

December 2019

1964 Annual Report for the Committee on Minor Courts

Robert Stanley Lowe

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarship.law.uwyo.edu/wlj>

Recommended Citation

Robert S. Lowe, *1964 Annual Report for the Committee on Minor Courts*, 19 Wyo. L.J. 144 (1965)
Available at: <https://scholarship.law.uwyo.edu/wlj/vol19/iss2/13>

This Special Section is brought to you for free and open access by Law Archive of Wyoming Scholarship. It has been accepted for inclusion in Wyoming Law Journal by an authorized editor of Law Archive of Wyoming Scholarship.

Six members of the faculty are members of the American Bar Association and active in one or more of its sections. Professors Bloomenthal, Geraud and Trelease are members of the Section on Natural Resources. Professor Bloomenthal is Chairman of the Atomic Energy Committee of that Section, and wrote the Committee's report. Professor Rames edited the Report of the Committee on Indian Lands and served as reporter for Wyoming on the American Bar Foundation's Survey of Defense of Indigent Persons in State Courts.

The National Association for Mental Health honored Professor Geraud by presenting him with the Bell Award for outstanding state service in the fight against mental illness, as a result of his article in the Wyoming Law Journal pointing out the need for improvement in the State's legal approach to "insane persons," and of his drafts of statutes which were enacted into Wyoming's modern mental health laws.

IV. CONCLUSION

It is respectfully submitted that with the excellent cooperation and support of the University Administration, the State and the Bar, and with the continued high level performance by its students and faculty, the University of Wyoming College of Law has maintained its standing and remains an excellent law school. Though faced with an increase in size, plans are ready to contain that size within reasonable bounds and to maintain the virtues of smallness which the school has enjoyed in the past. It will still be a very small law school, little larger than it has been in the past. The increase in size should, however, enable us to operate more efficiently, to enlarge and enrich our curriculum, to turn out even better lawyers, and to serve the Wyoming State Bar even better than we have in the past.

Respectfully submitted,
FRANK J. TRELEASE
Dean

1964 ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE COMMITTEE ON MINOR COURTS

By ROBERT STANLEY LOWE, *Chairman*¹

MR. PRESIDENT AND MEMBERS OF THE WYOMING STATE BAR:

Your Committee on Minor Courts herewith submit its report for this past year.

As reported to you last year at Laramie,² your Committee's proposed

1. Chairman Lowe, a practicing attorney at Rawlins, Wyoming, is the author of the article "A Call to Change Wyoming's Minor Judicial System" published in the Fall, 1960 issue of 15 *Wyoming Law Journal* 48. A comprehensive report of Wyoming's Minor Courts by the Board of Editors of the *Wyoming Law Journal* in the same issue at pages 22 to 47.
2. "1963 Annual Report of the Committee on Minor Courts", 18 *Wyoming Law Journal* 168. Previous Committee Reports on Minor Courts in Wyoming are as follows: (1961) 16 *Wyoming Law Journal* 134, and (1962) 17 *Wyoming Law Journal* 156.

Wyoming State Constitutional Amendment was approved by the 1963 Session of the Legislature as Senate Joint Resolution No. 6. In last year's report we discussed some of your Committee's thoughts to be considered should our Amendment be approved in this Fall's general election. We indicated then we would study proposed legislation further so as to have more definite legislative plans for you this year. But during the interim we have reached a different conclusion.

We are not submitting proposed legislation which would in effect change our entire minor court system in Wyoming for two very obvious reasons, namely, to do so before the election has been held and before we know the people's decision would be premature, and the amount of work involved is far beyond the abilities and time of a Bar Committee comprised of busy practicing attorneys.

It is our recommendation, therefore, that the proposed legislation for changing our system await the outcome of this November's election. Thereafter if the Amendment passes, then the Bar's officers and commissioners should take the necessary action to refer the job of preparing the necessary bills to one or more of the following: a Legislative Interim Committee which may be created by the 1965 Session of the Legislature; a Governor's Judicial Reform Committee which the Governor may establish; and an appropriately established committee of the Wyoming State Bar.

The other matter with which your committee has been concerned and which was the main subject of discussion at our August 22nd, 1964 meeting in Casper, is that of how to sell our Constitutional Amendment to the voting public. We recognize that since this is a movement started and supported by the Wyoming State Bar each and every member will probably want to do something to help out. We are grateful in the knowledge of your loyalty to your Bar and its activities.

Our Committee is the largest one of the Wyoming State Bar. We have had at least one committee member from each of the 23 counties appointed by past Presidents of the Bar so as to give us an effective organization with which to carry out this program. That results, therefore, in the burden being placed upon each committee member from each county to effectively lead the campaign in his county with your help and assistance.

For your information, the following are the committee members from each of our counties. Please listen for yours, so you can make yourself available to him to work. They are:

Albany	G. R. McConnell, Esq.
Big Horn	Robert A. Gish, Esq.
Campbell	Thomas E. Lubnau, Esq.
Carbon	Kenneth W. Keldsen, Esq.
Converse	Alfred G. Kaufman, Jr., Esq.
Cook	Richard J. Macy, Esq.
Crook	Harold E. Meier, Esq.

Fremont	John Harrington, Esq.
Goshen	George P. Sawyer, Esq.
Hot Springs	Gerald A. Stack, Esq.
Johnson	William C. Holland, Esq.
Laramie	William R. Buge, Esq.
Lincoln	William S. Edmonds, Esq.
Natrona	Richard A. Tobin, Esq.
Niobrara	James E. Barrett, Esq.
Park	Oliver W. Steadman, Esq.
Platte	William R. Jones, Esq.
Sheridan	Austin T. Redle, Esq.
Sublette	John S. Mackey, Esq.
Sweetwater	William H. Jackson, Jr., Esq.
Teton	Floyd King, Esq.
Uinta	Frederick E. Burdett, Esq.
Washakie	James H. Sperry, Esq.
Weston	Cuba Y. Hollaway, Esq.

By the time this report is published in the *Wyoming Law Journal* the election will have been held and we will see what kind of a job these committeemen and their local bar associations have done on this important Bar activity.

The Wyoming State Bar has had to limit your committee to expenditures not exceeding \$250 during this past 1963-1964 year for this important campaign. For this reason we have not been able to do much up until now in the nature of campaigning. However, we are expecting to get more money at this meeting. We plan our major push in the campaign during the month of October. Therefore, though we are short of money we hope to make up for it by the energetic work of the members of the Bar.

We have literature at our booth outside this Hall which we hope you will avail yourself of so you can help distribute it with your correspondence around the state and to your friends.

Our proposed campaign activities include getting as many local and state organizations as we can to endorse our Amendment No. 2 and then release this to the press for publicity. We hope you will assist in speaking at luncheon clubs and service groups in support of the Amendment. We intend to utilize as much as possible the free advertising time of such media as television and radio in your communities and hope you will make yourself available, if needed, to participate in such programming. All of these activities will be arranged by your local committee member, and if you are interested in participating please get in touch with him.

We are asking your local county bar associations in each and every county to handle and pay for newspaper ads in your local newspapers. We have the mats made up to be used in this advertising program so that our

ads will be uniform throughout the state. Local bars should also arrange for some radio and television advertising, if possible, so as to plug this in every possible media.

The Bar is very fortunate. We have not heard of any organized opposition to our Amendment No. 2 so far this year. However, there is nothing about the other three amendments which will be on the ballot with ours that stimulates much popular enthusiasm. One relates to the administration of water, one would raise the limits on municipal mill levies, and the third pertains to the jurisdiction of state laws over Indian lands. It is perhaps unfortunate for us and our amendment that the reapportionment amendment was not adopted at the special session of the Legislature this summer. Therefore, this leaves us with a tough selling job ahead.

Accordingly, Mr. President, we move the approval and filing of the foregoing 1964 annual report of the Committee and also move the adoption of the following Resolution:

RESOLVED that the Wyoming State Bar again goes on record reaffirming its action taken at the 1963 annual meeting at Laramie endorsing Wyoming State Constitutional Amendment No. 2 pertaining to giving the Legislature the authority to modernize our state's minor court system and which will be voted upon at the General Election to be held November 3, 1964, and we pledge ourselves to work for the adoption of the same and authorize the expenditure of reasonable funds of the Wyoming State Bar to publicize and support the Amendment; and that the special committee on Minor Courts be continued for another year with its membership to be appointed by the President of the State Bar with a membership of no less than one member for each of the twenty-three counties, and said committee will continue its work and studies and report at the next annual meeting of the Bar in 1965.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert D. Lowe, Chairman

G. R. McConnell

Thomas E. Lubnau

Richard J. Macy

Gerald A. Stack

Robert A. Gish

Wm. R. Jones

Oliver W. Steadman

George P. Sawyer

William C. Holland