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the Argentine Ambassador to the United States, Señor Remorino, who, only a few days previously had arrived from Washington for purposes of consultation, Doctor Bramuglia was received by the President. It was arising out of this discussion that Doctor Bramuglia's resignation was presented and accepted and, but for a purely extraneous circumstance relating to the meeting, public opinion would have been rather more in the dark than it is in regard to the significance of Doctor Bramuglia's departure from an office in which he has served with very considerable dignity and distinction. That circumstance was Señor Remorino's action in challenging Doctor Bramuglia to a duel. Such things are difficult to keep private and there seemed to be little doubt, from the published reports of this lamentable sequel to the meeting at the Government House last Thursday, that the discussion which took place on that occasion was characterised by the widely divergent views on matters of policy held by the Ambassador to Washington and the Minister of Foreign Affairs respectively, to the point indeed that things were said in haste and heat that hurt, and events took the course they did. Honour, as it happened, was satisfied by the challenge and the naming of seconds on both sides and recourse to arms was not deemed necessary. What remains is the incognito in regard to the precise nature of the conflict between the two protagonists. Where the Press reports have attempted to throw some light on the subject they are in agreement in that the dispute centred on Argentine-U.S. relations, and on the economic rather than on the purely political aspect of those relations. It is suggested that the Ambassador's endeavours of late to promote an expansion of Argentine-U.S. trade and an improvement, by such means, in economic relations generally between the two countries, had been meeting with a certain element of opposition in Buenos Aires. Hence the *dénouement*. Such, at least, is the newspaper explanation which, for lack of a likelier one, and in the absence of any official enlightenment, is the one that is being discussed and examined for whatever further derivations it may be expected to have. Whatever the explanation, it is more than a little unusual that, in such circumstances, it should be the Minister rather than the Ambassador who resigns. Doctor Bramuglia's own statement to the Press was nothing if not diplomatic. Such things he said are of common occurrence in the life of public functionaries.

There seem to be no grounds for the curious theory that official American opinion succeeded in winning Señor Remorino over the idea that the recent Anglo-Argentine Agreement is inimical to Argentina's best interests, and that Doctor Bramuglia, as one of the chief architects of that Agreement, thereafter found himself inevitably at variance with Señor Remorino in regard to the lines along which Argentine-U.S. policy should be conducted. As we have said before in these columns, the chief obstacle to Argentine-U.S. trade expansion is Argentine production costs and Argentine export prices, the latter rendered prohibitively high by reason of the fact that, for

trade purposes, the dollar is arbitrarily held to be worth 3.35 or 3.98 pesos, while the reality of the dollar's worth as shown by the quaintly-termed parallel market quotation, is nearly three times such rates. This, however, strictly speaking, is not the province of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs at all.

Doctor Bramuglia, who during his tenure of office earned a well-deserved reputation for statesmanship, is succeeded at the San Martín Palace by Doctor Hipólito Jesús Paz, who is 32 years of age and who, although new to public life, is a figure of considerable academic distinction and achievement.

#### Dr. Bramuglia Departs *To Mr Remorino.*

The resignation last week-end of the Minister of Foreign Affairs appears to have been an entirely unexpected development. Founded, as so many such decisions are these days, on health reasons, Doctor Bramuglia's relinquishment of office was clearly prompted by other considerations as well as those of health. The circumstances attending the presentation of his resignation and its acceptance, with the minimum loss of time, by the President, seemed to indicate a divergence of opinion on matters pertaining to his Department. It would be of very considerable public interest to have the facts of that divergence of opinion, but it is not likely that the information will be officially forthcoming. The official communiqué merely records the fact of the lengthy discussion which took place at the Government House last Thursday when, in the company of

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