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THE SEMI-CENTENNIAL MEETING OF THE AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION IN SEATTLE

The American Bar Association is a voluntary association, organized at Saratoga, New York, in 1878. The object of the Association, as defined by its Constitution, is "to advance the science of jurisprudence, promote the administration of justice and uniformity of legislation and of judicial decision throughout the Nation, uphold the honor of the profession of the law, and encourage cordial intercourse among the members of the American Bar."

The Association has at present about 28,000 members, residing throughout all of the United States proper and in Hawaii, China, Porto Rico and the Philippine Islands.

The work of the Association is supervised by its President, and an Executive Committee, which consists of the President, ex-officio, a Secretary, Treasurer, the Editor of the American Bar Association Journal and nine other members. There are fifteen regular and ten special committees, and in addition to these general and special committees, which are appointed each year by the President, there are nine sections which are self-perpetuating and elect their own officers, but are intimately affiliated with the work of the Association.

Thus, the Association, through its committees and affiliated sections, covers the whole field of the law.

Each year the Association publishes a Year Book, containing a list of all of its members arranged alphabetically and by states, and in addition it publishes monthly the American Bar Association Journal, containing well selected articles on a wide range of legal subjects.

Membership in the Association is desirable because it identifies the lawyer with the only national organization of lawyers and gives

him a standing in his own community and recognition throughout the country. There is no other organization which affords an older lawyer such opportunities to become familiar with the technique of any subject in which he may be particularly interested, or a younger lawyer to acquire a more general education respecting the law and its administration.

I assume that every lawyer desires to do what he can to promote the due administration of justice and to uphold the ideals of his profession. The people look to the lawyers for leadership in the enforcement of the law and in the administration of justice. To realize the expectations, if not, indeed, the demands of the public, therefore, it is necessary for lawyers to take an active part in all governmental and civic affairs. Their work is most effective when it is done collectively and pursuant to definite plans. These plans are evolved by the several committees of the Association.

The meetings of the Association and of the committees afford opportunities for acquaintance among the members of the American Bar and their families and are not only instructive but entertaining as well.

The Association will celebrate its Fiftieth Anniversary at its Annual Meeting in Seattle, Washington, July 25th to 27th.

On Wednesday, the 25th, the President's address will be on the subject of "Fifty Years' Progress in the Law." In the afternoon of that day there will be a symposium, consisting of four addresses by distinguished speakers of national reputation. Dr. John H. Finley, since 1921 editor of the New York Times, formerly President of Knox College, President of the College of the City of New York, and Commissioner of Education of the State of New York, one of our greatest educators, and the author of many books and essays, will speak on the subject of "Fifty Years' Progress in Education." Dr. William Allen Pusey, one of the world's best-known dermatologists, author of several books and essays on medicine, and former President of the American Medical Association, will speak on "Fifty Years' Progress in Medicine." Dr. Ozora S. Davis, President of the Chicago Theological Seminary, author of many books on religion and kindred subjects, will speak on "Fifty Years' Progress in Religion." Honorable Frank Baldwin Jewett, Vice-President of the American Telephone & Telegraph Company, an electrical engineer of world-wide reputation, will speak on "Fifty Years' Progress in Engineering."

In the evening of that day the Honorable Hugh Kennedy, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the Irish Free State, will deliver

an address on "The Character and Sources of the Constitution of the Irish Free State." This address will be followed by the President's reception.

Thursday will be devoted to the reports of the several committees.

On Thursday evening the Honorable Harlan Fiske Stone, Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States, will deliver an address on "Fifty Years' Work of the Supreme Court." This address will be followed by a pageant-drama, portraying the sealing of Magna Charta. The pageant will be presented by a cast selected by Mr. Thomas Wood Stevens, director of the Goodman Memorial Theatre of Chicago, who wrote the drama, and Mr. Whitford Kane, of the New York Theatre Guild, who will direct the production.

Friday, the 27th, will be devoted to the hearing of further reports of the committees and the election of officers for the ensuing year.

Inasmuch as the reports of the several committees of the Association will be presented at the Annual Meeting, it seems inappropriate at this time to anticipate their contents. I may say in passing that the report of the Committee on Jurisprudence and Law Reform will cover the intense activities of that committee during the last year in endeavoring to bring about the enactment of a Federal Law authorizing the registration of judgments, decrees and orders rendered by any court of record of any state or of the United States in any other such court of record, a law authorizing courts to enter declaratory judgments, also to bring about the enactment of a law authorizing the Supreme Court of the United States to promulgate uniform rules respecting litigation on the law side of the federal courts as the court now has the power to do on the equity side, a law covering official stenographers, and other helpful and constructive legislation. Their report also will deal with the growing tendency of the Congress and the legislatures of the several states to usurp the functions of the executives and the judicial branches of the government, to substitute its own legislative will for the authority and power vested by the Constitution in the Executive and for the discretion vested in the Judiciary

The Supreme Court of the United States has repeatedly said that it is one of the chief merits of the American system of written constitutional law, that all powers intrusted to governments, whether state or national, are divided into three grand departments, the executive, legislative and judicial, and that it is essential to the successful working of this system that the persons intrusted with

power in any one of these branches shall not be permitted to encroach upon the powers confided to the others, but that each be limited to the exercise of the powers appropriate to its own department and no other. The tendency of the legislative department of the government to encroach upon and usurp the functions of the executive and judicial departments was referred to by President Coolidge in his Memorial Address recently delivered at Gettysburg as "larceny of power."

The report of the Committee on Jurisprudence and Law Reform will also deal with other subjects of vital interest to lawyers, such as the effort on the part of the Congress to limit the power of the federal court to grant injunctions and to destroy the jurisdiction of the federal courts based upon diversity of citizenship.

The Commerce Committee will present a report dealing at length with the subject of arbitration of industrial disputes.

The Section on Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar will present a report covering its efforts to bring about the adoption of the American Bar Association rule in the several states, requiring as a minimum two years in a college, or its equivalent, and three years in a law school, or its equivalent, as a condition precedent to becoming a member of the bar.

In referring, by way of illustration, to a few of the typical reports which will be presented at the Seattle meeting, I do not wish to be understood as minimizing the work of the other committees or as attempting to divert attention from their reports, all of which should be intensely interesting to lawyers. My object is to show, by typical example, some of the important work done at the meeting.

Commencing with a small membership fifty years ago, without any definite program, the American Bar Association has grown in membership and in influence. Today it covers every field of the law and exerts an inestimable influence not only in the enactment of legislation, but in the administration of justice throughout the land. It numbers among its members the leaders of the Bar in every state, who unselfishly devote themselves to carrying out the objects of the Association in upholding the honor of the profession and in directing the affairs of our country along the pathway of its constructive progress.

SILAS H. STRAWN.*

*President of the American Bar Association.

PROGRAM OF THE SEMI-CENTENNIAL CONVENTION
of the
AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION
At Seattle, July 25 26, 27

First Session—Wednesday, July 25, at 10 A. M.
Seattle Civic Auditorium

Addresses of Welcome by President Washington State Bar Association.

Annual Address by President of the Association.

Announcements.

Report of Secretary

Report of Treasurer.

Report of Executive Committee.

Nomination and Election of Members.

State delegations will meet at the close of this session to nominate members of the General Council, and to select nominees for Vice-President and Local Council for each State.

Second Session—Wednesday, July 25, at 2.30 P. M.
Seattle Civic Auditorium

Symposium—"Fifty Years of Progress."

Address by F. B. Jewett, Vice-President American Telephone & Telegraph Company, "Progress in Engineering During the Last Fifty Years."

Address by Dr. John H. Finley, New York Times, New York, "Progress in Education During the Last Fifty Years."

Address by Dr. William Pusey, Chicago, "Progress in Medicine During the Last Fifty Years."

Address by Dr. Ozora S. Davis, Chicago, "Progress in Theology in the Last Fifty Years."

Third Session—Wednesday, July 25 at 8.30 P. M.
Seattle Civic Auditorium

Address by Honorable Hugh Kennedy, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the Irish Free State, "The Character and Sources of the Constitution of the Irish Free State."

10:00 p. m. President's Reception, Spanish Ballroom, Olympic Hotel.

Fourth Session—Thursday, July 26, at 10 A. M.
Metropolitan Theatre

A. M.

10.10 Report of the Work of the American Law Institute.

Reports of Sections and Committees

(The names of the respective Chairmen are given)

10:00 "Magna Charta," a Pageant-Drama. Seattle Civic Auditorium.

*Seventh Session—Friday, July 27 at 10 A. M.
Metropolitan Theatre*

COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. M.

- 10:00 Publications. Alfred C. Intemann, New York City
- 10:10 Division of Eighth Circuit. A. C. Paul, Minneapolis, Minn.
- 10:20 Uniform Judicial Procedure. Thomas W Shelton, Norfolk, Va.
- 10:30 Insurance Law. William Brosmith, Hartford, Conn.
- 10:50 Legal Education. William Draper Lewis, Philadelphia, Pa.
- 11:00 Legal Aid. Reginald Heber Smith, Boston, Mass.
- 11:20 Air Law. Chester W Cuthell, New York City
- 11:30 Change of Date of Presidential Inauguration. Levi Cooke, Washington, D. C.
- 11:40 Noteworthy Changes in Statute Law Joseph P Chamberlain, New York City
- 12:00 Nomination and Election of Officers.
Miscellaneous Business.
Adjournment sine die.

Friday, July 27, at 2 P M

Motor trip around Seattle and nearby points of interest.

Friday, July 27 at 6.30 P M.

Annual Dinner of members of the Association, ladies and guests, Seattle Civic Auditorium.

Saturday, July 28

All-day tour as guests of Seattle and Washington State Bar Associations.

WASHINGTON LAWYERS, ATTENTION!

Every Washington lawyer is invited and urged to attend the Semi-Centennial Convention of the American Bar Association at Seattle, July 25, 26, 27, 1928. And do not forget to register formally at Convention Headquarters in the Olympic Hotel. No fee is required for registration. For special convention suggestions to Washington lawyers see page 156.

PROGRAMS OF SECTIONS OF THE AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION AND ALLIED ORGANIZATIONS

In order to promote especially the work in certain fields of law the American Bar Association has in its constitution created a number of sections of the Association, which hold their meetings at the same time and place but not in conflict with the sessions of the American Bar Association. Any member of the Association is eligible to membership in the sections, which deal respectively with the branches of law indicated by the names of the sections. All sections have a chairman and other officers provided for by the constitution of the American Bar Association. Each section is permitted to adopt its own by-laws and to conduct its own procedure, the only limits being that action taken by a section must be reported to and approved by the Association before such action becomes binding on the Association.

The sections deal respectively with the branches of law represented by the names of the section, with the exception of the Conference of Bar Association Delegates, which became a section of the Association in 1919. This conference consists of delegates from each of the state and local bar associations throughout the union, having for its objective the consideration of problems affecting the organization of the bench, the organization of the bar, discipline of the bar, and the like. The Conference of Bar Association Delegates was created through the urgency of Mr. Elihu Root, who in 1927 was elected an honorary member of the Conference for life.

The National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws always meets the week preceding the annual convention of the American Bar Association. This Conference is not a section of the Association, but its work in promoting uniform legislation is in furtherance of one of the declared objects of the Association, and a close affiliation has always existed between the two organizations. The Commissioners on Uniform State Laws, just as the regular sections of the Association, annually submit a report to the American Bar Association with recommendations for adoption.

A summary of the proceedings of each of the sections as well as of the Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws is published in each annual volume of the Association.

The programs of the annual Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws and of the sections of the American Bar Association held in connection with the Seattle meeting of the American Bar Association here follow

THIRTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE
COMMISSIONERS ON UNIFORM STATE LAWS

Junior Ballroom, Olympic Hotel, Seattle, Wash.
Tuesday, July 17 to Monday, July 23 Inclusive

- July 17, A. M. President's Address and Committee Reports.
P M. Uniform Mechanics' Lien Act.
Evening Dinner for Commissioners and guests.
- July 18, A. M. Mechanics' Lien Act.
2-3:30 P M. Mechanics' Lien Act.
3:30-5 P M. Amendments to Negotiable Instruments Law
- July 19, A. M. Amendments to Negotiable Instruments Law
2-3:30 P M. Uniform Public Utilities Act, Uniform Public Utilities Securities Act, and Uniform Business Corporation Act.
3:30-5 P M. Social Welfare Acts.
- July 20, A. M. Social Welfare Acts.
P M. Social Welfare Acts Section.
- July 21, A. M. Reports of Committees on Aeronautics, Compulsory Attendance of Witnesses and Guardianship of Soldiers.
P M. No Session.
- July 23, A. M. Report of Committee on Uniform Act in relation to Corpus and Income.
P M. Uniform Acknowledgment Act and Report of Committee on Uniform Firearms Act.

CONFERENCE OF BAR ASSOCIATION DELEGATES

Thirteenth Annual Meeting
Italian Room, Olympic Hotel
Monday, July 23

- 6:30 P M. Dinner
Addresses by President Silas H. Strawn and Dean Roscoe Pound.
(Delegates are requested to register at Headquarters for themselves, ladies and friends accompanying them.)
Tuesday, July 24
- 10:00 A. M. Opening Address, by Chairman Josiah Marvel.
Reports of Committees on.
Judicial Selection Irvin V Barth, Chairman.
State Bar Organization. Clarence N. Goodwin, Chairman.
Admission and Discipline Walter F Dodd, Chairman.
- 1:00 P M. Luncheon for delegates, ladies and friends at the Seattle Chamber of Commerce. Address on "Fifty Years of the American Bar Association", by James Grafton Rogers.
- 2:00 P M. Reports of Committees on.
Judicial Councils and Rule-Making Power. Josiah Marvel, Chairman.

Co-Operation between Press and Bar Andrew R. Sherriff, Chairman.
 Reports by Delegates on Association Accomplishments.
 Miscellaneous New Business.
 Report of Nominating Committee, Election of Officers.

COMPARATIVE LAW BUREAU

Tuesday, July 24—Room E, Mezzanine, Olympic Hotel
 1:30 P. M. Meeting of Council.
 2:00 P. M. Meeting of Bureau.

SECTION OF CRIMINAL LAW AND CRIMINOLOGY

Tuesday, July 24—Olympic Hotel
Afternoon Session, 2:00 P. M., Room A, Mezzanine
 Report of Chairman, Justin Miller, Los Angeles, California.
 Report of Committee on Psychiatric Jurisprudence, Rollin M. Perkins, Chairman, Iowa City
 The Prosecutor and the Plea of Guilty Raymond Moley, New York City
 Appointment of Nominating Committee.
Evening Session, 8:00 P. M., Junior Ball Room
 The Relation Between Organized Crime and the Violation of the Prohibition Laws. Arthur V Lashly, St. Louis, Mo.
 The Law and Human Sterilization. Otis H. Castle and Paul Popenoe, Los Angeles, Cal.
 Report of Nominating Committee.
 Election of Officers.

JUDICIAL SECTION

Tuesday, July 24—Room B, Mezzanine, Olympic Hotel
 10:00 A. M. Address of Welcome.
 Response by Chairman Hon. T. Scott Offutt.
 Address by William Minor Lasle, University of Virginia.
 Election of Officers.
 2:00 P. M. Reports of Committees.
 Address by Honorable Frank S. Dietrich, Boise, Idaho. Judge U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals.
 Address by Austin E. Griffiths, Seattle, Wash., "The Lawyer's Responsibility for Business Ability in Public Office."
Thursday, July 26—Junior Ball Room, Mezzanine, Olympic Hotel
 6:30 P. M. Annual Dinner.

LEGAL EDUCATION AND ADMISSIONS TO THE BAR

Thursday, July 26—Italian Room, Olympic Hotel

- 6:00 P M. Dinner
 7:00 P M. Business Session.

MINERAL LAW

Tuesday, July 24—Junior Ballroom, Olympic Hotel

- 10:00 A. M. Reports and Election of Officers.
 2:00 P M. Address by Hon. Cornelius F Kelly, President of
 the Anaconda Copper Mining Company
 Address by Dr. George Otis Smith, Director United
 States Geological Survey

PATENT, TRADE-MARK AND COPYRIGHT LAW

Tuesday, July 24—Room C, Mezzanine, Olympic Hotel

- 10:00 A. M. Reports and Election of Officers.
 1:00 P M. Adjournment for Luncheon.
 2:00 P M. Program to be announced.
 7:00 P M. Dinner.

SECTION OF PUBLIC UTILITY LAW

Tenth Annual Meeting

Auditorium, Telephone Building, 1200 Third Avenue

Monday, July 23, 2.30 P M

Address. John F MacLane, Salt Lake City, Utah,
 Chairman.

Report of Secretary

Appointment of Committees.

Address Joseph W Jamison, St. Louis.

Discussion. Three or four speakers, 10 minutes
 each.

Address John E. Curtiss, Chairman Nebraska
 State Railway Commission, "Federal Encroachment
 Into the Field of Local Regulations."

Discussion. Three or four speakers, 10 minutes
 each.

Tuesday, July 24, 10 A. M.

Address Prof. Harry G. Brown, University of
 Missouri, "Economic Basis and Limits of Public
 Utility Regulation."

Discussion. Three or four speakers, 10 minutes
 each.

Address. Hance H. Cleland, Olympia, Wash.,
 "Municipal Financing and Operation of Utili-
 ties in Washington."

Discussion. Three or four speakers, 10 minutes
 each.

Reports of Committees.

Election of Officers.

Tuesday, July 24, 7.30 P M—Italian Room, Olympic Hotel

Informal Dinner of Members.

General Round-Table Discussion.

Miscellaneous unfinished business.

Adjournment.