

HENRY VIGNAUD RESIGNS POSITION

**Aged Minister to France Would Not
Block Path of Younger Men—
Old Age Is Provided For.**

Paris, Feb. 15.—Henry Vignaud, secretary of the American embassy at Paris, has resigned, the resignation to take effect on March 31. In a letter which he has forwarded to President Roosevelt Mr. Vignaud assigns as the reason for his decision his advanced age and his desire not to block the path of promotion "to younger men."

Mr Vignaud, who is 79 years of age, and the oldest member of the American diplomatic corps abroad, leaves the service highly esteemed by all who know him. As he is without private fortune of any kind, a group of prominent Americans, who appreciate his long and faithful service, have come forward and raised a fund of \$20,000 to provide for his remaining years. Among these are Levi P. Morton, Whitelaw Reid, J. Gordon Bennett, Ferdinand Blumenthal, Andrew Carnegie, John Harjes, T. J. Coolidge, Henry White, J. P. Morgan and a number of others equally well known.