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News of Bench and Bar

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NEWS OF BENCH AND BAR

FIRST DISTRICT

The executive committee of the Vanderburg County Bar Association called a meeting to be held in the Coliseum on Sunday, January 30th, to discuss the bill that was then pending before the legislature which provided for a fourth court in Vanderburg County. It had been alleged that the criminal element were opposing the bill but a number of prominent lawyers denied this and were backers of the public meeting for the purpose of bringing out evidence against the bill. It was alleged that the fourth court would involve unnecessary expense. Among the speakers in opposition to the proposed court were Alfred F. Hughes, president of Evansville College, Reverend Frank Tenig, pastor of the Simpson Methodist Church, and Albert Funkhouser and John Spencer on behalf of the Vanderburg County Bar Association.

The Gibson County Bar Association held its regular meeting on Saturday, February 5th, in the Pullman Hotel in Princeton.

James H. Baker has lost his long fight to retain office as justice-of-the-peace, but he applied for admission to the bar on February 7th. A committee of the Bar Association was appointed to pass upon his qualifications. A week later he withdrew his application, asserting that he had decided not to practice law.

SECOND DISTRICT

The Daviess County Bar Association held a meeting on Wednesday, February 9th, at Washington, Indiana. Officers for the coming year were elected. In the case of President and Treasurer, the officers of last year were re-elected: Charles G. Gardiner, president; Thomas D. Slimp, treasurer; John Hastings, secretary.

On Wednesday, February 2nd, the Starke County Bar Association enjoyed an excellent dinner at the Fitz Hotel at Knox, Indiana. The occasion was the annual meeting of the association and the election of officers of the coming year was held. The officers of the past year were re-elected: James C. Fletcher, president; Orville W. Nichols, secretary; Oscar B. Smith, treasurer.

The Monroe County Bar Association adopted resolutions in favor of separation between Monroe and Owen counties for purposes of court organization so that Monroe County would have a separate court. A committee from the Monroe County Bar Association urged this separation upon the legislators in Indianapolis. Members of the delegation from the Monroe County Bar Association were R. G. Miller, Q. Austin East, J. E. Darby, John P. O'Donnell, J. F. Register, T. J. Loudon, H. Tilman Shields, Frank Dunn, and James Blair.

The court house of Knox County at Vincennes is now practically completed. In keeping with the resolution of the Knox County Bar Association the circuit and superior courts of Knox County have returned to the court house.

THIRD DISTRICT

The new circuit court room in the court house at Jeffersonville was used on Monday, February 21, for the opening ceremonies upon the installation of Judge George C. Copp. The court room has been redecorated at an expense of \$1,500. The installation of the new judge with floral tributes, together with the opening of the new court room was an impressive occasion. The Clark County Bar Association passed resolutions in commendation of Judge Copp's efforts in securing the redecoration of the court room.

FIFTH DISTRICT

Michael E. Foley of Indianapolis made the principal address at the Christian Church on Sunday, February 13th. The occasion was the commemoration of the birthday of Abraham Lincoln. Veterans of the Civil War and the residents of Parke County attended. Mr. Foley stated that there had been a great deal of study of the life of Lincoln and that it was the consensus of opinion today that Lincoln's ideals were the ideals of the republic.

SIXTH DISTRICT

The Rush County Bar Association held a meeting in the court house on Monday, February 7th, for the purpose of electing officers for the coming year. Officers elected were: Russell B. Titsworth, president; W. Lon Moore, secretary.

The Rush County Bar Association entertained members of the bar from the surrounding counties and five circuit court judges at a dinner at the Social Club in Greensburg, Indiana, on Thursday, February 24th. Robert C. Baltzell, judge of the Federal Court, and Harry O. Chamberlin, judge of the Marion County Circuit Court, were guests of honor and addressed the attorneys present. Judge Chamberlin spoke on "Some Pitfalls of Trial Practice," while Judge Baltzell spoke on "Federal Procedure." There were about fifty lawyers present representing Rush County and eight surrounding counties.

The Henry County Bar Association held its regular monthly meeting at Newcastle, Indiana, on Friday, February 25th. Mark Winnings was the guest at this meeting. The subject for discussion was "Rules and Procedure in Divorce Cases." George Jeffrey, county chairman, presided at the meeting. New officers elected at the meeting for the Henry County Bar Association were: George R. Jeffrey, president; Robert Hunter, vice president; Wesley Ratcliff, secretary, and Guy Jones, treasurer.

Frederick Van Nuys, former United States District Attorney, spoke before the meeting of the Indiana Bankers Association at Indianapolis Wednesday, January 19th. Mr. Van Nuys favored the proposals of the Indiana State Bar Association that were then pending before the legislature. He suggested the following methods for the reduction of crime in Indiana:

- Less maudlin sentimentality concerning criminals,
- More efficient police forces,
- Fewer comforts and luxuries in prisons,
- Higher salaries for county attorneys.

SEVENTH DISTRICT

Thirty-six lawyers who are members of the Indiana General Assembly were guests of the Indianapolis Bar Association at the meeting held Wednesday, March 2nd. A special entertainment committee was appointed by Samuel Ashby, president of the Indianapolis Bar Association.

By vote of the legislature, judges of the Supreme and Appellate courts of Indiana will receive an increase in salary from \$7,500 to \$10,000 a year.

Harry G. Leslie, speaker of the House of Representatives, and Earl R. Cox, Indianapolis attorney, were the principal speakers at the annual dinner of the Benjamin Harrison Law School in the Spink-Arms Hotel, Friday, February 25th. Mr. Leslie and Mr. Cox discussed the profession of the law as a career.

Judge W. C. McMahan of the Appellate Court was the principal speaker at a meeting of the Indiana Law School held on Wednesday evening, February 23rd, at the Claypool Hotel.

A bill providing for the separation between Laporte and Porter counties for purposes of superior court organization was passed by the legislature at the recent session.

Judge Robert C. Baltzell of the Federal Court dismissed a suit by Harrison White against the Indiana State Bar Association and the Indianapolis Bar Association in the sum of \$1,000,000 on the ground that they had prevented him from practicing law by requesting him to pass an examination and pay a fee. Judge Baltzell dismissed the suit on the ground that the Federal Court did not have jurisdiction since there was no diversity of citizenship.

A bill increasing the salary of the Marion County judges to \$10,000 a year was passed by the legislature.

Dr. William Lowe Bryan, president of the Indiana University, was the principal speaker at the February meeting of the Indianapolis Bar Association. Dr. Bryan spoke on Abraham Lincoln.

The proposed bill to establish a separate criminal court in Vanderburg County was defeated.

EIGHTH DISTRICT

The picture of the members of the Delaware County Bar Association has been hung in the circuit court room at Muncie, Indiana. The composite picture shows eighty members of the association.

A meeting of the Muncie Bar Association was held at the Elk's Club in Muncie, Indiana, Friday, February 4th. The subject for discussion was "Canons of Professional Ethics Adopted by the American Bar Association."

NINTH DISTRICT

The Fountain County Bar Association held its annual meeting and banquet on Tuesday, February 15th. Officers elected for the coming year were: President, J. Wesley Whicker; Vice President, Robert H. McKinney; Secretary, Claud B. Philpott; Treasurer, Forrest E. Livengood.

A special meeting of the Howard County Bar Association was held at the Elk's Club at Kokomo, Indiana, on Wednesday, February 9th. The subject for discussion was "Lawyers and Morals." Attorney Joyce announced that the question was to be considered in the light of the article

dealing with the same subject which appeared in the February issue of Harper's Magazine.

A public meeting was called by the Howard County Bar Association in support of the proposal for a new superior court house at Kokomo, Indiana. President Fred H. Jessup, presided. Practically all of the speakers at this meeting were favorable to the proposed new court house.

Harry N. Fine was elected president of the Montgomery County Bar Association. He succeeds Chase Harding, former president.

TENTH DISTRICT

Professor Clarence Manion of Notre Dame College of Law spoke before the Lake County Bar Association at Gary, Indiana, on Thursday, February 10th. A dinner preceded the meeting and a very large number of members attended both the dinner and the meeting. Professor Manion spoke on "The Shrinking Bill of Rights."

ELEVENTH DISTRICT

The Huntington County Bar Association held a banquet at the Elk's Club on Monday, January 26th. Members of the association and their wives were entertained. No speeches were made but an entertainment program was given after the dinner.

The Grant County Bar Association held a meeting on Wednesday, January 19th, for the purpose of voting on the proposed changes to the criminal code and to the constitution of Indiana.

THIRTEENTH DISTRICT

The Gary Bar Association held a meeting on Wednesday, January 19th, in the Miller Beach Auditorium. A banquet held by the members and their guests preceded it. About two hundred lawyers attended. There were representatives from all of Northern Indiana and from most cities elsewhere in the state. A large number of judges of the State and Federal courts were honor guests. The speaker was Dean John W. Wigmore of Northwestern University Law School, who addressed the members on "Early Jurisprudence of the Egyptians, Hindoos, Romans and Greeks."

OBITUARIES

James L. Caldwell, age 77, a former judge of the Tippecanoe circuit court, died at Lafayette, Indiana, Friday, February 25th. He had also served as postmaster and mayor of Lafayette, Indiana. He had been in the active practice of the law since 1873. Mr. Caldwell was a great-grandson of Alexander Caldwell, who served under George Washington during the Revolutionary War. The Tippecanoe County Bar Association passed resolutions in honor of his memory. He is survived by a widow and one daughter.

James R. Cole, a lawyer of Vevay, Indiana, died at his home on Thursday, February 10th. Mr. Cole was a veteran of the Civil War and had practiced at Vevay for nearly fifty years. Mr. Cole is survived by a widow and five children.

Everett L. Deupree, 46 years old, died following an operation at the Mayo Brothers hospital, Rochester, Minnesota. He had suffered from tumor of the brain. Mr. Deupree had been in active practice and in business in Indianapolis for many years.

John I. Dielle, former attorney of Huntington County, died at Minneapolis, Minnesota, on February 15th. Mr. Dielle was seventy years old at the time of his death. He is survived by three daughters and a son.

Francis Marion Griffith died at his home on Tuesday, February 2. Judge Griffith was born in Switzerland County in 1849 and had followed the profession of the law for forty years. He had served in the legislature, as acting lieutenant-governor of Indiana and in the United States congress. He was judge of the fifth judicial circuit for six years. Judge Griffith is survived by a widow, three sons and one daughter. The Jefferson County Bar Association passed resolutions in honor of his memory.

Alfred Henry, a former member of the Marion bar, died at Richmond, Indiana, on Wednesday, January 19th. Mr. Henry had been in ill health for some time. He is survived by one son and two daughters.

J. W. Johnson of Kokomo, Indiana, died on Sunday, January 30th. The Howard County Bar Association met on the following Wednesday to adopt resolutions in honor of his memory. A large number of Mr. Johnson's fellow members of the bar gave individual tributes to his high character and his lovable personality. The Kokomo Tribune printed an editorial in tribute to his life and work.

The Miami County Bar Association passed resolutions in honor of the memory of John F. Lawrence. The Cass and Fulton County Bar Associations also passed resolutions in honor of his memory. Mr. Lawrence had been the dean of the Miami County bar for many years. He was held in great honor and affection by all of his associates.

Alfred E. Plummer, former judge of the Wabash County Circuit Court, died on Saturday, February 19th. Judge Plummer had been judge of the Wabash Circuit Court for twelve years and had practiced in Miami and Huntington counties for many years. Judge Plummer was stricken with paralysis two or three years ago. The circuit court of Huntington County adjourned until the following Wednesday in respect to his memory and the Miami County Bar Association held a special meeting on Monday, February 21st, when resolutions in honor of his memory were adopted.

William A. Reiland, first city judge of East Chicago, died at the Mercy Hospital, Chicago, on Sunday, February 20. Mr. Reiland was 57 years old at the time of his death and had spent the last forty years in the Calumet district.

Douglas Dobbins, age 66, an attorney of Greenwood, Indiana, died on Friday, February 18. Mr. Dobbins was widely known as an author.

William H. Shambaugh, a prominent Fort Wayne attorney, died at Mount Clemens, Michigan, on Monday, February 21. He was 71 years of age at the time of his death. Mr. Shambaugh is survived by three sons: Willard, who is in the practice of law with his father at Fort Wayne; Robert, a student at the University of Michigan; and Howard, a student at the Law School of Harvard University. Mr. Shambaugh had practiced law in Fort Wayne for thirty-four years. He had been a member of the state legislature and was the author of the present municipal charter of Fort Wayne which was adopted and became effective in 1894.

At the time of his death Mr. Shambaugh was president of the Allen County Bar Association. A special meeting of the Allen County Bar Association was held at Fort Wayne in the circuit court room on Monday, February 22nd, when resolutions in honor of his memory were adopted. The funeral services were held at the Scottish Rite cathedral. The funeral services were attended by members of the bar association and by Mr. Shambaugh's other friends who were not members of the bar but who also held him in high honor.

William J. Throop, oldest member of the Orange County bar, died on Tuesday, February 8. Mr. Throop was 85 years old at the time of his death and had practiced his profession for nearly fifty years. He was recognized as one of the best probate lawyers in Southern Indiana. He was a graduate of Indiana University.

ERRATA

(Unfortunately some errors in spelling names occurred in the February issue.)

Frank N. Gavit is president of the Lake County Bar Association.

John A. Gavit was a member of the committee of the association to look into any action which the state legislature might take on legislation affecting the criminal law in Indiana.

Albert J. Veneman was consulted by the *Evansville Press* in regard to the proposals for changes in the criminal law submitted by the Indiana State Bar Association.

John Rabb Emison has retired as judge of the superior court of Knox County to enter the general practice of the law in Indianapolis.