

THE INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE AND LIBEL.

ON JUNE 12-16, the International League of Press Clubs met at Philadelphia. The president elected was Louis N. Megargee, Philadelphia, and the secretary is Harry D. Vought, Buffalo. Why the League is called "International" does not appear, as every officer holds a position in the United States.

But a most interesting result of their labors was a series of resolutions on libel, here reproduced for the benefit of the readers of this journal:

WHEREAS, It is asserted in the constitution of several states, that "the printing press shall be free to examine the proceedings of legislative bodies and other branches of government;" and

WHEREAS, It is further asserted, that "the free communication of thoughts and opinions is one of the inviolable rights of man, and that every citizen may freely speak, write and print on any subject, being responsible only for the abuse of that liberty;"

WHEREAS, The newspapers of the nation are the chief weapons of defence against official corruption and vice, and that it is not only their duty but their right to expose public scandal, maladministration of office and violations of law, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the secretary of the League request the different state legislative bodies to introduce and pass the following bill:

That before any suit shall be brought for the publication of a libel in any newspaper in this state, the aggrieved party shall at least three days before filing or serving the complaint in such suit serve notice on the publisher or publishers of said newspaper at their principal office of publication, specifying the statements in the said article which he or they allege to be false and defamatory. If it shall appear on the trial of said action that the said article was published in good faith, that its falsity was due to the mistake or misapprehension of the facts, and that a full and fair retraction of any statement therein alleged

to be erroneous was published in the next regular issue of such newspaper, or, in case of daily papers, within three days after such mistake or misapprehension was brought to the knowledge of such publisher or publishers, in as conspicuous a place and type in such newspaper as was the article complained of as libellous, then the plaintiff in such case shall recover only actual damages. Provided, however, that the provisions of this Act shall not apply to the case of any libel against any candidate for a public office in this state, unless the retraction of the charge is made editorially in a conspicuous manner at least three days before the election, in case such libellous article was published in a daily paper; if published in a weekly paper, at least ten days before the election.

PAPER IN BRITAIN.

The London Times publishes from a correspondent an estimate of the difference between the States and England in the matter of paper, and says: "America is the home of that very highly glazed paper which, while serving as an admirable medium for displaying 'process' illustrations to the best advantage, is singularly displeasing to the eyes of most readers. It is a pity so many first class books have been printed on this paper, for the process and materials employed to obtain the high glaze are said to affect the

wearing properties of the paper and its power of keeping its color. The secret of this kind of paper is only imperfectly known to British paper makers, who cannot supply the quality used in the United States. Prices of paper do not now vary greatly in the two countries, some grades being cheaper in the United States. I believe that very little is now being exported from England, and there would be considerable imports were not the American manufacturers in the fortunate position of being kept so busy supplying their own market that they do not trouble themselves much about Great Britain."



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