it is not too much to hope that eventually all will reach and maintain substantially the same low level. Conferences such as this one has been are useful, very useful in stimulating the production of such results. The interest shown, the interchange of experiences, the knowledge of each other's problems, all help greatly in attaining the desired end.

In closing, ladies and gentlemen, I wish once more to express my gratitude to Cuba and the Cubans for the warmth of their hospitality, and at the same time to congratulate them that such a successful Conference, one that cannot fail to be productive of the most gratifying results, has been held and brought to a satisfactory conclusion in their fair capital, Havana.

The Chairman: The Delegate of the Republic of Haiti, Dr. Charles Mathon, has the floor.

Dr. Mathon: Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen:

In my own name as well as in that of the Honorable Delegates to the Seventh Pan American Sanitary Conference, I wish to express to you again our gratitude for the warm and friendly welcome which we have received during our too short sojourn in this marvelous city. We will cherish, believe me, a most precious and imperishable memory of it.

At the opening of the Conference, I expressed wishes that the greatest possible success attend our labors: today, having completed our work, we have the satisfaction of seeing these hopes realized even beyond all expectations. The questions submitted for our consideration have been thoroughly covered, thanks to the organizing ability of the Executive Committee, presided over with so much tact and distinction by the congenial Dr. Lebrede. The Committee has known how to intelligently divide the task, thus rendering it so little exacting that we have been enabled to accept, between times, the numerous invitations of a social nature which have been tendered us.

The views and opinions which we have exchanged on the extremely important questions particularly concerning our continent cannot

but unite us in an indissoluble bond of solidarity. So it is to be desired that these great reunions be repeated as often as possible, for not only do they give us the opportunity of knowing each other better, but they are always productive of results of the highest interest to society.

On separating this evening, allow me to express another wish: that of seeing the strengthening of the bond of friendship and frank cordiality which has been created between us during the ten days which we have passed together, a bond which almost makes us regret seeing so soon the end of this Conference.

We return now to our homes, Gentlemen, taking with us the brightest of hopes for the future of Pan Americanism, and the most pleasant remembrance of hospitable Havana.

CLOSING ADDRESS OF THE SEVENTH PAN AMERICAN SANITARY CONFERENCE, DELIVERED BY THE HONORABLE PRESIDENT OF THE CUBAN REPUBLIC, DR. ALFREDO ZAYAS Y ALFONSO.

Illustrious Members of the Seventh Pan American Sanitary Conference, Distinguished Representatives of the Republics of America, Ladies and Gentlemen:

Before I say a few words to close this brilliant series of sessions of the Conference, allow me to trouble you by requesting you to stand for a moment as a tribute of homage to the Republic of Brazil, which commemorates its independence. (Applause.) (The audience arose.)

I was deprived of the pleasure of being present at the opening of this Conference, owing to the pressure of urgent matters, and not by any means from a want of desire on my part. I requested the Honorable Secretary of State, Dr. Carlos Manuel de Céspedes, to represent me, but I should not have liked to fail to be present on some occasion, even though it were only to bid adieu to our distinguished guests, an occasion which must of necessity be one of regret, as we should have been most happy to have you stay some time longer in our city if it had pleased you to do so.

As a layman in the art of Hippocrates and Galen, I feel that I can hardly do justice to your task, but to judge from the opinion of experts, and from the impressions of physicians, and appreciating this work as well as I am able, I am convinced that the Seventh Pan American Sanitary Conference will leave a profitable trail behind it; and that, during the course of its labors, it has handled with ability and diligence a number of problems of great importance and vital interest, as is shown by the Sanitary Code, which I have just seen, glancing rapidly over its pages, but which I judge from its

subject matter and from the competency of those who have worked upon it, will no doubt be accepted by the different national governments, put in practice, improved by further experience and be productive of exceedingly useful results in preventing the introduction and propagation of serious diseases which afflict humanity, the prevention and avoidance of which is now sought in the nations so worthily represented here.

This is the scientific aspect of the Conference. From another very important point of view, it expresses the confraternization of the peoples of the American Continent, and the close ties which exist even now to join the links of the chains that must encircle and unite us all, and it is exceedingly gratifying to note that our little island, a piece of emerald lost in the sapphire of the waves of the Mexican Gulf, which embrace and kiss it with their smiling crests, has been, as has been said, the emerald brooch in the belt that holds and binds us all. (Applause.)

It is with all appropriateness that, in the balconies of this hall, are displayed the beloved banners of our American Republics. Their festive colors are placed before our eyes, even though they dwell forever in the soul of each of us, engraved indelibly in our hearts. For they remind us that, just as this roof covers us all, men of different nations and different origins, in like manner the blue dome of the American sky hangs over peoples of different nations united in the bonds of brotherhood in the bosom of the same continent.

These colors, so varied, so different in some of these banners, are, first of all, impressed upon our hearts, but they also appeal to our sight. Because, when we gaze upon the emerald of our fields of eternal Spring, our eyes dwell on one of the colors which adorns some of these flags, and in the blue of our sky we behold the pure tint of others; while, in the ruddy splendors of the setting sun, we contemplate the red of our flag; and, in the gold that is shed by the orb of day, we see still another of its colors, and in the floating clouds the whiteness of still others; and in this manner all Nature about us is represented in the beloved colors of our respective countries. (Applause.)

But this is a scientific Conference, not a literary one, and so forgive me if I cannot take the floor without being borne away over the field of oratory, in which I am but a poor apprentice, but I could do no less than seek inspiration for some of my words in the political import, in the loftiest sense of the word, which also applies to this Conference, to which the name of Pan American has not been given in vain. It represents, without antagonism or hatred, a divi-

sion of humanity, a personality apart, which we seek to affirm. It represents the interests of a continent which has not, on that account, cut itself loose from the ties that bind it to the other continents. And so it has been exceedingly gratifying to me to find old England represented here in the illustrious personality of Dr. Norman White. This circumstance should not pass unnoticed.

It is indeed a signal honor for Havana and for Cuba, and a cause of intense pleasure to us all that this capital has been chosen for the seat of the Seventh Conference; that we have been able to have among us, even though for a few short days, personalities of such distinction in American science. We should be pleased to prolong the Conference that we might hold you some time longer, but we cannot hide from ourselves that your presence is needed in your respective countries, and that the natural longing of man for his home and family is urging you to shorten these moments. It is our hope, however, that you will take with you the impressions of a hospitality that is sincerely affectionate, a genuine hospitality, inspired by a brotherly feeling, and that you will say, on returning to your homes, that there is a country, the youngest of the American republics, in the bosom of the Gulf of Anahuac, at the door of the American world, crowned with green and adorned with lofty palms, which lives the life of freedom with intense love and a firm resolution to advance in the paths of peace, of order and of progress, in the light of the Lone Star, which, for being alone, is none the less beloved (loud and prolonged applause), which lives in the history of every American country, each of which is zealous of freedom and independence, of a personality of its own, which does not preclude the common personality, the *Pluribus Unum* of the Latin, many in one, each with its own features and interests, but within an interest common to all and a feature peculiar to the continent which we inhabit. This does not imply, as I said in beginning, antagonism or hatred of any sort, but, on the contrary, a personality which is duly considerate of all others who maintain toward her the correct and friendly attitude which we desire for the good of humanity, who seek their own good wherever it is to be found, by every legitimate means. She has come here to seek this common good, which is being evolved not only by the nations here represented, but by all those others who maintain relations with her, preventing the propagation of evils, controlling the prevalence of epidemic diseases, seeking a remedy for human suffering, even though it be through the utilization of morbid means to reach her end.

You, Members of the Sanitary Conference, labor not only for the

American Republics; you labor for the whole world, for suffering humanity in all countries, for all will enjoy the benefit of your studies and of your devotion.

As I have said, it is indeed a high honor for Cuba. We shall cherish the indelible memory of your visit, we shall profit by your investigations, we shall implant your recommendations, and we only hope that you will keep in your memories, hidden away in some little nook, a pleasant recollection of your stay among us; that sometimes you will give us a thought, and that sometimes you will say in the sanctity of your homes that we are the youngest sister, but not the least anxious to dwell in the pale of civilization, in the bosom of independence and in the exercise of liberty. (Great applause.)

The Seventh Pan American Sanitary Conference is at an end.
(11:45 P. M.)

APPENDIX