

EDITORIAL COMMENT

POSTPONEMENT OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF INTERNATIONAL LAW

At the meeting of the Executive Council of the American Society of International Law held in Washington on the 24th day of January, 1920, after very full discussion, the Council unanimously resolved that in view of the existing diplomatic situation, it was expedient to postpone the general meeting of the Society for the year 1920, until a time when general discussion of international questions that are of active public interest may be useful rather than embarrassing.

Timely notice of the postponed meeting will be given.¹

ELIHU ROOT,
President.

CHANGES IN THE JOURNAL

The expiration on December 31st last of the contract for the publication of the AMERICAN JOURNAL OF INTERNATIONAL LAW during the period of abnormally high prices, especially in the costs of printing and publication, placed the Society in a dilemma as to the proper course to pursue in order to bring its expenses within its income. The situation was thoroughly considered at a meeting of the Executive Committee held in Washington on January 24th last. It was thought inadvisable to make any increase in the annual dues of members or the subscription price to non-members, and alternative means of reducing the expenses of publication so as to enable the JOURNAL to be published at the present price were considered. After careful consideration, the following changes were found to be necessary in order to bring about the desired result: (1) to reduce the maximum number of pages per year in the JOURNAL and SUPPLEMENT from 1,200 to 1,000; (2) to discontinue the issuance of the SUPPLEMENT as a separate publication, but bind it under the same cover with the JOURNAL, retaining, however, its separate pagination so that it may

¹In case the meeting is not held this year, the subscription fees paid by members for the Proceedings of this year's annual meeting will, unless otherwise requested, be retained and credited on the respective member's accounts in payment for the Proceedings of next year.—CHANDLER P. ANDERSON, *Treasurer.*

be permanently bound in a separate volume at the end of the year (for the latter purpose the JOURNAL will continue to be separately indexed); (3) to grant the publishers the privilege of advertising their own publications upon the covers of the JOURNAL, the advertising to be limited to publications dealing with political science and to be approved by the Editor-in-Chief.

With these modifications, the Executive Committee is happily able to announce that it will not be necessary to increase the membership dues or the subscription price.

Owing to the issuance of the January and April numbers of the present year as a double number, it was possible to retain the JOURNAL and the SUPPLEMENT under separate covers, but beginning with the present number the SUPPLEMENT will be bound in the same cover with the JOURNAL, retaining its separate pagination, as above stated.

Up to the present time, the Society has utilized its small annual surplus for the publication and gratuitous distribution to its members of the printed volume of Annual Proceedings. Under the new printing arrangements, however, the Society will be unable to print and distribute the Proceedings free of charge. Upon this point the Executive Committee at its meeting on January 24th adopted the following resolution:

Resolved, That, owing to the greatly increased cost of publication, the free distribution of the Proceedings be hereafter discontinued and that a charge of one dollar and fifty cents per copy be made, the said charge to be entered separately on the due notices at the beginning of the year.

The intent of the above resolution is clear, namely, that those members who desire to receive the printed Annual Proceedings should subscribe to them separately at the rate of \$1.50; but there is no obligation to subscribe.

It was with much regret that the Executive Committee felt compelled to make any change at all in the publication of the JOURNAL after so many years of continued issuance without change, but the Committee felt that the acceptance of these slight modifications was preferable to an increase in the price. The modifications are regarded only as temporary, and the JOURNAL will revert to its old form as soon as publication costs return to anything approaching the old basis.

JAMES BROWN SCOTT,

Recording Secretary and Editor-in-Chief.