

SANTA BARBARA PRESS

December 9, 1932

AN UNFORTUNATE INCIDENT

The State department at Washington, with the connivance of one of its employes, Consul Messersmith at Berlin, has again put its foot in it. When Albert Einstein, rated as one of the foremost scientists of the world, was preparing to make his projected visit to the United States, some officious undersecretary at Washington or perhaps the consul himself, bound by bales of red tape regulations, conceived the brilliant idea of putting Einstein through a cross-examination as to his fitness to enter this country. The eminent professor could not see the relativity between an educator invited to come to this country and impart some of his knowledge and the quiz inquiring into his personal habits and beliefs. So the usually gentle professor exploded in wrath and said if such a fuss were to be made over his proposed visit he would abandon it.

Fortunately someone in the State department with a little common sense acted, and the German professor will be permitted to land on our sacred shore.

Immigration laws have their uses in preventing undesirables from entering the country, but it takes a stretch of imagination to conceive that the gentle little German scientist and violinist could possibly be a menace to the beliefs and dignity of the United States.

S.B. Press Dec. 9th '32