

Havana Conference Meets While Fear Stalks Delegates

By MANUEL GOMEZ.

The Sixth Pan American Conference opens today at Havana in an atmosphere of muffled fear. Fear on the part of the American delegation, of the possibility of some unforeseen interference with carefully worked out plans. Fear on the part of the Latin-Americans, of the attitude of the United States, and of the reaction of their own peoples to their conduct in the fact of that attitude.

None Deceived.

Uppermost in the minds of all the delegates throught the proceedings will be the U. S. war of aggression in Nicaragua. The fact that almost on the eve of President Coolidge's departure for Havana the United States government sent 1,000 more marines to battle against the brave defending forces of General Sandino, overshadows everything. The studied "good-will" phraseology of press agents, the official speeches, the preparations to welcome Coolidge, are all pitifully inadequate. They provide only that kind of harmony which is the earnest of irreconcilable conflict lurking beneath. It is a harmony of set formula, which deceives no one.

Dodge Vital Problems.

There is a sense of unreality about this conference. The official atmosphere is unreal, the delegates from Latin America are not truly representative and even these delegates are not free to speak their minds. The agenda prepared for the conference ignores the vital problems about which all America is thinking. The language of resolutions means one thing and says another. Committees are working behind closed doors to prevent any-

thing fundamental from finding its way into the public debate. Pressure is being exerted in a hundred different hidden ways. In far corners of Havana diplomats are being coerced, deals are being consummated—all of them for the purpose of preventing anything from happening at the Sixth Pan-American Conference. For if anything really happens the conference will be wrecked.

Argument of Guns.

The real Pan-American debate is a war. Everyone recognizes that the essential Pan-American problems are being debated, not in Havana, but with voices of musketry and machine-gun fire, around the foothills of El Chipote in Nicaragua.

The U. S. imperialist war against Nicaragua is the essence of "Pan-Americanism" as Wall Street and Washington see it. All Latin-America knows that it is not merely a Nicaraguan war, but a war which concerns Latin America as a whole. The fate of Nicaragua threatens every country in Latin America.

That is why the United States Senate, in the interests of American imperialism, has agreed not to consider any resolutions of criticism against U. S. intervention in Nicaragua until after the Havana Conference.

Arrest Ten Citizens of Philadelphia for Frauds In Elections

PHILADELPHIA, Pa., Jan. 15.—Charges of fraud in the election of William S. Vare to the senate last November have resulted in the arrest of Joseph Baldwin, former Philadel-