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Announcements

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Remember the Next Annual Meeting, Michigan City, July 8, 9, (10). It is hoped that members will make arrangements in advance to reserve these dates for the bar association meeting. Tentative arrangements have already been made for special entertainment of the members and their families in Michigan City on Saturday, July 10, after the regular sessions of the association on Thursday and Friday, July 8 and 9 have been completed. We are assured that adequate transportation facilities will be arranged for the convenience of all members. A definite announcement about trains cannot be made until later when the precise needs of the association can be determined.

BAR ASSOCIATION ACTIVITIES

On March 4 there was a meeting of the following committees of the Indiana State Bar Association: Jurisprudence and Law Reform, Legal Education, Legislation, and Reorganization of the Supreme and Appellate Courts. The meeting of these four committees occurred at the call of President Dix and took place in the Supreme Court Room in Indianapolis. About twenty-five members of these committees attended. The occasion for this joint meeting was the consideration of a legislative program in keeping with the resolution that was adopted at the annual meeting last year. While no definite program was finally drawn up, a great deal of progress was made in the consideration of the different matters which should be included in a legislative program that the bar association could support.

At the present time there is pending before the national congress a bill, H. R. 3831, which is known as the Graham Bill. This bill provides in general for the increase of salaries of federal judges. Under its provisions the Chief Justice would receive \$20,500 and Associate Judges of the Supreme Court \$20,000. Circuit Court Judges would receive \$15,000 and District Court Judges \$12,500. Concerted effort is being made throughout the country among lawyers for the passage of this bill. Its promotion has been particularly advocated by the Conference of Bar Association Delegates which is a subsidiary organization of the American Bar Association. To the end that the Indiana Bar Association might work in favor of this bill, particularly through the Indiana delegates in Congress, President George O. Dix appointed the following committee consisting of one man from each congressional district:

Solon J. Carter, chairman, Indianapolis.
Frank H. Hatfield, Evansville.
Hinkle H. Hays, Sullivan.
George Hester, New Albany.
Lincoln Dixon, North Vernon.
Floyd E. Dix, Terre Haute.
Judge Raymond S. Springer, Connersville.
William F. White, Muncie.

Donald F. Elliott, Kokomo.
Daniel W. Simms, Lafayette.
Albert Ward, Indianapolis.
Frank Hogan, Fort Wayne.
Arthur L. Gilliom, Indianapolis.

Solon J. Carter, Chairman of the Committee, reports that thus far seven members of the Indiana delegates in the house of representatives have stated that they favor the Graham Bill and the other members have all stated that they favor some provision for the increase of salaries of federal judges.

THE NATIONAL ORATORICAL CONTEST

By the time this issue of the JOURNAL reaches its readers the third National Oratorical Contest will be well under way. It is therefore fitting that we call attention at this time to the part which the Bench and Bar plays in this contest.

The *Literary Digest* of February 27th last, in speaking of this contest says: "This competition is open to all students in secondary schools—public, private and parochial—and takes the form of ten minute orations on the Constitution. The chief objective sought is to increase interest in and respect for the basic principles of our Government." In the course of an address on the scope of the contest and its power for good, President Coolidge said: "It represents the most effective method of enlisting the interest of young men and women in our governmental institutions."

The American Bar Association and the State Bar Associations throughout the country are fostering a nation-wide movement to awaken general interest in the things that lie at the foundation of Constitutional government. The National Oratorical Contest is a means to that end; and as a nation-wide movement has been made possible by an arrangement entered into between twenty-six of the leading newspapers of the country which have joined in promoting and supporting the contest. The *Indianapolis News*, coöperating with the Indiana State Bar Association is promoting the contest in Indiana; the *News* furnishes the staff which directs the contest in this state and supplies the funds for the State prizes; all prizes below those awarded as State prizes are financed by the State and local bar associations working with the various civic and patriotic organizations that are coöperating in this movement. These contests are conducted strictly in accordance with rules laid down by a National Committee.

This movement has had the hearty support of the State Department of Public Instruction in this State and the schools that desire to participate in this contest are now being enrolled. The Committee of the State Bar Association in charge of this work has perfected a State wide organization of lawyers, consisting of a manager in each con-

gressional district and a chairman in each county, whose business it is at this time to coöperate with the school authorities in securing the largest possible participation in this contest.

The object in promoting the contest is not so much to induce a study of the mechanism of our form of government as it is to bring about an understanding of the conditions which led up to it. As one writer has said "To appreciate the Constitution we must view it in the setting of its historic background. The spirit of that great document shines through its text only when illuminated by the torch of history."

The first year of this contest 10,000 students in Indiana wrote essays or prepared orations on the Constitution. Last year 32,000 participated. The school is the workshop in which is being moulded the type of citizenship that will shortly be in full charge of the nation.

It was never so important as now that Americans should know the background of their country's history, and become better acquainted with the origin, the traditions, the progress, and the philosophy of their government. If the rising generation comes to know the truth concerning the nation's history, it will better understand the evils which the framers of our Constitution saw and sought to avoid in drafting it as they did. We need then have no fear about their maintaining it.