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It's Your Bar Association. What Do You Want It To Do?

By PHILIP S. VAN CISE, President.

The Bar Association exists for the benefit of the lawyers. If it gives them nothing worth while there is no excuse for its existence.

What, therefore, should it do?

The President can outline a plan but that is apt to be his individual idea, rather than the wish of the attorneys. So all I shall do at this time is briefly to state the major work of the committees and call on all lawyers in Denver to send me every idea they think worth while, so that we can have a program of real interest to all.

What is the major concern of lawyers besides clients? My answer is a strong cooperative, non-partisan judiciary. Two committees are charged with that task. The Bar Primary Committee is making a study of such movements in all large cities and will report its recommendations about November 1st. The Judiciary Committee is going into a huddle with the court about political assessments and employees, the master calendar, pre-trial procedure and other matters of common interest. The Grievance Committee has had legal ethics added to its duties, and all questions affecting them should be referred to it.

Legal institutes and the noon meetings are important for educational and entertainment purposes. What subjects do you want at the institute, should a charge be made, and how often should they be held? What do you want at the meetings, good speakers on live subjects, or humor? What will bring you to the luncheons?

The Real Estate Committee has many vital matters, and at least one meeting will be given to it. It is investigating needless recorded instruments, hyper-technical title objections, uniform opinions, whether abstract fees are too high, and so on.

The National Defense Committee is adding to its multiple labors aid to soldiers and sailors in service.

What unlawful practice of the law is now prevalent in Denver which should be investigated by that committee?

No organization is healthy without growth. This year two membership committees will comb the lawyers of Denver, one for new members, the other to get the backsliders into the fold. With your aid in making our meetings worth while, this will be easy.

Dicta has a new plan of an active editorial board. It wants live articles from any lawyer who feels moved to contribute. But it has

a board to pass upon all manuscripts so that the editor will not be the scapegoat for rejections.

The senior lawyers can learn a lot from the Junior Bar, and this year a new committee is charged with coordinating the work of both, and giving us the active help of these aggressive young men, who are wedded to a profession rather than to the old forms of the ancients to which so many of us still cling.

LOOKING FOR WORK?

As you know, the publication of Dicta is made possible largely through revenues received from advertisements. No ads—no Dicta. Matters can be immeasurably simplified and the work of our Business Manager made considerably more pleasant if you will encourage your clients to give us some of their advertising.

PRESIDENT APPOINTS MEMBERS OF BOARD OF GOVERNORS

President Van Cise has appointed the following from Denver as members of the Board of Governors of the Colorado Bar Association:

A. K. Barnes	Mason A. Lewis
Joseph G. Hodges	Benj. E. Sweet
Milton J. Keegan	Philip S. Van Cise

COULD BE

The plaintiff was extremely alert, certain that the defendant's attorney was attempting to trip him on cross examination.

Said the defendant's attorney: "Now tell me, how much traffic was passing the place where the accident occurred about the time of and just before the collision?"

The plaintiff: "Wait a minute, which do you mean, at the time of the accident or just before?"

The defendant's attorney: "Well, let's take first, just before the accident."

The plaintiff: "I don't know. I wasn't there, then."

HIS FIRST CASE

"In conclusion, I would plead as an extenuating circumstance, the absolute innocence of the accused!"—*Sondhesnisse-Strix*, Stockholm.