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## Colorado Bar Association Annual Meeting

Dicta Editorial Board

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## Colorado Bar Association Annual Meeting

## **Colorado Bar Association Annual Meeting**

The annual meeting of the Colorado Bar Association, held at the Broadmoor Hotel, Colorado Springs, on October 19 and 20, 1945, was one of the largest and best attended meetings in the history of the association. Although the reduced attendance at war-time meetings, and the inability of the officers to plan the meeting as far in advance as usual, because of travel restrictions lifted only a few weeks prior to the meeting, indicated a small attendance, the association was pleasantly surprised by a large attendance, swelled in numbers by many members only recently discharged from the armed forces.

### **New Officers**

Milton J. Keegan, Denver, immediate past president of the Denver Bar Association, and convention chairman of this meeting, was elected president-elect to take office in 1946. George M. Corlett, Monte Vista, was elected senior vice-president. William B. Paynter, Brush, Allyn Cole, Glenwood Springs, and Thomas Keely, Denver, were elected vice-presidents. Frank L. Moorhead, Boulder, who was elected president-elect at the 1944 meeting, became president. William Hedges Robinson, Jr., Denver, was retained as secretary, and Vernon V. Ketring, Denver, as treasurer.

### **District Judges' Association**

At the meeting of the District Judges, held on Thursday, October 18, J. Arthur Phelps, Pueblo, was elected president, Claude C. Coffin, Fort Collins, was elected vice-president, and Harold Davies, Englewood, was re-elected secretary-treasurer.

At the meeting, Judge Coffin told about the juror's handbook which is sent out with the juryman's questionnaire in his district. Discussion was also had of the inadequacy of the Colorado law which requires the sheriff in most counties to be the probation officer, and the general inadvisability of requiring the sheriff to perform this function. In some counties the clerk of the court does the probation work, and this works better. Retirement pay for judges was also discussed.

### **District Attorneys' Association**

The District Attorneys met on Friday morning and heard James Burke, Denver District Attorney, and W. C. Edgar, of the Veterans Administration, discuss the problems of the returning veteran which may confront the district attorney's office.

### **Probate and Trust Law Section**

The Probate and Trust Law Section met jointly with the Real Estate Title Standards Committee and the Lawyers War Committee. County Judge William E. Buck, Boulder, president of the County

Judges' Association, made a resume of the 1945 changes in the probate laws. Royal C. Rubright, Denver, discussed proceedings for the sale of real estate or the probate of a will under the 1945 law. Horace F. Phelps, Denver, chairman of the Lawyers War Committee, reviewed the work of the committee. Edwin J. Wittelshofer, chairman of the Real Estate Title Standards Committee, urged all local associations to adopt uniform title standards.

The Probate and Trust Law Section elected the following officers and council:

Chairman, Floyd Walpole, Symes Bldg., Denver  
 Vice-chairman, Harry Petersen, Pueblo  
 Secretary-Treasurer, Albert S. Isbill, Midland Savings Bldg., Denver  
 Council Members: Judge C. E. Kettering, County Court, Denver  
     Judge Benjamin A. Woodcock, County Court, Greeley  
     Judge William Atha Mason, County Court, Glenwood Springs  
     Benjamin F. Koperlik, Pueblo  
     Lyman P. Weld, Longmont  
     Hubert D. Henry, 620 E. & C. Bldg., Denver

**Junior Bar Section**

The Junior Bar Section met and elected the following officers:  
 Chairman, Sydney E. Shuteran, 812 Equitable Bldg., Denver  
 Vice-chariman, Stanley W. Prisner, 804 Equitable Bldg., Denver  
 Secretary-Treasurer, Wilbur E. Rocchio, 614 Symes Bldg., Denver

**Judicial Administration**

During the past year, the committee on Judicial Administration and its several sub-committees have been at work on various proposals. The general committee, of which Edward L. Wood, Denver, was chairman, proposed the establishment of a statutory judicial council, which has been considered by the Board of Governors on two occasions. The sub-committee on Judicial Selection and Tenure, of which George Epperson, Fort Morgan, was chairman, made a report indicating that this is only a small part of a very large problem, and that the whole judiciary system should receive consideration.

The Board of Governors then appointed a committee, of which Col. Philip S. Van Cise, Denver, is chairman, to study the entire judicial system of the state. Col. Van Cise stated that the committee would need funds, as it would need at least one full-time stenographer and a part-time secretary. The committee will be so selected that each district of the state will have representation, and that it will be non-political. The committee needs and wants workers. It also wants suggestions, which will be published from time to time in DICTA. Among some of the things which the committee will study are: the method of selecting the

chief justice of the Supreme Court; a non-partisan judiciary; the possible consolidation of the county and district court; the place of the justice of the peace; salaries. This is a very important project for the association, and it is hoped that every member of the association will assist in carrying it through.

### Speakers

Speakers, other than President Benjamin E. Sweet, who gave his president's address, were: Frank Ongley Darvall, British Consul, who discussed "Britain's Role in the Post-War World"; James F. Price, dean of the University of Denver School of Law, who discussed "Recent Developments in Labor Law"; William R. Kelly, Greeley, who discussed "Income Tax Returns for the Farmer"; Thomas L. Girault, Chief Field Deputy, Office of Collector of Internal Revenue, Denver, who discussed "Income Tax Returns for the Individual"; and Robert L. Stearns, president of the University of Colorado, who discussed "Lawyers' Part in War and Post-War Reconstruction."

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## Lawyers' Part in War and Post-War Reconstruction†

BY ROBERT L. STEARNS\*

At the beginning of the war, one often heard the remark, "Lawyers are a dime a dozen." As the war progressed it became obvious that the lawyers made a substantial contribution to it. These are some of their contributions.

Lawyers, as such, performed the myriad duties of the judge advocate's office, in the contract divisions, and in the termination of contracts.

In fields not strictly legal, but in which they were able to put to use their training and ability, there were many.

Intelligence and counter intelligence. Many lawyers were in this work. There is, for example, the case of the young lawyer who became expert in German fighter tactics. So accurate was the information that his unit was able to determine in advance of any of our bombing raids over Germany just what the Germans were likely to do, where their fighter force would come from and what tactics they would employ. The value of this work was recognized and he was transferred to the Japanese theater to do the same thing there.

A group of five men, two of whom were lawyers, was assigned the task of supervision of the selection of aerial targets. They consulted economists, industrialists and engineering specialists of all sorts, sifted

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†Summary of address before the Colorado Bar Association, October 19, 1945.

\*Of the Colorado bar. President of the University of Colorado.