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President's Page

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West Virginia Bar Association

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THE WEST VIRGINIA BAR ASSOCIATION

The President's Page

The Eightieth Annual Meeting of the West Virginia Bar Association was held at The Greenbrier, White Sulphur Springs, on September 1, 2 and 3, 1966. The many members attending were well rewarded by a number of excellent addresses. Our Administrative Law Section, under the chairmanship of T. D. Kauffelt, presented J. Forrester Davison, attorney of Washington, D. C., whose topic was, "Present Critical Condition of The Administrative Process". At a joint meeting with the West Virginia Chamber of Commerce, addresses were heard by Charles A. Kothe, of Tulsa, Oklahoma, "Labor Law and Management—Looking Ahead", and by John P. Fishwick, of Roanoke, Virginia, "The Law, The Corporation and Social Change". President Amos Bolen presented a provocative address, "The Bifurcated Trial". Fred M. Vinson, Jr., of the Department of Justice, Washington, D. C., reviewed recent decisions of the United States Supreme Court in an address, "Criminal Justice". Edward K. Pritchard, attorney of Charleston, South Carolina, climaxed the meeting with a humorous philosophical address, "Right To Be Civil".

The Association adopted a resolution urging the voters of West Virginia to support "Amendment No. 3—Judicial Circuit Amendment" at the election on November 8, 1966.

The Executive Committee discussed at length the Federal Government program of legal services for the poor. Such a program is now in operation in Kanawha County, with a first year budget in excess of \$100,000. Through the efforts of the Kanawha County Bar Association, this project is under the direction of the Charleston Legal Aid Society, which has a majority of lawyers on its Board of Directors. The Charleston project is only the first contemplated in West Virginia. All county bar associations should alert themselves to the future expansion of the Federal project, which proposes to bring legal services for the poor to every county in the State, and be prepared to provide adequate local supervision of these projects by members of the legal profession.

1966]

THE PRESIDENT'S PAGE

52

This program will have a decided impact upon the practice of law since it will provide "public defender" representation for anyone accused of a crime, and complete legal representation in all fields of civil law, including divorce suits. It is mandatory that the bar and individual lawyers concern themselves with this program to see that its operation be kept within our Code of Ethics and that any legal services rendered be performed by a duly qualified and practicing attorney.

WILSON ANDERSON