

EDITORIAL COMMENT

THE JOURNAL ENTERING UPON A SECOND DECADE

THE first number of the AMERICAN JOURNAL OF INTERNATIONAL LAW was issued in January, 1907, and with the issue of October, 1916, it completed what its friends are inclined to call the first decade of its usefulness. With the present number for January, 1917, the JOURNAL begins its second decade, which it is hoped will be one of even greater usefulness. In view of these circumstances, a few words concerning the JOURNAL will not be deemed inappropriate.

When the American Society of International Law was formed in 1906 it was the intention of the founders to create at one and the same time a journal as the organ of the Society, because at that time there was not in existence any other journal of international law in the English-speaking world. In 1906, in connection with the Lake Mohonk Conference on International Arbitration, the final steps were taken by a committee of the American Society of International Law to authorize the issuance of the JOURNAL as the organ of the Society, and the undersigned was appointed the editor and manager of the proposed publication, with power to appoint an editorial board. In all the preliminary arrangements, he associated with him Mr. Robert Lansing, one of the joint founders of the Society, and they made the arrangements for the appearance of the JOURNAL, determining its style and content. The JOURNAL has since then apparently found favor with the public and with its critical readers, for at the meeting of the Board of Editors, held in the City of New York on December 2, 1916, it was decided to make but one change, namely, to print the names of the members of the Editorial Board on the reverse of the table of contents so that the names of the persons responsible for the JOURNAL shall be more easily discovered than heretofore. This change followed naturally and logically the other change made last year, for when it was decided to have the editorial comments signed by their authors, editorial comment as such ceased and the comments

became notes, differing from the articles in that they were shorter and written by members of the Editorial Board. These are the only two changes which experience has suggested to the Board of Editors, and the JOURNAL, starting upon its second decade, will resemble in all other respects its predecessor of the first decade.

There is, however, another change which should be noted. The publisher for the first decade was Messrs. Baker, Voorhis & Company, of New York. The publisher of the series beginning with the January, 1917, number is the Oxford University Press, American Branch. In chronicling this change of publishers, it is proper to say, and it would be unjust not to mention it, that it is doubtful if the JOURNAL could have appeared when it did and in the form which it assumed had it not been for the interest taken in the venture by Messrs. Baker, Voorhis & Company, and for the generous terms, from which the element of profit was largely excluded, which they made with the Society for its publication. The Society and the JOURNAL owe Messrs. Baker, Voorhis & Company a debt of gratitude, and the officers of the Society and the Board of Editors of the JOURNAL consider it a pleasure, as well as a duty, to make this public statement of their indebtedness to their former publishers.

The undersigned is very happy to announce on behalf of the Society and the Board of Editors that an index of the first ten volumes of the publications of the Society will be issued in the course of the year, to consist of three separate indices in a special volume, one index to be devoted to the JOURNAL, another to the SUPPLEMENT, and the third to the PROCEEDINGS, so that the publications of the first decade will be readily at the disposal of readers who may care to consult them. The index will be sold to members and subscribers at cost, and it is not expected that the price will exceed the price of a single number of the JOURNAL, namely, \$1.25. The Editors would appreciate it, if orders for this index are placed in advance, so that they may know how many to have printed.

It should be stated that since January, 1912, the JOURNAL has appeared in Spanish, that it is steadily increasing its circulation and usefulness, and that the day does not appear to be far distant when it will be as frequently consulted in Spanish as it is in English, and exercise an additional influence among the Spanish-speaking as well as among the English-speaking countries.

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