Chile Project (#S199900030)
U.S. Department of State
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TRANSLATION.

LC 018c.

Santiago, September 13, 1913.

Mr. Minister:

I have had the honor to receive the Legation's note No. 186 of August 13th, in which Your Excellency, acting under instructions from the American Chancellery, invites my Government to consider a proposition of the President of the United States, supplemented by an explanatory memorandum from the Honorable Secretary of State, with a view to establishing an international commission for the purpose of avoiding, or at least of lessening, such actual conflicts as might arise between the contracting parties, by previously submitting to the deliberation of the said commission questions that might cause excitement and which it might have been impossible to solve by means of diplomacy.

The proposal contained in Your Excellency's note was duly submitted by the Department of State to our Minister at Washington, who received instructions from this Department to inform the Honorable Secretary of State that our Government heartily approves the noble initiative of the Government of the United States in seeking means to limit armed conflicts as far as possible, and that, inasmuch as the proposal involved a general principle destined, moreover, to be modified and supplemented by details not yet agreed upon, he should follow attentively the development of the idea, and keep the undersigned informed in regard thereto.

To His Excellency

Henry P. Fletcher,

E. E. and M. P. of the United States of America.

It would seem unnecessary to emphasize to Your Excellency the interest with which the undersigned has taken up this proposition, whose importance, derived from its noble object, is supplemented by that of the high authority from which it originates. My Government, participating in the humanitarian spirit which has inspired Your Excellency's Government in formulating the said project, accepts it in principle, and in the course of the negotiations to which it will give rise, it will take occasion to determine the scope of its acceptance, formulating such observations as the study of the question may suggest tending to harmonize its provisions with the international doctrines which are invariably sustained by our chancellery in regard to these matters.

Upon the return of Your Excellency, this Department will have the opportunity for a further exchange of ideas with Your Excellency upon this interesting question.

I renew to Your Excellency the assurances of my most distinguished consideration.

(Sgd) E. Villegas.

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