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Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Wyoming State Bar

Wyoming State Bar

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MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING
OF THE
WYOMING STATE BAR

Laramie, Wyoming

August 30, 31 and September 1, 1951

Pursuant to Rule 10, the Annual Meeting of the Wyoming State Bar was held in the District Court Room in Laramie, Wyoming, on August 30, 31 and September 1, 1951, due notice of such meeting having been sent to all members. The meeting was called to order by Past President Alfred M. Pence at 10:30 A. M. on August 30, 1951. Mr. Pence presented a gavel to President A. G. McClintock and then turned the chair over to President McClintock. The President recognized Mr. Vernon G. Bentley, a member of the Wyoming State Bar and Mayor of Laramie, who welcomed the members to Laramie.

Vice-President Burton S. Hill was called to the chair to preside. Mr. Hill introduced President McClintock, who delivered his address to the meeting. Upon motion, made, seconded, and carried, the address was adopted and referred to a committee to be appointed by the President to consider the recommendations therein made, such committee to report later in the meeting.

President McClintock resumed the chair and, in accordance with the motion, referred his address to the Resolutions Committee consisting of:

R. Dwight Wallace, Chairman
Jerry Housel
John Ilsley
John Sullivan
Madge Enterline

The Secretary-Treasurer read the financial report covering the fiscal year ending July 31, 1951. Mr. C. M. Crowell presented the report of the Auditing Committee; and, upon motion, made, seconded and carried, the Auditing Committee's report was adopted; and, the financial report was approved and accepted.

President McClintock called upon Mr. Alfred M. Pence, who is President of the Interstate Bar Council, to report on the activities of that organization. Mr. Pence discussed the activities of the Interstate Bar Council generally and stated that the Council was giving attention to the matter of regional bar examinations, and that he had been directed to ascertain the sense of the Wyoming State Bar as to such examinations. There was a general discussion of regional bar examinations, during which the statutory changes necessary were pointed out by Mr. Pence. It was further mentioned by Mr. Pence that Wyoming is rated 38th among the states in connection with admissions to practice, the evaluation being based on quality of questions, method of grading and circumstances under

which examinations are given. It was moved by Mr. G. R. McConnell, seconded and carried, that the Wyoming State Bar indicate its interest in the proposition of regional bar examinations.

There was a further general discussion of Wyoming's rating in connection with admissions to practice; and, Mr. Burton S. Hill moved that a committee of three be appointed to investigate the matter. The motion was seconded and carried.

The President recognized Mr. C. M. Crowell, who presented the report of the Legislative Committee. Upon motion, made, seconded and carried, the report was accepted with gratitude for the hard work and the accomplishments of the Committee. President McClintock expressed his personal gratitude to the Legislative Committee.

Mr. George Millett stated that he had received requests by many laymen to attend the Federal Tax Institute scheduled for the meeting. The Chair ruled that, due to the limited seating capacity, the Institute would be for members only.

The President announced a regional meeting of the American Bar Association to be held in Yellowstone Park in June, 1952. Mr. E. J. Goppert stated that the meeting was open to all members of the Wyoming State Bar, whether or not they are members of the American Bar Association. A two-day meeting is contemplated.

Mr. Alfred M. Pence announced the social functions and entertainment that had been arranged for the members, following which the meeting was recessed until 2:00 P. M.

The meeting was reconvened at 2:00 P. M., August 30, 1951; and, the President called Mrs. Sarah D. Steadman to the chair to preside. Mrs. Steadman introduced Messrs. Wesley Kerper, Jerry Housel and Winston S. Howard, who conducted a panel discussion, led by Mr. Kerper, on Law Office Accounting. Following the panel discussion, there was a general discussion of the subject with many questions being directed at the panel members.

President McClintock then resumed the chair and thanked the panel members for their presentation.

President McClintock introduced Mr. Clarence A. Davis, President of the Nebraska State Bar Association. Mr. Davis discussed the Lawyers Reference Plan sponsored by the American Bar Association. Mr. Davis also extended to the membership an invitation to attend the meeting of the Nebraska State Bar Association to be held in Lincoln, Nebraska, on November 15 and 16, 1951.

There was then played for the meeting a sample recording of a radio broadcast entitled "You and the Law". The President explained that the recording is one of a series of thirteen which had been used by the

Colorado Bar Association in connection with its public relations program. The series is available for \$250.00; and, the President recommended that the Wyoming State Bar purchase the series and, through local associations, make arrangements for broadcasting the series over the radio stations in Wyoming. President McClintock suggested that the local associations be charged some fee of perhaps \$15.00 or \$25.00 for use of the series. Following a general discussion, it was moved, seconded and carried, that the Wyoming State Bar approve of the radio broadcasts, that the officers be authorized to purchase the series and that local associations be urged to undertake the handling of the broadcasts.

Mr. James O. Wilson presented the report of the Necrology Committee and moved its adoption. The motion was seconded and carried. The entire membership stood in reverent silence in memory of the deceased members:

G. B. Hockett
Alex B. King
James T. McGuckin
Oscar O. Natwick
Lloyd C. Sampson
Albert D. Walton

The President then announced that the next order of business would be the election of officers, and reviewed the method by which the election would be conducted, to wit: That nominations for each office would be by secret written ballot, with the two receiving the highest number of votes being nominated for that office; that a second secret written ballot would be had to determine the election between the nominees. Messrs. George Millett, Sam Garrett and Clarence Cook were appointed tellers.

It was moved by Mr. John Ilsley, and duly seconded, that the rules be suspended, that Mr. Burton S. Hill be nominated for the office of President, that nominations be closed, and that the Secretary cast the unanimous ballot of the meeting for the nominee. The motion was carried; and, the President declared Mr. Burton S. Hill elected President.

Upon secret written ballot, Mr. Edward E. Murane was elected Vice-President.

It was moved by Mr. John Ilsley, and duly seconded, that the rules be suspended, that Robert B. Laughlin be nominated for the office of Secretary-Treasurer, that nominations be closed, and that the President cast the unanimous ballot of the meeting for the nominee. The motion was carried; and, the President declared Robert B. Laughlin elected Secretary-Treasurer.

President McClintock announced that the Board of Commissioners had authorized the Continental Casualty Company to contact the membership relative to a group accident and health insurance policy for the Wyoming State Bar.

Mr. J. F. Mahoney invited the membership to attend a dinner sponsored by the Seventh Judicial District Bar in honor of Judge C. D. Murane, to be held on September 11, 1951, at 6:30 P. M. in Casper.

The meeting was then recessed until 9:00 A. M., August 31, 1951.

The meeting was reconvened at 9:00 A. M. on August 31, 1951; and, Mr. George J. Millett was called to the chair to preside. The entire day was devoted to an Institute on Federal Taxation conducted by Mr. Laurens Williams of the Omaha Bar and Mark H. Johnson of the New York Bar. Mr. Johnson is co-author of Rabkin and Johnson, "Federal Income, Gift and Estate Taxation" and "Current Legal Forms with Tax Analysis".

Mr. Erle H. Reid moved that an honorary status in the Wyoming State Bar be conferred upon Mr. Williams and Mr. Johnson. The motion was seconded and carried by acclamation.

The meeting was then recessed until 9:00 A. M., September 1, 1951.

On the evening of August 31, 1951, the members and their ladies were entertained at a social hour and banquet at the Elks Club in Laramie, Wyoming. A portrait of Honorable T. Blake Kennedy, United States District Judge for Wyoming, was presented by the members of the Wyoming State Bar. The program for the presentation ceremonies was as follows:

	Honorable John C. Pickett, Judge, United States Court of Appeals, Tenth Circuit	Presiding
"Our Honored Guest"	Honorable E. J. Sullivan, Casper	
"Unveiling of Portrait"	Honorable Charles J. Ohnhaus	
Acceptance of Portrait"	Honorable Orle L. Phillips, Chief Judge, United States Court of Appeals, Tenth Circuit	
Remarks	Honorable T. Blake Kennedy	

The meeting was reconvened at 9:00 A. M. on September 1, 1951; and George J. Millett was called to the chair to preside, and the Institute was continued until 11:30 A. M. President McClintock then resumed the chair.

The Board of Commissioners for the ensuing year was announced by the President as follows:

Donald N. Sherard, First Judicial District
Joseph H. Galicich, Second Judicial District
R. Dwight Wallace, Third Judicial District
A. W. Lonabaugh, Fourth Judicial District
Meyer Rankin, Fifth Judicial District
Chester S. Jones, Sixth Judicial District
T. C. Daniels, Seventh Judicial District

President McClintock recognized Mr. R. Dwight Wallace, Chairman of the Resolutions Committee, who presented the report of that Committee.

Upon motion, made, seconded and carried, the following Resolution was adopted:

WHEREAS: Wyoming was the first state in the Union to grant equality to women and is therefore known as the equality state, and

WHEREAS: There is now pending before the Congress an amendment to the United States Constitution which reads:
"Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex".

WHEREAS: The best thought of this period in history calls for the guarantee and administration of equal justice under the law regardless of sex, and

WHEREAS: Equality of rights under the law is an established principle in such countries as New Zealand, Germany, Japan, Turkey, Israel and Cuba, and is stated in the Charter of the United Nations, and

WHEREAS: The United States should be the leader and not the follower in all such matters, and

WHEREAS: Courts of the United States have so interpreted the Constitution of the United States as to deny that equality, and

WHEREAS: The denial of equal rights to all United States citizens is an injustice not compatible with liberty,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED; That the Wyoming State Bar, at its 1951 meeting in Laramie, endorses the above Equal Rights Amendment and calls for its immediate passage by the Congress of the United States.

Upon motion, made, seconded and carried, the following Resolution was adopted:

WHEREAS, an understanding of the problems of the Judiciary by practicing attorneys as well as an understanding by the Judges of the problems of the attorneys as officers of their Court is essential to the orderly, efficient and economical administration of Justice; and,

WHEREAS, a common meeting ground between the Bench and the Bar would be beneficial to both and would benefit the public in tending to expedite and simplify the procedure by which the disputes between individuals are decided and settled; and,

WHEREAS, the Judicial Conference held under provisions of our Federal Laws have brought about a closer relationship between Judges and attorneys and have fostered progress in our legal system:

NOW, THEREFORE, Be It Resolved by the Wyoming State Bar at its annual meeting in 1951 that we recommend the adoption of a program for annual Judicial Conferences of the Judges of the several Courts of record in the State of Wyoming and the members of the Wyoming State Bar.

Be It Resolved that a committee of the Bar be appointed to consult with our Supreme Court and District Judges concerning a plan for annual judicial conferences, and that one member of the Supreme Court and two District Court Judges be requested to serve with the committee in formulating plans and procedure for such judicial conferences, and that the committee report to the next State Bar meeting on proposed legislation for said conferences.

Upon motion, made, seconded and carried, the following Resolution was adopted:

WHEREAS, the problem of the unauthorized practice of law by persons not licensed to practice becomes more and more critical each year; and

WHEREAS, such problem is not only of serious concern to the members of the Bar, but threatens the relationship between the Bar and the public and is detrimental to the public interest; and,

WHEREAS, the American Bar Association and other national organizations with like interests are studying the problem and endeavoring to find a reasonable solution as evidenced by a recent agreement between such Association and the Association of Public Accountants with regard to tax questions:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE It Resolved by the Wyoming State Bar at its annual meeting in 1951, that the Supreme Court of the State of Wyoming be urged to define the "Practice of Law" giving to the Bar and the people a foundation upon which may be built a more definite delineation between the services and responsibilities of lawyers, and persons not licensed to practice law.

Be It Also Resolved that a standing committee of the Bar on unauthorized practice of law be appointed with provision for continuity of service to study this critical problem and report from time to time with its findings and recommendations.

Upon motion, made, seconded and carried, the following Resolution was adopted:

WHEREAS, the lawyers of this State of Wyoming were at first unorganized as a professional group and have progressed through a voluntary Wyoming Bar Association through their efforts and labors to an active and aggressive integrated Wyoming State Bar dedicated to the advancement of our system of jurisprudence with the goal of Justice for all; and,

WHEREAS, following the wisdom, experience and unremitting labor

of legions of judges, professors, jurists and lawyers in this country who have provided our Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, we have proposed the adoption of a new, progressive and efficient set of Rules of Civil Procedure adapted to the needs of and for benefit and welfare of the citizens of this State of Wyoming and as an organization, have repeatedly requested the adoption of these proposed rules or of a set of rules which would better accomplish our objectives of speedy, economical and proper attainment of Justice:

Be It Resolved, that the Wyoming State Bar at its annual meeting in Laramie, Wyoming, August 1951, does again respectfully urge the Supreme Court of the State of Wyoming to adopt in toto the Rules of Civil Procedure proposed by its Advisory Committee after due study, revision and adoption by this body.

Upon motion, made, seconded and carried, the following Resolutions were adopted:

WHEREAS, the success of the annual meeting in 1951 of the Wyoming State Bar has been largely attributable to the presence of Laurens Williams and Mark H. Johnson, and

WHEREAS, the Bar is very happy to have had with us Judge T. Blake Kennedy, Judge Fred H. Blume and District Judges Harry P. Ilsley, Glenn Parker and Donald J. Harkins; and

WHEREAS, our meeting was made more interesting and instructive by the presence of President Clarence A. Davis, of the Nebraska State Bar Association, and Winston S. Howard of the Colorado Bar and of the Wyoming Bar,

NOW, THEREFORE, Be It Resolved by the Wyoming State Bar at its annual meeting in 1951 that we extend to all of these distinguished members of the profession our appreciation for their attendance at and participation in our meeting.

Be It Further Resolved that we request that the Park County Bar and the Wyoming State Game and Fish Commission guarantee Mr. Williams and Mr. Johnson at least one shot each at an antelope on their hunt; and, further, that the Park County Bar be thanked for the presentation of the panel on legal accounting.

WHEREAS, the 1951 annual meeting of the Wyoming State Bar has been an outstanding one, chiefly through the splendid efforts of the members of Albany County Bar;

NOW, THEREFORE, Be It Resolved by the Wyoming State Bar at its 1951 annual meeting that the members of the Albany County Bar be thanked and highly commended for their efforts and work in organizing and providing for this 1951 State Bar meeting.

Upon motion, made, seconded and carried, the following Resolution

was adopted:

WHEREAS, under the provisions of Article VI of the Constitution of the United States all treaties made by our Country become the supreme law of the land, superseding even the Constitution itself; and,

WHEREAS, such "treaty-made law", particularly the Genocide Convention and the United Nation's Human Rights program threaten our own Bill of Rights which is the best in the world, and other "treaty-made laws" may threaten our whole theory of Democracy:

Be It Resolved, that the Wyoming State Bar at its regular annual meeting in Laramie, Wyoming, in August 1951, endorse and recommend an Amendment to Article VI of the Constitution of the United States, whereby no treaty with any other country or countries shall abrogate or deprive us of any rights or privileges which we presently have under our Constitution, Federal and State Laws.

Be It Further Resolved that we concur in and endorse the stand of the National Association of Attorneys General on this question and suggest favorable action on the proposition by the American Bar Association.

It was moved by Mr. Alfred M. Pence that appropriate dissemination of the foregoing Resolutions be made by the Secretary. The motion was seconded and carried.

President McClintock presented a gavel to President-Elect Burton S. Hill and turned the meeting over to him.

Mr. Wehrli moved that a vote of thanks be extended to President McClintock, the Board of Commissioners and the Secretary. The motion was seconded and carried by acclamation.

Mr. Erle Reid extended an invitation on behalf of the Goshen County Bar to hold the 1952 Annual Meeting in Torrington.

Mr. Oliver W. Steadman and Mr. Jerry Housel extended an invitation on behalf of the Park County Bar to hold the 1952 Annual Meeting in Cody.

The meeting was reminded that, at the 1950 Annual Meeting, the Weston County Bar had invited the Wyoming State Bar to hold its 1952 Annual Meeting at Newcastle.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

ROBERT B. LAUGHLIN.
Secretary-Treasurer.