MODERNIZING THE MONROE DOCTRINE

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649214235

Modernizing the Monroe doctrine by Charles H. Sherrill

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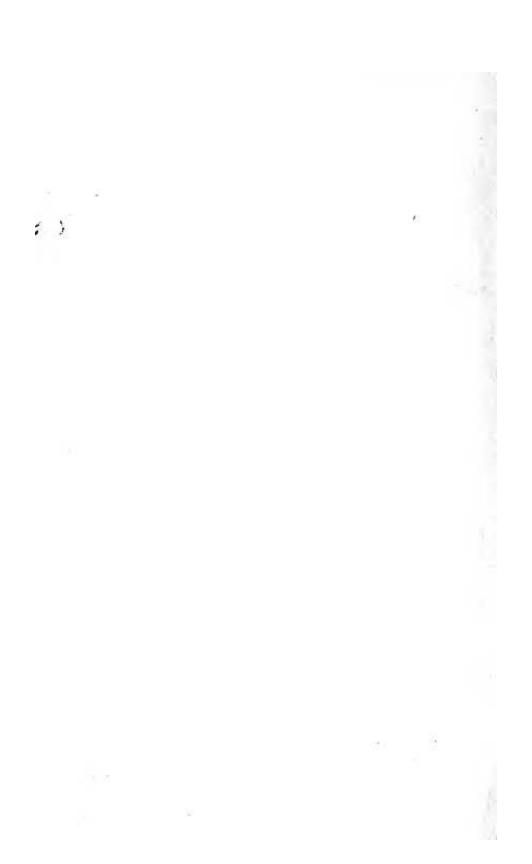
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CHARLES H. SHERRILL

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BY

CHARLES H. SHERRILL
LATE UNITED STATES MINISTER TO ABGENTINA

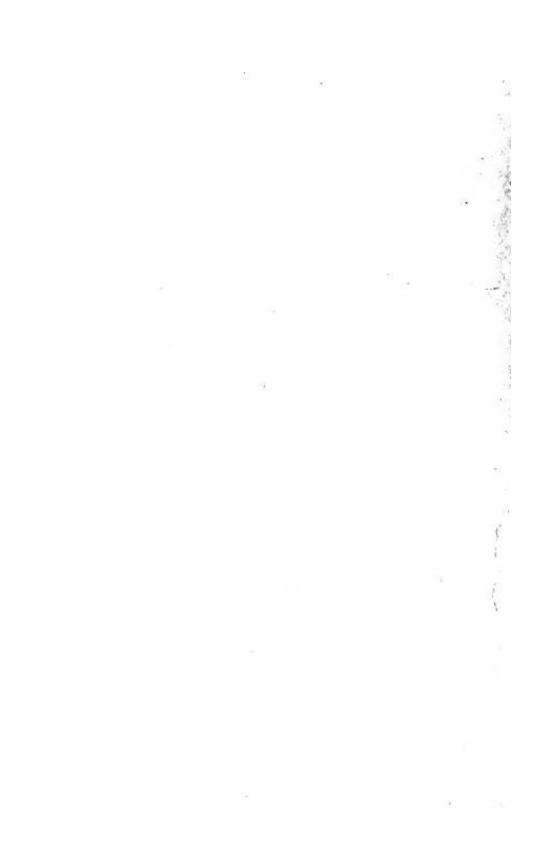
WITH AN INTRODUCTION BY NICHOLAS MURRAY BUTLER



BOSTON AND NEW YORK
HOUGHTON MIFFLIN COMPANY
Che Mibersibe press Cambridge
1916







PREFACE

I BELIEVE in Pan-Americanism and its great future because it is at the same time the most altruistic and the most practical foreign policy to which any country has ever devoted itself. It honorably reconciles the two seemingly irreconcilable shibboleths, "Safety First" and "America First," because it satisfies both our patriotism and our desire for security. It is based upon a study of and a regard for the viewpoint of other nations, thus educating the spirit of our own nation: advance the spiritual side of a whole people and things material will take care of themselves. It provides a definite foreign policy upon which the most practical of men may consistently unite with extreme idealists. It is an attempt to assemble the finest traits of twenty-one republics so as to employ them in combination for the common good of all, meanwhile disregarding their shortcomings: this mixture of appreciation and toleration will surely be as effective when applied in the family of nations as it has proved in many a family of individuals. Once this attitude of mind is gained, it matters little how much the republics concerned differ in racial traits. Pan-Americanism makes for a broader and deeper type of patriotism, because it adds a consideration for the viewpoint of other nations to the narrower and often selfish patriotism for one's homeland, whose interests nevertheless it safeguards. It is the lineal descendant of the Spirit of '76, whose Source was acknowledged by those armed Americans who at daybreak knelt in prayer on Cambridge Green before marching out to defend Bunker Hill.

Some policies are only beneficial when completely worked out, but Pan-Americanism, even when incomplete, is beneficial, and complete, it would be an immeasurable blessing. It is the most practical agent for international peace thus far devised. By means of joint mediation by American republics it has already prevented a conflict between the United States and Mexico, and upon that achievement as a base, let us erect a completed triangle, whose easterly side shall protect us from future friction with Europe, and whose westerly side insure peace on the Pacific: thus shall we have a Pan-American Triangle for Peace. The responsibility for Pan-Americanism is a continental one. The responsibility for the Monroe Doctrine will always be peculiarly our own, though it may be shared in by others. Together they should be guaranteed by a strong navy both in the Atlantic and the Pacific Oceans, and by an adequate army with a citizen reserve trained as are the peace-loving Swiss.

CHARLES H. SHERRILL.

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