Einstein Case Surprise
To Consul Messersmith

Official Not in Berlin at Time Scientist Was Questioned

BERLIN, Dec. 9.—American Consul General George S. Messersmith returned here today after a week's leave, greatly surprised to find himself the target of criticism in connection with the delay in granting Professor Albert Einstein a visa to visit the United States.

Messersmith, passing a week in Pennsylvania, had been out of Berlin since Saturday, when the Einstein matter first became a case for the consul to handle. He is known in the American colony here for the liberality of his views and his accommodating spirit in the matter of visas.

Professor and Frau Einstein are to leave Berlin at 8:40 a.m., tomorrow by train for Bremen, where they will board the steamship Oakland, which sails for California tomorrow afternoon by way of the Panama Canal.

Questioned by "Consular Official"

Professor Einstein was questioned at Berlin on Monday "by an American consular official," according to dispatches, concerning his views on communism and anarchism. The questioning followed the transmission to the consulate by the State Department of a protest by the Woman Patriot Corporation against the scientist's admission. He declined to undergo the "silly inquisition," as he termed it, and said he would cancel his plan to visit the United States to do scientific work unless the visa was forthcoming by 11 a.m. today.