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SOME HIGHLIGHTS OF THE WYOMING BAR ASSOCIATION

ERNEST WILKERSON*

The re-creation of incidents in the life of an association such as the Wyoming Bar is a formidable task, and one which should be undertaken with a comprehension, not only of the limitations of the author, but as well of the limitations of the source material from which the author may draw. The records of the Wyoming Bar are less comprehensive and less detailed than would be imagined by our lay bretheren, who have been known to chide the profession for its occasional redundancy and laboriously detailed expression. In the maintenance of the records of the activities of the Bar Association, we have reached that happy state of succinctness so strongly urged upon us by our nonprofessional fellows. In a word, the sources for the compilation of a history of the Bar Association are scanty, consisting mainly of an account of the proceedings of the annual meetings held through the years since 1915. The word "proceedings" is not used advisedly, perhaps, for while the officers have faithfully set down the origin and disposition of the various motions and points of parliamentary nicety, the records are silent as to the more informal, and consequently better remembered, activities which transpired when the gavel for adjournment had sounded and the members went forth to test their mettle at the various social enticements. It is perhaps better, though, that the japeries and indiscretions of the members, if there have been any such over the period of some thirty years of assemblages, should be relegated to that pleasant limbo from which they may emerge only periodically and in the mellow light of retrospect, to evoke a quiet smile or an unguarded guffaw.

We may, then, confine ourselves to the more prosaic but better documented march of events in the history of the Wyoming Bar, and may note in the beginning that the inception of the Association was the determination by the Laramie County Bar, in 1915, that Wyoming had reached that stage of maturity and dignity which indicated the necessity for a state bar association to supplant the cluster of county bar associations then existing in the larger counties of Wyoming. Judge R. N. Matson, later president of the Association, William B. Ross, soon to be governor of Wyoming, and David J. Howell coordinated their efforts with those of Judge Potter of the Supreme Court in arranging the initial meeting. It fell to Judge Potter, at that time Chief Justice, to make the motion, the passage of which created the Wyoming State Bar Association. The first concern of the fledgling Association was that it should have unimpeachable legal status, and, as a consequence, the first committee appointed was charged

* Of Casper, Wyoming, member of the Wyoming State Bar. This paper, prepared some time ago, carries the history of the Bar from its inception to the year 1947. The Wyoming Law Journal, beginning with that year, carries the proceedings of the annual meetings in the first issue of each volume, and the minutes of the biennial Legislative Session in another issue. [Ed.]

with drafting the Constitution and By-laws for the group, as well as with the responsibility for nominating the first officers. This committee was composed of Charles Potter, Cheyenne; Charles Blydenburgh, Rawlins; T. S. Taliaferro, Jr., Rock Springs; W. L. Simpson, Cody; and W. O. Wilson, Casper. From their deliberations emerged the Constitution and By-laws, under which the Association operated with some modifications until it became an integrated bar in 1941, and the first slate of officers. The remainder of the meeting was taken up with the passage of commendatory resolutions honoring those who had been instrumental in drawing together under one standard, for the first time, attorneys from the far reaches of the state. The Plains Hotel was the scene of a banquet that evening which had its serious moments, as exemplified by the closing words of the main speaker, Judge John A. Riner, who thus charged the new association:

The lawyer's work offers many temptations and often calls for nice discrimination between good and bad. It is of the utmost importance, therefore, that the members of the Bar set their standard high, for in good hands the profession is a bulwark of society, in bad hands it is a menace.

and had, as well, its lighter moments, as evidenced by the toast of the new president, C. P. Arnold, who thus apostrophized his fellow barristers:

The path of the lawyer's thought and training, the activity of his professional life, by imperceptible gradation trend toward the tents of Ishmael. His hand is against every man, and every man's hand is against him. Like a crooked stick he fits into no wood pile. Wherever he goes trouble dogs him like a shadow. He can get along with nobody and nobody can get along with him. His life is one long struggle, one unending combat. And when, after long years of this incessant strife, old age comes on and finds him—old age and death, the only lawyers who never lost a case—he lies at rest at last, this restless man, the battle lines which his profession has carved upon his face softened somehow—made intelligible perhaps—by the strange and welcome dignity of death, the neighbors come in and say "How natural he looks" and forget to go to the funeral.

The adopted by-laws of the new Association established three standing committees: Legislative and Law Reform, Legal Education and Admission to the Bar, and Inquiry and Grievance, and set forth the mode of proceedings which should be followed at subsequent annual meetings.

Cheyenne was again host to the Bar in 1916 and 1917. As could be expected, the meeting was a forum for the airing by various attorneys of their particular delights or detestations in the realm of procedure. Among the issues which were threshed out with varying degrees of accord were the revision of the Compiled Statutes, the reversal of cases by the Supreme Court, placing of purchasers of real estate under mortgage foreclosure sale in immediate possession, and the desirability of the Torrens Registration Act.

President Blydenburgh, in the 1917 session, defended the rule of *Stare Decisis* against indiscriminate attack by those with the "craze to follow things called progressive," but tempered the endorsement with a closing statement which would not sound strange in the most "progressive" law schools of the present day:

The world moves. The administration of the law must not stand still. Everlasting principles must not and cannot be abrogated, but it depends upon the lawyers of the country in their presentation of cases to the Courts, and the Courts interpreting the laws as adapted to new and changing conditions, to be governed by true reason based on principles and not necessarily on former decisions of their own or other Courts which were based upon a different state and condition of human society and welfare.

The secretary of the Association, Mr. Clyde M. Watts, had "the pleasure to report that while the Association has not increased greatly in membership, it has had a very prosperous year." This sanguine comment was watered down somewhat by the necessity Mr. Watts felt for directing the attention of members to the fact that "there is no provision in the by-laws for dealing with delinquents in dues. While the secretary is of the opinion that nothing drastic should be adopted, there ought to be some provision made for cases where members remain delinquent for more than two years." Inasmuch as the Association had been formed but two years before this report, the secretary's comment might be considered as having been delivered with some restraint.

The preoccupation of the members of the Bar with World War I was apparent at the 1918 convention held at Douglas. Presided over by President A. C. Campbell, the meeting was chiefly distinguished by the passage of a number of resolutions commending and forwarding the war effort, among which was the following brief, but gratifying, piece of self-denial on the part of the Bar:

WHEREAS, We are in favor of doing everything in our power to encourage and assist those who are engaged in the service of our common country, and their families who are left behind;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That it is the sense of the body that we discourage all litigation against those who are in the military or naval service of their country and their families, and that we advise all attorneys of the State, whether members of the Association or not, to do likewise.

What was later to become part of the Soldiers and Sailors Civil Relief Act in the second World War was thus effectively recognized and forwarded by the Wyoming Bar in the earlier conflict. The Wyoming Bar did not limit its endorsement of the war effort to pleasant sounding martial resolutions, however, but contributed, as well, many of its younger members to active service. Among those who thus served were:

A. H. Beach, Newcastle
J. W. Cavender, Cody
M. E. Corthell, Laramie
Harry B. Henderson, Jr., Cheyenne
R. S. Mentzer, Cheyenne
R. H. Nichols, Casper
C. P. Plummer, Wheatland
M. S. Reynolds, Kemmerer

and it was the sad duty of the Committee on Necrology of the 1919 Bar meeting to recognize the death in action of Colonel J. W. Cavender, who died of wounds received on the battlefields of France.

It was not with past danger alone that the Bar was concerned in 1919, however, for its evening banquet that year was keynoted by an address by address by Henry McAllister, Jr., of Denver, who reviewed the menace of events transpiring in Russia and Germany, and who, with zealous but perhaps excusable oversimplification, lumped together the Bolsheviks, Communists, Trotskyites, Social Democrats, and Socialists, castigating them as "tyrants . . . who preach what the highwayman practices," and charging the Wyoming Bar with instilling into our people the knowledge that:

The laborer, the capitalist, the man of business or profession, cannot live or govern for himself alone; that when one falls, the others falls with him; that mutual prosperity and happiness mean mutual confidence and self-restraint; that minorities have inalienable rights which majorities must respect; and that, above all, our nation is in jeopardy unless behind it are the heart and spirit of the whole people.

A footnote to the times was contributed by Judge Cyrus Beard, who reported in a business session that because of the influenza epidemic it had been impossible to tell in advance whether or not the meeting would be held. The burgeoning oil industry came in for its share of attention in an address by A. C. Campbell entitled "Oil Placers—Legislation, Discovery, Expenditure," which the members deemed of sufficient value to authorize the publication of 1000 copies, while on the more workaday end of Association affairs, Mr. Watts was once again urging the adoption of a by-law to deal with non-dues-paying members.

In 1920 the booming young city of Casper entertained the attorneys at their annual conclave. The meeting, which had been held in January during previous years, was held this year during the theoretically more felicitous days of May. President of the Association, W. O. Wilson, presided over a full and varied agenda, including a sidetrip to Casper's refineries. The powers of District Court Commissioners were discussed at length, and the applications of a number of new members were received and accepted. The rapid growth of the Casper Bar at this period was evidenced by the fact that fourteen of the twenty-one new members welcomed into the Association were from Casper. The meeting closed with members looking askance at the "reprehensible and unethical practice of foreign attorneys

within the state," and the Committee on Inquiry and Grievance was directed to prepare and submit at the next annual meeting legislation to deal with the problem.

It was about at this time that the Law School at the University of Wyoming came into existence. In 1920 a group of students at the University petitioned the Board of Trustees for establishment of a state law school at Wyoming University. The Board was currently trying to maintain facilities for the education of students with what was generally agreed to be an inadequate appropriation, with the result that, although the Board warmly embraced the idea of a law school, it was able to muster only \$2000 to start the school and run it for the first year. Starting with fourteen students, the Law School was conducted almost entirely by various Laramie attorneys, who delivered lectures for the none-too-magnificent reimbursement of \$12 per month. The Law School library was, of course, non-existent, and during the formative years of school, students were privileged to use the library of M. E. Corthell.

This story, with embellishments, was related to the Bar at its 1921 meeting by Thurman Arnold, who was one of the handsomely compensated lecturers. Mr. Arnold emphasized the need for a top drawer man to serve as dean, and for a school law library. Referring to the latter, Mr. Arnold, speaking softly and with great understatement, considering his later well known maledictions on law professors and their trade, reported:

The chief need of the Law School is a library. . . . The library that the Law School should secure, according to my ideas, and probably all wrong, is not a list of law textbooks, but a complete reporter and digest system. The theory of modern law school teaching, and one which I think is correct, is that the further students are kept away from textbooks, the less danger there is that those students will get the idea that the law is laid down in a fixed set of rules and there are certain iron-clad rules and principles on which there are not two separate holdings by our courts.

Thus began the history of an awareness of and sympathy with the problems of the Wyoming Law School evidenced by the Wyoming Bar.

An amendment of the By-laws in 1922 enabled the Association to vote compensation in the amount of \$250 per year to the secretary, who engaged in a good deal of correspondence regarding, for example, grievances of various citizens against members of the Bar. It was also at this meeting that the function of the standing committee on Inquiry and Grievances was transferred to the State Board of Law Examiners by an appropriate constitutional amendment. The foreign attorney problem was again discussed, apparently with less urgency, and it was indicated as the sense of the Association that a Wyoming attorney should be retained in instances where a foreign attorney appeared. Frank O. Lowden, one time governor of Illinois, addressed the Association on the subject "Is the Constitution Out-worn?" There was also an address by the new dean of the Wyoming Law

School, Professor E. F. Albertsworth, who discoursed in erudite terms on "Sociological Jurisprudence." Justice Blume delivered a paper on Roman law.

Mr. Thurman Arnold in 1923 felt that the University Law School had prospered to the extent that it should publish a law review. His fellow members of the Bar concurred, and thus, twenty-four years before its appearance, the *Wyoming Law Journal* received its initial consideration. The proceedings of the Association through the years mirror the particular pressing problems of the state at that time. As the Association was discussing the problem of good roads and how to get them in 1919, so in 1923 it was listening to papers by N. E. Corthell and State Engineer Emerson on the problem of the Colorado River, and was by this means acquainted with provisions of the proposed compact. The problem of receiverships and the mode of conducting them received enough attention to indicate that it was a major item in the attorney's portfolio of that day. The Association showed a healthy growth during these early years, and had matured from a nucleus of seventy members to a robust organization of over two hundred, all of which memberships were voluntary, of course. The members of the Bar Association repeatedly urged their non-affiliated fellows to join, particularly in the activities, and to render unto the treasurer the modest initiation and membership fee.

The University Law School was again the subject of a report at the ensuing meeting, which indicated that at the beginning of its third year of existence it was comprised of thirty-one students. The library was growing apace, and contained over 4000 volumes, and the school was about to move into its new quarters on the top floor of the recently constructed library building. The Association adopted at this time the recommended American Bar Association standards for admission to the bar, and appointed another committee to determine the possibility of publishing a *Wyoming Law Review*.

The Committee on Legislation and Law Reform rendered a touching report to the Association at the 1924 meeting of its efforts to secure passage through the House and Senate of eleven pieces of legislation, including several uniform acts which the Association had previously endorsed:

Pursuant to the action of the Association, bills were prepared and placed in the hands of various members of the legislature. . . . In due course of time, as that term is understood by the legislator, the bills were introduced, and again in due course of time, each was referred to its proper "killing pen" or committee. Here most of the bills . . . lingered, negelected and forlorn, and finally died "unhonored and unsung." Some of the bills passed either the Senate or the House, but due to the tumult and the shouting and the incidental "put and take" involved in the labor of the legislature over the Severance Tax, Carbon Black, Chiropractic and Bee Inspection Bills, plus prolonged hocus-pocusing of caucusing politicians, these bills never came up for consideration by the other branch.

The anonymous author of this Legislation and Law Reform Committee report was not so disheartened, however, but what he recommended that the struggle be resumed at the next session, and that a formidable number of new laws and amendments to the old laws be pushed.

The procedure for disbarment received considerable discussion at Cheyenne in 1925, and it was there determined that the practice of trying disbarment actions before three district judges on a complaint referred by the Board of Law Examiners should prevail. An alternative suggestion was that the Board of Legal Examiners itself might try charges, but this was spiked by a declaration from Mr. Arnold, a member of the Board, who categorically affirmed, "It was never our thought that we should sit as trial judges of the fact. We are compelled to show our ignorance when we are giving our examination to applicants, and we have enough to do."

The proposed twentieth amendment to the Constitution, authorizing the federal government to limit, regulate, and prohibit labor of persons under eighteen years of age, received short shrift at the hand of the 1925 convention, and after a measure of parliamentary acrobatics, a resolution which underwent a motion to adopt, a motion to table, a motion to substitute, a motion to amend, and a motion to adopt as amended, was passed, recommending that the proposed constitutional amendment not be ratified. This meeting was distinguished also by an objection which defeated a motion that a vote of thanks be expressed to the authors of two papers delivered to the Association, the objection being taken on the grounds "that it is the custom of the Association that no thanks should be offered to anyone." (This is reminiscent of a recent radio comedy in which a member of a lodge moved that a Get-Well-Quick card be sent to an ailing brother, only to have his motion shouted down.)

Dr. Grace R. Hebard graced the convention proceedings in Sheridan in 1926 by a brief treatment of the problem of juvenile delinquency in its relation to the courts, and the Association appointed a committee of C. D. Murane, T. Blake Kennedy, and William A. Riner to consider the problem further and make recommendations concerning it at a further meeting. A bill proposing changes to direct law was discussed, and evoked a plaintive comment from one of the elder members of the Bar: "I have been working for three or four years trying to find a proper way to get into the Supreme Court. There are two methods. I have within the last six months found out how to do so, but if you change the law, I will have to start all over again."

The Committee on Legislature and Law Reform once again in 1927 was brushed by the wings of legislative process, but with more success this time, inasmuch as it succeeded in gaining approval of changes in probate procedure, the thirteenth juror, changes in adoption proceedings, limitation on sheriff's fees, the Uniform Foreign Depositions Act, and the Uniform Arbitration Act. The Association gained a new secretary in 1928,

but the secretary gained no new problems, for the basic difficulty remained that some members showed extreme reticence to meet the dues. Again the secretary sounded the cry for an amendment to the constitution which would permit dropping members who were delinquent over a period of years.

Late in 1928, the Legislation Committee received a bill for its approbation from the Women's Club of Laramie, which, if passed, would authorize service of women on juries. This Committee, so forthright in its comments on the shortcomings of deliberative tribunals of the legislative branch, cloaked itself in this instance with becoming, but inexplicable, reticence to take a stand on the problem, with perhaps the thought that domestic felicity was a prize not to be jeopardized by such an action, and reported the bill to the Association with no recommendations. The Association likewise resolved to make no recommendations concerning the measure. Mr. C. R. Ellery signed, on this occasion, a report of the Legislative and Law Reform Committee, and did loose one shaft of rhetoric in his discussion of the Uniform Illegitimacy Act provision which would make the estate of the father liable for support of an illegitimate child. "It may well be," Mr. Ellery conjectured, "that due to the prevailing strict and effective enforcement of the Volstead Act and the statutes against fornication and adultery, that illegitimate children are now so exceedingly rare that we would not be justified in distracting the attention of the legislature from its consideration of the Game and Fish, Birds and Bees, Streams and Flowers, and the Bulls."

Conceivably, the Legislature expressed a feeling that it was being unduly maligned by the maledictions of the Legislative Committee, or perhaps the climate had changed, but in any event, the 1930 convention fixed a benevolent eye on the lawmakers in the form of a resolution commending the 1929 Legislature "for its splendid cooperation and support" during that session in obtaining realization of laws suggested by the Association. The Wyoming Digest, which was sponsored and promoted by the Association, was to become a reality in the near future, due to an appropriation by the 1929 Legislature of \$6000 to defray expenses.

During the summer of 1930, the Association took to the hills, more particularly to that portion accommodating Medicine Bow Lodge. Mr. H. Glenn Kinsley fired the first audible shot toward the target of an integrated Bar by delivering a paper on the subject of the shortcomings of a voluntary Bar Association, and proposed statutory integration of the Bar as at least a partial answer to these defects. The Association was sufficiently impressed with the possibility of an integrated or incorporated Bar to appoint a committee to reflect further on the problem and report at a subsequent meeting.

Signs of the times were not lacking at the 1931 session of the Association. Among the topics discussed by the assembled attorneys were

Senator Wheeler's volunteering to defend striking pickets (the members took a dim view of this), the Al Capone Case, and a discussion by the president of the Association on the subject of "Encroachments on the Legal Practice." In 1931 this was of more than academic interest, and Carl Arnold steered a tortuous course between Scylla and Charybdis in his own paper to the Association, which was dedicated in the words of the secretary to "the desire of making the Law School of value without flooding the Bar with new attorneys who could not be absorbed." A motion by Mr. O'Mahoney that it be the sense of the Wyoming State Bar Association "that the prohibition law, both state and national, has been a failure," was superseded by a motion, which carried, calling for a poll of the members of the Bar to determine their attitude in respect to the eighteenth amendment. Of 230 members returning the questionnaire, 175 voted for repeal, and 55 against. The movement for an integrated Bar marked time in the appointment of a committee to investigate and report to a subsequent meeting. There was possibly some arithmetic progress, however, in that this was to be a committee of five, whereas the 1930 committee, which was to have reported to the 1931 meeting, was a committee of three. President Armstrong pointed out, in his comments concerning poaching on the legal preserve by artisans in other fields, that an integrated Bar might assist in reducing this unwanted competition.

In the imperceptible manner of lawyers, the Bar was apparently moving nearer the attainment of an integrated Bar, as was evidenced by the appointment of a committee at the 1934 meeting to study the problem and report at the ensuing annual meeting.

The 1935 meeting of the Bar was held during the summer of that year in Casper, and the impact of New Deal philosophy in legislation was evident in a spate of papers and discussion regarding the effectiveness, worth, and "Americanism" of some of the new principles emanating from Washington. As would be expected, there was no unanimity of opinion, and assumedly no one was convinced of the previous error of his ways by anything that was said. The 1936 convention at Sheridan and the 1937 convention at Yellowstone National Park again produced a number of interesting disquisitions, most of which again concerned the problems of the adjustment of legal principles to social necessity, which was being carried on at that time throughout the nation. The 1937 meeting produced also a report by the Committee on Bar integration on its proposed bill, which the Association promptly began to dissect section by section. With unimpeachable logic, Judge T. Blake Kennedy said the first question to be determined was whether or not the Association favored an integrated Bar. Mr. Ruel Armstrong, chairman of the committee, moved: "It is the consensus of the Wyoming State Bar Association that the Bar approve a bill for an incorporated Bar." Considerable discussion resulted in the motion's being carried, but the difference of opinion evidenced by the discussion prompted the Association to request Mr. Armstrong's committee to cir-

cularize the Bar in an effort to get opinions as to what form legislation to effect integration should take. The Association had apparently mellowed through the years, for two motions to extend thanks to members for papers delivered were carried unanimously.

At the 1938 session, the Committee on Bar Integration reported that thus far no results had been obtained on the suggested poll of members of the Bar to determine what form integration should take. The president of the Association had, however, appointed a committee to conduct a poll of the members on President Roosevelt's proposal to increase the members of the Supreme Court, and attorneys responded vigorously, voting 115 to 13 against the proposal.

The Bar Association in 1938 gained more thorough and first-hand appreciation of the problems and potentialities of the Law School in its meeting at Laramie. Dean Carl Arnold reported on the work of the Law School and its hopes for future development and expansion. This was a one day session, but the majority of members remained the following day, October 22nd, to attend a football game.

Integration of the Bar, which had been discussed and referred to a series of committees since 1930, now became a reality, by virtue of passage by the 1939 Legislature of a Bar Integration Law. The committee undertook to recommend to the Supreme Court rules which should govern the conduct of the Bar, and these proposed rules were discussed and modified at the annual meeting in 1939. An emphasis was becoming apparent in the proceedings of the Association on attraction of younger members of the profession to participation in the activities and aims of the Junior Bar during the 1939 meetings.

Inspired assumedly by a nodding acquaintance with Kipling, the call to the 1940 meeting to be held in Lander was entitled "If," and read as follows:

If you want to attend a profitable meeting—come
 If you would rather advise now than cuss afterwards—come
 If you are interested in what the other lawyers are thinking and
 doing—come
 If you have anything to teach—come
 If you have anything to learn—come
 If you like your fellow lawyers—come
 If you don't like them and want to tell them so—come
 If business is good and you can afford a vacation—come
 If it is so bad your clients will not miss you—come
 If you want to show the other lawyers what a lucky guy you are,—
 bring her
 If you want to show her what lucky guys the other fellows are—
 bring her.

At this session the United States Supreme Court received a rap on the knuckles from L. E. Armstrong, who presented an analysis of Supreme Court decisions which decried the fact that the government had not lost

a case in the Supreme Court during the past two years.

The February 1941 meeting in Cheyenne was the last of the Wyoming Bar Association as it was conceived and founded in 1915, for the next meeting held later that year inaugurated the integrated Wyoming State Bar. Thus, after twenty-five years of activity, the end came for the voluntary group. Despite the apparent shortcomings of this type of association, which led to the adoption of an integrated Bar, even a casual reading of its proceedings indicates the great amount of good which it accomplished from the standpoints of fostering and guiding desirable legislation, of raising the standards of the Bar itself, and of providing a meeting place where men of common interest, though not of common viewpoints, might come together to expound their theories and listen to those of others.

In a brief report of this nature, one cannot hope to indicate the scope and extent of the activities which were carried out by hundreds of members of the Bar over a period of twenty-five years. The real contribution which the Association made in its handling of grievance matters, its encouragement both as an Association and through its members of the Wyoming Law School, its sponsorship of needed legislation and amendments to keep Wyoming law a "living growth and not a changeless code," are all well known to older members of the Bar who participated in the Association through those years. There may be and should be set down one day, by one who has a thorough first hand knowledge of the ramified activities of the Association, a complete and exhaustive survey of what that group accomplished and what its activities meant to its members and to the State of Wyoming. Tracing the growth and development of the legal association between the years of 1915 and 1940 is not without its fascination. Although the technical aspects of the law did not change much between the first meeting and the final meeting, nevertheless, a revolution had occurred in America during that period, and it was a revolution of a type which demanded the utmost clarity of thought and appreciation of relative values by members of the Bar. The old Wyoming Bar Association did its share in forwarding the desirable aims of the new social order and applying the brake where members could discern danger. Conceived on the eve of World War I, enjoying its youth during the halcyon days of Harding and Coolidge normalcy, and brought up short by the sobering realities of the early thirties, the Bar Association passed from existence as a volunteer Association near the end of the time of New Deal social experimentation and on the eve of another and greater world conflict.

The initial meeting of the integrated Bar was held in Casper, August, 1941. A number of able papers were presented. The rules adopted by the Supreme Court for the conduction of the Wyoming State Bar were discussed at some length, and for the first time the Bar elected officers from the floor, rather than accepting a slate determined in advance by the nominating committee. Again in the fall of 1942 the Bar convened in Casper and heard, among others, an address by Senator J. C. O'Mahoney,

who was taking a "long view" at that particular juncture by defining the "Place of the Lawyer in Post War America." Under the guidance of Mr. Marshall Reynolds, the Bar began organizing itself for war work, and from Mr. D. W. Ogilbee, who was chairman of the previously appointed committee to consider revision and integration of statutes, began to adopt concrete measures to produce a compilation of the revised statutes. As required in the new rules, a number of commissioners meeting were held during the early days of the integrated Bar, at which grievance matters and other interim business was conducted. Procedural matters were the order of the day at the 1943 conclave held in Cheyenne, while in 1944 Casper attorneys turned attention primarily to consideration of various types of emergency legislation enacted to cope with war problems. Representatives of the Army and Navy presented the Bar with certificates of appreciation of the assistance rendered to the armed forces by members of the Bar. During this period, the Legislative Committee was active in considering and recommending or disapproving a large quantity of legislation, and was working closely with the legislature, and more particularly with the lawyer members to obtain passage of recommended bills.

The 1945 convention held in Casper in September was advised that a contract for the compilation and publication of the Wyoming Statutes had been let. This session witnessed, as well, a display of rare courage on the part of a representative of the Wyoming Bankers Association, who spoke to the hundred and some odd assembled lawyers on the meaning of the G.I. Bill of Rights as it applied to lenders. The Association determined to refund to members of the Bar who had served in the armed forces their membership fees for the period of their service.

A number of committees had been established by President G. R. McConnell in 1946, and that convention was concerned principally with hearing these committee reports and taking such action as seemed to be indicated. Two members of the Bar emerged from the hustings to deliver "non-political" speeches to the Bar, concerning in the case of senatorial candidate O'Mahoney, the natural resources of the Far East, and in the case of a senatorial candidate, Harry B. Henderson, the responsibilities of the Bar in times of moral bankruptcy.

Again in 1947 the Legislative Committee effectually promoted legislation which it deemed in the public interest. In Sheridan that summer there came to fruition the *Wyoming Law Journal*. It may be hoped that those, whether presently of this sphere or the next, who a quarter of a century earlier had beaten the drums for such a publication, were aware that through the combined efforts of the Bar Association and the Wyoming Law School it was now an accomplished fact. Rules of procedure were the main item of business and the advisory committee undertook to formulate recommendations concerning rules of procedure to govern conduct of litigation in the Wyoming courts.

During the early, formative years of the integrated Bar, it has established for itself a place of consequence in the Wyoming scene. There seems to be little dispute among the members who participated in the voluntary Association as well as in the integrated Bar, that problems of legislative progress, adequate grievance procedure, protection of legal practice from undue encroachment, encouragement of adequate standards for lawyers, and a variety of other concerns are more effectively met through the medium of an integrated Bar. In the ultimate analysis, however, the success or failure of the Wyoming Bar will be measured in terms of the ability of its members to achieve justice among contending parties and to accept and discharge responsibilities which come to them as relations between men and nations become more complicated. An advocacy of elemental principles of fairness and justice is always needed. It is advocacy of this nature which has mainly characterized the previous course of the Wyoming Bar. In measure, as this principle persists and is kept alive, the State Bar will be worthy of its distinguished antecedents.