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Current Events of Bench and Bar

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FRED E. NEEF Reports the

Current Events of Bench and Bar

Proposal That Patent Law Cover Economic Ideas—

Congressman Fadjo Cravens of Arkansas has introduced a bill providing for the issuance of "social patents". Under the bill the patent laws would be extended to include original ideas on social and government techniques. One holding such a patent would be entitled to a royalty of \$750 if any of the ideas so patented were incorporated into law by the national government or by a state or its subdivisions.

SEC Advocating National Chartering of Corporations—

The underlying purpose of the varied investigations the SEC has been conducting for the Monopoly Committee is the launching of a concerted drive in behalf of legislation authorizing the national chartering of corporations. Appearances indicate that a particular objective will be the federal regulation of the nation's great insurance companies through the device of national charters.

Business Co-operates in Providing Jurors—

A program has been recently launched by the jury commissioner of Los Angeles, California, to obtain the co-operation of employers in employees chosen for jury duty without loss of position or pay. Many of the leading firms have cooperated.

Challenge of Commission's Power to Discipline Attorney—

The right of an administrative board to discipline an attorney as asserted in the recent amendment to the rules of the Federal Trade Commission is challenged in the current issue of the New York State Bar Association's Service Letter. The letter asserts that it is extremely doubtful whether the power can be exercised by an administrative board.

Bill Eliminating Practice by Legislators Before State Boards Advocated—

A bill has been introduced in the New York State Legislature which would prohibit any of its members from practicing law before any of the state administrative agencies or bureaus.

Lawyers Consultant List to Be Established—

An experienced lawyer service by means of which an attorney can locate a consultant readily when confronted by a problem in some new or difficult field of law, is to be established shortly by the Cleveland Bar Association.

The plan is similar to that developed for a whole state by the Illinois State Bar Association and which has resulted in publication of a directory of the organization's membership, showing fields of practice in which various lawyers specialize or have had experience.

Legal Institutes Scheduled Throughout State

A schedule of Legal Institutes to be held throughout the State has been planned by the Colorado Bar Association, according to an announcement made by William E. Hutton of Denver, chairman of the State Bar Committee on legal institutes. A tentative date in April has been selected by the Denver Bar Association for an institute on taxation. The First Judicial District will hold a meeting at Brighton on March 30th and on April 13th the Pueblo Bar Association will hold an institute at Pueblo.

An institute will be held at Glenwood Springs about June 22nd, and a meeting is planned for Alamosa for late spring. The University of Colorado is planning two institutes. The first will be on April 27th and the second on July 20th and 21st.

This is the second year that the state bar has actively sponsored post legal education clinics. The meetings during the first year were so highly successful that numerous requests have come to the State Bar to continue with them.

INSTITUTES TO BE HELD IN BRIGHTON, DENVER, PUEBLO

The first one of the year was held at Greeley, and a full report of it appears in this issue. According to plans of the Denver Bar, it is hoped to hold a meeting in Denver about the middle of April dealing with the subject of taxation. The present program calls for a discussion in the afternoon led by some authority in the field, with a panel form of discussion in the evening.

The subject of the Brighton institute on March 30 has not been announced. The Pueblo Bar has already extended special invitations to members of the bench and bar in the third, fourth, tenth, and eleventh judicial districts, and a general invitation to all lawyers and judges to attend its institute to be held in Pueblo on April 13th.

LAW SCHOOL PLANS TWO LEGAL CLINICS

The annual Law Day of the University of Colorado Law School will be held on April 27th at Boulder. Formal announcement of the speakers and topic of discussion will be made shortly by the school. A special issue of the Rocky Mountain Law Review will be devoted to the Law Day discussion, and to bar activities, according to Harlan Howlett, faculty advisor for the Review.

A two day institute dealing with the subject of taxation will be held by the University of Colorado on July 20-21 at Boulder according to an announcement made by Lawrence DeMuth, acting dean of the Law School. Speakers will include George Bogert, Thomas Reid Powell, Charles F. Rittenhouse and John MacGuire.

Mr. Bogert will discuss the various tax problems from the standpoint of trusts. He is the author of the standard book on the subject of trusts.

The constitutional phases of tax questions will be stated by Mr. Powell, who is one of the leading constitutional authorities. The accounting phases of tax problems will be discussed by Mr. Rittenhouse, and Mr. MacGuire will point out the legislative questions which arise in connection with the levying of taxes.

Further details of the meeting will be announced by the law school within a few weeks.

Weld County Bar Sponsors Successful Legal Institute

Eighty-six lawyers attended a mid-winter legal institute held at Greeley, Colorado, on February 3d, under the auspices of the Weld County Bar Association in conjunction with the State Bar.

The institute was called to order at 3:00 P. M. by M. E. H. Smith of Greeley, President of the Weld County Bar Association, and after a short statement of the purpose of the institute, the meeting was turned over to Clay R. Apple of Greeley, local chairman of the institute committee.

Albert J. Gould of Denver was the first speaker on the program. His subject was: "Practical Current Tax Problems". As usual, Mr. Gould handled his subject in a very professional and enlightening manner.

Following Mr. Gould's discourse, the members gathered for an hour of sociability, and then the dinner, which was served at 6:00 o'clock. At the conclusion of the dinner, Mr. William R. Kelly, President of the Colorado Bar Association introduced the judges, the officers of the local bar, and state bar associations, and the various guests of the association which included Clarence O. Swenson who was present as an observer from the Wyoming Bar Association.

G. Dexter Blount of Denver, reported on the recent Board of Governor's meeting of the American Bar Association. He also revealed that a bid by Colorado for the American Bar Association's convention in 1941 would be most favorably received if Colorado was interested in making such a bid.

After introductions were completed, Mortimer Stone of Fort Collins spoke on the lawyer's place in a changing world. Mr. Stone topped off an excellent talk with some equally excellent and spontaneous verse which found some of the members present as the subject matter.

William E. Hutton of Denver, Chairman of the Legal Institutes Committee of the Colorado Bar Association, then conducted the meeting through to its conclusion. Mr. Hutton commented on the great success of the Institutes to date, and the eagerness with which the Weld County Bar conducted the first Institute of the year for the past two years of its existence. He also announced that many interesting speakers had volunteered their services for future institutes.

The final discourse of the evening was given by H. Lawrence Hinkley of Sterling, whose subject was "Observations of a Probate Judge." Judge Hinkley pointed out the many deficiencies in our probate law, and suggested beneficial changes that might be made to create a greater conformity to practical needs.

The Institute adjourned promptly at 9:00 P. M.

Members of the Weld County Bar Association's Legal Institute Committee were: Clay R. Apple, Chairman; Robert G. Smith, and John W. O'Hagan.

—JOHN W. O'HAGAN, *Correspondent.*

Junior Bar Meeting

A district meeting of the members of the Colorado Junior Bar Conference was held at Greeley, Colorado, in conjunction with the legal institute.

Present at this meeting were eighteen members of the Conference.

Following a luncheon, William R. Kelly, President of the Colorado Bar Association, talked on the need and the place of young attorneys in bar association work. "The interest and activity of younger men in bar work is a most encouraging item today," said Mr. Kelly. "If the profession is to remain a profession, it must withstand encroachments from all sides. It must speak as one voice. It is from the younger members of the bar that this impetus is anticipated."

Hugh D. Henry of Denver, Chairman of the Colorado Junior Bar Conference, reviewed the work and aims of the various committees of the Association, and reported that Colorado had passed its membership quota set by the National Junior Bar Conference, last September, and that there were very few younger members of the profession who were not now associated with the Conference.

J. Quigg Newton, Jr., Chairman of the Public Information and Speaking Committee, reported on the aims and activities of his committee. Mr. Newton related that the program would consist of the following: First, selection of volunteers, from the membership, to give talks to various groups, on public questions, as public spirited men in public life. All Junior Bar Conference members will be contacted by letter soliciting their participation. Second, the committee will contact service clubs and other interested organizations, to determine whether or not they would welcome or invite such speakers at their meetings. Third, arrangement of a series of talks over the radio, by transcription and otherwise, dealing with pertinent problems of a public nature.

The meeting concluded with a spirited discussion on unlawful practice of the law and minimum fee schedules.

JOHN W. O'HAGAN, *Correspondent.*