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Consolidated Bar News

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CONSOLIDATED BAR NEWS

Tenth District Bar Meeting

An enthusiastic reception was given the Consolidated Bar idea, when presented in an address delivered at a large and representative gathering of the bench and bar of the Tenth District on the evening of June 22, 1938, at Greensburg, Indiana. From the remarks made after the meeting, by both judges and lawyers, the feeling seemed to be that the Integrated Bar is coming in Indiana, and it is merely a question how soon it will be here. A gratifying feature of the Greensburg occasion was, that both older and younger members of the profession were equally outspoken in favor of consolidation. Many of the state-wide "Committee of Thirty," having charge of the educational campaign upon the subject, were present and gave their hearty support to the project.

Valuable Note On Integrated Bar

The Integrated Bar is the subject of an exhaustive note in volume 114, American Law Reports Annotated, page 161, just issued. This note is appended to a recent decision of the Nebraska Supreme Court which organized the bar of that state by court rules, without the aid of the legislature. The rules are set forth in full, and show how the Integrated Bar can be effectually created by court action. The numerous cases cited and quoted from in the annotation constitute a clear and forceful brief in favor of bar consolidation, viewed from the legal standpoint. The Nebraska decision, also reported, contains an analytic examination of the unification plan, and should be read in connection with the note. It is the case of *Re Nebraska State Bar Association*, 275 N. W. 265, 114 A. L. R. 151.

A Splendid Article by Herbert Harley

Mr. Herbert Harley, Secretary of the American Judicature Society, has recently republished an article on "Bar Integration is a National Movement," which is illuminating in its description of the Integrated Bar promotion, and its rapid progress. Mr. Harley discusses the trend toward integration, with twenty states now adopting it; the history and development of the movement; methods of integration; the effect of integration upon the individual lawyer, and its relationship to the bench and the public. The article not only abounds in interesting facts, but is written in a most engaging style. A limited number of copies are available for free distribution. Requests sent to Henry M. Dowling, 1110 Fletcher Trust Building, Indianapolis, Indiana, will be complied with so long as the supply of the pamphlet lasts.

An Anti-Integrated Bar Misrepresentation Exploded

Much publicity has been given in the past two years to a story relayed concerning a lawyer in an integrated bar state, who was reported to have lost a \$4,500.00 fee because he failed to pay his annual \$2.00 consolidated bar assessment. The facts seem to be that the fee was charged for collecting on insurance policies in an uncontested matter; one policy being paid within 17 days and the other within thirty days from proof of claim. A jury had found there was no express contract for the lawyer's compensation. The judgment was affirmed on appeal. The lawyer then sued on a *quantum meruit* and the court, without a jury, awarded him a judgment for \$4,500.00. The beneficiary appealed, and the lawyer was not allowed to recover, because of failure to pay his \$2.00 annual registration fee; imposed by an Act passed in 1921. The humor of the argument against bar integration, based on this incident, is that the services for which this large judgment was rendered, were performed, and the \$2.00 fee was assessed, *two years before there was any Integrated Bar in that state.* The story is valuable, as showing to what lengths the adversaries of integration will go, in their efforts to bring the program into disrepute. (On this case see *Journal of American Judicature Society*, Vol. 22, No. 1, p. 21: issue of June, 1938; and Vol. 19, p. 185, issue of April, 1936.)
