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AMERICAN BRANCH
OF THE
INTERNATIONAL LAW ASSOCIATION
(FOUNDED 1873)

J. L. Jones per.

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435 WEST 116 STREET, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10027
CHAIRMAN, EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
CECIL J. OLMSTEAD

HONORARY SECRETARY AND TREASURER
JAMES P. BEGGANS, JR.
295 MADISON AVENUE, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10017
TELE: (212) 889-3700
TELEX: (RCA) 236267

ILA NEWSLETTER
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INTRODUCING THE NEWSLETTER:

An overwhelming majority of respondents to the spring 1973 questionnaire called for a newsletter. Consequently, one will issue as information accumulates. This is the beginning. Readers are invited to submit news to the Honorary Secretary and Treasurer for subsequent issues.

OUR MEMBERSHIP:

From our membership of 608, responses to the questionnaire suggest that our membership cuts across other professional societies as follows: 92% belong to the American Society of International Law; 77% to the International Law Section of the American Bar Association; 27% to the American Foreign Law Association, and 15% to the American Political Science Association.

Evidently most members are practitioners or law professors, and only a few are political scientists. Probably this imbalance results from the focus of the International Law Association of which we are a Branch. For over 100 years the I.L.A. has sought to serve the practitioner through the work of its committees which have been concerned with both public and private international law.

Our contrast with the American Society of International Law, to which most of us belong is that we offer a direct institutional link with the international lawyers of the world. Although increasing numbers of the members of the A.S.I.L. are non-Americans, our Branch of the I.L.A. brings Americans to the world association as a U.S.A. oriented unit, and through committee work the varied views of Americans are presented to the biennial world meetings. In this manner Americans interested in functioning on a world stage find attraction.

A SPRING PANEL: INVESTMENT PROBLEMS IN MEXICO (April 25):

The Branch has organized a panel on legal problems of investment in Mexico to be held in Washington on April 25 at 2:30 p.m. at the Statler Hilton Hotel. This will be part of the Annual Meeting of the American Society of International Law held from April 25 to April 27.

Branch Vice President, G.W. Haight will preside and panelists will be Lic. Cesar Sepulveda, President of the Mexican Branch of the I.L.A., and two American attorneys with offices in Mexico City: Alexander C. Hoagland, Jr. and James E. Ritch. The entire Annual Meeting of the A.S.I.L. is centered around U.S. relations with Mexico and Canada.

MONTHLY LUNCHEONS ON WEDNESDAYS:

Spring luncheons held at the Lawyers Club, 115 Broadway, New York City (next to Trinity Church) with members of the American Foreign Law Association will be the following (12 noon to 1:45 p.m.)

- Jan. 16 — Charles J. Lipton, International Adviser on Mineral Law and Development to the United Nations, on legal problems of investment in Africa with special attention to joint ventures in minerals.
- Feb. 13 — James W. Johnson, Jr. on the right of aliens to practice law in the U.S.A., with special reference to the recent decision of the United States Supreme Court granting this right.
- Mar. 20 — Robert A. Hendrickson on international and interstate estate planning.
- May 15 — Charles R. Stevens on Japanese law and the American business lawyer.

If you wish to attend, telephone the secretary to Andrew Freeman at (212) 944-8189 not later than the Monday prior to a luncheon to obtain a reservation at table. Bring your check or cash in the amount of \$7.25 to the meeting.

During the autumn there were two luncheons on the law of the People's Republic of China: one on its attitude toward public international law led by Prof. Randall Edwards of the Columbia University Law School and one on its attitude toward private international law led by Prof. David C. Buxbaum, formerly on the University of Washington and currently president of May Lee Industries, Inc. The third luncheon talk was by Branch Vice President, Louis Henkin of the Columbia University Law School discussing the currently controversial question of the President's constitutional powers in the conduct of U.S.A. foreign relations.

SOVEREIGN IMMUNITY PROPOSALS:

A Branch Committee filed with the Department of State in December its views on proposed legislation affecting pleas of sovereign immunity in courts of the U.S.A. Under the chairmanship of Monroe Leigh, a member of the Branch's Executive Committee, the committee indicated its general approval of the legislative draft presented by the Department but proposed certain improvements. The Branch's Executive Committee authorized submission of the report to the Department for its information and the Executive Committee expressed general approval of the idea that the matter was appropriate to legislation by the Congress.

THE WORLD CONFERENCE OF THE I.L.A.

The Indian Branch of the I.L.A. has invited members of Branches to New Delhi for the week of December 29, 1974 to January 4, 1975 for the 56th Conference. Messrs. Cox and King, Ltd. of Indra Palace, Connaught Place, New Delhi have been designated the official travel agent of the Conference. Hotels and passage are being arranged at preferential rates. A social program for delegates and their ladies has been arranged to supplement the main business of the meeting, namely discussion of reports prepared by headquarter's committees. American Branch committees are now pointing their work to preparation for discussion of these reports.

A brochure containing forms for registration (£15 sterling) and for reservation of hotel rooms will be distributed to Branch members in the spring. Air travel will be on AIR INDIA.

THE BRANCH'S ANNUAL MEETING for 1974:

To accommodate the change in schedule of the 56th world conference the Branch will postpone its usual spring meeting until November 15, 1974. The morning will be devoted to meetings of Branch committees, and the afternoon to public discussion of two of these committee reports. The evening will be devoted to the Annual Dinner of the Branch, preceded by the annual business meeting.

THE BRANCH'S ANNUAL MEETING FOR 1975:

The usual schedule for annual meetings will be resumed in 1975 so that we shall gather in the early spring. Many responses to the questionnaire addressed to members urged that an annual meeting occasionally be held outside New York. Chicago has been tentatively selected by the Executive Committee of the Branch as the locale.

NEWS OF MEMBERS:

Our former Branch President and current Chairman of the Executive Committee, Cecil J. Olmstead, has been performing his duties as President of the I.L.A. which requires his attendance at meetings of the I.L.A. Executive Council in London from time to time.

Branch Executive Committee Member Carlyle E. Maw has assumed his duties as Legal Adviser to the Department of State.

Branch Executive Committee Member Stephen M. Schwebel is spending a year's leave of absence from his post as Executive Vice President of the A.S.I.L. as professor in residence in the legal department of the Department of State. This post has previously been held by Branch Vice Presidents Louis J. Sohn and Richard R. Baxter and by Branch Member John Norton Moore.

Branch Vice President Thomas M. Franck is program chairman for the 1974 Annual Meeting of the A.S.I.L.

Branch Member John R. Stevenson, former Legal Adviser to the Department of State is head of the U.S.A. delegation to the conferences preparing for the Conference on the Law of the Sea.