

unionists, an increase of 306,976 over the represented membership of last year.



Intervention in Mexico Threatened.

Renewed activities on the part of the revolutionists in the northern provinces of Mexico, including raids across the border into American territory, with increasing danger to all Americans settled in Mexico, and a larger number of specific acts of violence against them, have brought out rumors of American intervention. In the south also the Zapatistas are becoming bolder, though Emilio Zapata has not yet made good on his threat of months ago, to shortly enter the City of Mexico if President Madero should not resign. Americans in the southern provinces are in especial danger, as protection from the United States could only be afforded by sending a sea expedition to some Mexican Gulf port, which would mean formal intervention and war; whereas in the north a display of troops on the frontier has a certain protective effect. [See current volume, page 849.]



President Taft, it was announced on the 6th, has served an ultimatum on the Mexican government to the effect that unless Americans and their interests are given immediate protection from the rebels the United States government will intervene. Mr. Manuel Calero, ambassador to the United States from Mexico, is personally hastening to the City of Mexico, bearing this ultimatum to President Madero. The press dispatches assert that should President Taft decide that intervention is the only course open to him he will call Congress in special session, and demand of it the authority to send the American army across the border. He is reported to have declared that under no circumstances would he do an unfriendly act against Mexico without consulting Congress. In the meantime additional troops and equipment are being rushed to the border. The President has authorized the export of 500 rifles and 150,000 rounds of ammunition to beleaguered Americans in the Cananea district. The War Department is also considering a suggestion from military commanders along the border that the United States obtain permission from the Mexican government for American troops to pursue into Mexican territory bands of rebel raiders who operate on this side of the line. This step was taken during the Indian troubles in Arizona and New Mexico in the '70s and '80s. The United States has given permission to the Madero government to send troops through Texas and New Mexico into northern Chihuahua. Inasmuch as the State Department has demanded that Mexico send Federal troops into northern Mexico to protect Americans, it is proper that the United States should co-operate with Madero's effort to do so.

The new Mexican Congress is to convene on the 16th. According to an Associated Press dispatch of the 7th, from Mexico City, the Chamber of Deputies will have on its roll 243 representatives, 150 of whom were elected by the Constitutional Progressive party, which gave Madero the Presidency. The minority of ninety-three is by no means a solid block. It includes representatives of three political parties, the Catholic, Evolutionist and Independent. The Congress Madero inherited was a part of the old administration. The new Congress is supposed to be in sympathy with his ideas. Under the old Congress, however, the administration was able to have enacted a most cherished reform—the Constitutional amendment providing for the non-re-election of the President. Among those measures known to be ready for presentation at the session beginning in September are an employers' liability act, the abolition of the *jefes politicos*, an anti-peonage law and a measure for establishing courts of jurisprudence for the settlement of land titles in cases where the records are missing.



China.

The imperative need of a foreign loan to the new Chinese Republic, held up in the early summer by the refusal of the Chinese to agree to a supervision of their national expenditures by the banking group of the six great Powers, which proposed lending \$3,000,000 to China under onerous stipulations, has been at least temporarily obviated by an agreement between the Chinese government and Lloyds' union of London banks for a loan of \$50,000,000. [See current volume, page 639.]



Summoned by the Minister of Education, an Educational Conference has been sitting in Peking. According to *The China Republican** the Conference debated on August 8 a motion brought forward by the Minister, in regard to the Chinese alphabet. The Minister argued that "the ignorance of the masses was due, chiefly, to the difficulties of the Chinese written language," which has a separate character for each word, and therefore it is "necessary to learn the sound and also the meaning of every word." He claimed also that the absence of an alphabet, in the European sense, "was responsible for a variety of dialects without a common spoken language. It was impossible to bring the people into contact in order to make a spoken language commonly understood, and therefore it was necessary to begin with the written language." The Conference resolved:

(1) That universal education and a written language should be available to everyone, and not alone to an intelligent minority.

(2) That word-sounds should be pronounced alike throughout the country.

*See Public of September 6, page 859.