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Thomas W. Leigh

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Book Review

BAR ASSOCIATION ORGANIZATION AND ACTIVITIES, by Glenn R. Winters. American Judicature Society, Ann Arbor, 1954. Pp. xx, 229. \$4.00.

This handbook prepared for Bar Association Officers and published for the Survey of the Legal Profession and the Conference of Bar Association Presidents by the American Judicature Society is written by Glenn R. Winters, Secretary-Treasurer of the American Judicature Society and Editor of its Journal, who writes here on a subject which he is eminently qualified to discuss and which he treats with the clarity and completeness for which all of his writings are outstanding.

Here within the covers of one book will be found the most exhaustive and authoritative, if not in fact the only compilation of information yet assembled to guide the exploring footsteps of the busy practitioner who multiplies his cares by assuming the direction of his bar association, whether on a local, state, or national scale.

The bar association official will find constant use for it as a reference book to solve questions ranging in scope from: "How to Organize a Legal Aid Service" to "What to Serve at a Bar Association Luncheon." But it will be found equally entertaining and instructive by the student of legal professional literature, who can spend an enjoyable evening perusing its contents from beginning to end; or by Mr. Average Lawyer, who will find pleasure in browsing through its pages in a leisurely investigation into the workings of the organized bar.

The subject matter covered by this handbook can be said to fall into three general categories, namely: the actual organization and operation of a bar association; the services which such a bar association can and should provide its individual members; and the duties which the organized bar owes to the public. This is not to say that any definite lines of demarcation have been sought to be drawn, sectionalizing the material into these special classifications, but the entire range of activities implicit in these concepts has been dealt with. The various separate threads of interest which may appeal to an individual reader

are there to be pursued, but these have been skillfully interwoven into a composite and narrative whole which provides a perspective of the functions of the organized bar such as is available in no other publication.

The material in this book has been presented in a matter-of-fact style which is extremely readable and its pages are interspersed with numerous charts and cuts illustrating and emphasizing the printed text. But what is perhaps the book's most valuable feature is its essential practicability. The author has compiled copious factual data to support every topic with which he deals and his advice and suggestions are specific rather than general in their scope.

For example, the chapter on Bar Association Publications provides detailed and precise information as to the form and content of publications currently being issued by various associations throughout the country, as well as hard-headed suggestions to editors as to the types of articles which have the greatest reader-appeal, possible sources of advertising revenue, and the format in which material may most forcibly be presented; or, again for example, the chapter devoted to Ethics, Grievances, and Unauthorized Practice gives specific advice as to the role of the organized bar and its bar associations in controlling these threats to the integrity of our profession.

Mr. Howard L. Barkdull, a former President of the American Bar Association, in a foreword to this publication says of this book:

"If it could be read with care and thoroughness by each bar president before taking office, and kept at his right hand throughout his term of office, the work of the organized bar would benefit immeasurably."

This reviewer wholeheartedly concurs in that assertion.

But the interest and usefulness of this publication is by no means restricted to bar association presidents. It should be on the list of required reading for any lawyer who is in any way concerned about the internal and external public relations of his profession.

*Thomas W. Leigh**

*Member, Monroe Bar.

