

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
American Society of International Law

AT ITS
EIGHTEENTH ANNUAL MEETING

HELD AT
WASHINGTON, D. C.

APRIL 24-26, 1924

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EIGHTEENTH ANNUAL MEETING
OF THE
AMERICAN SOCIETY OF INTERNATIONAL LAW

THE NEW WILLARD HOTEL, WASHINGTON, D. C.

APRIL 24-26, 1924

FIRST SESSION

Thursday, April 24, 1924, at 8.30 o'clock p. m.

The American Society of International Law met in the Willard Room, New Willard Hotel, Washington, D. C., at 8.30 o'clock p. m., April 24, 1924, with the Honorable Charles Evans Hughes, Secretary of State, one of the Vice-Presidents of the Society, presiding as Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN. Ladies and gentlemen, it is a matter of very deep regret that Mr. Root, the President of the Society, is not able to be present this evening. I have no doubt that his regret is almost, if not quite, as keen as our own. He has been for many years, indeed, since the organization of the Society, devoted to its purposes; and perhaps the study of our international rights and purposes has received a more important contribution at his hands through this vehicle than has been made in any other way.

I may be pardoned for calling attention to the fact that we have no more agreeable spectacle than is afforded by those rare spirits who, after a long official career, are able to capitalize all of their experiences and to devote their best, and perhaps their most fruitful period of life, untrammelled by official obligations, to those studies and interests for the sake of the welfare of humanity which have always been uppermost in their thought.

We think of Chancellor Kent, at the age of sixty forced from the bench which he had adorned, taking up the work of his commentaries; and it is gratifying to find something of an analogous career in the work of Elihu Root, since his retirement from office, in the notable work that he has performed in the enlargement of our vision and the ripening of our judgment in respect to questions of international obligation and right.

It is very fitting that, in his absence, this evening should be devoted to a review of his work; and Dr. James Brown Scott has prepared an address on that subject to which we will now listen.