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By FRED E. NEEF

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Issue Taken With Bar Critic

IN AN ADDRESS to the annual convention of the Commercial Law League of America, Edwin M. Otterbourg, of New York, Chairman of the ABA committee on unauthorized practice of law, took issue with the allegation of Solicitor General Jackson that while the rich and the poor get adequate legal service, the man who is neither rich nor poor must often forego it because of the cost. Mr. Otterbourg pointed to statistics showing the deplorable economic condition of a large number of lawyers, and stated that lawyers would not be so foolish as to overcharge the public and diminish their opportunities for employment. Lack of public understanding of the necessity, as well as the availability of legal services, and weakened public confidence in the bar, were assigned by him as the causes for people going without legal service.

Political Activities of Jurists Condemned

Judges who seek political offices without resigning their judicial positions were denounced by a recent opinion handed down by the ABA's committee on professional ethics and grievances. Although no specific case was referred to in the opinion, the opinion said that it hoped the general criticism would accomplish more constructive results than any disciplinary action. The committee said that judicial ethics canons 28 and 30 could not be easily adhered to in states where judges are nominated in party conventions or primaries and run on party tickets, and that it doubted whether the judiciary was fully aware of their rigid requirements. A promise was made to forcibly bring such canons to the attention of the judiciary, if violations occurred in the future.

Liability Without Negligence

Liability without proof of negligence is the new type of automobile policy that is being quietly effected by both stock and mutual insurance companies. Under this policy the medical expenses of the injured parties will be paid without regard to legal fault and under the same principle as that of the workmen's compensation laws. The top limit payable for medical expenses of each injured person may be set at either \$250 or \$500, according to the amount of premium paid. An expected result of these policies is the reduction of automobile insurance litigation.

South of the Border

A summons was recently issued by the Los Angeles Municipal Court to Senor Roberto C. Andeyo to explain the workings of his \$60,000 a year Mexican mail order divorce business, that he has been doing in Los Angeles County. State Bar Investigator Herbert Hallner alleges that Roberto had taken at least 1,000 divorce cases out of Los Angeles into Mexico at price ranging from \$50 to \$100. One of his ads reads as follows: "Consent decree one day; others 15 days." He is charged with practicing law without a license; advertising the procurement of divorces, and holding himself out as a lawyer.

Night Court Abandoned

The notorious Los Angeles night court, which was famed in song and story, especially of the Hollywood variety, stands adjourned sine die. The original idea of the Court was to enable persons charged with misdemeanors to have their cases disposed of outside of working hours, and to provide a convenient time for the attendance of employed witnesses. The lawyers of the Los Angeles Bar Association were almost unanimous in their opposition to the night court idea. The record of the Court's operations revealed that 80% of the defendants were drunks, who had to wait until morning to sober up, and a goodly portion of the remainder were prostitutes whose inconvenience as to hours of employment was not considered a matter of grave public concern.

Where to Practice Law

A survey was recently conducted by the Illinois State Bar Association to determine where in the State of Illinois existed the best opportunity to practice the law. This survey took in the entire state outside of Cook County. From an inspection of the data compiled by this survey an opportunity is given the young lawyer to determine the best locality to commence the practice of law. Many statistics were compiled by the survey which are of considerable interest. It was revealed that the annual gross income of all lawyers in all counties except Cook was \$1,595 in the first five years; \$2,740 in the second five years; and \$4,288 in the second ten years; and \$5,886, after twenty years. It was also found that a uniform fee schedule gave the Bar a higher annual income than where there was either a partial or no uniformity in prices for professional services.

Placement Bureau for Lawyers

A lawyers' placement bureau was recently opened up by the Los Angeles Bar Association. The function of the bureau is not only that of assisting those lawyers who are seeking employment, but also those law offices and agencies that may be in need of legal assistance and legally trained employees.

NINTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT BAR MEETING

THE NINTH Judicial District Bar Association met for dinner at the Miller House, in Meeker, Colorado, on Saturday, December 16th, 1939, at 7 o'clock, P. M. The association had as its guests, Judge Charles E. Herrick and Fred A. Videon, of Craig, Colorado. After dinner, the meeting reconvened in the District Court Room.

Judge John R. Clark made a report on the State Bar Convention, and William A. Mason gave a report on the meeting of the Board of Governors. Judge Carl W. Fulghum ended the program by a talk on possible desirable changes in the probate laws of the State; particularly as to procedure, to handle probate business with more dispatch.

A business meeting followed, and it was proposed and carried that Hon. John T. Shumate, former District Judge of this district for 36 years, be made an honorary member of the association on account of his long, distinguished service on the bench and his eminence in the legal profession.

The question of unauthorized practice in the district was discussed and the Grievance Committee was instructed by the president to obtain evidence and take action upon unauthorized practice in the district.

After the business meeting, Judge Charles E. Herrick made a talk on "Americanism" in which he suggested that the young people of this state and of the nation should be better instructed as to their priceless heritage. Attorney Fred A. Videon then was called upon, and made a talk supplementing the address of Judge Carl W. Fulghum, and laid a part of the blame at least for delay in settling of estates to the attorneys rather than to the statutes.

Before adjournment, it was decided that the association should forthwith communicate with William E. Hutton, State Chairman of the Legal Institutes Committee, and request that a Legal Institutes meeting be held at Glenwood Springs, Colorado, at the earliest convenience of the Committee. A good attendance was assured.

—C. H. DARROW, *Correspondent*.

The monthly meeting of the Boulder County Bar Association was held in Longmont on December 18th. Prof. Laurence W. DeMuth of the University of Colorado was the speaker of the evening. Following his talk a general discussion was had on various phases of insurance law.

PUEBLO BAR HOLDS ANNUAL MEETING

THE ANNUAL MEETING of the Pueblo County Bar Association was held on December 16th, 1939, in the District Court Room of the Pueblo County Court House. There were in attendance at such meeting forty-eight practicing attorneys, District Judges Harry Leddy and French L. Taylor, and County Judge Hubert Glover.

The meeting was called to order by the President, Lawrence E. Langdon, and the reports from the various standing committees were had. Following the reports of the various committees a memorial was presented by Harry P. Vories on the death of Judge John Murphy, who died during the past year. Following the reading of the memorial and the resolution by the Bar Association on the same, the District Court for the Tenth Judicial District, sitting en banc, ordered that the memorial be spread upon the records of the District Court. Judge Hubert Glover, County Judge, then ordered that the same be spread upon the records of the County Court of Pueblo County.

Benjamin F. Koperlik, a member of the Board of Governors of the Colorado Bar Association, submitted his report on the last meeting of the Board of Governors. This report was approved by the Association.

The following new members were submitted for membership: John Fericy, Vincent Cristiano, J. Gregory Donahue, and their application for membership was unanimously accepted by the Bar Association.

A resolution was introduced and passed by the Association provided for a dinner meeting of the Association to be held every three months.

Election of officers was held, and the following officers were elected for the ensuing year:

Ralph L. Neary, President.

Harry P. Vories, Vice-President.

O. G. Pope, Secretary and Treasurer.

Following the election, President Neary gave a short talk and announced that the various committees for the year 1940 would be appointed within the next few weeks, following which the meeting was adjourned.

—CHARLES J. RIBAR, *Correspondent*.

KELLY SPEAKS AT UTAH BAR MEETING

AT THE UTAH STATE BAR annual meeting December 8 and 9, 1939, at Hotel Utah, Salt Lake City, three Colorado men were assigned principal parts. On the first morning, Circuit Court of Appeals Judge Orie L. Phillips was the principal speaker, following the address of President LeRoy B. Young of the Utah Bar. His address on America's part and importance in keeping out of war and dangers of consequent dictatorship was a high point.

On the second morning, Milton D. Green, formerly a practicing lawyer of Denver, now law professor at Utah University, was main speaker. His address on "Scope of Judicial Review of Administrative Action" was so favorably received that it was ordered printed.

On the second afternoon session, William R. Kelly, president of The Colorado Bar Association, spoke on "Post-admission Legal Education and the Significance of Growing Bar Association Membership". Professor Fleming James, Jr., of the Yale University Law School was the other guest speaker. His subject was "Contribution Between Joint Tort Feasors."

The veteran United States Senator William H. King of Utah was the honored speaker at the public meeting the evening of December 8. David A. Simmons of Houston, Texas, of the Board of Governors of the American Bar Association, was the sole speaker at the concluding banquet on December 9.

The Utah State Bar was integrated in 1931 and is very active.

LEGAL INSTITUTE

On February 3, 1940, the first legal institute of the year will be held at Greeley, Colorado, under the auspices of the Colorado Bar Association, working in conjunction with the Weld County Bar. Speakers at the institute will be Albert J. Gould of Denver, who will talk on "Recent Tax Developments," and Judge Lawrence Hinkley of Sterling, who will speak on "Probate Procedure," according to announcement made by William E. Hutton, chairman of the Legal Institutes Committee of the State Bar.

A meeting of the bar of the Supreme Court of the United States in the courtroom has been called for Saturday, January 27, 1940, at 11 o'clock A. M., to take appropriate action in memory of the late Mr. Justice Butler, according to an announcement received from Robert H. Jackson, Solicitor General of the United States.