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Charles Bagby

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BAGBY & SWIFT

CHAS. W. BAGBY
C. DAVID SWIFT

1030 FOURTEENTH STREET
HICKORY, NORTH CAROLINA
TELEPHONE 191

October 15, 1940

Mr. Dillard S. Gardner
Chairman Committee on Law Libraries
Raleigh, N. C.

Dear Mr. Gardner:

The character of the practice in the several counties in the State varies so greatly that, in my opinion, it is exceedingly doubtful that a publication upon the plan of the book-of-the-month-club would not be practical. For instance, there would be little need for complete texts on the law of corporations of workmen's compensation in Avery County, where there would be great need for complete works on all phases of real estate law. The opposite of this would be true in Catawba County. Similar situations probably exist in all sections of the State. But, of course, each county should have U. S. Supreme Court Reports, N. C. Reports and A. L. R., all of which can be purchased not only in sets but also in purchases of one or more volumes at a time.

Neither do I believe it wise for the law libraries to take any action in reference to having the N. C. Code hereafter edited and published by the Attorney General's Department. Law libraries are in their infancy, they now have no need for more than one or two copies of the Code, and law book publishing concerns can be of great assistance to local libraries - they have been, to those of Catawba County. As a member of the bar generally, I would probably vote for your suggestion, but as Chairman of Catawba Law Library Committee, I would have to vote against it.

BAGBY & SWIFT

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C. DAVID SWIFT

1030 FOURTEENTH STREET
HICKORY, NORTH CAROLINA

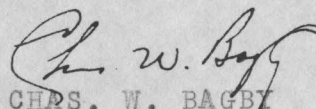
TELEPHONE 191

However, I do feel that if some central organization could be formed primarily for the purpose of purchasing, from time to time, the libraries of lawyers who die or retire from the practice, and these books could then be distributed at cost to the various law libraries in accordance with their needs, a great service would be rendered not only to the law libraries themselves but also to the widows and orphans of brother lawyers. Such libraries are being offered at great sacrifice, from time to time, all over the State, are being purchased for a mere song by second-hand dealers and then sold to young lawyers at exorbitant prices. Can you not work out some method or plan whereby the law libraries could pay an annual sum to some central organization which, with the funds so paid, could make purchases and then distribute the books to the various libraries in accordance with their needs and the funds contributed by each? In my opinion there is going to be rapid growth of co-operative law libraries throughout the State.

Such a plan might also be made to fit in with the suggestions of Miss Mary S. Covington, President of the North Carolina Law Library Association, as to the exchange of books. I heartily approve of the plan she suggests in her letter of October 12.

With warm personal regards, I am,

Sincerely yours,


CHAS. W. BAGBY

CWB/s