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Report of Legal Education and Admission to the Bar Committee

Wyoming State Bar

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you either need lawyer help or want to consider relocation, is the lawyer placement service. This was put into effect in 1962 in the ABA without any national publicity or advertisement, and in the first year there were 1900 inquiries for placement of attorneys. There were some 800 lawyers who submitted their names saying they wanted additional employment or they wanted to move. All applicants are now classified by age, geography, experience, family, military service and financial requirements, so that if a firm of three or four wanted a tax man or they wanted an expert in some particular field, there is now in Chicago a list of lawyers by age group and by specialty group. They can run through the cards and if you're asking for a tax man in Sheridan or Casper or Cheyenne they can tell you of three or four applicants you can contact. This is a service, I think, that is going to be very valuable as the years go on. The Federal Government has taken advantage of it and has signed up some 1100 lawyers this last year through the placement service. These are just some of the activities being carried on in your behalf by your organization. If you have any questions or need any help on any subject, the ABA is more than happy and willing to do what it can to help each one of its members throughout the state. Thank you very much.

REPORT OF LEGAL EDUCATION AND ADMISSION TO THE BAR COMMITTEE

Legal Education:

Legal education this year on the formal basis was conducted as usual at the University of Wyoming Law School which was preparing eighty-six students for careers in law. In conjunction with the formal education conducted by the law school, there was a seminar presented on the law school premises on March 1st and 2nd covering trial tactics which was well received both by the students, members of the Bar in attendance and district judges in attendance. Members of the panel consisted of Sydney Gislason of New Ulm, Minnesota, William DeParcq of Minneapolis and Edward E. Murane of Casper. These three gentlemen presented in panel form a discussion covering various aspects of a trial from investigation through the final verdict and judgment. Mr. Gislason acted as moderator, Mr. DeParcq as plaintiff’s counsel and Mr. Murane as defense counsel.

It is recognized by most members of the Bar that this sort of program is advantageous to the practitioner and that perhaps it should be continued in other fields of the practice. In this connection it is interesting to note that in years past, an attempt was made to create several panels from within the Wyoming State Bar and present various subjects around the state. This endeavor was highly successful in some areas and it got nowhere in other areas. The Cheyenne panel, consisting of Carl Lathrop, Bill Jones and Fred Loomis discussed Wyoming Boards and Commissions at a
Laramie County Bar dinner meeting with approximately 60 lawyers present and the matter was extremely well received.

Some differences of opinion exist among various members of the Bar as to how continued legal education should be conducted and in some instances, it has been found most difficult to arrange meetings for preparatory purposes among several members of the practicing bar, at least we found this true with the Casper panel in the 1960-61 term. Notwithstanding this, however, perhaps the panel discussion method is the most effective to bring together the best thoughts of a particular group on a given subject. On the other hand perhaps more efficiency might be achieved by designating individual lawyers to discuss certain topics of the law in districts other than their own where they might be considered an expert and not just one of the local citizens. Be that as it may, and whichever course is followed, it is the recommendation of this committee that a program in some form of continued legal education be conducted by the Wyoming State Bar from time to time, whether this be at seminars or meetings of various individual bars or in conjunction with the law school, is a matter to be decided.

In this connection, your committee invites suggestions from the general membership, both as to how you would desire the matters presented and what topics might be of the most interest to you. The great distances involved between the various centers of population and areas of numerous lawyers, of course, present a problem but not an insurmountable one. This, however, presents the question which has often been discussed as to whether the program should come to the lawyers or the lawyers come to the program. While there was good attendance at the meeting in Laramie in early March, nonetheless, there were areas of the state from which no one appeared. The weather at the time was not inclement but not the most conducive for travel on the highways in view of existing snow and in some areas high winds were causing ground blizzards. So from this point of view, it is perhaps more feasible for one or two men to travel to a group of lawyers rather than expecting a large number from a given county area to come to a central point for a program. On the other hand, a group could be assembled from the Cody-Powell-Lovell area, for example, rather easily at most any particular time. Likewise, the same is probably true of Thermopolis-Worland-Basin-Greybull area. However, when we get down into the southern area of the state from Casper south, distances become greater between the population centers. There is a considerable concentration of lawyers in Casper and Cheyenne, as you well know, but at the same time the Seventh Judicial District encompasses a distance of roughly 200 miles from the eastern-most location of lawyers in Douglas to the western area at Lander.

The Natrona County Bar Association has for the past couple of years conducted a rather summary and perfunctory sort of contact with new developments in the law limiting its reports mainly to recent cases
of the Supreme Court and calling upon various members of the Bar to report on recent cases at their noon meetings which are held on Friday of each week at the Gladstone Hotel. This, from a limited viewpoint, was quite helpful since many of us fail to read the advance sheets when they do arrive and thus may miss the most recent pronouncement on the law. At the same time, the discussion that usually followed the presentation of these cases was helpful in analyzing them. It might be said that the better practice is not to have the losing lawyer be the one who is giving the report on the particular case.

This committee recommends that continued legal education be a program of the Wyoming State Bar. The manner in which this will be carried out may have to vary from time to time. Some suggestions previously received and considered by the committee among others are these: That some resume of the decisions of the Supreme Court of the State of Wyoming be prepared and distributed, perhaps, on a monthly basis; that members of the practicing Bar give more consideration to writing and submitting articles that could be published in the Wyoming Law Journal. Likewise, topics which may be of general interest to the practitioner might be suggested by the various members from time to time and either submitted to someone on this committee in the State Bar or direct to the law school. It is felt that following each session of the legislature that the Bar very probably could render service to members by some sort of a review of the enacted legislation that is of particular importance to the practicing Bar, at least so that none of us might be caught unaware without knowledge of either a new law or an amendment of an existing statute. One further recommendation by the committee is that the makeup of the legal education committee probably would be more conducive to effective activity if all of the members were from either the same town of perhaps the same judicial district so that travel for meetings would not be a problem.

Admission to the Bar:

The welcoming of new members, following their admission to the Bar, is an annual event while we are assembled here at our annual meeting. Part of this time, however, the President of the Bar has welcomed these men at the time they are sworn in in the chambers of the Supreme Court in Cheyenne. This procedure was instituted a few years ago and is to be continued. The new members to our Wyoming State Bar are:

- Duane Carl Buchholz, 810 Cahill Drive, Cheyenne, Wyoming
- John Rodney Brown, 307 East First Ave., Cheyenne, Wyoming
- Thomas Allen Burley, 1001 Custer St., Laramie, Wyoming
- John Patrick Hand, 613 S. Grant St., Casper, Wyoming
- Lawrence Eugene Johnson, 825 S. Wolcott, Casper, Wyoming
- Robert Henry Johnson, 207 Hay St., Rock Springs, Wyoming
- Nick G. Kalokathis, 2618 Van Lennen, Cheyenne, Wyoming
INTRODUCTION

The year 1962 - 1963 was a year of many changes for the University of Wyoming Law School, but the school continued its function of training students for professional responsibility and as attorneys and public servants, and of serving the State as a center of legal research and continuing legal education. A number of new faces appeared on the faculty, as the result of two faculty members being on leave to teach at other schools, and two resigning. Student activities were at a new high level, but the fundamentals of instruction, practice and studies were not neglected. The faculty continued its high production of research and publication and of service in national and state professional organizations.

The year was marked by the making of many plans for the future. When the school was inspected by the American Bar Association's Section on Legal Education last year, the report was very favorable, the school being characterized as "an excellent small law school," but many suggestions were made for improvement. Most of these suggestions confirmed wants long felt by the faculty and administration, thus the report gave the impetus for improvement. Steps were taken to meet every one of these suggestions. In an effort to improve enrollment, the recruiting program was improved by increased liaison with pre-law students, two new scholarships were established to go into effect next year, and a campaign was started to increase the Wyoming Law Scholarship Fund. Plans were made and confirmed in a budget submitted to and approved by the administration and the legislature, for a substantial improvement to the law library, an increase in the law library staff, an increase in travel funds, and an increase in student employment possibilities and better pay for student research assistants and student library assistants.