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President's Page

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West Virginia Bar Association

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THE WEST VIRGINIA BAR ASSOCIATION
PRESIDENT'S PAGE

This, the first of such communications since the last Annual Meeting of The West Virginia Bar Association, affords the opportunity of outlining the proposed and revitalized program of Association activities for the ensuing year, as promulgated at a recent meeting of the Executive Council.

As in late years, substantial contributions will be made to the publication expense of the West Virginia Law Review, and frequent contacts will be resumed between the Chairman of the Executive Council, who again heads the Law Review Committee, and the editors of the Law Review, all pointing to a continuation of the high standards of this important publication. In the light of recent experience, there is good cause to believe that printing and mailing delays, often encountered in recent years, will be held to an absolute minimum, or entirely removed.

The Executive Council recently authorized the issuance of at least five bulletins to members during the ensuing year. The first of these, designated "Bulletin No. 1", in a large measure was devoted to a summary of proceedings and happenings at the last Annual Meeting held at The Greenbrier. By and large, the Council does not propose to utilize these pamphlets as news letters; the majority of future issues will be devoted to subjects of special interest to members of the bar and local bar associations, to the end that the same may be of informative and beneficial interest to the profession. The proceedings and discussions had at the last meeting of The West Virginia State Bar, held in Parkersburg on October 12 and 13, emphasized the necessity for more constructive contributions by the state bar organizations to the field of local bar activities, with attending disclosure that present revenues of The State Bar are insufficient to meet all such requirements. The West Virginia Bar Association, therefore, should assume a proper share of these important functions, and its future bulletins will be applied in large part to such purposes. In the application of this policy every possible effort will be made to avoid conflict of endeavor between the Association and the Integrated Bar. As to the cost of preparing and issuing these pamphlets, the Executive Council will keep the expense of such service within budgetary limits, and the number of issues will be so limited. It is the present thought that all required research and drafting of articles will be obtained through voluntary work.
As now intended, the second bulletin, to be issued prior to January 1, 1957, will brief and digest the subject of Social Security in its application to the legal profession, and particularly in answer to the situation of the average practitioner. Subjects under consideration for future issues include the installation and maintenance of county law libraries, with probable recommendations for supporting legislation; local bar association financing; suggested forms of local fee schedules, and others of like import. Each of the last mentioned bulletins will be based upon careful studies of state-wide conditions. In the scope of this project suggestions of the Association members and local bar associations are respectfully invited.

The adoption of these activities is in furtherance of the Executive Council's determination to discharge a greater responsibility to the lawyers of West Virginia.

Walter F. Ball.