

June 1941

Admissions to the Bar

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of fact on a basis of sympathy or prejudice either in favor of or against any person or corporation. They are likewise bound not to permit sympathy, bias or prejudice to cause them to fail to apply the law, as it is given to them, to the facts. A jury's decision should be arrived at without regard to race, class, interest, creed or color."

The West Virginia Code provides that "A juror knowing anything relative to a fact in issue, shall disclose the same in open court, but not to the jury out of court."¹ When you are empannelled in a case, you will be asked whether or not you know anything of the facts in issue. If your knowledge is such as to influence your verdict, you will be excused from sitting in that case. But once you have been sworn to try a case, it must be tried according to the evidence produced in open court. No juror sitting in a case may divulge to any other juror, at any time, any personal knowledge he may have concerning the case being tried, where facts or hearsay known to him have not been shown in evidence. A juror may not tell the rest of the jury what he may know of the reputation, conduct or actions of a person when those facts have not been shown in evidence. If any juror attempts so to testify to the rest of the jury, or to any juror, the court should be informed of this fact. A juror failing to notify the court of a breach of this law violates the obligation of his oath. If a juror knows anything material to an issue, he should disclose the same in the presence of the court, the parties and their respective counsel.

When you reach a verdict in a case, after you are sure that each juror agrees to the verdict, the foreman should write and sign the verdict, and then signal the court by knocking on the door of the jury room. When the door is opened, the jurors should file into the courtroom and respond to the questions and instructions of the court.

If any juror wishes to ask any question as to his duties, he may do so now. If not, we are ready to proceed with the business of the court.

ADMISSIONS TO THE BAR.—The following thirteen applicants successfully passed the State Bar Examination, held at Charleston, March 12-14, 1941:

¹ W. VA. REV. CODE (1931) c. 56, art. 6, § 18.

Mitchell Woods Bacon	Charleston
Henry B. Cooley	Morgantown
Charles M. Davison, Jr.	Clarksburg
Joseph V. DeMarco, Jr.	Huntington
Ara Langdon Long	Pine Grove
Tord V. Malmquist	Huntington
William Taylor McComas	St. Albans
John O. McCoy	Glen Jean
William J. B. Miller	Moundsville
William A. Putnam	Charleston
George Richardson, III	Bluefield
Jean Roth	Wheeling
John Clark White	Charleston

ANNOUNCEMENTS

REPORT ON LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM

During the recent session of the Legislature representatives of the Association appeared before the judiciary committees of the Senate and House of Delegates of the Legislature on behalf of several measures approved and sponsored by the Association for the betterment of the profession and in the public interest. Among these measures were the following:

(a) the Bar Integration Bill (House No. 309, Senate No. 87), a proposal which has been discussed fully in the *Law Quarterly* by Wright Hugus, Esq., of the Wheeling bar, past president of the Association;¹

(b) the Uniform Declaratory Judgments Bill (House No. 310, Senate No. 84), a proposal which has also been discussed fully in the *Law Quarterly* by Thomas B. Jackson, Esq., of the Charleston bar, past president of the Association;²

(c) the Tax Lien Bill, to require the state and its political subdivisions to file notice of tax liens in the office of the clerk of the county court with respect to all taxes, other than *ad valorem* taxes on real property and special assessments for improvements (House No. 315, Senate No. 33) ;

(d) bills to reduce the time for appeal to the Supreme Court of Appeals of West Virginia from eight to five months (Companion Bills, House Nos. 331, 332, Senate Nos. 138, 139) ;

¹ Hugus, *An Integrated Bar* (1936) 43 W. VA. L. Q. 10.

² Jackson, *Proposal for Declaratory Judgment Procedure* (1938) 45 W. VA. L. Q. 31.