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New Committees for 1927-1928

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New Committees for 1927-1928

President Robert L. Stearns announces the re-appointment of Albert J. Gould, Jr., as Secretary-Treasurer, and the appointment of the following committees: (The names, other than those of the Chairman, appear in alphabetical order).

Executive:

Ex-Officio

Robert L. Stearns Luke J. Kavanaugh Joseph C. Sampson

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Library:

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Albert S. Brooks, Chairman Horace F. Phelps Carle Whitehead

Press and Bar:

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Judiciary:

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Legislative:

Leroy McWhinney, Chairman Elmer L. Brock Edward C. King Will Shafroth Henry W. Toll

Legal Education:

Peter H. Holme, Chairman Rodney J. Bardwell, Jr. Ernest B. Fowler Harold H. Healy Morrison Shafroth

Editorial

Cass M. Herrington, Chairman Victor A. Miller Albert J. Gould. Jr.

Trial by Newspaper Is Doomed

Recent local editorial comment in the local press on cases pending in state and federal courts makes the following, sent to us by Mr. Albert Vogl, of particular interest:

OR a number of years one of the great public evils has been "trial by newspaper." It has been peculiarly an American evil. It has become every year a more serious menace to our already flabby administration of justice in criminal courts. Comparatively few newspapers have been flagrant in this matter but they have been papers of very wide circulation and they have had a prejudicial influence upon many papers of good manners that merely print reports sent to them by news associations. That the effect on the popular mind has been inexcusably vicious is a reasonable belief. the offending editors could not reform themselves owing to competition in supplying a public demand has been suspected.

"A few lawyers have profited through this vile practice but the majority has winced and grumbled year after year. And all the time the remedy has been within easy reach. There has always been law to permit courts to protect themselves from the grosser

evils complained of. The turning point in the situation was reached when the Conference of Bar Association Delegates took cognizance of the matter, not without considerable pessimism. A good start was made through analysis, showing that a large share of the evil is participated in by lawyers, prosecutors, police and even judges, to promote their selfish interests and that the first duty of bench and bar is to curb these participants.

"In this number we present with some detail the Baltimore cases in which the court, through Judge Eugene O'Dunne, has asserted its prerogative and boldly restrained not only editors but also a court officer. We devote considerable space to these cases because they are significant and instructive and because they will mark the beginning of a return to sanity on the part of all such offenders.

"The opinions speak for themselves. We have no doubt that they will be a powerful factor in remedying a situation that has been a disgrace alike to officers of the law and to the public press. We wish now merely to comment on a particular phase—the comparative dependence of elective judges upon the good will of editors and their