

## WOMEN VOTERS BACK WORLD COURT PLAN

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Peace Pact, paved the way for a better understanding. Mr. Elihu Root who had been appointed on the committee of jurists to consider revisions of the Court Statute, submitted proposals to take the place of the fifth reservation. These are discussed by Mr. Salmon Levinson, as follows:

"No person in favor of world peace can be opposed to a sound World Court," says Salmon O. Levinson, Chicago lawyer, and the man recently referred to in the United States Senate as the "father of the Peace Pact." Mr. Levinson, who was formerly an opponent of the World Court gave his reasons for his present advocacy of the Court, in an interview granted to the Illinois League of Women Voters.

"The revolutionary changes in the World Court made by the Jurists and the Assembly, including the Council



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of the League of Nations, last September at Geneva, are either not known by the opponents of the Court, or are purposely ignored. The effect of these changes is to make the Court a genuine World Peace Court. These changes consist of two important things.

### Two Important Features

(a) Complete disavowal of the use of force behind the opinions and decisions of the Court. This makes the Court in every sense of the word the "pacific means" for the settlement of disputes contemplated by the great Peace Pact.

(b) The questions relating to advisory opinions which were the storm center of argument against the Court in our Senate in 1926 have been eliminated. The Jurists and the Assembly adopted and enacted a change in the statute of the Court which requires consent of all nations parties to a dispute as a prerequisite to the League asking an advisory opinion thereon from the Court.

"When it is borne in mind that the member nations of the Court have all renounced war by solemn treaty; that the United States is asked to join a court whose jurisdiction, at least so far as we are concerned, is optional, that is, we can submit our case or not as we see fit; when we consider that the League has no power over the Court to ask for an advisory opinion in any disputes without the prior free consent of the nations involved; and when we further consider that there is no power of enforcement of the decisions of the Court, it seems to me we have reached the point where we must decide whether we are interested in world peace at all or whether all our professions and claims to leadership in the last three decades have been hollow and pharisaical."

The League of Women Voters was active in the campaign led to the Senate resolution for adherence to the Court in 1926.

### Presidents Urge Court

Three presidents, Roosevelt, Taft, and Wilson, have recommended the formation of a World Court, and three presidents, Harding, Coolidge, and Hoover have urged the adherence of the United States to the World Court now established. President Hoover, in his message to Congress, December 2 said:

"In January, 1926, the Senate gave its consent to adherence to the court of international justice with certain reservations. In September of this

year the statute establishing the court has, by the action of the nations signatory, been amended to meet the Senate's reservations and to go even beyond those reservations to make clear that the court is a true international court of justice.

"I believe it will be clear to every one that no controversy or question in which this country has or claims an interest can be passed on by the court without our consent at the time the question arises. The doubt about advisory opinions has been completely safeguarded.

"As I have before indicated, I shall direct that our signature be affixed to the protocol of adherence and shall submit it for the approval of the Senate with a special message at some time when it is convenient to deal with it."

## STUDENTS TO TRY FOR STUNT PROGRAM

First try-outs for the Deerfield-Shields Student Stunts program, to be given May 16 in the auditorium, will be held March 17 after school, before a committee of judges from the P. T. A. The chairman of the Student Stunts committee is Miss Bredin.

The stunts presented at the try-outs should be in such shape as to permit the judges to see how they will look, although they need not be perfect. It is to be expected that they will need polishing.

It is hoped that a great many students will present stunts at this first try-out. The process of elimination will, of course, be necessary.

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