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**American Bar Association and Practising Law Institute Offer Refresher Training
for Lawyer Veterans**

American Bar Association and Practising Law Institute Offer Refresher Training for Lawyer Veterans

To aid the 40,000 members of the bar who have served in the armed forces to reorient themselves in the profession, the American Bar Association, in cooperation with the Practising Law Institute is sponsoring a national program of refresher training. Lecture courses, publications and correspondence courses are included in the program, which should prove of value to all lawyers whether or not their practice has been interrupted by war service.

Rapid progress has been made in this work during recent months, according to a report of Harold P. Seligson, Director of the Practising Law Institute and Sidney Post Simpson, Chairman of the Committee on Refresher Courses of the Section of Legal Education of the American Bar Association.

Lecture Courses

More than 1,000 lawyer veterans are currently attending the Institute's courses in New York City. In Washington, D. C., over 250 veterans are enrolled in a lecture course conducted in cooperation with the Bar Association of the District of Columbia. Similar lecture courses are being enthusiastically attended by large numbers of veterans in other cities. Plans to organize such courses in additional cities are under way.

These courses are also attended by large numbers of lawyers who are not war veterans, but who find the lectures convenient means of checking up on their own methods of handling typical matters, as well as in keeping abreast of recent developments in the law.

Refresher courses should be organized in all large cities, the report urges. In such cases the Practising Law Institute will assume the financial and administrative responsibility for the courses, if desired by the bar associations. The District of Columbia course is suggested as a model for other cities. The program consists of thirty two-hour lectures but many be modified in time and subject matter to meet local conditions. A short concentrated course can be organized where desirable. Similar to the Washington program, members of the local bar may be called upon for lecture service. Under this plan the full series of refresher publications, sponsored by the Section of Legal Education, is furnished each veteran for the tuition fee payable by the Veterans' Administration.

The primary purpose of these refresher courses, Mr. Seligson states, is to facilitate the resumption by veterans of the day-to-day practice of law. This requires emphasis on the lawyer's practical techniques. Many of the refresher courses which have previously been given in various cities have not met this requirement, he points out. Additional practical instruction should be organized in such cities.

Publications

The refresher publications are a series of practical handbooks written by a large group of experienced practitioners and law teachers. Those publications are carefully prepared and are especially adapted to refresher instruction. They can be made available to all lawyer veterans without cost to themselves by using them as required texts in lecture or correspondence courses given by institutions approved under the G.I. Bill of Rights. Practising Law Institute courses have already been approved for instruction to veterans in Massachusetts, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Texas and the District of Columbia.

To their popular monograph series *Fundamentals of Federal Taxation* and *Current Problems in Federal Taxation*, the sponsors are adding two new series—*General Practice* and *Trial Practice*, both under the general editorship of Roscoe Pound. These series were planned especially to give practical instruction in the day-to-day problems of the practitioner. Any lawyer, whether a recent law school graduate, a veteran returning to the bar, or a seasoned practitioner, can study these 37 handbooks with profit. They discuss, not details of procedure, but practical problems of the lawyer's art.

The series on federal taxation, sponsored by the Section of Taxation of the American Bar Association, have already been favorably received. The revised 1946 edition of *Fundamentals of Federal Taxation*, edited by Erwin N. Griswold and William C. Warren, is a large improvement over the prior edition. The last handbook in the series on *Current Problems in Federal Taxation* will also appear soon. The institute's two tax series will then be complete and up to date.

The series of articles on *Significant Developments in the Law During the War Years* is published by the institute for the Association of American Law Schools. This series, edited by Dean F. D. G. Ribble, of the University of Virginia, is an admirable collection representing the work of many leading legal scholars.

Correspondence Courses

For war veterans and other members of the bar who cannot conveniently attend lecture courses, the Practising Law Institute is offering equivalent instruction through correspondence courses. These are based on the four series of texts on *General Practice*, *Trial Practice*, *Fundamentals of Federal Taxation*, and *Current Problems in Federal Taxation*. Each course includes a study manual, assignment sheets and answer explanation sheets. The correspondence courses should be of great value to lawyers in communities too small for lecture courses. By enrolling in a correspondence course the veteran can obtain the refresher publications under the G.I. Bill of Rights.

Summer Session Planned

To facilitate the attendance at lectures by lawyers practicing in smaller communities where the number of lawyers does not permit the organization of local lecture courses, concentrated summer session lecture programs are offered. During the week of June 24th, a six-day full time lecture program will be held at Cornell University Law School. Similar concentrated weekly lecture courses will be held in New York City throughout the month of July, with programs so arranged that lawyers may attend complete courses in various subjects weekly.

A concentrated three-day course on Fundamentals of Federal Taxation will be held at Cornell University Law School. Similar concentrated weekly Conway, N. H., on June 20, 21 and 22. This course which has been approved for instruction to veterans under the G.I. Bill of Rights will be given in cooperation with the state bar associations of Maine, New Hampshire and Vermont. Details of these programs may be obtained from the Practising Law Institute, 57 William Street, New York 5, N. Y.

Development of Courses has Taken Time and Money

A vast amount of labor and learning has gone into the national refresher program. It represents the result of thirteen years of experience by Mr. Seligson and his associates in conducting courses for members of the bar.

The Practising Law Institute is a non-profit organization. It helps lawyers increase their professional skill and thereby to enlarge their earning potentialities. The needs of lawyer war veterans prompted the national development of these programs. The program however is of value to all lawyers. The Carnegie Corporation recently recognized the importance of this work by a grant of \$50,000 to the institute. A similar amount, it is hoped, will be contributed by members of the bar. Lawyers in New York City have already contributed \$30,000.

The American Bar Association, under the leadership of Joseph A. McClain, Jr., chairman of its Section of Legal Education, has urged all bar associations and law schools to cooperate in this program, so that lawyers who served our country may be aided in returning to their profession. Several hundred outstanding law teachers, judges and skilled practitioners have cooperated wholeheartedly in preparing the publications, correspondence courses and are serving as lecturers. The profession can well be proud of this national educational program, which it is hoped will result in a major expansion of post-graduate educational opportunities for members of the bar.

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