

July 2021

## District Court Library Notes

Dicta Editorial Board

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## DISTRICT COURT LIBRARY NOTES

Mr. Frank L. Grant has presented to the library three volumes of documentary history of the Constitution.

Williston on Contracts is now available.

### SPECIAL REPORT OF THE GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE

*To the Bar of Denver:*

The Grievance Committee of the Denver Bar Association has, during the past six months, considered and acted upon several cases concerning the use by local lawyers of circular letters, newspapers and other similar mediums as a means of communicating to the public at large or to selected groups thereof, some change or status pertaining to the professional life of those lawyers. In every instance the Committee endeavored to consider and pass upon the proprieties involved with careful discrimination and observance of its duty to both the Bar and the individual. In no instance, however, did the Committee determine the reasons and explanations of the individual to be a justification. Every case disclosed that Canon No. 27 of the Canons of Ethics prescribed by our Supreme Court was either unknown to or misconstrued by the individual. We suggest that members of the Bar should acquaint themselves with it. Adherence to its spirit, as well as its letter, may save embarrassment or criticism, or both, and if in doubt about the proprieties of some contemplated act, the opinion of the officers or Committee of the Association should be procured.

Respectfully,

GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE OF THE  
DENVER BAR ASSOCIATION.

CANON NO. 27—"Advertising, Direct or Indirect.—The most worthy and effective advertisement possible, even for a young lawyer, and especially with his brother lawyers, is the establishment of a well-merited reputation for professional capacity and fidelity to trust. This cannot be forced, but must be the outcome of character and conduct. The publication or circulation of ordinary simple business cards, being a matter of personal taste or local custom, and sometimes of convenience, is not per se improper. But solicitation of business by circulars or advertisements, or by personal communications or interviews, not warranted by personal relations, is unprofessional. It is equally unprofessional to procure business by indirection through touters of any kind, whether allied real estate firms or trust companies advertising to secure the drawing of deeds or wills or offering retainers in exchange for executorships or trusteeships to be influenced by the lawyer. Indirect advertisement for business by furnishing or inspiring newspaper comments concerning causes in which the lawyer has been or is engaged, or concerning the manner of their conduct, the magnitude of the interests involved, the importance of the lawyer's positions, and all other like self-laudation, defy the traditions and lower the tone of our high calling, and are intolerable."