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Current Events of Bench and Bar

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Hamlet J. Barry, Jr., Writes of

Current Events of Bench and Bar

Only 94 Out of 500 Pass Bar Exam

In a new type of Bar examination initiated recently by the State of Massachusetts only 94 out of 500 succeeded in passing. The examination is intended to test the ability of the applicant to analyze a situation. The record of a case is presented to the candidate a month before the examination, and at the examination he is asked questions on the problems involved in the case in both an oral and written test.

Federal Government Expected to Hire 500 Lawyers by End of Summer

The new defense efforts and new appropriations are swelling new opportunities for lawyer jobs with the federal government. Most of these new jobs are in the Department of Justice. The FBI is now ready to hire 265 lawyers as special agents.

FBI officials report that they have on hand thousands of applications from young lawyers seeking a place with the bureau.

Hudson Lawyers Club Prepares Fee Schedule

Finding that the bar as well as the public are hurt by ridiculously low prices The Hudson Lawyers Club has prepared a minimum fee schedule which all its members are expected to follow.

The group is also making a drive against gratuitous legal advice. They ask that lawyers desist from giving "curbstone" opinions, and that a consultation fee of \$5.00 be made for any legal advice furnished.

Law Firms Believed Included in New Wage and Hour Bulletin

In a recent interpretative bulletin of the wage and hour division, law firms are specifically included as not entitled to exemption as a "service establishment."

Law firms are brought within the wage and hour act, according to division attorneys, when it handles a legal matter for a client in another state, or a legal matter in another state for a client in the same state.

Attorney General Rules Hatch Act Does Not Apply to Soldiers

Acting Attorney General Matthew F. McGuire pointed out in an opinion for the Secretary of War that the Hatch Act was clearly inapplicable to those in military service. The act provides a penalty of discharge from the service for violation. Mr. McGuire said that the application of the act would produce an obvious absurdity in that one wishing to evade military service could bring about his discharge by making a political speech or by filing as a candidate for office.

Experiment Shows That Jury Trial Is Gamble

Members of Hamilton County Bench and Bar in Ohio have conducted mock trials on a highway robbery case before 180 different juries. The result was 35 per cent of the juries found the defendant guilty, 31.1 per cent found the defendant not guilty, and the remaining 33.9 per cent disagreed.

California Bar Decides to Employ Public Relations Expert

The State Bar of California has employed a public relations firm as a means of putting lawyers in their true light with the public. The object of the program will be to identify the lawyer as a prime contributor to public welfare and as an important factor in making democracy work. The public relations advisors are to have the fullest latitude consistent with professional traditions and ethics.

Retiring President Attacks Growth of Boards

Judge William M. Hargest, retiring president of the Pennsylvania Bar, told the organization at its annual convention that there has been an "abnormal, aberrant and alphabetical" growth of administrative tribunals. Judge Hargest warned that the unwarranted seizure of power by boards which are at once legislative, executive and judicial leads toward dictatorship.

Midwestern Bar Elects New Officers

R. G. Porter of Gunnison was elected President of the Midwestern County Bar Association at its annual meeting held July 26th. Other officers selected were Paul L. Littler of Montrose, Vice-President; Charles F. Stewart of Gunnison, Secretary-Treasurer; Charles E. Blaine was elected to the Board of Governors of the State Bar Association. Frank L. Fetzer of Denver was the principal speaker at the evening meeting held by the association. He spoke on "Variation of the Species." William E. Hutton, President of the State Association and G. Dexter Blount of Denver, member of the American Bar Association Board of Governors, also addressed the meeting. Other officers of the state association attending the meeting were Edward L. Wood, Chairman of the Institute Committee, and Wm. Robinson, Jr., Secretary of the state association.

—Charles F. Stewart.

In the Dog House

Most people try to keep out of the Dog House as much as possible, at least we do. But last month one George Albanese wanted in so badly that he broke in. The regular occupant didn't like it. Judge Henry S. Lindsley didn't like it either and George got four to seven years. It was the Dog House Beer Tavern.