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*Indiana State Bar Association*

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## GUNNING FOR NEW MEMBERS

By ROSCOE C. O'BYRNE \*

With the officially recognized membership of The Indiana State Bar Association on August 26th, 1939 at the close of the last Annual Meeting standing at fourteen hundred and fifty three, and with this membership representing slightly less than forty per cent of the members of the profession as accredited to the State of Indiana by the American Bar Association, no further evidence was demanded by the present Committee on Membership of the Association to establish the existence of a membership crisis sufficient to require heroic measures and sustained and deliberately planned procedure.

No particularly superior intellect was required of the State Chairman to reach the conclusion that the most promising program for increasing membership would be the invitation of each and all of the bench and bar not at present members of the Association. But the method of procuring this invitation under the most favorable circumstances and with the least personal and individual hardship upon the personnel of the Membership Committee was not so promptly and so easily defined. The State Chairman determined that as an initial step in the solution, he should formulate and then present to the personnel of the Committee a proposed uniform plan of campaign applicable to the State as a whole, with such modifications as local conditions appeared to dictate, and always at the option of the local personnel in each Congressional District.

Preparatory to such formulation, the State Chairman consulted in informal personal interviews, a number of representative members of the Association with prior service and experience in the membership field, and as a result of the information thus obtained, supplemented by the State Chairman's prior personal experience in the same field, the State Chairman has constructed a proposed State-wide uniform plan.

As the very foundation of this—or, for that matter, of any other—membership program, extreme care has been exercised in the selection of District Chairmen for each of the twelve Congressional Districts of Indiana, and at the time of tendering the appointment, notice has been served on each District Chairman that this year there is work to be done, and there is nothing whatsoever of the merely nominal in importance, and acceptance has been had with this frank advance understanding. This has resulted in an extremely loyal, willing and competent District personnel as follows: First District, Charles M. Levin, of Hammond; Second District, Roger D. Branigin, of Lafayette;

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\* Vice President The Indiana State Bar Association and Ex officio State Chairman of its Committee on Membership.

Third District, Robert L. Oare, of South Bend; Fourth District, William G. Keane, of Fort Wayne; Fifth District, Lee M. Bowers, of Huntington; Sixth District, Leon H. Wallace, of Terre Haute; Seventh District, Vern W. Ruble, of Bloomington; Eighth District, Carl M. Gray, of Petersburg; Ninth District, William T. Fitzgerald, of North Vernon; Tenth District, Hubert E. Wickens, of Greensburg; Eleventh District, Harry G. Neff, of Anderson; and Twelfth District, Elbert R. Gilliom, of Indianapolis.

As a further foundation for this year's membership campaign, the State Chairman has instructed each of the District Chairmen, in the designation of local chairmen for each of the counties in the District and for each of the cities in the District with a population in excess of twenty thousand, and not a county seat, to impress upon each appointee that this Committee this year must be a Committee of sustained service to the Association, and this has likewise resulted in a high quality of local chairmen, with devotion to the Association and its interests, and a willingness to put the shoulder to the wheel which is an additional proof of the inherent merit of the Association.

In the interests of injecting into the program to as great a degree as practicable the unity of interest and the comradeship of endeavor which is proposed for the membership work this year, each District Chairman has been requested to arrange for an evening dinner meeting at the most logical central point in his District, at which meeting the State Chairman might meet with the District Chairman (the presiding officer of the meeting), the Member of the Board of Managers for that particular District, and all of the local County or City Chairmen whose attendance could be secured. At each District meeting of this character the State Chairman has endeavored to explain the serious membership situation of the Association, and the necessity of some organized program for pursuit in that District. He has then distributed material to each member of the personnel present at the meeting, embraced within a simple filing folder of the type and size available for dropping into the filing cabinet of any lawyer's office, and has deposited with the District Chairmen similar folders for transmission to absent local chairmen.

He has thereupon outlined the uniform plan of campaign for State wide pursuit, subject always to the adoption or rejection of the particular District personnel, and subject further and always to such adjustment to local conditions as wisdom may dictate.

Under this plan each Chairman is provided with a list of the bench and bar in his particular unit, which list has been prepared by the use of one of the standard law lists of the country, and which list has been annotated through information received from the office of Thomas C. Batchelor, Secretary of the Association, so as to designate with a single star all existing Junior members of the Association, and with

a double star all existing Senior or Standard members of the Association. Obviously, this list possesses inaccuracies, both by including some names not eligible members of the profession suitable for membership in the Association, and by excluding some names of persons becoming eligible since the publication of the list, but for all practical purposes it does provide a fairly satisfactory basic list. The local chairman under this plan is then directed to prepare a list of non-members of the Association considered eligible for membership, and on a pink report blank provided for that purpose this list is mailed to the District Chairman, with an exactly similar list on a green blank being mailed to the State Chairman.

The State Chairman, upon receipt of each local Chairman's list, mails to each designated member of the profession a special invitation in the name of the Association, and includes with this letter of invitation a letter-sized insert sheet edited by the State Chairman and bearing the heading "I Should Join The Indiana State Bar Association Because," and listing seven substantial reasons for membership, not merely as a matter of social advantage and acquaintanceship, but as a matter of good business as well. The fact of the prompt mailing of these letters of invitation is communicated to the local chairman by the State Chairman's letter, with a carbon copy thereof forwarded to the District Chairman for his information. The District Chairman in turn on behalf of the District personnel of the Membership Committee, and on special membership stationery, sends similar letters of invitation, and so advises the local chairmen. With the knowledge of this previously extended hospitality on the part of both State and District, the local chairman arms himself with a membership application card and makes the personal contact, which is, of course, the cornerstone upon which this plan or any other plan of membership campaign must ultimately rest.

Inspiring District meetings of the type indicated have been held as follows: October 14th, Fifth District, Hotel Spencer, Marion; October 21st, Tenth District, Simmons Cafe, Newcastle; October 28th, Ninth District, Hardesty Hotel, Seymour; November 3rd, Twelfth District, Columbia Club, Indianapolis; November 4th, Eighth District, Country Club, Jasper; November 13th, Second District, Sportsmen Club, Monticello; November 14th, Third District, Oliver Hotel, South Bend; November 15th, Seventh District, Hotel Graham, Bloomington; November 17th, Fourth District, Berghoff Gardens, Fort Wayne.

The situation in the three remaining Districts may be briefly summarized. The Eleventh District meeting is scheduled for November 24th at the Anderson Hotel, Anderson. The Sixth District meeting awaits the recovery on the part of the District Chairman from a recent hospital experience. The First District meeting awaits the pleasure of the District Chairman of that District who, at the time

of the State Chairman's personal interview, was confined to his home by a very brief illness.

At each of the nine District meetings held prior to the preparation of this article, the proposed uniform plan presented by the State Chairman for consideration was enthusiastically adopted, and many local chairmen have sent their reports to the State and District Chairmen. Many invitations have been dispatched to representative members of the profession, and a very flattering number of new memberships have begun to trickle into the office of the Secretary-Treasurer of the Association. It is the hope of the Membership Committee that as the year proceeds this collection of new memberships will grow in volume and permit a very creditable report to be presented to the Association at both its Mid-Winter and its Annual Summer meetings.

No presentation of the program would be complete and none would be fair which failed to record the inspirational support of the Committee received from the President and Board of Managers of the Association. With the single exception of two cases of temporary illness, every member of the Board of Managers included within the territory involved has attended the nine District meetings already held, and while the Committee has refrained so far as possible from demands upon the Board of Managers, all demands and requests thus far made have been most generously received.

The District meetings have been featured by sincere, frank, intelligent discussions of membership problems, ways of meeting particular local requirements, and possible improvements of Association services so as to make membership still more attractive to the members and to the non-members. The State Chairman has gained definite advantages from these personal contacts, and those present at the meetings have been uniformly courteous in expressing satisfaction with the plans and the method of approach. These meetings have demonstrated to the complete satisfaction of the State Chairman that there are basic values of Association membership which are difficult of expression but which draw upon the volunteer support of the membership when danger threatens.

It is the conception of the State Chairman and of the Membership Committee that there is no more important Committee at present than the one which seeks the perpetuation of the Association and the broadening of its field of representation and service. It is the thought that the present activities of the Committee will serve to increase Association membership to a pronounced degree, and will further serve to create a feeling of good-will within the profession which will result in friendliness toward the Association upon the part of those unwilling to join for the time being, and by virtue thereof will finally serve to create greener pastures for the Membership Committee for the Association year of 1940-1941 and succeeding years.

The State Chairman and his Committee is appreciative of the cooperation extended by the Indiana Law Journal through the publication of this narrative outline and report. It is the intention of the Committee to present further narrative reports to the membership of the Association through succeeding issues of the Journal, provided the same can be done consistently with the other demands which may be made for space within the publication.

But since this may possibly prove to be the only space available to the Committee this year, it is appropriate to close with the invitation to all members of the Association, in their respective localities, to "give a boost" to the Membership Committee, wherever opportunity offers. It is the Association of the members, and not merely the Association of the Membership Committee. It deserves to be the responsible and responsive representative of the profession in Indiana, and to that end it must represent as substantial a majority of that profession as may be attainable. It is big enough for all. Let us make it the home of all.

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#### MID-WINTER MEETING OF INDIANA STATE BAR ASSOCIATION

The mid-winter meeting of the Association will be held on January 13th, at Indianapolis, and will be preceded January 12th by an all-day legal institute on the subject of Drafting of Wills and Trusts. Professor Walter Barton Leach of Harvard University Law School will conduct the institute, and will also speak at the mid-winter banquet, on Saturday evening.

Plans for the institute are in charge of Clarence F. Merrell, President of the Indianapolis Bar Association, and tickets may be obtained in advance in all Indiana cities, or direct from Mr. Merrell.

All sessions of the institute and the mid-winter meeting will be held at the Claypool Hotel, Indianapolis. The complete program for the meeting will be announced within a short time.

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#### LAW LISTS APPROVED BY THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON LAW LISTS OF THE AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION

Herewith are the names and addresses, in alphabetical order, of the lists whose 1940 editions have, thus far, been approved. Action was deferred with respect to certain other lists at the meeting of the Committee held in Chicago on September 29th and 30th and October 1st, and should occasion require, a supplemented roster will be published later.

AMERICAN BANK ATTORNEYS, 18 Brattle Street, Cambridge, Mass.  
THE AMERICAN BAR, Fawkes Building, Minneapolis, Minn.

AMERICAN INSURANCE LAWYERS ASSOCIATION, 2910 A. I. U. Citadel,  
Columbus, Ohio.

AMERICAN LAWYERS ANNUAL, N. B. C. Building, Cleveland, Ohio.

AMERICAN LAWYERS QUARTERLY, N. B. C. Building, Cleveland, Ohio.

A. C. A. LIST, 92 Liberty Street, New York City.

ATTORNEYS LIST (U. S. F. & G.), Redwood and Calvert Streets,  
Baltimore, Md.

THE B. A. LAW LIST, Plankinton Building, Milwaukee, Wis.

BANKERS LAW REGISTER, 20 Vesey Street, New York City.

THE BAR REGISTER, 21 West Street, New York City.

BEST'S RECOMMENDED INSURANCE ATTORNEYS, 75 Fulton Street,  
New York City.

CAMPBELL'S LIST, 140 Nassau Street, New York City.

CLEARING HOUSE QUARTERLY, Fawkes Building, Minneapolis, Minn.

THE COLUMBIA LIST, 320 Broadway, New York City.

THE COMMERCIAL BAR, 521 Fifth Avenue, New York City.

CORPORATION LAWYERS DIRECTORY, 141 W. Jackson Blvd., Chicago,  
Illinois.

THE C-R-C ATTORNEY DIRECTORY, 50 Church Street, New York City.

FORWARDERS LIST OF ATTORNEYS, 38 S. Dearborn Street, Chicago,  
Illinois.

THE HAYTHE GUIDE, 261 Broadway, New York City.

HINE'S INSURANCE COUNSEL, 38 S. Dearborn Street, Chicago, Illinois.

THE INSURANCE BAR, 343 S. Dearborn Street, Chicago, Illinois.

INTERNATIONAL LAWYERS LAW LIST, R. K. O. Building, New York  
City.

THE LAWYERS DIRECTORY, 18 E. 4th Street, Cincinnati, Ohio.

THE LAWYERS' LIST, 70 Fifth Avenue, New York City.

MARTINDALE-HUBBELL LAW DIRECTORY, 21 West Street, New York  
City.

THE MERCANTILE ADJUSTER, 10 S. LaSalle Street, Chicago, Illinois.

THE NATIONAL LIST, Empire State Building, New York City.

RAND McNALLY LIST OF BANK RECOMMENDED ATTORNEYS, 538 S.  
Clark Street, Chicago, Illinois.

RUSSELL LAW LIST, 527 Fifth Avenue, New York City.

SULLIVAN'S LAW DIRECTORY, 33 S. Market Street, Chicago, Illinois.

THE UNITED LAW LIST, 280 Broadway, New York City.

WILBER DIRECTORY OF ATTORNEYS AND BANKS, 299 Broadway, New  
York City.

WRIGHT-HOLMES LAW LIST, 225 West 34th St., New York City.

ZONE LAW LIST, Louderman Building, St. Louis, Mo.

#### FOREIGN LISTS

(U. S. A. SECTIONS)

CANADA BONDED ATTORNEY, 57 Bloor Street, Toronto, Canada.

CANADA LEGAL DIRECTORY, 57 Bloor Street, Toronto, Canada.

CANADIAN LAW LIST, 24 Adelaide Street E., Toronto, Canada.

EMPIRE LAW LIST, 4 Bell Yard, Temple Bar, London, W. C. 2, England.

INTERNATIONAL LAW LIST, 104 High Holborn, London, W. C. 1, England.

KIME'S INTERNATIONAL LAW DIRECTORY, 75 Fairfax Road, N. W. 6; London, England.

THE LAW LIST, 119 Chancery Lane, London, England.

THE SCOTTISH LAW DIRECTORY, 12 Bank Street, Edinburgh, Scotland.

THE SCOTTISH LAW LIST, 27 Thistle St., Edinburgh, Scotland.

The members of the Committee are Stanley B. Houck, Chairman, Henry S. Ballard, George E. Brand, Earle W. Evans and Cassius E. Gates. Anyone desiring to communicate with the Committee with regard to matters affecting law lists, will kindly address the Secretary, Mr. Martin J. Teigan, 209 South LaSalle Street, Chicago, Illinois.

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#### HAMMOND BAR ASSOCIATION CONDUCTS MONTHLY LAW INSTITUTE

The Hammond Bar conducted a very successful Law Institute on the subject of Abstracts of Title on Saturday, November 4th. The discussion was led by Patrick Maloney of the Lake County Title Company, Maurice E. Crites of Hammond, and Walter Smith of Whiting. A spirited discussion from the floor followed and the session went on with unabated interest during the whole day. More than sixty members of the Bar from various parts of Lake County were in attendance.

The Hammond Bar plans to conduct a Law Institute once a month during the court year, and will endeavor to have subjects of general interest discussed by competent speakers.

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#### DEATHS

John Chowning, age 86 years, Evansville, died October 25, 1939.

Arthur C. Lindemuth, age 85 years, Richmond, former Judge of the Wayne Circuit Court, died November 18, 1939.

Samuel Alschuler, age 79 years, Chicago, former Judge of the United States Circuit Court of Appeals, died November 9, 1939.

Frederick Caldwell, age 77 years, Winchester, former Judge of the Indiana Appellate Court, died October 13, 1939.

C. L. Walters, age 70 years, Decatur, former Judge of the Adams Circuit Court, died October 25, 1939.

Fred S. Purnell, age 57 years, Attica, former representative of the old Ninth district in Congress of the United States, died October 21, 1939.