

THE
MARITIME LAW ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED STATES.

DECEMBER 5, 1919.

The regular autumn meeting of The Maritime Law Association of the United States was held at the house of the Association of the Bar, 42 West 44th Street, New York City, December 5, 1919.

There were present:

Hon. Charles M. Hough,	Mark W. Maclay, Jr.,
Edward E. Blodgett,	A. Gordon Murray,
C. C. Burlingham,	Howard M. Long,
Fitz-Henry Smith, Jr.,	Willard M. Harris,
Everett P. Wheeler,	John C. Prizer,
Frederic Cunningham,	Hon. Harrington Putnam,
William Nelson,	Cletus T. Keating,
Robert M. Hughes,	Russell H. Loines,
Ira A. Campbell,	James A. Hatch,
Floyd Hughes,	Hon. John C. Knox,
William H. Blymyer,	Henry W. Goodrich,
Albert T. Gould,	Hon. Edwin L. Garvin,
Gerry L. Brooks,	Hon. Martin T. Manton,
George Whitfield Betts,	William Van Wyke,
D. Roger Englar,	T. Catesby Jones,
William J. Conlen,	Hon. John C. Rose,
Charles R. Hickox,	Henry H. Little,
Hon. Samuel B. Adams,	William F. Purdy.
Pierre M. Brown,	

Charles M. Hough presided.

The Secretary was instructed to make a minute of those present. The reading of the minutes of the last meeting was dispensed with as the same had been printed and distributed. Edward E. Blodgett, Chairman of the Committee on the

Revision of the Admiralty Rules, reported that the Committee appointed by the Circuit Courts of Appeals for the various circuits had concluded its revision and the same was now ready to be submitted to the Supreme Court for its consideration and adoption. A resolution was adopted continuing the Association's Committee in office and authorizing it to take whatever steps might, in its opinion, become necessary.

Fitz-Henry Smith, Jr., Chairman of the Committee on the Federal Statute Concerning Claims for Loss of Life at Sea, reported that the Association's bill on this subject had been presented to the present Congress, introduced in both Houses, referred to the Judiciary Committees respectively, and duly reported by the Senate Committee and passed by the Senate. In the House the bill was reported with an amendment introduced by Mr. Graham of Pennsylvania, which was not entirely satisfactory to the Association's committee. Mr. Smith asked for instructions to the Committee as in respect to Mr. Graham's amendment. On motion duly made, and seconded, Mr. William J. Conlen of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, was added to the Committee and the Committee instructed to take whatever steps might be necessary to expedite the passage of the bill.

In the absence of the Honorable Van Vechten Veeder, Edward E. Blodgett reported for the Committee on Proceedings Against the Government for Damages Caused by Government Owned or Requisitioned Vessels, that many bills had been suggested or were pending in Congress but that the United States Shipping Board had proposed a more comprehensive bill on the subject and its fate in Congress was at the time uncertain.

Mr. Blodgett was also called upon and stated his views concerning pending legislation in Congress in reference to enabling the placing of mortgages on vessels which would be superior to the ordinary maritime liens. Mr. Blodgett stated that both he and the President, Charles M. Hough, had appeared before the Committee on Marine and Fisheries of the House and had made comprehensive suggestions, since which time no action had been taken by the said Committee.

Upon motion duly made and carried the President was authorized to appoint a committee on the subject of the Mortgaging of Privately-owned Vessels of the United States and the Priority of Liens. The President appointed Mr. Edward E. Blodgett, Mr. William J. Conlen and Mr. Harvey D. Goulder.

Mr. Frederic Cunningham of Boston proposed the following resolution, which was seconded and carried:

“That the bill proposed by Mr. Cunningham to farther amend the new judicial code and save to suitors their common law remedy in maritime cases, where the common law is competent to give it, be referred to a committee of three to be appointed by the Chair, to consider and report at the next meeting.”

The President subsequently appointed as such committee Mr. Charles C. Burlingham, Mr. H. Alan Dawson and Mr. Robert M. Hughes.

There being no further business before the Association, it adjourned to gather in the evening at seven o'clock at the University Club, at which time some forty-one members of the Association dined together.

Respectfully submitted,

A. GORDON MURRAY,

Secretary,

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New York, N. Y.