

MARITIME LAW ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED STATES.

The Annual Meeting of the Association was held at the house of the Association of the Bar of the City of New York on the 15th day of May, 1908, at 3 P. M. There were present the Hon. Addison Brown, New York, President; Everett P. Wheeler, New York; John D. Bryant, Boston; George Whitefield Betts, Jr., New York; Frank Healy, Providence; Fitz-Henry Smith, Jr., Hon. Frederic Dodge, Boston; Harrington Putnam, Charles C. Burlingham and A. Gordon Murray, New York.

Mr. Murray was selected to act as Secretary *pro tem*. The Minutes of the previous meeting, held on the 3rd day of May, 1907, were read, corrected and approved, and the Memorial Notes appended to the Minutes on the death of Mr. Wilhelmus Mynderse and the Honorable William W. Goodrich were adopted. The Secretary *pro tem*. also read the reports of Hon. Edward G. Bradford and Frederick W. Brown as delegates to the International Maritime Conference held at Venice in September, 1907. The Secretary *pro tem*. also read the report of Edward G. Benedict, Treasurer for the year ending May 1st, 1908.

The election of officers for the ensuing year was held. On motion of Mr. Harrington Putnam, duly seconded, the Secretary *pro tem*. was directed to cast one vote for the re-election of the officers in office, which was immediately done, resulting in the re-election of the following officers to serve for the year 1908-9: President, Hon. Addison Brown; Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. Edward G. Benedict.

A motion was made to continue the present Executive Committee in office for the ensuing year, and the Secretary *pro tem*. was directed to cast one vote, which was done, with the following result: Executive Committee, Everett P. Wheeler, Hon. Frederic Dodge, Harrington Putnam.

A general discussion was then held on the question of maritime liens, and a communication from Edward G. Benedict was read stating that the New York and New Jersey Dry Docks Association had been occupied in trying to get uniformity in the law of lien and that the same Association was endeavoring to have passed by Congress some legislation to the same effect. Mr. Henry C. Hunter, representative of said Association and kindred organizations, very kindly addressed the meeting on the subject. Mr. Fitz-Henry Smith, Jr., author of an article printed by the *Harvard Law Review*, Volume 21, No. 5, under the subject The Confusion of the Law Relating to the Material Man's Liens on Vessels, then addressed the meeting on the same subject and moved the following resolution:

Resolved, that a committee be appointed by the chairman to report a bill to regulate and make uniform the rights of persons furnishing to or for a vessel, supplies, repairs or other necessaries, their report to be made to the Association at a Special Meeting to be called by the President."

The resolution was duly seconded, discussed and unanimously adopted. The Chairman appointed as such Committee Mr. Fitz-Henry Smith, Jr., Hon. Frederic Dodge and Mr. Robert Hughes.

Mr. Putnam then offered the following resolution:

Resolved, that the Committee be requested to send its report to the Secretary *pro tem.*, who is hereby instructed to print the same and send a copy to the members, with a notice of the meeting."

This motion was duly seconded and adopted.

Mr. Putnam then offered the following resolution:

Resolved, that this Association favors the project for an International Court of Appeal in prize cases as reported at the Second Hague Conference and recommends its adoption by this Government."

The resolve was duly seconded and adopted.

Mr. Wheeler then offered the following resolution :

“Resolved, that the Secretary be instructed to transmit a copy of this resolution to the Secretary of State and to the Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the Senate.”

The motion was duly seconded and adopted.

It was moved and seconded that Mr. Murray be requested to act as Secretary *pro tem.* during the absence in Europe of Secretary, Mr. Edward G. Benedict. Mr. Putnam suggested that the Secretary be requested to have at the Special Meeting a copy of the former bills, approved and urged for adoption by the Association, on the question of liens and the right to recover for loss of life at sea.

Letters of regret on their inability to be present were received and laid before the meeting from the following members : Hon. Henry G. Ward, Hon. Edward G. Bradford, Mr. Archibald C. Matteson.

The meeting then adjourned, to be reconvened on the call of the Chairman, to consider the report of the sub-committee duly appointed to consider the subject of liens. Time of adjournment 5:30 P. M.

A. GORDON MURRAY,
Secretary pro tem.

EDWARD GRENVILLE BENEDICT, *Secretary,*
79 Wall St., New York.