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Judicial Reform

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Calendar

March 2—"The Physician and the Lawyer in Court," a panel discussion under auspices of the Colorado Medical Society and the Joint Professional Committee of Colorado Bar Association, 8 p.m., Lincoln Room, Shirley-Savoy Hotel.

Judicial Reform

By WM. HEDGES ROBINSON, JR.
President, Colorado Bar Association

It would be a high crime if after all of the work which the committee on judicial administration has done over the past three years and the money which has been expended on the program, if the judicial reform program failed in the legislature because of negligence by the attorneys of this state. The judicial amendment and bills are important and well conceived legislation.

As you all will recall, the committee gathered statistics of the courts in this state, and studied the judicial systems of other states and nations. The plan has been approved by practically every local bar association in this state. It has been endorsed by most of the major groups interested in civic affairs, and has not been disapproved by any of them. It has been endorsed by both of the Denver daily papers.

Unfortunately, however, the issue raised by this legislation is not an exciting one. Popular fancy cannot be captured by this program. It has to depend for its passage upon the solid and untiring efforts of all lawyers who desire improvement in our judicial system. Our legislature, burdened with many hundreds of bills, must be acquainted with the need of this legislation. Please write your legislators, telling them why it should be passed. The numbers of the constitutional amendment and bills are:

	House	Senate
Constitutional amendment (concurrent resolution)	1	2
Additional powers of Chief Justice	152	305
Organization of Judicial Council	153	307
Retirement pay for judges	154	308
Removal of limitation on the judicial salaries increase after 1950	174	306
Salary increase for court employees	482	297

See the article by Stanley W. Johnson in the December, 1948, issue of DICTA for information concerning the substance of these bills.

Please, let's all cooperate as a unified bar to get this important legislation passed. We have discussed this matter for years; now let's get some positive action.

Joint Bar-Medical Society Panel Scheduled for March 2

Attorneys and doctors will come to friendly grips in a panel discussion on "The Physician and the Lawyer in Court," at 8 o'clock on March 2, 1949, in the Lincoln Room of the Shirley-Savoy Hotel.

The program is being held in connection with a state-wide meeting of the Colorado Medical Society, and is sponsored on behalf of the Colorado Bar Association by the Joint Committee on Professions. That committee is composed of Ronald Yegge, chairman; Sam S. Sherman, Jr., and T. Raber Taylor.

All members of the bar are invited to be guests of the medical society on this occasion. Further details of the discussion will be sent to bar association members by post card notice later in the month.

Radio Program Gathers Public Interest

As the Colorado Bar Association's radio program "You and The Law" swings into its fifth week, there are reliable indications of an increasing public interest and an expanding audience.

An encouraging number of requests have been received from listeners for the leaflets on wills and the court plan offered at the conclusion of the second and third programs. The experts estimate that the KFEL broadcast from Denver is being listened to by a normal audience of 15,000, even though network arrangements made it necessary to change the time of the broadcast from Sunday at 8:15 p.m. to Thursday evenings at 8:30 p.m.

Proportionally, the program's audience in the smaller cities has been even greater, and the office of the secretary has been kept busy answering requests for the leaflets. Not infrequently the correspondents take time out to compliment the bar association and the radio council for the excellence of the program.

The two leaflets which are being distributed on request are "Wills—Their Importance and Why You Should Have One" and "The Colorado Bar Association's Plan to: Take The Courts Out of Politics! Take Politics Out of The Courts!" The wills leaflet is also receiving extensive distribution through the banks by inclusion in the monthly statements, as well as by the local bar associations and individual lawyers.