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Report of the Committee on Communist Activities

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PRESIDENT HAROLD W. COFFIN: I will now call the question. All in favor of the motion as amended signify by saying "aye".

MEMBERS: "AYE".

PRESIDENT HAROLD W. COFFIN: Contrary?

MEMBERS: "NO".

PRESIDENT HAROLD W. COFFIN: The motion is carried. Thank you very much, Mr. Schweppe, for your report.

The report of the Committee on Communist Activities has been published in the *Washington State Bar News*, Vol. X, p. 11. Mr. Kenneth P. Short, Chairman of the committee, amplified the report with informal remarks. Mr. Ralph Rogers of Tacoma pointed out that the resolution of 1954, providing that the claiming of the fifth amendment before a court or properly constituted congressional or legislative committee as to possible communist affiliation or other subversive activities should be an automatic ground for discipline or disbarment, was the action not of the Board of Governors, as stated in the report of the committee, but rather the action of the association in convention assembled. Mr. Short agreed that Mr. Rogers' recollection was correct.

The report of the Committee on Juvenile Problems has been published in the *Washington State Bar News*, Vol. X, at p. 12.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON RESOLUTIONS

By L. L. Thompson of Tacoma

Mr. L. L. Thompson, Chairman of the Committee on Resolutions, reported the following resolution, with the recommendation that it do pass:

WHEREAS Rule 5 of the Rules for Admission to practice as amended December 2, 1955 requires as a condition to admission to practice that the applicant take an oath which includes the following language:

"I will support the Constitution of the United States, the Constitution of the State of Washington; I am not now and never have been a member of any organization or party having for its purpose and objective the overthrow of the United States government by force or violence."

and

WHEREAS the foregoing oath is applicable to candidates for per-

manent admission to practice in the State of Washington but as a matter of practice such oath has not been administered to non-resident counsel who seek admission to practice temporarily for the particular cause in which they are interested, and

WHEREAS such custom tends to permit non-resident practitioners to practice before our courts, who, if residents, could not qualify, now therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED that an amendment to the rules be requested from the Supreme Court of the State of Washington to the effect that, as a condition to the admission to practice of non-resident counsel, whether such application be made for temporary admission for a particular cause or not, that such non-resident counsel be required to take the "Oath of Attorney" prescribed by Rule 5 of the Rules for Admission to Practice.

On motion of Mr. Ralph Rogers of Tacoma the resolution was amended, causing the first clause of the last paragraph to read as follows: "BE IT RESOLVED THAT this association recommend that the Board of Governors request from the Supreme Court of Washington an amendment to the rules to the effect that . . ."

The resolution as amended was adopted.

Mr. Thompson moved the adoption of the following resolution:

WHEREAS, it is necessary under the Uniform Code of Military Justice, 1950 that lawyers who are graduates of accredited law schools be employed to perform the most important functions of the judicial system in the military forces of the United States, and

WHEREAS, the prestige of the legal profession of the military is of great importance to the civilian component of the same profession and it has come to the attention of the latter that certain studies have been made concerning the Judge Advocates of the United States Air Force, and

WHEREAS, it appears from such study that fifty per cent of all the officers assigned to the Judge Advocate Department of the Air Force are in the grades of first and second lieutenant although the strength authorization tables indicate that only eight per cent of assigned officers should be in these two lower grades, and

WHEREAS, it further appears that those lawyers serving as Judge Advocates of the Air Force who are in the grades of captain and major are few in comparison to the overall manning program, and

WHEREAS, it further appears that Congress and the armed services have provided incentives to the medical, dental, and veterinary profes-

sions whereby they receive extra compensation by reason of being professional officers, and

WHEREAS, Congress and the armed services have discriminated against the legal profession by denying to it any status as a profession in the provision for incentive compensation, and

WHEREAS, it appears that the number of lawyers leaving the service of the military is such that the judicial system of the military will suffer unless proper measures are enacted to create an incentive to the military officers to remain on duty.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED That Congress and the armed forces be requested to enact legislation and make regulations that the officers on active duty in the armed forces be accorded the same compensation for professional service as is now, or may hereafter be, given to the medical profession of the military.

After some debate, on the motion of Mr. Clay Nixon of Seattle the resolution was laid on the table.

On recommendation of the committee the following resolution was adopted:

“WHEREAS, the Committee on Judicial Selection, Tenure and Compensation of the Washington State Bar Association has the responsibility to report to the Association from time to time on judicial selection and compensation, and

“WHEREAS, it is becoming increasingly difficult to attract lawyers of proper caliber to the Bench because of the financial sacrifice which they and their families must undergo, and

“WHEREAS, a strong Judiciary is of the highest importance in maintaining our political freedoms, and

“WHEREAS, a strong and vital Judiciary is the primary responsibility of the Bar,

“NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that immediate action be taken by the Bar Association of this State to increase the annual judicial compensation of our Judges as follows: Superior Court Judges \$15,000.00, Supreme Court Judges \$20,000.00, and the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court \$25,000.00;

“BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Washington State Bar Association direct its Legislative Committee to draft the necessary legislation and take such other action as is necessary and proper to secure its passage at the next session of the Legislature.

“BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all local Bar Associations appoint special Committees to work with and encourage their local

Legislators to support the proposed legislation.”

On the motion of Mr. John Davis of Seattle the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

“WHEREAS, the members of the Tacoma Bar Association have worked diligently and untiringly to make this convention a success, and

“WHEREAS, to that end they have provided an excellent program and delightful entertainment which we have greatly enjoyed,

“NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that we, the members of the Washington State Bar Association, in convention assembled at Tacoma, Washington, on the occasion of the annual meeting of the Association, do hereby express our sincere and heartfelt thanks to the members of the Tacoma Bar Association and their ladies who have extended to us Tacoma’s famed hospitality, including gracious dinner invitations to their homes.”

There being no further business to come before the meeting, the convention was adjourned *sine die*.

SHALL ADVOCACY VANISH?

An Address by Mr. J. A. Gooch, Member
of the Bar of Fort Worth, Texas

The subject of my remarks indicates that at some time in the past and as of now advocacy has been practiced. To me advocacy is the backbone and the real strength of justice in this great land of ours. The term “advocate” has been linked with the legal profession—and properly so—from the beginning of time. We are a profession that has always taken an objective point of view, as contrasted with the negative or defensive point of view, to the end that principles and ideals shall be maintained.

History records that the lawyer has been one who at all times stands ready to fight for principles, and, with every resource at his command, for what is right and for the rights of his clients; one who, by reason of that trait of character and by training, is ever ready to oppose tyranny in any form; one who is ready, or should be ready at all times to oppose the abuse of power.

We, I am positive, are lawyers by choice. In my opinion there are many ways to make a living in an easier fashion than constantly fighting someone else’s battles. I dislike very much to see in the movies, on T-V and in periodicals the lawyer depicted as a scoundrel and a cheat. No other profession is so maligned as is the legal profession. It seems