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STIMSON ASKS ADHERENCE TO WORLD COURT

Senate Approval Now Is
Only Obstacle in Way
of Membership.

CREDITS ROOT FORMULA

Conditions Make Espousal
of U. S. Essential, Says
State Secretary.

BY LYLE C. WILSON
United Press Staff Correspondent
WASHINGTON, Dec. 9.—Secretary of State Stimson today urged American adherence to the world court as Charge D'Affaires Jay Pierrepont Moffat in Switzerland obeyed orders by signing documents which require only senate approval for this country to become a court member.

Stimson claimed for President Roosevelt and his secretary of state, Elwin Root, credit for originating the world court concept in its present form. He pronounced the senate's objections to adherence to have been met and pleaded that the Kellogg anti-war pact had changed world conditions so as to make American membership essential.

In his plea for the court, which will become the text book of debate if the senate proves recalcitrant, Stimson hinted President Hoover's belief the next step in guaranteeing peace in the world is to obtain international agreement upon a code of international law. The United States, he has informed Mr. Hoover, now may safely adhere to the world court, or as it more properly is called, the permanent court of international justice.

Not Merely Appendage

The secretary forcefully challenged suggestions the court is a mere appendage of the League of Nations. The court owes its existence, he said, to the independent authority of states signatory to it and it did not become effective by action of the league but by action of those states. After signature of the documents in Switzerland, the court question is ready at any time for submission to the senate, the United Press was informed at the state department.

The state department today made public an exchange of letters in which Mr. Hoover authorized Moffat to sign in Switzerland and in which Stimson submitted a lengthy brief in support of this order. Stimson reviewed the history of the court idea and analyzed the action of the senate in making reservations to American adherence. Of the five senate reservations, Stimson said, only one, the fifth, was objected to by court members. This reservation is as follows:

Opinions Limited

That the court shall not render any advisory opinion publicly after one notice to all states adhering to the court and to all interested states and after public hearing or opportunity for hearing given to any state concerned; nor shall it without the consent of the United States entertain any request for an advisory opinion touching any dispute or question in which the United States has or claims an interest.

It was to meet the situation created by court members' refusal to accept this reservation that Mr. Hoover before his inauguration asked President Coolidge to re-open the subject. Elwin Root then went to Geneva as a member of a commission of jurists authorized to amend the court statutes. His instructions from Mr. Hoover were to obtain a substitute for the senate's reservations to American adherence. The result was the Root formula.

In applying this formula to reservation No. 5, Stimson divided the reservation into three parts.

1. No advisory opinion shall be rendered except publicly and after due notice.

Procedure Guaranteed

Stimson said the court statutes will guarantee that procedure.

2. No advisory opinion shall be made without the consent of the United States in any dispute in which this country has an interest.

Stimson pointed to the amendment to the court statutes which will compel the court to refuse to consider a case in which one of the interested parties refuses to consent to consideration and he said this amounted to the right of veto in this category.

3. No advisory opinion shall be made without consent of the United States in any matter in which the United States claims an interest.

Stimson said the scope of this part of the reservation was extremely narrow and need for its application probably never would arise. But if it did arise and the United States was unwilling to forego objection and could not prove more than a claim to an interest in the matter in hand, this country could resign from the court without imputation of unfriendliness or unwillingness to co-operate generally for peace and good will.

Thus Stimson disposed of the fifth senate reservation and pronounced all the senate's objections to have been met.



113 KILLED IN FIERCE GALES

Terrific Storms Take Huge
Toll in Europe.

BY UNITED PRESS

LONDON, Dec. 9.—A new storm raced in from the Atlantic today and struck the Scilly Islands with great force, renewing the gales and heavy rain which have battered the British Isles and the European coast for five successive days.

The fresh attack of the elements came after a short lull in the storm which has taken a toll of at least 113 lives, and damaged ships and property to the extent of millions of dollars.

The storm was described by officials as the worst in the last century. Mighty ocean liners were tossed about on the English channel, some of their passengers injured and others exhausted as the ships struggled in the face of 100-mile an hour gales.

Smaller vessels were completely at the mercy of the wind and dozens of distress calls were sent out, many of which could not be answered by tireless but over-burdened rescue forces.

A carefully checked death list, which indicated that complete reports would show a much larger toll, follows:

England (land)	10
British Isles (drownings)	25
Spain	25
Netherlands	15
Portugal	2
France	7
Portugal	4
Denmark	3
Germany	3
Total	113

MRS. SLACK IS DEAD

Mayor's Mother Succumbs
to Heart Attack.

Mrs. Nancy O. Slack, 78, mother of Mayor L. Ert Slack of Indianapolis, died at her home at Trafalgar at 6 Sunday night from a heart attack. Mayor Slack was at her bedside.

Mrs. Slack was a pioneer of Johnson county. Her husband, Elisha O. Slack, and her son, Mayor Slack, and three daughters, Mrs. Guy Clore, Indianapolis; Mrs. Webb Hunt, Muncie, and Mrs. Ferguson of Indianapolis survive her.

Funeral services will be held at Trafalgar at the Christian church at 1:30 Tuesday afternoon, with burial at Mt. Pleasant cemetery.

Sterling R. Holt, city controller, today ordered closing of city hall Tuesday afternoon out of respect for the mayor's mother. A floral tribute was sent to Trafalgar by city employees today.

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By United Press

DENVER, Dec. 9.—At the finish of a twenty-five-year fight against the corrupt forces in this state, Judge Ben B. Lindsey, famous founder of the juvenile court system, today lost his battle and was disbarred by the Colorado supreme court.

For twenty-five years Lindsey was the leader of the forces of reform. He forced reforms of various kinds. He compelled honesty in elections where frauds had existed. On one occasion he sent the head of a great utility company to jail for contempt, an act never forgiven.

BIG APPRAISAL DIFFERENCE IN MERGER BARED

Figures of Public Service
Body Shade Utilities
18 Millions.

Difference of more than \$18,000,000 in the "expert" appraisals of property in the \$70,000,000 Insull utilities merger was disclosed today when the public service commission engineer's figures were introduced.

The merger hearing was resumed before the commissioners in the house of representatives with the introduction of commission evidence. This evidence is expected to be completed by Tuesday night, Commissioner Howell Ellis, presiding.

Harry B. Wenger, chief commission engineer, testified the depreciated value of the combined Central Indiana Power Company and the Terra Haute, Indianapolis & Eastern properties, exclusive of the Indiana Electric Corporation, is \$9,663,708. The appraisal for those properties offered in evidence by the commission group last week was \$57,684,271, a difference of \$18,200,563.

Not All Inclusive

Commission figures, however, include nothing for materials and supplies, cash working capital, cost of financing and "going concern" value.

Charles W. Spooner, president of Sporer & Merrill, Inc., Chicago engineers who made the utilities appraisal, testified last week he allowed from 10 to 20 per cent for "going concern" value. The amount he said varied with the properties involved, prosperous ones being given the greater allowance.

The commission figures, introduced today, gave the reproduction new valuation of the Central as \$21,206,506 and T. H. I. & E. \$30,901,856. Depreciated, the values were set at \$16,866,419 for the Central properties and \$22,007,419 for the T. H. I. & E.

Wenger testified that he allowed 26.4 per cent depreciation for T. H. I. & E. and 20.4 for the Central. Sporer allowances were 13 plus and 11 plus, respectively.

Depreciation Base

Allowances for materials from March 1, 1929, made by the commission engineers were \$494,776 for T. H. I. & E. and \$449,502 for the Central. Added to the reproduction new total, the grand total would be \$53,052,740, and depreciated \$39,907,986. It is on the latter figures that rates would be based.

Bert May, secretary of the state tax commission, testified that the valuation for taxation of the Central is \$22,915,027 and T. H. I. & E. \$7,540,645, making a total tax valuation of the combined properties of \$30,455,671.

Wenger testified that tax on utilities runs from 1 1/2 to 2 per cent and that assessments are about 50 per cent of real valuation.

Size of the task faced by the commission engineers was outlined and the cost of the engineering investigation estimated by Wenger at \$50,000.

3 CHILDREN KILLED IN HOME BY BOMB

By United Press
BROOKLYN, N. Y., Dec. 9.—Threatening letters and family quarrels over "another woman" provided the only clews police had today in their hunt for a fiendish murderer whose bomb killed three children as they prepared for church.

The bomb, wrapped as a Christmas package, was left on a kitchen table in the home of Joseph Falzone, well-to-do resident of an Italian neighborhood. Three of Falzone's five children found it when they got up Sunday morning. They exclaimed happily as they saw the Christmas trimmings. Mary, 15, and Phillip, 13, were killed instantly. Rose, 8, was pierced mortally by steel slugs which the bomb contained.

Falzone, partner in a stone-cutting plant, was held for questioning. He said he returned to the city Sunday night from a hunting trip of several days in Pennsylvania. His story was substantiated by four companions, who swore he had been with them constantly since last Thursday. He swore to kill "Those who did the thing."

Falzone immediately recalled letters he received last month demanding money and warning him to get out of the country. Police

investigated these missives at the time and then dropped the matter at Falzone's insistence. Today they redoubled efforts to locate the sender.

One letter told Falzone the writer knew he had told police, and added: "It won't be well for you now. We are going to kill you."

Mrs. Falzone, quieted from the hysteria which followed the explosion, told police of trouble she had had with her husband. She sought once last summer to have him arrested for threatening to kill her, but then withdrew the charge.

She said Falzone had been intimate with a divorcee for many years and that this woman had written her that Falzone was the father of her 3-year-old son. The woman, Mrs. Verna Stoehr, was questioned by police in secret.

NEEDED RAIN ARRIVES

Pacific Coast Welcomes Downpour.

Ending Five-Month Drought.

By United Press
SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 9.—The Pacific coast was literally "singing in the rain" today as generous downpours ended a five-month drought.

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Senate Approves Successor to Good
With Quick Vote.

By United Press
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