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News of Bench and Bar

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NEWS OF BENCH AND BAR

FIRST DISTRICT.

The final meeting for the year 1926 of the Vanderburg County Bar Association was held in the Chamber of Commerce in Evansville on Monday, December 6. A banquet preceded the regular meeting and the election of officers. Officers elected for the coming year were:

James Ensle, President.
Theodore Lockyear, First Vice-President.
Richard McGinnis, Second Vice-President.
Philip Loenthal, Secretary.
Val Nolan, Treasurer.

James T. Walker, the retiring president, received a vote of thanks for his admirable administration of the bar association's affairs during the previous year.

The Gibson County Bar Association held its regular meeting at the Pullman Hotel on Saturday, December 4. Several committees of the association made reports at that time.

SECOND DISTRICT.

The student and faculty editors of the Indiana Law Journal held their annual banquet on December 15th in the Student Building of Indiana University, Bloomington. William A. Pickens, President of the Indiana State Bar Association; Joal A. Baker, Secretary-Treasurer of the Indiana State Bar Association and Business Manager of the Indiana Law Journal, and Hubert Hickam, Indianapolis lawyer, were the guests of honor. President Pickens made a stirring address, calling upon young men at college and law school to assume their political responsibility. He pointed out that necessary improvement in our social and political life could not come from negative criticism by those who were unwilling to do anything themselves. It was a fitting part of every lawyer's life to lead in political and other movements that effect the well-being of the community. Mr. Baker told of the service and influence of the Law Journal in furthering the efforts of the bar association. Charles F. Reed, Chairman of the Student Board of Editors, president. All of the student editors and the faculty editors, together with William Lowe Bryan, President of the University, and several invited guests from other departments in the University were present. The senior editors, the faculty editors, and President Bryan made brief talks. It is expected that this banquet will be an annual occasion when students, members of the faculty, and practicing lawyers can come together for mutual counsel and encouragement.

The Sullivan County Bar Association held its regular meeting on Thursday, November 25th. The following officers were elected for the coming year:

W. Paul Stratton, President.
Walter F. Wood, Vice-President.
Pauline Medsker, Secretary.
Louis Meier, Treasurer.

Hinkle C. Hays, retiring president, extended congratulations to the new officers. It was pointed out that the Sullivan County Bar Association has

made an enviable record during the past year. Among its outstanding accomplishments for the year was the adoption of new rules of procedure for the local courts and the formation and adoption of a new constitution for the bar association.

THIRD DISTRICT.

The regular meeting of the Clark County Bar Association was held on Friday, December 19th, at Jeffersonville, Indiana. The following officers were elected for the coming year:

Jonas G. Howard, President.
James L. Bottorff, Vice-President.
James W. Sweeney, Treasurer.
Charles A. Hunt, Secretary.

A committee was appointed to secure pictures for the court room of all judges who had served on the local bench. The members of this committee are James L. Bottorff, Claud McBride, and Wilmer T. Fox. It was announced that the annual banquet of the Clark County Bar Association would be held in January.

FIFTH DISTRICT.

The estate of the late Mrs. Mary McKeen has presented a most interesting question in probate law. Under her will she provides that certain claimants against her late husband's estate should be paid out of her estate if they were living at the "time of her death." Several claimants for large sums were either dead at the time she made her will or died before her husband's estate was settled. It was construed that Mrs. McKeen knew of certain of these claims at the time she made her will. The question was whether these claims should be paid out of her estate or whether they should be barred under a literal reading of the provision since the claimants were not living at the time of her death. The construction of this provision involved some \$33,000.00, which will go to local charities if these claims are held invalid. Six of the leading law firms in Terre Haute are involved in this litigation.

SIXTH DISTRICT.

The Wayne County Bar Association held a meeting in honor of Frank T. Strayer on Tuesday, November 30. Mr. Strayer is a former prosecuting attorney of Wayne County, and has been an honored member of the bar for many years. Wilfred Jessup of Richmond was toastmaster at the banquet. The banquet was held at 6:30 at the Grey Gables Tavern in Richmond. Mr. Strayer has formed a partnership for the general practice of the law in Indianapolis and will now leave Richmond, where he has practiced for so many years.

The Henry County Bar Association held a dinner at the Y. M. C. A. in New Castle, Indiana, on Friday, December 10th. Each member of the association invited a guest. There were about fifty present at the dinner. Paul Brown, President of the Association, called on George Jeffrey to preside as toastmaster. The speaker of the evening was Judge Robert C. Baltzell of the Federal Court. He delivered an admirable address on the practice and procedure in the federal court.

SEVENTH DISTRICT.

On Saturday, December 18th, William A. Pickens, President of the Indiana State Bar Association, gave a summary to the newspapers of the state covering the proposals which the bar association would probably favor in the reform of the criminal law and procedure in Indiana. It will be recalled that President Pickens appointed a committee on Criminal Jurisprudence in keeping with the resolution adopted at the annual meeting of the bar association last July. This committee has been at work drafting proposals which should later be enacted into law by the legislature at its coming session. An article explaining and defending these proposals was written by James J. Robinson and published in the Indiana Law Journal for December. The proposals, as given to the newspapers by President Pickens, are in keeping with the exposition as given in the Journal. All of the Indianapolis papers and most of the other papers in the state printed very full considerations of these proposals and commented favorably upon the efforts of the Indiana State Bar Association to promote necessary reforms in criminal law through legislation in the coming session of the legislature.

George S. Henninger, Chairman of the State Board of Pardons, made a statement on Sunday, December 19th, that to make all sentences determinate by the court would deprive the governor of his pardoning power under the constitution. Mr. Henninger went on to say that it would be an error to abolish the board of pardons, since the board of pardons acted in an advisory capacity in securing information upon which the governor could act in his execution of the pardoning power.

Judge Marcus A. Cavanaugh of Chicago spoke at South Bend on Tuesday, December 21, on "Why the Law Fails." Judge Cavanaugh has dealt with criminal cases as a judge in Cook County for thirty-three years. He has traveled widely in Europe and other continents studying their different systems of criminal law and procedure. Judge Cavanaugh laid the blame for our present ineffectiveness of law enforcement to legal technicalities and sentimentality. He pointed out that a killer in England was sure to be caught and executed within eight weeks. In America the killer stands a hundred to one chance of not being executed at all and a twenty to one chance of not being caught.

The Indianapolis Times had an editorial on Wednesday, December 22nd, opposing the abolition of the Pardon Board on the ground that if these powers were given indirectly to the judges by the enforcement of a determinate sentences there would be greater bribery and corruption in the administration of justice. The editorial expressed the fear that if these powers were vested in the courts there would be an unfortunate introduction of political pressure in the administration of law.

The annual election of officers of the Indianapolis Bar Association was held on Wednesday evening, December 1st in the Indianapolis Athletic Club. The following officers were elected:

Samuel Ashby, President.
Michael E. Foley, Vice-President.
Emsley W. Johnson, Vice-President.
Don S. Morris, Treasurer.
John W. Kern, Secretary.

James M. Ogden is the retiring president. The newly elected judges in Marion County, together with Clarence R. Martin of the Supreme

Court, and W. O. Dunlavy, Byron K. Elliott, and Joseph Milner, of the Supreme Court, were guests of honor. The principal speakers were Judge Harry O. Chamberlin, Judge Lewis Ewbank, and George O. Dix, former president of the Indiana State Bar Association. Mr. Dix criticised especially the slowness and inefficiency of the administration of justice at present. He pointed out that the system of our courts was out of keeping with practices in other professions at the present time and that it was inadequate for the needs of the day.

EIGHTH DISTRICT.

An organization made up of the younger lawyers of Muncie was started at a meeting held in the Delaware Circuit Court room on Friday, November 19th. The purpose of the organization was to strengthen the social and professional ties of younger members of the profession in the city of Muncie. Paul S. Brady was elected Chancellor and Ernest Myers was elected Praetor. It was decided to hold meetings on alternate Wednesdays at 5:30 p. m.

On Saturday, November 27th, the Madison County Bar Association presented a schedule of fees to the Madison County Circuit Court and requested that such schedule be spread upon the record and be recognized by rule of court. The motion was sustained.

NINTH DISTRICT.

The Howard County Bar Association held its regular meeting in the court room at Kokomo on Tuesday, December 14. The following officers for the coming year were elected:

Fred H. Jessup, President.

Forest A. Harness, Vice-President.

George B. Shenk, Secretary-Treasurer.

The annual banquet of the Howard County Bar Association was held in the evening following the regular meeting in the court room. The banquet was held at the Cortland Hotel and was attended by the members and members of their families. The toastmaster was C. H. Wills, retiring president. There were no fixed speeches, but there were a number of most enjoyable numbers on the program which had been arranged for the banquet.

TENTH DISTRICT.

A meeting of the Lake County Bar Association was held in the office of Judge Virgil S. Reiter in the superior court at Hammond on Monday, November 22nd. The purpose of the meeting was to plan ways and means to install new spirit in the Lake County Bar Association and increase its effectiveness for the coming year. Judge Reiter, President of the Association, appointed Glenn Peters and Jesse E. Wilson, past president of the association, to work with the present officers in planning a program which will increase the effectiveness of bar association work this coming year. A special meeting of the association at which this program will be launched is planned for an early date in January.

The Tippecanoe County Bar Association held a luncheon and meeting on Saturday, December 4th, at the Hotel Lahr. William C. Mitchell, President of the Association, appointed a special program committee, of

which Mrs. W. P. Clark was made an honorary member. At this meeting President Mitchell announced the members of the standing committees of the association for the coming year. Brief addresses were made by William S. Potter, A. K. Sills, Charles A. Burnett, John B. Hudson and Francis J. Murphy. There was an extensive entertainment program arranged for the members.

W. W. Miller, President of the Gary Bar Association announces that the Honorable John Sargent, Attorney-General of the United States, will speak at a meeting of the association some time next spring.

The Lake County Bar Association held a regular meeting at East Chicago on Saturday, December 18th. Members had dinner in the Elks' Club and following the dinner there was a regular meeting at which Professor Bogert of the University of Chicago Law School was the principal speaker. Professor Bogert is an authority on trusts and is the draftsman of the Uniform Conditional Sales Act.

ELEVENTH DISTRICT.

The Eleventh District Bar Association held its annual meeting and banquet at Huntington, Indiana, on Tuesday, December 11th. Approximately two hundred attorneys and their wives were present. Guy R. York of Peru was elected President; William T. Cargell of Marion, Vice-President; Frank Crummer of Wabash, Secretary, and C. K. Luck of Huntington, Treasurer. The presidents of each of the county bar associations in the district were elected directors of the district bar association. The chief address was by J. Hamilton Lewis, Chicago attorney and former United States Senator from Illinois. Among the members present were attorneys from each county in the district. Most of the members were accompanied by their wives and other guests. Senator Lewis Spoke on "Foreign Relations."

The officers of the Steuben County Bar Association, all of whom are now serving their second term, are as follows:

D. R. Best, President.

A. C. Wood, Vice-President.

Berenice M. Harrison, Secretary.

Maurice McClew, Treasurer.

The Filipino Club of Tri-State College held a banquet in honor of their national hero and martyr, Louis Rizol. The attorneys of the Steuben County Bar Association were guests. The guests of honor and speakers were Judge William P. Endicott and Maurice McClew.

TWELFTH DISTRICT.

The Woman's Club of Fort Wayne, Indiana, has adopted the resolution favoring the establishment of a court of domestic relations in Allen County. It appears that the Allen County Bar Association had already gone on record in favor of such a court. It is expected that Judge Ben Lindsey of Denver will speak before the Fort Wayne Woman's Club this year in support of the establishment of such a court and in comment upon the problems of the law in dealing with modern youth.

James M. Barrett, President of the Allen County Bar Association, has announced the standing committees for the coming year. They are as follows:

Law and Procedure—John Morris, chairman; Albert E. Thomas, C. R. McNabb, Phil McNagny and James R. Newkirk.

Grievances—Howard L. Townsend, chairman; William P. Breen, Fred E. Zollars, S. C. Cleland, and Samuel D. Jackson.

Legal Education—Charles M. Niezer, chairman; William N. Ballou, Dan C. Flanagan, Willard Shambaugh and George H. Leonard.

Entertainment—R. Earl Peters, chairman; Harry W. Muller, Frank M. Hogan, Lloyd S. Hartzler, and Paul M. Fuller.

Memorial—John W. Eggeman, chairman, D. Burns Douglass, Judge Charles J. Ryan, Judge Sol A. Wood and C. W. Kuhne.

Nominating—Edwin M. Hulse, chairman; David E. Smith, C. L. Teeter, Louis F. Crosby and Frank R. Dulin.

THIRTEENTH DISTRICT.

A joint meeting of the Lion's Club, Rotary Club, Michigan Bar Association and American Legion was held at Michigan City on Wednesday, November 24th. The chief speaker was Paul V. McNutt, Dean of the Indiana University School of Law and Commander of the American Legion in Indiana. Dean McNutt made an eloquent plea in favor of increased appropriation for the Indiana universities and for higher education throughout Indiana.

A most successful meeting of the Michigan City Bar Association was held at the Hotel Spaulding on Thursday, December 2nd. The principal address was made by Judge H. B. Tuttle, who covered the history of legal affairs in Indiana and spoke particularly of the many wilful laws that had been passed from time to time and that later proved of no service.

It was announced that the LaPorte County Bar Association and the Michigan City Bar Association would hold a joint meeting on January 6th at the Hotel Spaulding in Michigan City. This occasion will be preceded by a banquet and will be known as "ladies' night." The principal address will be made by Herbert L. Mann, who is now a practicing lawyer in Chicago.

The officers of the Michigan City Bar Association were erroneously reported in the Journal for November as officers of the Elkhart County Bar Association. These officers of the Michigan City Bar Association are H. B. Tuttle, President; Lewis E. Kunkel, Vice-President, and Robert E. Glasscott, Secretary. The standing committees of the Michigan City Bar Association for the coming year are as follows:

Committee on Admissions—Louis E. Kunkel, chairman; Theron F. Miller, Louis Krueger.

Committee on Rules of Court and Public Service—Paul A. Krueger, chairman; W. W. Pepple, Robert H. Moore.

Committee on Entertainment—Louis J. Finske, chairman; Lorenzo A. Glasscott, Warren Rommes.

Committee on Grievances—T. C. Mullen, chairman; W. C. Williams, John Lass.