

December 2019

Report of Legislative Committee of Wyoming State Bar

Wyoming State Bar

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Recommended Citation

Wyoming State Bar, *Report of Legislative Committee of Wyoming State Bar*, 5 Wyo. L.J. 40 (1950)
Available at: <https://scholarship.law.uwyo.edu/wlj/vol5/iss1/8>

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REPORT OF THE MUNICIPAL CODE COMMITTEE

The following report is submitted by the undersigned as the members of the Municipal Code Committee, appointed by President Alfred M. Pence. The committee held its first meeting in the Cheyenne City Council Chambers at 10:00 A. M., April 11, 1950. Those present were: Alfred M. Pence, Clarence A. Brimmer, Jr., and R. Dwight Wallace. Absent: Chairman, William H. Brown, Jr., and Meyer Rankin. A second meeting of the committee was held at Buffalo, on August 31, 1950.

The members of the committee are city attorneys respectively of Casper, Rawlins, Cheyenne, Cody, and Evanston. The report therefore reflects the sentiment of these members from their practical experiences as city attorneys in their respective homes the status of the code respectively. The municipal government code as it now stands in this state requires extensive overhauling. Our present law provides for charter cities and provides for commission form of government cities. The present status of the law is confusing to say the least. It is therefore believed that a thorough and intensive overhaul is essential. This, however, can be accomplished only by the expenditure of substantial amount of time by one or more persons competent for the job. Some contact has been made with the League of Wyoming Municipalities and the League has indicated a willingness to assist financially in this task. Your committee suggests that the incoming President appoint a new committee to work with the League of Wyoming Municipalities to the end that this task be accomplished.

The committee also believes that the legislative committee should be asked to submit legislation that would assist the city of Laramie out of the difficulty of which it now finds itself, with respect to the sale of water. The Pacific Fruit Express desires to build a million dollar plant at Laramie, but can not do so until the city of Laramie can contract specific amount of water. The present law as interpreted by the Wyoming Supreme Court in the case of *Brown v. Cheyenne* precludes the city of Laramie from selling any but *surplus* water. It is believed that this obstacle can be overcome by legislative change.

Dated at Buffalo, Wyoming, this 31st day of August, 1950.

William H. Brown, Jr.
Clarence A. Brimmer, Jr.
George F. Guy
Meyer Rankin
R. Dwight Wallace.

REPORT OF LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE OF
WYOMING STATE BAR

The undersigned, members of the Legislative Committee of the Wyo-

ming State Bar, report their activities for the year immediately last past as follows:

In an attempt to alleviate the congestion of proposed legislation heretofore experienced at the legislative meeting of the Bar in Cheyenne, the President of the Bar, on March 13 of this year, through the Commissioners of the Bar, requested that all proposed legislation be referred in final form to the legislative committee in advance of August 15 to permit consideration of such proposed legislation by the committee and submission to the Bar at this, its annual meeting. That effort proved ineffective since, as will be hereinafter noted, only three legislative matters have been called to the attention of the legislative committee for its consideration.

The aforementioned congestion experienced at the legislative meeting will in all probability persist unless some solution by way of avoidance can be found. As noted, it is apparently impossible to obtain the presentation of bills for such consideration by the committee in advance of such legislative meeting. The only apparent solution for such congestion is the delegation to the legislative committee of authority to likewise act as a sifting committee on legislative matters. This solution is not recommended by this committee if any other method for the solution of the problem can be arrived at. The activities of the committee would be materially alleviated if the members of the Bar would bear in mind the fact that the legislative committee is not a drafting committee and all bills presented should be in final form for introduction into the legislature and secondly that as viewed by the committee, it should be concerned only with legislative matters affecting procedure and the Courts and Bar of the State.

There has been re-submitted for consideration of this committee a bill authorizing the execution and delivery of Realty Mineral Content Leases and contracts by fiduciaries. This bill had been approved by the Bar at its last legislative meeting, passed the Senate and was not called up for third reading in the House prior to adjournment. The committee recommends that the Bar endorse the bill.

Honorable Glen Parker, Judge of the Second Judicial District, has suggested to the committee contemplated amendment of the code of criminal procedure concerning the defense of insanity in a criminal proceeding. The need for such amendment has been recognized by the committee. Preliminary investigation thereof has been made and further consideration of the matter by our successors is recommended.

Pursuant to authorization of the Bar at its Rawlins meeting of a year ago, your committee has offered its assistance to the Wyoming Youth Council in the preparation of a contemplated juvenile court bill. The draft of such proposed legislation was received from the Council on

August 18 and the committee has given such draft its earnest consideration. As a result of that consideration the committee as a whole has serious fundamental objections both as to the substance and form of the proposed legislation. It is the sense of the committee that those objections can best be resolved at a meeting of the newly appointed legislative committee with the representative group from the Youth Council in the immediate future. It is recommended that the new legislative committee for the Wyoming State Bar be immediately appointed and that arrangements for such a meeting be consummated at the request of the Youth Council.

Dated at Buffalo, Wyoming this last day of September, 1950.

Respectfully submitted,

C. M. Crowell
Sam Corson
James D. Wilson
J. R. Armstrong
Jerry W. Housel.

REPORT OF THE COLLEGE OF LAW UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING

For the past several years the Dean of the University of Wyoming College of Law has rendered to the Bar of the State a report of its activities during the last preceding academic year. I am pleased therefore to continue the practice and submit a survey of the work of the College for the academic year 1949-1950.

At the close of the academic year just completed the College rounds out 30 years of operation. It has made great progress during that period. Early in its history, indeed only three years after its establishment, it was approved by the American Bar Association and became a member of the Association of American Law Schools. Its standards have been consistently high, its curriculum has been kept abreast of modern developments in legal education, and the policy of the school has been and will continue to be to train a relatively small number of capable students for the practice, or work in fields related to the law. The College has not been and is not now interested in becoming a large school.

During the year the College suffered an irreparable loss in the death of Judge V. J. Tidball, who has been a part-time lecturer in the College from the date of its organization until his death on October 13, 1949. Judge Tidball had conducted the course in Wyoming Practice during this entire period, and generations of Wyoming lawyers will attest to the thoroughness of his instruction and his ability to inspire young