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DICTA

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The Secretary's Office and Its Use

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

While I should like at this time to report fully upon the judiciary plan, the legislature and the Supreme Court, I am delaying that report in order that all the facts may be checked and completely accurate information may be furnished to the members. In the next issue of Dicta, the full story will be printed.

This month I desire to comment on one phase of the bar's activities with which most lawyers seldom come in contact. Ever since the organization of the state bar association we have had a voluntary secretary serving without pay.

Last fall, however, the Board of Governors, in cooperation with the Denver Bar Association, employed a full-time secretary. We selected William B. Miller in November and set up a secretary's office for both associations at 319 Chamber of Commerce Building in Denver. A part-time stenographer was employed to assist the secretary.

Since that time Bill has been getting the organization running smoothly and putting our records in order. He has been able to take many burdens from the shoulders of the officers of the association. Records have been revised and brought to date. The payment of dues has been accelerated.

In addition to the normal duties of the office, Bill has edited Dicta, and published the Supreme Court Opinions. The results of his efforts in these publications are self-evident. But quite apart from these tasks which he has splendidly performed, his services are not being fully utilized by the lawyers. The secretary's office is available to all members. If the secretary can assist the members in obtaining information from state or federal bureaus or agencies, in furnishing information about lawyers in Colorado or, in short, in assisting lawyers in the state in any way comparable with the nature of the office of secretary, you are urged to make use of this service.

As time goes on, and lawyers throughout the state realize the value of a permanent and full time secretary, I am sure that they will find that office one of the cheapest yet best investments the bar association ever made. It is apparent to us who are close to bar activities that the mere fact we have a permanent office with a full time secretary is bettering our relationship with the public. But it is also apparent that lawyers are not taking full advantage of the secretary's office. Why not start making full use of this service?