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Legal Institutes Aid to Revitalize Bar

Dicta Editorial Board

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Committee members do not hold office beyond the term of the chairman appointing them, and any committee member may be removed by the chairman with or without cause.

Amendment: The By-laws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the members voting at any regular annual meeting, provided that a notice that such amendment will be voted upon, signed by at least ten members, must be filed with the secretary at least two weeks prior to the meeting, or the unanimous consent of the membership present at the annual meeting must be obtained.

LEGAL INSTITUTES AID TO REVITALIZE BAR

HAILED as evidencing a revitalized interest in bar association activities, legal institutes in Colorado have become a definite part of bar association work as the result of three highly successful meetings. The seventh and ninth judicial districts will hold a legal institute in Grand Junction on April 15. Mortimer Stone and Max Melville will be the speakers. A fifth institute will be held in Colorado Springs on Saturday, April 22, when Wilbur Denious, Edward L. Wood, and Golding Fairfield are scheduled to speak. Plans are being discussed relative to the formulation of a series of institutes to be held in Denver this summer.

Following the meeting at Greeley on February 4, the Arkansas Valley lawyers, with approximately 115 in attendance, held an institute at Pueblo on March 10. It was the first gathering of lawyers, other than for local bar association functions, in Pueblo in the history of the state.

Laurence E. Langdon, president of the Pueblo County Bar Association, who presided at the institute, declared: "Never in my memory have so many lawyers, from cities other than Pueblo, attended any function sponsored by lawyers here. It is the first time Pueblo has had the honor of being the host of any meeting held under the auspices of the Colorado

Bar Association. We all hail these institutes as a welcomed sign of a revitalized interest in bar association activities."

The afternoon session was turned over to William R. Kelly, chairman of the Colorado Bar Association Committee on Legal Institutes. He introduced Albert J. Gould of Denver, who discussed in a very able and entertaining manner tax problems of interest to lawyers. After dinner in the Congress Hotel, Mr. Kelly, as toastmaster, introduced the various members of the bench and bar present.

Judge Otto Bock of the Supreme Court spoke briefly on the topic of "Making Justice Easier to Get." Judge Bock stated that the legal institutes showed that the profession was interested in simplifying procedure and that other signs indicated that lawyers and law teachers were attempting to bring about reforms in legal methods. The federal rules of procedure were founded on the basic principle that justice should be easier to get. Research work in universities is being conducted to attempt solution of present problems confronting legal procedure. At the present time, in the opinion of Judge Bock, what is most needed is a strong and cohesive union of lawyers which can use its influence to ensure necessary reforms.

The main speaker of the evening was G. Dexter Blount, president of the Colorado Bar Association, substituting for Charles O'Conner of Boulder, who was prevented by illness from attending. Mr. Blount related the history of the legal institutes, and outlined the future program for their development. "There is little doubt but that the legal institutes have rejuvenated the bar," he said.

The evening session of the institute was devoted to a discussion of unlawful practice by Max Melville of Denver. Tracing the development of the prerogative of the courts from early English history, Mr. Melville discussed the attitude of the Colorado courts on the question. He stressed the point that the Colorado courts had not seen fit to follow the weight of the authority on many of the propositions involved and suggested that lawyers actively interest themselves in the problems.

Following the Pueblo meeting, the San Luis Valley Bar Association held an institute at Alamosa on March 13. Leonard Haynie of Alamosa, as president of the association, pre-

sided. The afternoon session was devoted to a fine exposition of chattel mortgages by Louis Hellerstein of Denver. Lawyers present evinced a great interest in the talk and especially as the discussion related to liens created by the sales and service tax acts.

After dinner George H. Blickhahn of Alamosa presented his delightful fantasy of the Italian immigrant at a baseball game. Burris Goudy of Monte Vista contributed to the merriment with a few witty remarks. A short outline of the activities of the state bar association and its present organization was given by Fred Y. Holland, its secretary.

The evening session of the institute was devoted to a brilliant discussion of criminal law and its attendant problems by Kenneth Robinson of Denver. Thus closed the third institute to be held in this state.

A large share of credit for the success of the Pueblo institute should belong to Harry Petersen, J. W. Preston, Tom Marsalis, and H. P. Vories, who, as members of the local committee, carried out the details of the institute. The Alamosa meeting was planned by W. W. Platt and Raphael J. Moses.

Stewart Shafer of Cortez came the furthest distance to attend the Pueblo meeting. David Sarvas of Brighton claimed the second prize for distance travelled. The long distance award was made to Lou D. Mowry of Denver for the Alamosa institute. While Messrs. Robinson, Holland, and Hellerstein also attended from Denver, they were disqualified as being on the program.

Raphael J. Moses of Alamosa disputes all title claims springing from the institutes. "I think I still hold a record," he writes, "in view of the fact that I am the only person who has attended all three institutes." Ray reports that in addition to "all of the able-bodied practicing lawyers in the district," the clerk of the County Court in Rio Grande County, the court reporter for the district, and "one lone banker attended the institute. Perhaps all of the bankers should have been present for the afternoon session, as they draw 90% of the chattel mortgages in this district." Page Mr. Melville!

Wyoming, we understand, is planning a series of legal institutes, the first of which is to be held in Cheyenne.

Junior Bar Conference Holds Regional Meeting

The second regional conference of the Junior Bar Conference occurred in Pueblo on March 10. Twenty-seven young lawyers were present at the meeting which was held in the Navajo Room of the Bluebird Cafe.

Mark Harrington, president of the Conference, outlined the origin and purposes of the Conference. He was followed by chairmen of the various committees who were present. H. Shields Mason of Denver, chairman of the membership committee; Hugh D. Henry of Denver, secretary of the Conference; Leo S. Altman of Pueblo, councilman for the district, and Wm. Hedges Robinson, Jr., of Denver, public relations director, all spoke briefly on the purposes and program of their departments.

Reception to the program as outlined was highly enthusiastic, and members present began an immediate campaign to increase membership in the Conference throughout the state. Lawyers from nearly a dozen towns were at the meeting.

A regional gathering will be attempted on the Western Slope early this summer, according to present plans. The second annual meeting of the Conference is scheduled in conjunction with the state bar meeting.

Because he was recuperating from a recent illness, which had confined him to the hospital, J. T. Thomas of Antonito was not present at the Alamosa meeting. He was the only member of the bar from that city who did not attend.

Jesse E. Pound, our local correspondent in Alamosa, writes that the opinion was unanimous that the "Alamosa Institute was a real success and should be repeated again before other local associations. Another institute in the valley will be well attended; there is no doubt of that."

Regional Correspondents

With this issue, the Colorado Bar Association Section of DICTA inaugurates a plan of regional correspondents. A correspondent has been selected in each district, whose duty it will be to send in items of interest to the legal profession so that it may appear in these pages.

The correspondents who have accepted this duty are George S. Cosand of La Junta, Charles J. Simon of Colorado Springs, Charles Corlett of Monte Vista; Jesse E. Pound of Alamosa, Judge J. Edgar Chenoweth of Trinidad, John W. O'Hagan of Greeley, C. H. Darrow of Glenwood Springs, Stewart Shafter of Cortez, Charles J. Ribar of Pueblo, R. Franklin McKelvey of Durango, George F. Dodge, Jr., of Montrose, and Dale E. Shannon of Fort Collins. Other correspondents for the remaining regions will be announced shortly.

Lawyers having news items of general interest to the profession are urged to send it to their local correspondents or to Wm. Hedges Robinson, Jr., 410 Midland Savings Bank Building, Denver. Any suggestions for improvement or material for these pages will be appreciated.

The Broadmoor Hotel will be the scene of the institute to be held in Colorado Springs on April 22, according to tentative plans formulated by Leon H. Snyder, chairman of the committee in charge. Mr. Golding Fairfield of Denver will speak on "Developments in Real Estate Law of Interest to Practicing Lawyers," and Edward L. Wood will have for his subject "Automobile Liability." Wilbur Denious is also scheduled on the program.

Law Day at University of Colorado

The University of Colorado Law School has set April 29, 1939, for its annual Law Day. Prof. Ralph Aigler, of the University of Michigan, will be the principal speaker. His topic will be, "The Law of Banks and Their Customers."

The program will commence at 10:00 o'clock in the morning and will include a luncheon and dinner meeting. The morning session will be held in the law school at Boulder, and the luncheon and dinner meeting will take place in the Student Memorial Building, according to present plans.

Invitations to all lawyers within the state will be mailed from Boulder within a few days, according to Dean Robert L. Stearns.

Legal Institute will be held at Grand Junction on April 15, 1939. Mr. Mortimer Stone of Ft. Collins will speak on "Contracts for Sale of Real Estate" and Mr. Max Melville of Denver will speak on "Unlawful Practice of Law."