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West Virginia Bar Association

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THE WEST VIRGINIA BAR ASSOCIATION
ANNOUNCEMENTS OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

FIRST MEETING OF LEGAL INSTITUTE

A Special Committee on Legal Institutes was appointed on February 14, 1939, by Hon. William G. Stathers, President of the West Virginia Bar Association, consisting of the following members: Joseph R. Curl, J. O. Henson, Leo Carlin, H. H. Rose, K. Douglas Bowers, Rupert A. Sinsel, E. Bailey Wyckoff, Melvin C. Snyder, Fred L. Davis and Robert T. Donley, Chairman.

The purpose of the Legal Institutes is to provide a program of adult education available to all members of the legal profession in the state, without reference to membership in the Association. The general plan to be followed is that speakers will be secured to discuss legal topics of timely interest and intrinsic value. The meetings will be held at various places throughout the state.

The first institute was held at Clarksburg on May 5th, at the Waldo Hotel. Hon. Harold A. Ritz, of Charleston, and Hon. Chas. J. Schuck, of Wheeling, discussed the subject: "The Trial of Negligence Cases". This was followed by an open forum, after which the meeting was adjourned until 6:30 P. M., at which time a dinner was held under the auspices of the Harrison County Bar Association. Mr. J. C. McManaway, President of the Harrison County Bar Association, acted as toastmaster, and the principal address was delivered by Hon. Harry E. Watkins, United States District Judge for the Northern and Southern Districts of West Virginia, upon the subject: "The New Federal Rules of Practice and Procedure."

The Committee on Legal Institutes would appreciate suggestions from members of the bar, looking to improvement of the proposed plan of procedure and increase in the usefulness of the Institutes.

1939 ANNUAL MEETING

Plans are being made to assure the largest attendance of members in recent years at the next annual meeting of the Association to be held at Clarksburg, on Friday and Saturday, September 29 and 30, 1939. The program has not yet been announced but it will be one of real interest to the profession. Besides the serious program, there will be the traditional annual dinner of the Association and other social diversions. There will also be golf, tennis,
and skeet tournaments open to members and their ladies for which trophies and prizes will be awarded to the winners. The recently issued 1938 Yearbook contains a photograph of the trophies presented at the 1938 meeting and also lists the names of winners. The Tournaments Committee for the 1939 meeting consists of Wallace B. Gribble, Chairman, Clarksburg; Thomas B. Jackson, Charleston; Rolla D. Campbell, Huntington; Kent B. Hall, Wheeling; and James A. Meredith, Fairmont. Robert B. Stotler, of Clarksburg, has been named Chairman of the Banquet Committee.

**Membership Drive**

A drive to increase the active membership of the Association to 1000 by the time of the next annual meeting is now in progress. The twenty-four members of the Committee on Admissions, representing the various judicial circuits, together with their respective district aides, are making a personal solicitation of all eligible attorneys for new members and reinstatement applications. This campaign is being conducted under the able direction of the Vice-Chairman of the committee, Charles C. Wise, Jr., of Charleston. Plans for the drive were formulated over a period of months and it is believed will show gratifying results this year. Members are urged to cooperate with the Committee on Admissions and to interest nonmembers in their respective communities in affiliating with the Association. Application blanks may be obtained from Vice-Chairman Wise or from Bernard Selove, Executive Secretary, P. O. Box 1386, Charleston.

**Annual Membership Dues**

Dues reminders have been mailed recently to all members who have not yet paid 1939 dues, and it is hoped that the entire membership of the Association will send in remittances promptly. One of the primary aims of the Council this year is to place the Association on a sound fiscal basis, and there is reason to believe that this aim may be realized. The dues for the current year which were payable on January 1, 1939, are $5.00, except in the case of young attorneys who are assessed $3.00 per year during the first five fiscal years after admission to practice. Dues include subscription to the Yearbook of the Association and to the West Virginia Law Quarterly and the Bar. Remittances should be made payable to the Association, and sent to P. O. Box 1386, Charleston.
The recently issued 1938 Yearbook of the Association has been sent to all members who were in good standing for the year 1938. Distribution was delayed this year due to extensive revisions in form, arrangement, and material in an attempt to make the book more useful to the membership without increasing publication cost. Each book contains a receipt card insert which the members are requested to mail to the Association at once. The Association has a limited supply of the 1938 Yearbooks on hand for distribution, so long as the same are available, to delinquent members who desire to reinstate their membership, paying dues for 1938 and all prior years. Under the applicable rule, a reinstatement fee of $15.00 is received by the Association in full payment of dues for the current year 1939 and all prior years, except in the case of young attorneys who are entitled to the $3.00 annual rate.

It has been brought to the attention of the Council that often where several members of the Association are associates of the same law firm, each member receiving an individual copy of the Yearbook, the firm retains only one or two copies and the remainder is discarded. The Association can use all such copies which are not desired to be kept, and the same should be returned to the Association rather than discarded. In fact, the Association would like to receive all extra copies of the Yearbook, whether of current issue or of prior years, which members no longer wish to retain.

ADMISSIONS TO THE BAR.—The following four applicants successfully passed the State Bar Examination, held in Charleston, March 8-9, 1939:

William Miller Drennen
John H. Goad
Donald Griffin
Frank R. Lyon, Jr.

Charleston
Clendenin
Parkersburg
Charleston