TELEGRAPHIC.

PEACE CONFERENCE.

Two Hundred Delegates Will Gather Here in Washington.

GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS ABSENT.

Ex-Minister Edmunds Endorses the Arbitration—A Letter from Andrew Carnegie.

WASHINGTON, April 22.—Three hundred delegates from twenty-nine nations are to be in Washington before the adjournment of the peace conference, which has been organized by many religious and secular organizations since the Venezuela boundary dispute first implied a state of war with great Britain and the United States.

There was a notable absence of government officials, for although invitations had been extended to the President, the cabinet, the supreme court, all members of both houses of Congress, and many others of the political, civil and diplomatic world, only a few of these dignitaries had been counted upon, and one of them put in an appearance at the afternoon meeting.

Before the meeting Secretary Olney was visited by a committee who outlined the plans for the conference and submitted for the Secretary's approval some which will be presented to the conference tomorrow. The secretary of state found nothing to criticise in the resolutions and expressed himself in accordance with the objects of the meeting.

Although no addresses were made to present international questions, the whole tenor of the speeches was toward an agreement for arbitration between the two English speaking nations.

Judge Daly, for the committee on permanent organization, reported the selection of the following officers: President, Hon. George F. Edmunds, who was unanimously elected amid a long and enthusiastic demonstration, and vice president, John T. Morgan, Alabama; Mr. W. M. R. Dodge, Newburgh, N. Y.; Mr. Alexander Caldwell, Kansas; Mr. W. D. Bynum, North Carolina; John T. Valentine, Missouri; Mr. W. M. Ireland, Nebraska; W. Allison, Oregon; H. S. C. Bunce, Utah; George G. Gardner, Washington; Governor John H. Mellette, Wyoming; Governor W. A. Richards, Wyoming.

Telegrams were received to the effect that in a rhetorical speech, he said: "The Venezuelan agreement is the highest revealed homogeneity of all men and women on the globe, is extraordinary. The United States is among the strongest nations of the world. It has the best jewel, a very great nation, vastly more wealth than with its population. It is strong enough to say that the most sacred, most cherished ideal, its pride in its power and its carry an war, but its very strength impels it to be Brotherly."

It was a stirring thought, he said, that in the time to come, and nearly all the world, as he then 1,000,000 men were in active battle, the progress of civilization were kept under arms and $1,000,000,000 diverted to their support. The time must come when the armies of the world, from 1896 to the Judson Bicentennial, would be a mere police party. The idea of public opinion was so constituent as the new organization for saving the effect of armies of standing war. The time would come when armies, for aggressive purposes, would be classified as the slaves of pirate would now be classed as the slaves of the sea.

A letter from Andrew Carnegie was read, also declared in the movement, as being a consequence of his generous gift, "which was, in a pecuniary sense, the greatest event of a career of $5,000,000 to help carry the expense of the meeting.

At the close of the general business, John Goodnow of St. Joseph, Mo., moved to lay over all further business, and thought the time for the discussion of the Venezuela war, the Nicaragua canal, and many other questions of interest, and thought the time ripe for an appearance at the afternoon meeting.

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