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Proposed Revision of Federal Court Rules

Dicta Editorial Board

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PROPOSED REVISION OF FEDERAL COURT RULES

CHICAGO, May 21 (Special).—President William L. Ransom of the American Bar Association announced today that members of the American Bar Association are invited to submit their views, criticisms and suggestions regarding the draft of proposed uniform Rules for the Federal Courts, which have been drafted by the Advisory Committee constituted by the Supreme Court of the United States. Copies of the draft of rules, as submitted for the opinion and specific suggestions of the bar, are being mailed about June first to each member of the American Bar Association. The activity of the association in this matter is regarded as a part of its plan for being of greater practical usefulness to the average lawyer in his professional work.

Members of the association are requested to submit their specific suggestions as soon as practicable, in order that the same may be assembled, analyzed, and transmitted for the information and assistance of the Advisory Committee during the summer and of the court when it reconvenes in the fall. Communications from members of the American Bar Association regarding the draft of rules should be sent to the association at No. 1140 North Dearborn Street, Chicago, Illinois.

In addition to this opportunity for submitting views and suggestions in writing, through the channels of the association, members of the association will have also an opportunity to discuss the draft rules orally, at "open forum" sessions to be held at the Boston convention of the association on Wednesday, August 26th. This conference for discussion of the draft rules will be held under the joint auspices of the Judicial Section, the National Conference of Judicial Councils, and the Association's Committee on Jurisprudence and Law Reform. Former Attorney-General William D. Mitchell, as chairman of the Advisory Committee which prepared the draft, will make an opening statement regarding the draft;

and Dean Charles E. Clark of the Yale Law School, Reporter for the Advisory Committee, will be present to answer questions and make desired explanations of controversial points in the draft.

President Ransom said today that these "open forum" sessions for discussion and the offering of suggestions regarding the draft of rules "are likely to prove among the most interesting and useful of the many attractive features arranged for this year's annual meeting of the American Bar Association." He added that, "it is deemed to be especially appropriate that the whole membership of the association shall have the opportunity to take part in furthering the proposed rules and in offering specific suggestions for the improvement of the submitted draft, inasmuch as the promulgation of such rules for the improvement of procedure and practice in the Federal Courts is a project long advocated by the American Bar Association as one of its most earnest objectives. The establishment of simplified and uniform rules for the Federal Courts will prove to be an important step for the improvement of the administration of justice, along lines urged by the American Bar Association for many years. The court and its Advisory Committee have taken an appropriate step in arranging for the submission of a copy of the draft rules to each member of the American Bar Association, and the members of the association will doubtless show their appreciation of this recognition, by availing themselves of the opportunity to support the project and offer constructive suggestions for betterment of the draft which is being submitted for the consideration of the bar in advance of its consideration by the Court as well as in advance of final action by the Advisory Committee."