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Forward

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FOREWORD. — The resignation of Professor Willey as editor of The Bar in June, 1917, made it necessary for The West Virginia Bar Association to decide at its July, 1917, meeting whether to discontinue the further publication of The Bar or to secure other editors. After careful consideration, and in accordance with the report of a special committee which had been appointed at the previous meeting to consider and report upon the question, it was decided to transfer the editorial work of The Bar to the faculty of the College of Law and to change the official organ of the Association to a quarterly law magazine.

It seems desirable to explain briefly the purpose of the new Board of Editors who have assumed their duties with much hesitation and misgiving. Primarily, the aim of the Board of Editors is to make the periodical of peculiar interest to the legal profession of West Virginia. To that end, the articles will be selected largely with respect to the needs of the West Virginia bar, and the recent cases selected for discussion will be limited in most instances to those decided by the supreme courts of West Virginia.
and Virginia and to federal cases applicable to these jurisdictions. In their discussion, however, due consideration will be given to legal principle and to the authorities in other jurisdictions. The only considerable variation from this rule will be as to cases involving coal, oil or gas rights from states governed by the same mining-law principles as West Virginia. This is a most important line of local litigation on which the decisions of Pennsylvania, Ohio, Texas, Oklahoma and several other states have an important bearing. At the present time there is no legal periodical which gives peculiar attention to mining-law questions as governed by the common-law principles prevailing in the Eastern, Southern and Middle-Western states. By treating these questions in their general aspect, it is believed that the West Virginia bar will be best served and the QUARTERLY will be made of interest in other states having similar problems to meet on the same common-law foundation.

Editorial Notes will generally be the work of the law faculty as the Board of Editors or of the Associate Editors for the Bar Association. Recent Cases will generally be written under faculty supervision by the Associate Student Editors who are chosen from among those members of the second and third year classes of the highest standing in scholarship. Notes and notices respecting the Bar Association will be edited by the Secretary of the Association.

The publication of THE BAR has demonstrated the need for a periodical which will serve for the exchange of practical thought on legal questions of local importance. As in the past, the pages of the QUARTERLY will be open to all members of the bar for constructive criticism of the legal problems of West Virginia in particular and of the country at large which affect West Virginia. The QUARTERLY is glad to announce that it will have the highly appreciated services of Professor Willey as an Associate Editor for the Bar Association.

THE COLLEGE OF LAW. — Like practically all other law schools in the country, the College of Law opened in September with a large decrease in attendance. The number enrolled as students is slightly less than fifty per cent. of the enrollment last year. This is not surprising in view of the fact that fifty per cent. of those enrolled in last year’s first and second year classes are now