# the LEGAL HISTORIAN



Historia Omnium Legum

AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR LEGAL HISTORY
MCMLIX

### the

## LEGAL HISTORIAN

"Nam quis nescit, primam esse historiae legem, Ne quid falsi dicere audeat?"

-Cic. de Or. II, 62

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#### Supreme Court of the United States Mashington 25, D. C.

CHAMBERS OF JUSTICE HAROLD H. BURTON

May 26, 1958

My dear Professor Forkosch:

It gives me pleasure to endorse the purpose and progress of the American Society for Legal History. It supplies a needed emphasis.

To read any statute or decision without reference to its legal history is to read it out of context. It is like a fish out of water.

Yours sincerely,

Aavidid Suts

Professor Morris D. Forkosch Brooklyn Law School 375 Pearl Street Brooklyn 1, New York

# THE AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR LEGAL HISTORY, INC.

(INCORPORATED, 1959)

#### BROOKLYN LAW SCHOOL

375 Pearl Street Brooklyn 1, N. Y.

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### A Short History of Our Society

The American Society for Legal History (ASLH) was born in December of 1956 at the meeting of the American Association of Law Schools held in Chicago. At that time officers and members of the Board of Directors were elected, and the Society's

incorporation was voted.

But the history of our Society antedates its formal inception.¹ Its ideological roots can be found in the Selden Society of England and in the Stair Society of Scotland. In this country, a legal-history society was organized in 1933, but its life span was short. At the December, 1933, meeting of the AALS a group of scholars formed the American Legal History Society, which continued as an organization through 1937, although sessions as round-table discussions of the AALS were held for some years thereafter.² A paucity of funds prevented the publication of more than one volume of legal history—The Journal of the Courts of Common Right and Chancery of East New Jersey, 1683 to 1702. This volume appeared in 1937 and was edited by Preston W. Edsall.

Despite this background of limited success, the desire still existed for a society devoted to legal history. This sentiment fructified at the annual AALS meeting in Chicago on December 28, 1955, when a group of more than fifty, under the chairmanship of Professor Erwin C. Surrency of Temple University School of Law, determined to organize as The American Society for Legal History. This Society was not to be limited to American legal history (the old society's title so determined its scope), but was to encourage the study of all phases of legal history, e.g., American, English, Roman, ecclesiastical, or primitive. It is the only organization in this country devoted to such a purpose.

A steering committee was elected to draft organizational plans to be submitted to the group in the following year<sup>3</sup> and, because of the difficulties of communication, a subcommittee was set up.<sup>4</sup> The formal aspects of incorporation absorbed most of the committee's time and work, with New York's incorporation eventually occurring in 1958; but, fortunately, more substantial gains were made in this period.

Through the work of Professor Surrency, Dean Benjamin F. Boyer of Temple University School of Law, and the Provost of Temple University, Dr. Millard E. Gladfelter, the groundwork had been laid for Temple University to inaugurate a journal of legal history. Announcement of the forthcoming publication was made in the summer of 1956, and an invitation was extended to the nascent society to designate the new journal as its official organ. The first issue of *The American Journal of Legal History* appeared in February, 1957, under the joint sponsorship of The American Society for Legal History and Temple University, with Professor Surrency as its editor. By arrangement with Temple University, all members of the ASLH receive the *Journal* quarterly, part of the ASLH membership dues being used to defray the cost of the *Journal*.

The steering committee reported its progress at the inaugural meeting of the new American Society for Legal History, which met on December 28, 1956, in Chicago, immediately following the Round Table on Legal History of the Association of American Law Schools. At that meeting, the efforts of the steering committee were approved, the new Journal was adopted as the official publication of the Society, and the officers and directors of the Society were elected. Professor Surrency was elected president; Professor Brendon F. Brown of Loyola University, vice-president; Professor Earl Murphy of Temple University, secretary; and Professor John C. Payne of University of Alabama, treasurer. Elected as directors were Hon. Earl Warren, Professor Francis S. Philbrick, Professor Willard Hurst, Professor Julius Goebel, Hon. Arthur Vanderbilt, Dean Alison Reppy, Professor William Jeffrey, Jr., Professor Bryan Bolich, and Professor Stefan A. Riesenfeld.

At the 1957 annual meeting of the Society, the Nominating Committee recommended that the officers continue for another term, through 1958, which recommendation was adopted by the Society.

Although The American Journal of Legal History is separate and apart from the ASLH, the Society and the Journal are interrelated: the Society is represented on the Journal's Advisory and Editorial Boards and the Journal is the official publication of the Society. The annual subscription rate of the Journal is \$7.50, but members of the Society receive it without charge. One of the aims of the Society is to support and strengthen the Journal.<sup>5</sup>

The first year of the Society's activities was devoted primarily to organization, committees being formed for Membership, Publications, By-Laws, the Annual Convention, and the Preservation of Legal Records. The work of each of these Committees is self-explanatory, except that of the last one. The Program of the ASLH included in this pamphlet shows the importance of this phase of our efforts: from its inception our Society has encouraged an interest in preserving court and legal records of all kinds.

The Society's second annual meeting was held in San Francisco, on

December 28, 1957; all officers and Board members were re-elected and a replacement was elected for one deceased director. The Society's progress during 1958 can be somewhat measured by the publication of the first issue of this *Legal Historian*, with the cooperation of The Bobbs-Merrill Company, Inc. At the third annual meeting held in Chicago on December 29, 1958, new officers were elected and some Board members replaced.

Under the new administration the year 1959 saw the incorporation of the Society, the obtaining of tax-exempt status, the utilization of monthly "membership reports" as a means of keeping members in touch with developments, the formation of numerous committees for the purpose of furthering the Society's interests, endorsement by the American Law Student Association, plus cooperation, and, in short order, a membership drive which has more than doubled the Society's roster in less than nine months, and the inauguration of a series of regional conferences which were held in Los Angeles, Chicago, Indianapolis, Philadelphia, and New Orleans. The By-Law Committee's proposed by-laws were adopted and, pursuant to their provisions, members petitioned the Board for permission to form a Pacific Coast Branch. Such permission was granted and that Branch is a going reality.

In the short space of three years, the Society and its members have made, and are continuing to make, significant contributions to the field of legal history. Evidence of these contributions can be found in the pages that follow, and in the Bibliography and Registry. Since the "history" of the ASLH is a living one, it can only be recorded as time unfolds.

<sup>1</sup> The following references are the sources from which this history was compiled: Surrency, "A Proposed Society for Legal History," 9 Jl. Leg. Ed. 78 (1956), and "The American Society for Legal History," 105 Pitts. Leg. Jl. 3 (Dec. 14, 1957); Payne, "The American Society for Legal History," 19 Ala. Lwyr. 86 (1958), and 32 Fla. Bar Jl. 78 (1958); Murphy, "The American Society for Legal History," 1 Jl. Leg. Hist. 170 (1957).

<sup>2</sup> See, e.g., Murphy, "Legal History as a Course," 10 Jl. Leg. Ed. 79 (1957),

a paper delivered at the 1956 round table.

<sup>3</sup> This committee consisted of Professors William Tucker Dean (Cornell), chairman, Julius Goebel (Columbia), William Jeffrey (Yale), John C. Payne (Alabama), Earl F. Murphy (Harpur College), and Erwin C. Surrency (Temple).

4 This consisted of Messrs. Dean, Murphy, and Surrency.

<sup>5</sup> Besides so receiving the *Journal* without charge, members may avail themselves of substantial discounts in purchasing books in the field of legal history. The secretary of the society may be contacted for available titles and prices.

### President's Letter

This is the second issue of our "Legal Historian" and, if we compare it with that of last year, the development of our Society is best revealed. In but one aspect, namely, membership, our list of members reveals the most astonishing increase of over one hundred percent! And we are still on an upward slope. While we have not reached our quota set in my Presidential Address of December, 1958, we are on the way.

That Presidential Address was entitled "The Organization Man," and our Society has indeed been organizing in the past eight months. We can point with great pride to the several conferences already held, in Los Angeles, in Chicago, and in Indianapolis; and we are having one in New Orleans and in Philadelphia this fall (as of this

writing).

Additionally, we have one regional branch already begun, the Pacific Coast Branch, and it augurs well for the future of the Society that two other branches are in the throes of formation, in Chicago and in New Orleans. We hope for more and ask that they

multiply and grow in membership.

Organizationally speaking, the listing of committees and memberships therein reveals another astonishing feature. Generally, in organizations of less than five hundred members, committee work is centripetal; that is, but a few hard-core men are found upon quite a few committees. But our Society is centrifugal in that the work is spread amongst many. And this is good. For we cannot expect one or a few to do all the work.

It has been a most gratifying experience for me to discover, in these past few months, that old and new members responded eagerly (and I choose this word carefully and deliberately) to my request for assistance on committees. I have taken advantage of these kind offers and have tried to lighten the burden of all by having committees sufficiently large to make it a pleasure for the members to serve thereon. I intend to continue this policy during my term of office.

There are quite a few plans afoot for 1960. Some of these cannot be publicized as yet, for various reasons, but we can inform our members that for 1960 there will be conferences repeated in all the areas which held them in 1959; that for 1960 there will be an essay contest in legal history which will be open to law students; and that our sights are set for at least two more Branches. It is possible that

a national conference on legal history may be planned, but whether for 1960 or 1961 deponent knoweth not. And an international conference has been suggested but here difficulties, mainly of finances, beset us.

Our monthly Membership Reports have proven to be of interest to the membership and I have received quite a few letters of commendation. They will be continued during my term and, I trust, in the future, although it is probable that they will not be issued dur-

ing two months of the year.

A most welcome aid to our Society was the cooperation extended by Brooklyn Law School. They have made available to us an office of a rather large size, furnished with bookshelves, desk, chairs, filing cabinet, typewriter stand and typewriter, and an extension from the switchboard. In addition, their staff aids us in getting out personal mail, mimeographing items, and in other details. And our Society "staff" consists of student volunteers who do a magnificent job.

It goes without saying that our Society's thanks are also due to the Bobbs-Merrill Company, Inc. Not alone did Bobbs-Merrill publish our first Historian, and now is publishing our second one, as a contribution to our Society, and in addition have mailed out thousands of letters asking the recipients to consider applying for membership, but they also sponsored the Indianapolis Conference and did a magnificent job in that. Our Society's gratitude continues to increase with the passing months, as Bobbs-Merrill continues to do more and more for and with us. I trust this relationship continues into the future.

One final word: I had thought, when I first took pen in hand for this "Letter," that I would set forth the names of certain individuals who had worked much for the Society this year. When I began listing them, and their contributions, I discovered that it became somewhat difficult to limit the list; quite frankly, I wound up with approximately fifty individuals! This is marvelous, but such a list cannot conceivably be set forth. But I do say this, that whatever of "success" has been enjoyed by our Society during these months has been due to these workers in the vineyards, for we are quaffing of the vintage they have made.

To these co-workers I dedicate this "Letter," and I know that not alone will they continue to labor unceasingly and unselfishly, but that they will be joined by others so that our Society will shortly take its rightful place in the ranks of learned societies.

Morris D. Forkosch, President

Brooklyn, New York

### Program of the Society

THE American Society for Legal History was founded four years ago (1) to promote the study of legal history in the United States, (2) to encourage the preservation of American legal records, and (3) to bring together at conferences and meetings persons interested in the history of law to discuss problems and ideas of mutual interest. The Society has an active program in each of these areas, and members participate either individually or through service on the Committees established for this purpose. The work of these Committees during the past year is summarized below.

#### TO PROMOTE THE STUDY OF LEGAL HISTORY . . .

Our friends in the Selden Society of England are dedicated "To encourage the Study and Advance of Knowledge of the History of English Law." The program of our Society is much broader than this and is not limited to investigations into the history of any particular legal system; we seek to promote the study in the United States of the history of all laws, including English Law, Roman Law, Canon Law,

as well as American Law.

The importance of legal history has received increasingly greater recognition within the last few years in the United States. Members of the bar, as well as teachers of law and history, are becoming aware that here is a gap which should be bridged. Accordingly, there is now a committee on legal history in the American Bar Association, a round table on legal history in the Association of American Law Schools, courses on legal history in American law schools, and work in legal history being done in many places under many sponsors. But this is not enough, not nearly enough. The need for some central place to coordinate this activity, some group that views this of primary importance, for whom this is the most significant work that can be done, led to the formation of our Society.

To many people, legal history is the study of the development and the acceptance of technical rules of law by the courts and legislative bodies, but the administration of justice and the development of legal institutions such as juries, sheriffs, and the courts are all a segment of the same study. Constitutional history (the study of the development of our constitutional safeguards in which the legal profession has played such an important part) is a significant portion of this large field of the study and is the one which has received the greatest

amount of attention from scholars. The evolution of the law is an exciting story and one which will have an appeal to all members of the legal profession and to students of the history of the culture of civilization.

As we view it, legal history embraces a study of legal institutions such as courts, juries, and law enforcement officials; the development of legal doctrines, and the contributions of lawyers and judges to the growth of the law. Of these three areas, the development of the legal doctrines has received the least attention from writers, except when included as an incidental part of some other legal writing. It is one of the purposes of this Society to encourage the study of the history of our legal doctrines and how these doctrines have reached their present status of development.

### TO ENCOURAGE PRESERVATION OF LEGAL RECORDS . . .

One of the main purposes of our Society is to preserve American legal records, and this involves not only the location and making available for publication of court records and legal documents which have been lost, forgotten, etc., or which are known to exist but which are in need of preservation through publication or otherwise, but also the very important task of the encouragement and education of our public officials to be more interested in the preservation of old court records and in the care of the other records under their jurisdiction.

The two-fold publication program of the Society is designed to aid in the preservation of American legal records. First, the Society supports The American Journal of Legal History, a quarterly forum for scholarly articles on the history of law which also prints the texts of significant documents pertaining to legal history. It is one of the purposes of the Journal to help preserve our court records and the correspondence of lawyers and judges on legal matters, before they are lost through the natural destruction of time. Members of the Society are invited to submit suggestions for documents for publication in the Journal, and if possible, to prepare these records for such publication. Second, as soon as some extremely valuable records or documents are found, the Society will seek funds for their publication and will institute a program, similar to that of the Selden Society of England, of publishing court records. A history of the law in this country will be impossible until such source material is located, published, and evaluated.

### TO BRING TOGETHER PERSONS INTERESTED IN LEGAL HISTORY . . .

Conferences and meetings of the Society are held throughout the year for the purpose of bringing together persons interested in the

history of law to discuss problems and ideas of mutual interest. Members of the Society participate in the planning of the programs.

#### THE PROGRAM OF THE SOCIETY ALSO INCLUDES . . .

An important part of the program during the past years has been an effort to publicize the Society and its activities in order to recruit new members. Accordingly, a number of articles about the work of the Society have been published in law reviews and legal journals, a full list of which will be found in the notes to the section on the history of the Society.

The Society has arranged with certain lawbook publishers to supply members with current books on legal history at reduced rates; in the past, this has included *The Maitland Reader* from Oceana Publications, and Plucknett's *A Concise History of the Common Law* from Little, Brown, and Company. Additional books are available to

members of the Society under this plan.

The Society has adopted as its official publication *The American Journal of Legal History*, a quarterly forum for scholarly articles on the history of law, which seeks to combine the professional approach of the American historian and the technical knowledge of the American lawyer. This journal, regardless of its title, is not limited to the publication of articles on the history of American law; instead, it encourages publication of results of research in the history of all legal systems. Its purpose is to foster the study of the history of the law and its relations to other aspects of the nation's culture.

The Society also publishes The Legal Historian, an annual journal

devoted to the administrative affairs of the Society.

The work of the Society—to encourage greater research, to provide facilities for additional publication, to open up untouched areas of study, to encourage exchange between scholars through meetings—and its publications, we offer in partial satisfaction of that debt which Lord Bacon¹ said every man owes to his profession.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Maxims of the Law, "Preface" (1630).

### Reports of Committees

#### MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

The Membership Committee has relied upon the good offices of our national organization in availing itself of the services of several students and graduates in working at this task. Also, the Bobbs-Merrill Company has been most cooperative, far above and beyond its commitments to us, in sending out literally thousands of letters to prospects. All this effort resulted in a membership increase of over 150%. As of the date of this report our Society has grown to over 250 members, and more join every week.

For 1960 we hope to double these figures and thereby reach the goal set in the 1958 Presidential Address. This requires the effort of every existing member, and each member's pledge to bring in at least one new member so as to enable our Society to function effectively. The sub-committees of this general membership committee did yeoman service, as a comparison of the statistics and membership figures in the 1958 and this 1959 *Historian* will disclose.

Martin L. Horn, General Chairman

#### COMMITTEE ON PUBLICATIONS

The Committee is composed of John C. Hogan and Miss Eileen Maroshick, with the undersigned as chairman. The Committee's tasks include the publication of this *Historian*, the monthly membership reports, and related matters. Our efforts have been considerably lightened by the marvelous cooperation of those members who contributed material for this volume and, throughout the year, to the monthly reports. We ask all members to continue this fine cooperation in the future so that our reports will be increased from four to eight sheets. Material is to be forwarded directly to the national office located at Brooklyn Law School.

Your Committee wishes publicly to thank the Bobbs-Merrill Company for again very kindly undertaking the financial burdens incident upon the publication and distribution of this Historian. We are greatly appreciative of their fine cooperation without which this publication would not be.

IRA J. RAAB, Chairman

### COMMITTEE ON AMERICAN LAW STUDENT ASSOCIATION

In April of 1959 the 1st and 2d Regions of the ALSA adopted a resolution asking their national convention to affiliate with this Society in furthering our mutual aims. A committee was thereupon appointed by our President to aid in presenting this resolution to the national convention of that Association which was held at the Carillon Hotel in Miami Beach on August 26, 1959. This committee included Professor Richard H. Lee, of the Miami Law School, Mr. Ira J. Raab, and the undersigned.

The resolution was presented at the convention by Miss Eileen Maroshick, a delegate from the Brooklyn Law School, and a student member of our Society. The resolution called for the endorsement of our Society and of our mutual purposes and programs. The ALSA adopted this resolution and also extended an invitation to our Society to publish one or more articles in their Journal, an invitation which we have accepted and will effectuate shortly.

A liaison committee will also be set up by the ALSA to study the areas of affiliation with our Society, including essay contests, speakers, distribution of information, etc.

The undersigned wishes to thank each member of the Committee, and especially Miss Maroshick, for the unstinting aid given, their tireless devotion to the task before them, and to the spirit of cooperation displayed. It was most gratifying to serve with such a group.

WILFRED R. LORRY, Chairman

### COMMITTEE ON THE PRESERVATION OF LEGAL RECORDS

The members of this committee include Mr. Louis H. Samuels, of New York, and many others, too numerous to mention. Our functions are self-explanatory, although every member of the Society is an exofficio member and should cooperate. For example, the quarterly *Journal* carried an item of the efforts of one of our members in Virginia, and many of our members work silently. We will appreciate receiving news of their efforts and will give whatever aid is within our power.

WILLIAM H. McBratney, Chairman

#### COMMITTEE ON FOUNDATIONS

This Committee was organized during the first part of 1959, the members including Professor Frederick G. Kempin, Jr., Professor Morris L. Shafer, Mr. W. L. Guice, and Mr. Ned O. Heinish. We have been engaged in compiling a list of foundations which may be interested in legal history research, the preservation of records, etc.

The work of the Committee during the latter part of 1959 involved contacting such foundations and inquiring about their policies with respect to grants in this overall field of legal history. The Committee will issue a report on its findings in the early part of 1960 and compile a list of such foundations.

JOHN C. HOGAN, Chairman

#### COMMITTEE ON RESEARCH PROJECTS

This Committee consists of, among others, Reverend Father Robert F. Drinan, S.J., Judge Jacob J. Quillin, Professors David S. Stern and Samuel Krislov, Jeremiah Buckley and Moise S. Steeg, Esqs., with the undersigned as chairman. It was appointed on May 7, 1959.

Our functions, as projected by the President and the undersigned, is the preparation of a list of one hundred or more topics suitable for

pre- or post-doctoral research in the field of legal history.

A project of this nature involves far more than "dreaming up" a set of questions to which it would be nice to have an answer. In the first place, it is necessary to know what is being done in the field. To this end, the suggestion has been made that the Committee circulate the Departments of History, Political Science, and Economics in the major universities, and those Law Schools offering graduate work beyond the LL.B., to find out what work is being done in the field, either by students or members of the staffs. Once this is known, it will be possible to avoid fruitless duplication, and also to find areas where cooperative studies may be in order.

In selecting a topic, the availability of sources is of primary importance. Accordingly, another project of the Committee is the compilation of a guide to the available materials, i.e., where they are located, whether they are in manuscript, typescript, or print, whether they have been indexed or calendared, and any special difficulties, language, handwriting, and so forth, which might be connected with

their use.

With this accomplished, it will be possible to formulate a list of topics for investigation which will not be too broad for convenient handling, yet broad enough to permit some latitude to the investigator. Eventually, it may be possible for the Society to sponsor a bibliography of legal history—something sadly needed if the enormous wealth of available materials is ever to be properly utilized—and if so, the work of this Committee should prove useful as a "jumping-off" place.

The immediate task of this committee is to make as much progress as is possible in the compilation of a list of works in process. Along with this we hope to receive a number of suggestions as to source materials which are immediately available. The goal of the committee for the 1960 year is the preparation of a few "packaged"

projects and the dissemination of as much information as possible as to what is being done. We urgently request the aid of all members of our Society in this task.

It should be noted that when our Foundation Committee and this Committee have produced some degree of results, our efforts will jibe in more ways than one.

Prof. Anthony H. Forbes, Chairman

#### COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC RELATIONS

This Committee had many ad hoc members, each aiding in one or more specific projects. Since the efforts of our Committee were national and local in scope, embracing preparation and distribution of material and publicity releases for all conferences requesting this aid, the placing of material in magazines, and the usual publicity work attendant upon any Society's efforts, it is somewhat difficult to list all things done. Suffice it to say that our Society has been publicized far beyond the efforts of one Committee by the combined efforts of all our members, for individuals here and there have engaged in this work on their own. Furthermore, efforts such as those of the Committee on Law Students make publicity wherever they function. Our Committee stands ready to cooperate with all members and other Chairmen of Committees whenever they require professional aid.

MICHEL LIPMAN, Chairman

#### COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS

This Committee consisted of Messrs. Sabato John Insalata and Martin L. Horn, with the undersigned as Chairman. Acting under the provisions of the By-Laws, the Committee functioned, as of this writing, in the preparation of a list of nominees and, likewise in accordance with the By-Laws, will later prepare ballots and follow through in their receipt and counting and certification.

PROF. THOMPSON BLACK, JR., Chairman

#### COMMITTEE ON VIRGINIA LAW ESSAY CONTEST

This Committee is not really a "committee" but a task force of our national office which acted as liaison with Mr. James A. Eichner, who is spear-heading the Virginia Bar Association's contest, and cooperated with him. We have, through our Society, appointed a group of judges for this national contest, headed by Mr. Justice Harold H. Burton. The rest of the judges consist of: Professors Mark de Wolfe Howe, of Harvard; Max Rheinstein, of Chicago; Erwin C. Surrency, of Temple; and Morris D. Forkosch, of Brooklyn Law School.

#### REPORT ON THE 1959 WESTERN CONFERENCE

This Conference was held on the U.C.L.A. campus on Saturday, April 25, 1959, and was attended by over thirty persons, including members and their guests. The Conference began at noon with a luncheon at the Faculty Club, where Prof. Kenneth H. York (U.C.L.A. Law School) spoke on the subject "How to Review a Lawbook." A display of texts and treatises on legal history was provided by the Bobbs-Merrill Company.

At 2:00 p.m. the conferees assembled at the Faculty Lounge to hear a panel discussion on the topic, "What Areas of Exploration in Legal History Are Appropriate?" The panel was moderated by Dean Richard C. Maxwell (U.C.L.A. Law School) and the panelists were Dean J. A. C. Grant (Division of Social Science, U.C.L.A.), Prof. Addison Mueller (U.C.L.A. Law School), and Prof. Lawrence A. Harper (Department of History, University of California, Berkeley). The panel engaged in a period of informal questions and discussion which lasted until after 5:00 p.m. The group then adjourned to Dean Maxwell's office in the Law School, where the discussion continued and where photographs were taken by Mr. Bernard McNulty of Hollywood. After dinner discussion was resumed and lasted until 8:00 p.m.

Those who came from afar were Judge Sherrill Halbert from Sacramento, Moffatt Hancock from Stanford, Bill McBratney from Tucson, Michel Lipman from San Francisco, and Larry Harper from Berkeley. Present also were many judges, lawyers, historians, political scientists, and a group of U.C.L.A. graduate students. Those responsible for the success of the conference were Judge Halbert, Honorary Chairman, Thompson Black, Jr., Program Chairman, Anthony H. Forbes, Reception and Registration, and Michel Lipman, publicity.

The panelists addressed themselves to several areas of exploration in legal history including subjects such as, the public prosecutor in American law, the problem of waiving a jury in criminal cases, etc. Reasons for the study of legal history were also presented, and the panel discussed and explored methods for collecting and gathering materials, for preserving records, and for interesting others in this study.

JOHN C. HOGAN, Executive Secretary

#### REPORT ON THE 1959 CHICAGO CONFERENCE

This Conference was "organized" by a group of devoted members, too numerous to set forth. The Host was the Northwestern University School of Law, and Dean Ritchie gave magnificent aid and

cooperation. They are to be thanked officially in this manner by this Committee, in addition to the warm thanks of our President previously. In place of the usual method of a conference, with several topics, this one concentrated upon the Fifth Amendment and its historical development. The result was a conference of depth, with all attending looking forward eagerly to the 1960 one.

The 1960 Conference, however, will be under the banner of the Chicago Branch, on behalf of the Society, and we hope that a Branch will be set up shortly. At present our Conference has turned itself into an organizing committee and will formally petition our Board of Directors for permission to become a Branch. Thereafter the Branch will undertake the running of the 1960 Conference.

SABATO JOHN INSALATA, Executive Secretary

#### REPORT ON THE 1959 INDIANAPOLIS CONFERENCE

This Conference was "hosted" by our very good friend, the Bobbs-Merrill Company, with Howard Bates and Walt Cornell acting as the spearheads. The Conference was held at a hotel in Indianapolis, with a dinner between the meetings, and several of the Indiana Judges were present, including Justice Amos W. Jackson, of the Indiana Supreme Court (who has become a member of our Society), as well as several Deans and Professors of Law. In addition there were quite a few practitioners, students, and also historians and political scientists. President Morris D. Forkosch was also present and presided at one of the panels. Howard Bates was the overall chairman and the Bobbs-Merrill Company is to be thanked for its generous cooperation. We look forward to 1960 and the formation of an Indianapolis Branch of our Society.

#### OTHER CONFERENCES

As of this writing the two other Conferences scheduled for October and December respectively, namely, in Philadelphia and in New Orleans, have not yet been held. Consequently, this *Historian* cannot set forth details which will be publicized in our monthly letter and in the quarterly *Journal*. In the 1960 *Historian* details will be given. However, it is hoped that the New Orleans Conference will schedule a few minutes for the formation of a Branch of the Society in that area, so that in 1960 this Branch will undertake the holding of a Conference there.

#### PACIFIC COAST BRANCH

Acting pursuant to the By-Laws of this Society, a group of members asked the President to appoint a Temporary Committee to form

a Pacific Coast Branch. The President appointed Professor Thompson Black, Jr., as Temporary President, Colonel Donald McClure, Temporary Vice-President, Mr. Michel Lipman, Temporary Secretary-Treasurer, and Mr. John C. Hogan as a Member of the Temporary Committee. This Temporary Committee met, formulated a letter to be circulated amongst Pacific Coast members with a request for their signature thereon as a petition, and thereafter collected about thirty such letter-petitions which were forwarded to the President of the Society with a request that he obtain Board approval. This was obtained, and the President thereafter sent a formal and official letter to this effect to the Temporary President so that the Pacific Coast Branch is now an official reality. At this writing the official approval has just been received and the Branch is now organizing to activate itself, hold the 1960 Conference, and otherwise engage in furthering the purposes of our Society.

PROF. THOMPSON BLACK, JR., Temporary President

### Presidential Address, 1958

#### THE ORGANIZATION MAN

Presidential addresses, like the proverbial spring swallows, come with each Yuletide. And each professional society not only expects one, but also feels that each should be more learned—perhaps I

should say more abstruse—than its predecessor.

This address, since it is the first in our Society's two-year history, has no basis for comparison. It may, however, be disappointing to my colleagues who have conferred the honor of this office upon me, at least to those who feel that remarks such as these, upon an occasion such as this, must be historical, philosophical, and anything but societal—that is, pertaining to our Society. In the not too distant future their expectations will, I trust, become realities. For the present, I fear we must forego such an address and listen, instead, to one man's analysis of the present and future plans of our Society.

The title of these remarks indicates what I consider to be the goal of this administration, namely, to solidify and to increase our mem-

bership and our functions.

Our Society is today but two years old. We are now legally a going organization, incorporated, and soon with a set of by-laws. The membership corporation certificate, filed in the State of New York, bears the names as incorporators, of all of the deans of all of the law schools in that state, which is a remarkable demonstration of the high esteem in which the Society is held. The roster of our membership also includes the names of deans from other states. The by-laws, shortly to be adopted, give us an excellent frame of government and will prove of great value in the future.

The history of the predecessors of our Society discloses an unfortunate record of struggle and decline, and little permanence. But the flame of legal history was not extinguished, so that we now carry on in the expanded traditions of our past. As I view the societal carnage of yesteryear I am impressed by the general lack of what I call "kitchen work," that is, the day-to-day thankless drudgery which is the lot of those devoted few who administer our organizational affairs. I will not press the point, for the facts are there to be seen. Except for one or two who gave unstintingly of themselves, our forbears did not create a proud record.

It will be difficult for our present Society to improve greatly upon its predecessors for one basic reason: lack of available manpower. The key word here is "available," for when I received the questionnaires for the first issue of our *Legal Historian*, I was agreeably surprised at the magnificent backgrounds, accomplishments, and potential capabilities of our members. But unless these capabilities are made available they do not, for us, exist. It is therefore vitally important that our pool of members be expanded, and then expanded again and again, to the end that "kitchen workers" are obtained.

This is not the only reason why an expansion in membership is both necessary and desirable. For example, our Society's official publication, the quarterly American Journal of Legal History, is not really "ours." Through the very kind cooperation of Temple University, their School of Law not only subsidizes the Journal financially, but provides it with facilities and other aid. Our Society should not only meet the Journal's present costs of publication and distribution (and a minimum membership of 750 might do so), but we should cooperate with Temple to expand the Journal in size and in coverage.

There are other reasons why we should seek this numerical minimum in membership. To illustrate, but not to exhaust these reasons, let me point to our Committee on the Preservation of Legal Records. If our Society has any justification for its existence it is in the performance of this function. In our *Historian*, this Committee precedes all the rest, and this placement was deliberate. Its report is a working report, not the platitudinous one of "progress." An interstitial reading discloses the vastness of the field and the necessity for more diggers lest their grub-a-day tasks overwhelm them. And the passing years do not make their chores easier. Not only is time of the essence, but cooperation and cooperators in every state of the Union are essential.

An expansion in membership is not the only matter that requires our attention and efforts in 1959. Simultaneously with this drive for new members we must also "give" our current members some reason for continuing. This may sound farfetched, but the facts show that unless the learned-society member receives, he does not renew. What can we give? In my opinion we can offer and give so much that new members will be enticed into joining. Our plans include, but are not limited to, the following: certificates of membership suitable for framing, to be signed not only by the President but also by the Honorable Harold H. Burton, on behalf of the Membership Committee; a membership receipt card, suitable for the wallet; three regional conferences in the United States, one for the West, one for the Mid-West or Central area, and one for the East, with a possible addition of the South or Southwest or both in 1960; besides the Journal and the Legal Historian, publications under the Society's imprint, either without charge or at a nominal cost; purchases of other publications at reduced rates; and so on.

This membership acquisition and retention encompasses methods other than those described. For example, we should set up several subcommittees of the Membership Committee as follows: A sub-Committee of Judges, of Law School Deans, of Bar Associations, of History Professors, of Political Science Professors, of Law Librarians, of Law Practitioners, and of Law Students. Each of these subcommittees will have at least two purposes: to obtain members within its designated area, and to encourage and engage actively in the preservation of legal records. While the titles of these subcommittees are sufficient to describe the scope of their activities, let me elaborate slightly on three of them.

The 1400 bar associations in this country—county, state, and local—should be contacted for a cooperative endeavor to locate and preserve legal records in their geographical area. There is no reason why a local member of our Society cannot be the liaison between a bar association (of which he may also be a member) and our Society. Further, every bar association should have a like committee or subcommittee set up for these purposes. Of course our membership may thereby increase, our activity become greater, and our purposes and influence spread, but, more importantly in this instance, the practitioner may become interested in these combined efforts. And it is this individual who, in out-of-the-way places, comes across leads to legal documents, and even the documents themselves.

We emphasize the work of the subcommittee of law practitioners because we seek actively to proselytize the man in the law office. Almost every practicing attorney realizes the value of legal history, for in his daily work its importance is obvious in documents, briefs, statutory interpretation, etc. But how many of them know of our Society and what it offers?

The law students' subcommittee should attempt to cooperate with the national and local student bodies, seeking not primarily members but liaison for the purpose of setting up campus programs involving legal history, for recruiting undergraduate workers to aid local committees of our Society, for contacts between our groups and local bar, practitioner, and other organizations, etc. This sub-committee can serve a vital and valuable function if properly handled. It is most important in developing a body of future members. The feasibility of establishing law student membership, at a reduced fee, with all privileges save voting, should be considered by our Board of Directors.

The membership expansion and retention, and the internal and external activities of our Society, are not the only plans afoot for 1959. I have mentioned the holding of regional conferences during the coming year. There are several reasons for this, some of which are the following: the difficulty of assembling our far-flung national

membership in one annual convention; the inability to allot time at our annual convention to the reading of all papers which can be submitted, and to the discussions thereof; the variety of specialized regional interests which, on a legal-historical basis, suggest local treatment; the desirability of a continuing round of activities to capture, stimulate, and hold interest in our association; the ability of our Society, through these regional conferences, to form a working arrangement with local groups. There is, in this last aspect, no reason why our regional conferences should not be held at law schools, bar associations, or like places, or even simultaneously with some meeting and as, perhaps, a round table on legal history.

It is our hope that the papers delivered at these regional conferences can be either published in a volume devoted to the purpose or as summaries printed in our annual *Historian*. Of course, if at all possible, the *Journal* should have first call, but we assume that it will not have the necessary space.

Since the *Journal* is our official organ, we are hoping to have our proceedings, news, programs, and happenings reported in each issue. This will enable committees to report and seek aid and cooperation, provide a common well of information, and afford an expeditious and inexpensive way of announcing forthcoming events so that all our members will know what is going on. It will be gratifying to be able to obtain this cooperation from the *Journal*.

The last few of our plans for the coming year include prizes, awards, research grants, publications, publicity, and liaison with other learned societies. Our Society cannot be supine but must act in a positive fashion to further our goals. Our legal records committee, for example, must do leg work to ferret out and preserve these valuable documents. So, too, if we are to encourage legal-history research, must we stimulate those who engage in this endeavor. Stimulation may be via recognition, presentation, or publication, and so we can set up funds, awards, and research grants, and engage in the publication of learned items. Our capabilities are measured and limited only by our finances, and there is no reason why our members cannot actively seek financial aid and cooperation from individuals, foundations, and funds. I am proposing the annual award of a Legal History Society Medal for the best monograph, essay, or article published in this field during the year and, if we can obtain funds, a cash award to go with the medal, or a guarantee of publication if our Board decides to have a prize contest. Research grants must necessarily be small, at this stage of our Society, but we should at least make a start.

All of the above-mentioned items require money. The basic source is still our membership dues. Always, we revert to the increase in members.

Publicity is an item separate from the others. There is no reason why honest, solid facts should not be reported locally and nationally, so that the Society's name and accomplishments are thereby brought to the attention of the public and our specialized profession. To that end we are creating a Committee on Public Relations, and all members, committees, and officers are urged to "feed" details to this Committee. Additionally, this committee will collate all information so received and forward a mimeographed "monthly letter" to all Board members, officers, committee chairmen, and committeemen. This means that for twelve months of the year the Society will be an active one; that all members involved in its activities will be kept fully informed of what is going on, when and where, and by whom; and that our Society will grow in every direction.

The final item to be discussed, although not the final item contemplated, involves our relations with other organizations. There is a close historical, legal, and practical connection between our Society and the Association of American Law Schools; so much so that I cannot foresee a time when our two organizations will sever ties. However, we also have ideological connections with other groups, for example, the American Historical Association, the American Political Science Association. What are we to do with these, and other similar groups? At the very least we should have some form of liaison worked out, so that our Society will be able to fertilize and to be fertilized by the other disciplines. Our Legal Historian is setting up a list of other legal-history societies and we are, as a Society, corresponding with them for obvious reasons and purposes. So, too, should we list and correspond with related professional societies; we may even, provided other factors conduce, have round tables at these related meetings, especially when their annual or regional meetings are held simultaneously and in the same city.

Everything that has been said to now boils down to the universal need of all societies, namely, a devoted and available manpower. Without the cooperation of our members no program can be effected. Every member can contribute, regardless of the degree of effort, and each one of us must decide for himself what he can do best in whatever time he can allot. Those of us in the teaching profession have a special duty to engage in the work of our Society, for this is our vocation as well as our avocation, and our time is more readily available than is that of our practicing members. But the non-teachers are the ones who are more experienced in the "daily doing," and the quotation from Ned Heinish's questionnaire is apropos:

I'm just a working lawyer who loves books and has been a 'history buff' most of his days. . . . The Society has my moral and what little financial support I can muster, but it will have to look elsewhere for scholarly attainments.

There is no reason, however, why such a member can't engage in committee work. As a matter of fact, this particular Ned has already become a working buff for 1959, and we call upon all other Neds to come to the aid of our Society. I repeat, without the cooperation of all our members, we cannot succeed in effecting any program for 1959.

A word of tribute to our predecessors in office. The birth of any infant society is a labor of love. Unforeseen obstacles arise; there is a failure of continued effort; and the first flush of devotion fades into nothingness. Erwin Surrency has managed to combine the editorship of our *Journal* with the presidency of our Society for two years, and the fact that he and his fellow officers have accomplished so much is a tribute to their devotion and to their ability. The Society is indebted to them.

The current slate of officers and committees is a good one. It is a working one. But it contains too many duplications. Ideally, no member should be called upon to serve in more than one position or upon more than one committee. There is no reason, save the "George approach," why this ideal cannot be attained. And there is also no reason why, given additional members who accrete to the committees, our Society cannot enter the next convention with a roster of at least five hundred.

That is our goal in membership for 1959. But for this, and our other plans, to become reality, not only a program is required, but the men to power the organization.

That is why this address is an appeal to the organization man.

Morris D. Forkosch

Brooklyn Law School December 29, 1958

#### CERTIFICATE OF INCORPORATION

of

#### AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR LEGAL HISTORY, INC.

Pursuant to the Membership Corporations Law of the State of New York

WE, THE UNDERSIGNED, desiring to form a membership corporation pursuant to the provisions of the Membership Corporations Law of the State of New York

#### DO HEREBY CERTIFY AS FOLLOWS:

First: That the name of the proposed corporation is: American Society for Legal History, Inc.

Second: That the purposes for which it is to be formed are: to foster the increased study of the general history of law, its origins and its institutions; to encourage the teaching of the subject of legal history in both professional and non-professional institutions of higher education; to provide an assured forum for the exchange of data and ideas among those working in the area of legal history; to sponsor occasional international congresses for the furtherance of the study of legal history, both in the United States of America and abroad; to issue publications, in serial and monographic form, so that work done in the area of legal history may secure publication; to cooperate with other organizations, with institutions, individuals, with governments, and agencies of government, and all or any who might be interested in the subject of legal history; to receive gifts, to collect dues and make assessments, to extend grants, and to direct projects that further the study of legal history and the purposes of this corporation;

Said corporation is organized for the purposes hereinbefore set forth, but in no way for profit. For any and all such purposes, it may obtain, purchase, hold, dispose of, and otherwise possess real and personal property of any and all kind and description, but to be devoted to and solely for the purposes above set forth.

Third: That the territory in which its operations are principally to be conducted is in the State of New York although the operations of the corporation are not to be deemed limited to such territory but may take place in the United States of America, its possessions and dependencies and elsewhere in the world.

FOURTH: That the office of said corporation shall be located in the Borough of Brooklyn, County of Kings, City and State of New York.

FIFTH: That the number of directors of said corporation shall be not less than five (5) nor more than twenty-five (25).

Sixth: That the names and residences of the directors until the first annual meeting of the members are as follows:

| NAME                          | RESIDENCE   |
|-------------------------------|---|
| Harold Hitz Burton            | The Supreme Court, Washington 25, D.C.                            |
| Andrew V. Clements            | Albany Law School, 80 New Scotland<br>Ave., Albany 8, N. Y.       |
| Jerome Prince                 | Brooklyn Law School, 375 Pearl St.,<br>Brooklyn I, N. Y.          |
| Jacob D. Hyman                | Buffalo Law School, 77 West Eagle St.,<br>Buffalo 2, N. Y.        |
| William C. Warren             | Columbia Law School, New York 27, N. Y.                           |
| Gray Thoron                   | Cornell Law School, Ithaca, N. Y.                                 |
| William H: Mulligan           | Fordham Law School, 302 Broadway,<br>New York 7, N. Y.            |
| Joseph A. Cox                 | New York Law School, 244 Williams St.,<br>New York 38, N. Y.      |
| Russell Denison Niles         | New York University Law School, Washington Sq., New York 3, N. Y. |
| Rev. Joseph T. Tinnelly, C.M. | St. John's Law School, 96 Schermerhorn<br>St., Brooklyn 1, N. Y.  |
| Ralph E. Kharas               | Syracuse Law School, Ernest I. White Hall, Syracuse 10, N. Y.     |
| Benjamin F. Boyer             | Temple Law School, 1715 N. Broad St.,<br>Philadelphia 22, Pa.     |
| Morris D. Forkosch            | Brooklyn Law School, 375 Pearl St.,<br>Brooklyn I, N. Y.          |
| Francis S. Philbrick          | University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia<br>19, Pa.               |
| Earl Finbar Murphy            | 1715 N. Broad St., Philadelphia 22, Pa.                           |
| Erwin C. Surrency             | 1715 N. Broad St., Philadelphia 22, Pa.                           |

Seventh: That all of the subscribers to this certificate are of full age; that all of them are citizens of the United States; that at least one of them is a resident of the State of New York, and that of the

persons named as directors all are citizens of the United States and at least one is a resident of the State of New York.

In Testimony Whereof we have made, subscribed and acknowledged this Certificate of Incorporation this 17th day of October, 1958.

HAROLD HITZ BURTON

ANDREW V. CLEMENTS

JEROME PRINCE

JACOB D. HYMAN

WILLIAM C. WARREN

GRAY THORON

WILLIAM H. MULLIGAN

Јоѕерн А. Сох

RUSSELL DENISON NILES

REV. JOSEPH T. TINNELLY, C.N.

RALPH E. KHARAS

BENJAMIN F. BOYER

Morris D. Forkosch

FRANCIS S. PHILBRICK

EARL FINBAR MURPHY

ERWIN C. SURRENCY

· 29 ·

### STATE OF NEW YORK SS:

MORRIS D. FORKOSCH being duly sworn deposes and says: I am an attorney-at-law duly admitted to practice before the Supreme Court of the State of New York, and I know of my own knowledge that no previous application has been made to any Justice of this Court for an order approving the foregoing Certificate of In-

corporation and consenting that the same be filed.

That I am presenting this proposed Certificate of Incorporation on behalf of the incorporators named therein who are, as their names indicate, individuals of the highest standing in the legal profession, including therein Deans of the Law Schools in this State. That all of the said incorporators are either personally known to me or are personally known by others in the group of incorporators whom I personally know.

That the reason for the organization of this group is that while many associations exist to foster and further the study and the practice of the law, there is no organization in existence in this State or in this Country which is devoted exclusively to the study of legal history and, more particularly, the legal history in and of this Country. That for all of the above reasons, it is respectfully requested that the within certificate be approved.

MORRIS D. FORKOSCH

Sworn to before me this 20 day of October 1958

GERALD A. GILBRIDE Notary Public, State of New York No. 24-6514935, Qualified in Kings County Commission Expires March 30, 1960

I, HONORABLE GEORGE EILPERIN a Justice of the Supreme Court of the State of New York of the Second Judicial District, do hereby approve the foregoing certificate of incorporation of the American Society for Legal History, Inc., and consent that the same be filed.

George Eilperin Justice of the Supreme Court, Second Judicial District

Dated: January 15, 1959, Brooklyn, N.Y.

### By-Laws of The Society

In order to further the purposes of this Society and provide for its management, the following provisions are adopted as its by-laws.

#### ARTICLE I

#### MEMBERS

1. Any person interested in legal history may, upon application to the Society and payment of dues, be admitted to membership. Any institution

may do likewise.

2. A member shall be entitled to attend and vote at all assemblies, meetings, and conferences; run for, be elected or appointed to, and serve in any office; be considered for appointment to any committee; make motions and work for their adoption within the Society; and receive all publications of the Society under the terms to be set for each type or unit of the said publication.

3. The Society may, upon prior recommendation of the board of directors, (1) elect persons to honorary membership in the Society, but no more than one such honorary membership may be voted each year; and (2) create such classifications of memberships as it determines upon such

terms and conditions as it sets forth.

4. A member may withdraw from or transfer to any class of membership for which he is eligible at any time upon presentation of his resigna-

tion or request for transfer, to the board.

5. The dues for annual or regular membership shall be \$10.00 each year, and dues for all other classifications shall be fixed by the Society upon prior recommendation of the board. All annual dues are payable annually on January 1st of each year. Only those members who have paid their dues and fees are to be members in good standing entitled to all the privileges and benefits and the right to vote and hold office.

6. Fees and dues shall be set by the Society upon recommendation of the board of directors. All such fees and dues shall be subject to change

by the Society.

#### ARTICLE II

#### DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS

- 1. The chief executive agency of the Society shall be a board of directors.
- 2. There shall be not less than nine (9) or more than fifteen (15) members of the board. Directors shall be elected for terms of three (3) years each. If any member of the board shall die or resign, leaving an unexpired part of his term, then, by majority vote of the board, a successor shall be elected to the unexpired part of that term. Directors for full terms

shall be elected by the Society. The number of persons who shall compose

the board shall be determined by majority vote of the Society.

3. Of the first board of directors, one-third (1/3) shall be elected for a term of one (1) year, one-third (1/3) for a term of two (2) years, and one-third (1/3) for a term of three (3) years. Thereafter, elections shall be for a term of three (3) years except when any increase in the board is voted by the Society, in which event increase(s) shall be placed in one of the three aforesaid categories of directorships in order and the initial term of that office(s) shall be for a part or full period of three (3) years.

4. There shall be an executive committee of the board of directors composed of the officers of the Society and no less than three (3) or more than five (5) directors chosen by the board, which executive committee may exercise the powers of the board at such times when it is impossible

for them to assemble a quorum of the said board.

5. The officers of the Society shall be a president, a vice-president, a secretary, and a treasurer. The powers and duties of these officers shall be such as are usually held by officers of like organizations plus those assigned them by the board or the Society. If the office of president becomes vacant the vice-president shall perform the duties of the president for the unexpired term.

6. The terms of office for the officers shall be one (1) year and shall run from January 1st until the following December 31st of each year. No person may serve as an officer for more than four (4) years out of six con-

secutive years.

7. The board is empowered to create a system of regional vice-presidents and secretaries, who shall be appointed by the president for terms

equivalent to his.

8. No salaries shall be paid by the Society to any member, officer, or director. Compensation, to be set by the board after full consideration of the Society's resources and subject to approval of the Society, may be made to any clerical employee retained by the Society for the furtherance of its purposes. Travel expenses may be extended to directors and officers of the Society by vote of the board, but only when such persons are engaged in the Society's business. Notwithstanding the above provisions, the president shall have power and authority to authorize and make disbursements up to fifty (\$50.00) dollars without prior or subsequent authorization or ratification by the board or the Society, and the board shall have like power and authority to vote and make disbursements up to one hundred (\$100.00) dollars, provided that said disbursements pertain and relate to the necessary and usual operations of the Society and are necessary for its regular conduct of Society business, and provided further that a full and complete accounting be made of all such disbursements to the Society's officers.

9. The board may appoint a person to assist the secretary or the treasurer in the performance of his work, and each such assistant may be deputed by the secretary or treasurer to represent him at meetings of the Society, whenever it is impossible for the secretary or treasurer to attend. The Society may require a written report from either the secretary or treasurer in the event of the absence of either or both, in addition to the report submitted by the assistant of the absentee.

ARTICLE III

ELECTIONS

1. No later than September 1st of each year, commencing with the year in which these by-laws are approved, if adopted before August 1st thereof, the President shall appoint a nominating committee consisting of not less than three members of the Society. The names of the committee shall be published in the first available issue of the American Journal of Legal History then appearing, with invitation to the general membership that suggestions of nominees for the various offices be sent to the chairman of the committee. The committee shall be instructed to present to the secretary of the Society on or before October 1st of each year a nominee for the presidency and nominations for each elective office to be filled, including the board, the nominees being members in good standing at that time. Space shall be provided on the ballot for the individual voter's alternative choice.

2. Elective offices and board members shall be chosen through elections to be held during the month of November. Each member in good standing shall be given the opportunity to vote by mail, upon appropriate ballots, to be prepared by the nominating committee, and mailed to all members in good standing no later than November 1st. The secretary of the Society or his assistant shall attend to all such mailings. All ballots must be returned by mail addressed to said chairman of the nominating committee and post-marked no later than November 20th of that month. The results of the election shall be certified and announced by the said chairman of the nominating committee at the earliest opportunity but no later than December 15th, the method of announcement being either by a special or general membership report or by publication in the American Journal or both.

ARTICLE IV

#### MEETINGS

1. A quorum of the board of directors for the purpose of carrying on business shall consist of not less than four (4) members or one third (1/3) of the total board membership, whichever is the greater. A quorum of the executive committee shall consist of the president, or in his absence the vice-president, the secretary, the treasurer, and the representatives of the board selected in accordance with the provisions of Article II, ¶4 of these by-laws. Any quorum may be made up by a written proxy sent by the absent person to the secretary of the Society. The secretary or treasurer in their respective absences shall be represented by their respective assistants, if any, as provided for in Article II, ¶9 of these by-laws.

2. The Society shall, whenever possible, hold a general meeting or assembly at a time and place specified by the board of directors. A special meeting or assembly of the Society may be called not more than once in any calendar year. Neither this limitation nor the previous one shall apply to regional or branch meetings or conferences or panels or round tables which meet in conjunction with the meetings of other associations or

separate therefrom.

3. If at any meeting of the board of directors or of the executive committee a quorum is not present, then any action taken at such a meeting

shall be consultative only and without effect for any other purpose unless

subsequently ratified by the Society.

4. The board of directors shall meet not less than once each calendar year for the purpose of conducting the business of the Society. It can be called more often by the president or by one-third (½) of its members, and the place of its meeting shall be selected by the president. The meetings of the executive committee shall be called at the discretion of the president for the purpose of conducting the routine business of the Society, subject to any approval needed for its actions from the board or the Society. The president shall serve as the chairman of the board and the executive committee, and in his absence the vice-president shall serve as such.

5. The place of meeting for all boards, committees, and other agencies of the Society shall be determined by the president upon consultation with the persons concerned, subject to the provisions of Article IV, ¶2

above.

### ARTICLE V REGIONAL BRANCHES AND CONFERENCES

I. Notwithstanding anything set forth in Article II, ¶7, or Article IV, ¶3, above, there is hereby created a group of "branches" of this Society, as follows: an Eastern Branch (including the area in the northeast portion of this country); a Central Branch (including the area in the northcentral portion of this country); a Pacific Coast Branch; a Southern Branch; and a South-Western Branch; and such others as the board of directors may deem it advisable to create. The names of these branches may be amended or adopted by the branches in accordance with their own rules, provided only that all branches must affix this Society's name, e.g., The Eastern Branch of the American Society for Legal History, Inc.

2. Whenever fifteen or more members in good standing of this Society desire to activate one of the above-mentioned branches they may apply to the president of this Society who, with the approval of the board of

directors, will authorize such activation.

3. Any such region shall be autonomous, shall be empowered to elect its own officers and board and committees, and shall be empowered to hold conventions, conferences, and meetings as it sees fit, all subject, however, to the following: (a) these by-laws and the charter of this Society are supreme; (b) the dues of all regional members are to be paid directly to the national offices, but of all dues as and so paid there may be remitted to the regional treasurer by the national treasurer such sum as the national board of directors, upon application of such regional branch, recommends; (c) no convention, conference, or general meeting shall be held without prior "clearing" of the date and time and place with the president of this Society (this does not apply to committee meetings); (d) no regional organization may incur any Society expenditure, or pledge the Society's funds, or otherwise use or utilize the Society's name, without first obtaining the written authorization therefor from the president who must first poll the board and obtain its approval on each general item.

4. Notwithstanding anything above set forth, the national and regional members owe their first loyalty and duty to this Society. National mem-

bers may affiliate with branches, and may serve upon committees of na-

tional and regional jurisdiction without limitation.

5. In case of any conflict between the national Society and a regional group the national board of directors has and is given sole and undisputed power to determine the dispute and its decision shall be final and not appealable to any internal or external forum. The national Society, on recommendation of the national board of directors, may disestablish and withdraw recognition of any regional branch, regardless of any reason therefor, and such a Society decision shall likewise be final and not appealable to any internal or external forum.

#### ARTICLE VI

#### AMENDMENTS AND MISCELLANEOUS

1. The official organ of this Society is and shall be the American Journal of Legal History, and this Society shall make available to said Journal all news, information, and business for publication therein. Of all dues received for any class of membership, there shall be a portion thereof set aside for and turned over to the said Journal as and for a subscription for said member so paying dues to said Journal. The treasurer of the Society is directed so to do. The board of directors of the Society shall determine the sum to be so allocated.

2. The Society being empowered to receive gifts and property, both real and personal, and to extend grants and to direct projects that further the study of legal history and the purpose of this Society, the agency within the Society that shall act for or shall depute others to act for it or with it is the board of directors. Grants for research, and other academic purposes, may be made by or through the Society to members, officers, directors, or any person connected in any capacity with the Society, as well as to persons having no connection with the Society.

3. The board of directors shall issue to the members of the Society an annual report of the condition of the Society, as provided by law. This report may contain such additional information as the board shall determine. It may be published in such form as the board determines is most

suitable and practicable.

4. Any and all papers, documents, correspondence, and like and analogous items held or written or obtained by any officer or member pertaining directly or indirectly to the affairs of this Society belong to it, and upon the expiration of the term of said individual shall be turned over to the Society's designee.

5. Unless specified to the contrary, all votes referred to in these by-laws

and all actions referred to shall be taken by a majority vote.

6. Amendments to these by-laws can be made only upon the recommendation of the board of directors to the Society, and only by a two-thirds (¾) vote of those voting. If the board fails to recommend any proposal forwarded to it for consideration by any member in good standing, then upon the affirmative vote of a majority of the said board and all committees' members, such proposal may be considered by a general vote of the Society, and if two-thirds (¾) of those members of the Society so vote therefor, the said proposed amendment shall be adopted.

### Members of the Society

#### ALPHABETICAL LIST WITH BIOGRAPHICAL MATTER®

\* KEY TO ABBREVIATIONS:

b. = born assns. = associations mil. = military service awds. = awards res. = research (plus place where conducted) pub. = publications

ABBEY, ARTHUR NEWTON, 31 E. 12th St., New York 3, N.Y., b. 1935, Brooklyn, N.Y.

ALFORD, NEILL HERBERT, JR., The Law Sch., Univ. of Va., Charlottesville, Va.; Univ. of Va., prof.; b. 1919; assns.: A.B.A., Va. Bar Assn., Amer. Soc. Intl. L., Selden Soc.; mil. 1941-46; res.: The development of English legal policy concerning philanthropic giving (U. of Wisc., U. of Va.); Trusts by operation of law (U. of Va.); pub.: Cases and Materials on Decedents Estates and Trusts (with John Ritchie and Richard Effland) (1954).

ALLEN, FRANCIS ALFRED, The Law Sch., Univ. of Chicago, Chicago 37, Ill.; Univ. of Chicago, prof.; b. 1919; assns.: Chicago Bar Assn.; mil. 1942-45.

ALLEN, R. E., 1557 W. Beverly Blvd., Los Angeles 26, Cal.; attorney; b. 1890, Solomon, Kans.; assns.: A.B.A., Los Angeles Bar Assn., Lawyers Club of Los Angeles.

ANDERSON, DONALD R., Barlow, Goodaley & Adams, 53 State St., Boston, Mass.; atty.; b. 1927, Chicago, Ill.; assns.: A.B.A., Boston Bar Assn., Selden Soc.; mil. 1945-47.

ANSPACH, MARSHALL REID, 120 W. 4th St., Williamsport, Pa.; atty.; b. 1895, Milton, Northumberland County, Pa.; assns.: Lycoming Law

Assn., Pa. Bar Assn., A.B.A., Selden Soc., Am. Bibliographical Soc., Muncy Hist. Soc., Pa. Folklore Soc., Evangelical and Reformed Ch. Hist. Soc.; mil. W.W.I.; pub.: "Historical Sketches of the Bench and Bar of Lycoming County, Pa.," Lycoming Reporter (1958); "An Account of the Muncy Abolition Riot of 1842," Now and Then, VII (1942), 29-37; "The Sunbury Case: A Study in Absentee Landlordism," Northumberland County Hist. Soc. Proceedings, v. 19, 105-118.

ANTONOW, JOSEPH P., 135 S. La Salle St., Chicago 3, Ill.; atty.; b. 1915, Chicago, Ill.; assns.: A.B.A., Chicago Bar Assn., Ill. St. Bar Assn.

ARDERY, CHARLES WALKER, JR., RR 5 Box WC 17, Noblesville, Ind.; b. 1931, Indianapolis, Ind.; assns.: A.B.A., Ind. St. Bar Assn.

ARRINGTON, JO DRAKE, Hewes Bldg., Gulfport, Miss.

AVERY, LUTHER J., Bancroft, Avery & McAlister, 220 Bush St., San Francisco 4, Calif.; tax atty., lect. in taxation; b. 1923, New London, Conn.; assns.: Calif. St. Bar, A.B.A., Calif. C.P.A. Soc.

BACHELDER, WILLIAM K., Sidley, Austin, Burgess & Smith, 11 S. La Salle St., Chicago 3, Ill.; atty.; b. 1924, Indianapolis, Ind.; assns.: A.B.A., Ind. Bar Assn., Ind. Hist. Soc., Chicago Bar

Assn., Ill. Bar Assn.; awds.: Order of the Coif; mil. 1942-46.

BAKER, LOIS INMAN, 216 Fenton Hall, University of Ore., Eugene, Ore.; b. 1906, Elmira, Ore.; awds.: Phi Beta Kappa; assns.: A.A.L.L.

BALMER, GEORGE B., 518 Washington St., Reading, Pa.; atty.; b. 1902, Reading, Pa.; assns.: Berks County Bar Assn., Pa. Bar Assn., A.B.A., Selden Soc.

BARRY, FRANK J., Wright, Goddard & Barry, 262 N. Meyer Ave., Tucson, Ariz.; atty.; b. 1913, Nogales, Ariz.; assns.: A.B.A., Am. Jud. Soc., Pima County Bar Assn.; mil. 1942-45.

BATES, HOWARD H., c/o Bobbs-Merrill, 1720 E. 38th St., Indianapolis 6, Ind.; b. 1901; A.B. Butler Coll., LL.B., Indiana Univ., 1925; Dir. Pub. Rel., Law Div.; Org. and Dir. Indianapolis Civil War Round Table; assns.: Indiana Hist. Soc.

BATTERSON, JACK L., 701 Missouri Ave., Columbia, Mo.; Univ. of Mo., hist. instr.; b. 1930, Portsmouth, Ohio; assns.: Am. Hist. Assn., So. Hist. Assn.; mil. 1952-54.

BECKER, WILLIAM H., 317 Guitar Bldg., Columbia, Mo.; atty.; b. Brookhaven, Miss.; assns.: A.B.A., Am. Jud. Soc., Order of the Coif, Am. College Trial Lawyers, Mo. Bar Assn.; res.: Chmn, Committee for drafting rules of civil procedure for Mo.

BIEL, JOHN G., 301 Star Bldg., Terre Haute, Ind.; atty., lect.; b. 1906, Terre Haute, Ind.; assns.: A.B.A., Am. Jud. Soc., Ind. Bar Assn., Terre Haute Bar Assn., Am. Soc. for State & Local Hist., Miss. Valley Hist. Assn., Vigo County Hist. Soc., Ind. Hist. Soc., Ill. Hist. Soc., Wy. Hist. Soc., Ohio Hist. Soc., Wis. Hist. Soc., Mich. Hist. Soc., The Greater St. Louis Archaeol. Soc., Ill. Archaeol. Soc. Hist. Assn., Am. Hist. Assn., Medieval Academy of Am., Am. Manuscript Soc.; awds.: County Hist., Vigo County, Ind.; Dir. & Chmn.

Museum Comm., Vigo County Hist. Soc.

BIERLY, G. REMY, State House, Suite 421, Indianapolis, Ind.; judge; b. Elizabeth, Ind.; assns: Adams County Bar Assn., Ind. St. Bar Assn., Adams County Historical Soc.

BITNER, HARRY, Yale Law Library, New Haven, Conn.; law librarian.

BLACK, THOMPSON, JR., 1641 Courtney Ave., Los Angeles 46, Cal.; Los Angeles State College, assoc. prof. of govt., chmn.; b. 1909, Berwick-upon-Tweed, Eng.; assns.: Am. Soc. of Internat. Law, So. Cal. Pol. Sci. Soc.; awds.: Purple Heart, Navy Unit Commendation Ribbon; mil. 1929-47; res.: "Contributions of Canon Law to modern legal procedure" (UCLA).

BLISS, W. H., History Dept., Univ. of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh 13, Pa.

BLUME, WILLIAM WIRT, Univ. of Mich. Law Sch., Ann Arbor, Mich.; Univ. of Mich., prof.; b. 1893, Huntington, W. Va.; assns.: A.B.A., Mich. Bar Assn.; mil. 1917-18; res.: Historical Introduction to Anglo-American Law (Univ. of Mich., Law Sch.); Criminal Law on the Frontier (Univ. of Mich., Law Sch.); Probate Courts in the Territories of the U.S.: 1787-1837 (Univ. of Mich., Law Sch.); pub.: Transactions of the Supreme Ct. of the Territory of Mich., 1805-1836 (1935-40); Unreported Opinions of the Supreme Ct. of Mich. (1945); "First Charge to the Grand Jury in the Dist. Ct. of Michilimackinac," Mich. St. Bar Journal (1935) 14:344-353; "Development of Criminal Law and Criminal Procedure in Modern Japan," Judge Advocate Journal (1944) 1:19-26; "Circuit Courts and the Nisi Prius System: The Making of an Appellate Court," Mich. L. Rev. (1940) 38:289-338; "Origin and Development of the Directed Verdict," Mich. L. Rev. (1950) 48:555-590; "Civil Procedure on the American Frontier," Mich. L. Rev. (1957) 56:161-224.

BOLICH, W. BRYAN, Duke Univ. Law Sch., Durham N. Car.: Duke Univ., prof.; b. 1896, Salisbury, N. Car.: assns.: N. Car. State Bar, Durham C. Bar. Duke Univ. Law Sch. Alumni Assn., Am. Rhodes Scholars. Order of Coif, Phi Beta Kappa, Duke Univ. Nat. Council: mil., 1918-19; res.: Records of the N. Car. General Court. 1693-1767 (Duke Univ. Law Sch.): The Estate for Years-Some Historical Aspects (Duke Univ. Law Sch.); pub.: Cases and Materials on Introduction to Procedure (1934); Introduction to Future Interests (1948); "Aspects of the Common Law Relating to Water Usages," Proc. Third So. Mun. and Indust. Waste Conf. (1954), 270-278: "Some Common Problems Incident to Drafting Dispositive Provisions of Donative Instruments," N. Car. L. Rev. (1956) 35:17-30.

BOYER, BENJAMIN FRANKLIN, Temple Univ. Sch. of Law, 1715 N. Broad St., Philadelphia 22, Pa.; Temple Univ. Sch. of Law, dean and prof. of law; b. 1904; assns.: A.B.A., Mo. Bar, Pa. St. Bar, Philadelphia Bar, Kansas City, Bar, Lawyers Assn. of Kansas City, Am. Law Instit., Am. Jud. Soc.; mil. 1941-45; awds.: Phi Beta Kappa; pub.: "Promissory Estoppel: Principle from Precedents," 50 Mich. L. Rev. 639, 873 (1952); "Preceptors and the Law Practice Clerkship in Pennsylvania," 134 Legal Intelligencer 1 (1956).

BROOKS, GEORGE A., Eton Hall, Garth Road, Scarsdale, N.Y.; atty.

BROWN, BRENDAN FRANCIS, Loyola Univ. of the South, New Orleans, La.; Loyola Univ. of the South, prof. of law; b. 1898, Sioux City, Iowa; assns.: Am. Law Instit., Canon Law Soc. of Am., A.B.A., Neb. State Bar Assn., Dist. of Columbia Bar Assn., Fed. Bar Assn., La. Bar Assn., N.Y. Bar Assn., New Orleans Bar Assn., U.N. League of Lawyers, La. State Law Instit.; awds.: Knights of Columbus Fellowship from the Catholic Univ. of Am.; pub.: Natural Law Jurisprudence (1955); "The Law of Trusts in

the 18th Century," Oxford Univ. Press. 1932; "Divorce in Civil Jurisprudence from 1906," Supp. II, the Cath. Encu. 3rd Section, Vol. 18 (1950); "Lord Hardwicke's Contribution to the Law of Executory Trusts," Notre Dame Lawyer, 8:413-423 (May, 1933); "Ecclesiastical Origin of the Use," Notre Dame Lawyer, 10:353-366 (May, 1935); "St. Thomas More. Lawyer," Fordham L. Rev., 4:375-390 (Nov., 1935); "Lord Hardwicke and the Science of Trust Law," Notre Dame Lawyer, 11:319-338 (May. 1937); "In Memoriam, Sir William S. Holdsworth, K.C., D.C.L., Hon. LL.D., vinerian Prof. of Eng. Law, Univ. of Oxford, 1871\*1944," Seminar, Vol. 2 (1944).

BROWN, RICHARD H., 54 Fletcher Ave., Valley Stream, N.Y.; Confidential clerk to Supreme Ct. Justice Cortland A. Johnson; b. 1898, Sempronius, N.Y.; assns.: Nassau County Bar Assn., N.Y.S. Bar Assn., N.Y.S. Hist. Assn., Soc. of Medical Jurisprudence; awds.: Order of the Coif; mil. 1918.

BRUNE, FREDERICK W., 620 Court House, Baltimore 2, Md.; Chief Judge, Md. Court of Appeals; b. 1894, Baltimore, Md.; assns.: Am. Bar Foundation, A.B.A., Am. Jud. Soc., Am. L. Instit., Bar Assn. of Baltimore City, Md. St. Bar Assn., Maritime Law Assn. of the U.S.; awds.: Order of the Coif.

BRYANT, JAMES R., 30 Michigan Ave., Chicago 2, Ill.; Ill. Appellate Ct. Judge; b. 1891, Harrisonville, Mo.; assns.: Ill. St. Bar Assn., Chicago Bar Assn., A.B.A., Chicago L. Instit., Am. Jud. Soc.; mil. 1917-19; res.: The Scope of Appellate Procedure Relating to the Review of Facts Determined by the Jury in Early English Common Law; pub.: "The Office of Master in Chancery: Early English Development," A.B.A. Journal (June, 1954); "The Office of Master in Chancery: Colonial Development," A.B.A. Journal; "The Office of Master in Chancery: Development and Use in Ill.," Northwestern Univ. L. Rev., Vol. 49, No. 4 (Sept., 1954).

BUCKLEY, JEREMIAH, Room 702, 25 E. Jackson Blvd., Chicago 4, Ill.; atty.; b. Blarney, County Cork, Ireland; assns.: Chicago Bar Assn., A.B.A., Am. Assn. of Univ. Professors; res.: The Brehon Laws; Irish Courts and Procedure.

BURKE, GIBBONS, 1500 National Bank of Commerce Bldg., New Orleans, La.; atty.; b. 1902, New Orleans, La.; assns.: A.B.A., La. Bar Assn., New Orleans Bar Assn., Bar Assn. of the City of N.Y.

BURTON, HAROLD HITZ, Supreme Court of the U.S., Washington 25, D.C.: Assoc. Justice Supreme Ct. of the U.S.; b. 1888, Jamaica Plain, Mass.; assns.: A.B.A., Ohio Bar Assn., Cleveland Bar Assn., Am. Jud. Soc.; awds.: LL.D. (1937) Bowdoin College; (1941) Oberlin; (1942) Ohio Wesleyan; (1940) Kenyon; Boston Univ.: (1945) Wooster; Heidelberg (Ohio); (1946) Western Reserve; Wesleyan (Conn.); (1952) Tenn.; (1958) Univ. of Cincinnati; J.H.D. (1943) Mt. Union; J.D. (1952) Toledo; Pershing Citation, Purple Heart, Belgian Croix de Guerre; Mayor of Cleveland (1935-40), U.S. Senator Ohio (1941-45), Assoc. Justice, Supreme Court of the U.S. (1945-present); mil. 1917-19; pub.: "Judging Is Also Administration," 21 Temple L. Otly. 77 (Oct., 1947); "Justice the Guardian of Liberty: John Marshall at the Trial of Aaron Burr," 37 A.B.A.J. 735 (Oct., 1951); "The Dartmouth College Case-A Dramatization," 38 A.B.A.J. 991 (Dec., 1952); "The Story of the Place-Where First and A Streets Formerly Met at What Is Now the Site of the Supreme Ct. Bldg.," 21 Geo. Wash. L. Rev. 253 (Jan., 1953); "Ex parte Milligan and Ex parte McCardle-The Story of a Dramatic Case and Its Unique Sequel in the Field of Judicial Rev., 41 A.B.A.J. 121 (Feb., 1955); "John Marshall-The Man," 104 Univ. of Pa. L. Rev. 3 (Oct., 1955); "The Legal Tender Cases," 42 A.B.A.J. 231 (March, 1956); "The Cornerstone of Constitutional Law: The Extraordinary Case of Marbury v. Madison," 36 A.B.A.J. 805 (Oct., 1950).

BUSCH, FRANCIS X., 134 S. La Salle St., Chicago, Ill.; DePaul Univ. Law Sch., dean emeritus and special lecturer; b. 1879, Detroit, Mich.; assns.: Chicago Bar Assn., Ill. St. Bar Assn., Am. Bar Assn., Chicago Law Club, Chicago Legal Club, Fellow, Am. College of Trial Lawyers, Scribes; pub.: Notable American Trials: Prisoners at the Bar, Guilty or Not Guilty, They Escaped the Hangman, Enemies of the State.

CAMPBELL, RUFUS, Ripley, Tenn.; atty., clerk and master of the Chancery Court; b. 1902, Ripley, Tenn.; assns.: Tenn. Bar Assn., Lauderdale County Bar Assn.; awds.: Past Pres. Lauderdale County Bar Assn., Special Judge County Court, Atty. Gen. Pro Tem.; mil. 1942-44.

CARRINGTON, PAUL, Carrington, Cowan, Johnson, Bromberg & Leeds, Mercantile Bank Bldg., Dallas 1, Tex.; atty.

CATES, AUBREY M., JR., Judge, Court of Appeals of Ala., P.O. Box 351, Montgomery 1, Ala.

CHAPMAN, S. VANNORT, 1012 Mercantile Trust Bldg., Baltimore 2, Md.

CLARK, JAMES E., London, Yancey, Clark & Allen, Comer Bldg., Birmingham, Ala.; atty.

CLEMENTS, ANDREW V., Albany Law Sch., Union Univ., Albany, N.Y.; Albany Law Sch. dean; b. 1898; assns.: Albany County Bar Assn., N.Y.S. Bar Assn., A.B.A. Assn. of the Bar of the City of New York; Honorary Legal Scholarship Soc. of Justinian; pub.: Criminal Law and Procedure (1952); Trial Judge's Manual of Charges (1951, 1956).

CLIFFORD, PAUL J., Room 204, 160 Broadway, New York 38, N.Y.; atty.

COHEN, EDWIN, 1010 Republic Bldg., Louisville 2, Ky.; atty.

COLLIER, CHARLES S., c/o Cosmos Club, 2121 Massachusetts Ave., N.W., Washington 6, D.C.

CONDIT, FORREST M., 414 Hulman Bldg., Evansville, Ind.; atty.; b. Muskegon, Mich.; assns.: Evansville Bar Assn., Ind. St. Bar Assn.

CONWAY, ALBERT, 45 Monroe Place, Brooklyn 1, N.Y.; N.Y. Court of Appeals, Chief Judge.

COOLEY, THOMAS McINTYRE, II, Univ. of Pittsburgh, Sch. of Law, Pittsburgh 13, Pa.; Univ. of Pittsburgh, dean and prof. of law; assns.: A.B.A., Fed. Bar Assn., Dist. of Columbia Bar Assn., Va. Bar Assn.

CORNELL, WALTER A., c/o Bobbs-Merrill, 1720 E. 38th St., Indianapolis 6, Ind.; atty., Carmel, Ind.

COTTRELL, DAVID, JR., c/o Eaton, Cottrell & Galloway, Hatten Bldg., Gulfport, Miss.; atty.

COVEY, FRANK M., JR., Belnap, Spencer, Hardy & Freeman, I N. La Salle St., Chicago 2, Ill.; atty.; b. 1932. Chicago, Ill.; assns.: A.B.A., Ill. St. Bar, Chicago Bar Assn., Ill. St. Hist. Soc.; awds.: Alpha Sigma Nu (Jesuit), Pi Gamma Mu (Soc. Sci.), Blue Key (Service); res.: Land Use Law and Transportation Problems; pub.: Right of Access and the Ill. Highway Program, 47 Ill. Bar J. 634 (1959); Control of Highway Access, 38 Neb. L. Rev. 407 (1959); Joint Legal-Economic Research in Highway Law, 205 Highway Research B. Bull. 11 (1958); Language: a Lawyer's Tool or his Mystic Art, 4 Stud. L. J. 19 (June, 1959); The French Law of Eminent Domain, N.D.L. Rev. (July, 1959); Roadside Control in Wisc., Wisc. L. Rev. (Summer, 1959).

COX, JOSEPH A., 31 Chambers St., New York 7, N.Y.

CROTTY, HOMER D., Gibson, Dunn, and Crutcher, 634 S. Spring St., Los

Angeles 14, Cal.; atty.; b. 1899, Oakland, Cal.; assns.: Amer. Law Inst., A.B.A., Cal. State Bar, Los Angeles County Bar Assn., Selden Society, Stair Society, Jud. Society, Inter. Bar Assn., Inter. Law Assn., Inter-American Bar Assn., Am. Soc. of Inter. Law, Council on For. Rel., Cal. Hist. Society, Los Angeles World Aff. Council; awds.: Order of the Coif; mil., 1918.

CURTIS, STEPHEN R., dean and prof. of law, William Mitchell College of Law, St. Paul 5, Minn.

CUTLER, S. OLEY, S.J., 19 Eye St., N.W., Washington 1, D.C.

DAVID, LEON THOMAS, The Superior Ct., Los Angeles 12, Cal.; Sch. of Pub. Administration, USC, prof., Judge Superior Ct., Appellate Dept., Los Angeles, Cal.; assns.: A.B.A., Los Angeles County Bar Assn., Hollywood Bar Assn., Westwood Bar Assn., Am. Jud. Soc., Selden Soc.; awds.: Order of the Coif, Legion of Merit (U.S.), Medalha de Guerra (Brazil), Medaille d'Honneur, Liberation (Fr.); mil. 1924 to date (res., active); res.: The Legal Structure of the Militia System, and Its Importance in the American Revolution (Los Angeles, Cal.); The Historical Bases of Nonpartisan Local Govt. in California (Los Angeles, Cal.); pub.: Law and Lawyers (Los Angeles: Parker & Baird, 1950); "The City Clerk: His Origin and Hist.," Papers, Tenth Annual Instit. of Govt., USC.

DAVIS, HARRY W., 291 Broadway, New York 7, N.Y.; atty.; b. 1911, New York, N.Y.; assns.: N.Y. County Lawyers Assn., N.Y.S. Bar Assn.

DEAN, WILLIAM TUCKER, Myron Taylor Hall, Cornell Law Sch., Ithaca, N.Y.; Cornell Law Sch., assoc. prof.; assns.: Assn. of the Bar of the City of New York, N.Y.S. Bar Assn., A.B.A., Am. Soc. of International Law, International Law Assn., Am. Foreign Law Assn.; mil. 1943-46.

DECHTER, NATHAN, 141 Broadway, New York, N.Y.; atty.; b. 1927, Russia; assns.: New York County

Lawyers Assn.; res.: Origin and History of the Domestic Relations Court (J.D.EP. Sept. 1959); pub.: Institutional Detention of Adolescents (J.D.EP., 1957).

DESMOND, CHARLES S., Court of Appeals, Albany, N.Y.; Judge, Court of Appeals of the State of N.Y.; b. 1896, Buffalo, N.Y.

DOWNER, L. J., Faculty of Law, Univ. of Melbourne, Carlton, N.3. Victoria, Aust.; senior lecturer in law.

DRINAN, ROBERT F., Boston Coll. Law Sch., Brighton 35, Mass.; Boston Coll. Law Sch., dean; b. 1920, Hyde Park, Mass.

DUER, WILBUR, 230 N. 14th St., Kansas City 2, Kan.; claims director, Blue Cross & Blue Shield, Kansas City, Mo.; b. 1912, Kansas City, Kan.; assns.: A.B.A., Kansas City Bar Assn.; awds.: 5 Battle Stars ETO; mil. 1942-46.

DUNAKIN, PAUL H., La Salle Ext. Univ., 417 S. Dearborn St., Chicago 5, Ill.; La Salle Ext. Univ., Dean of the Law School; b. 1901, Mark Center, Ohio; assns.: A.B.A., Ill. St. Bar Assn., Chicago Bar Assn.

DUNBAR, ROBERT G., Dept. of Hist., Govt. and Philosophy, Montana State College, Bozeman, Mont.; prof.

DYKSTRA, DANIEL J., Coll. of Law, Univ. of Utah, Salt Lake City, Utah; prof.

EDER, PHANOR J., 74 Trinity Place, New York 6, N.Y.; b. 1880, Palmino, Colombia, S.A.; assns.: A.B.A.; res.: Latin American Constitutional Law; pub.: The Gold Clause Cases in the Light of History; Latin American Corporation Law.

EINHORN, SAMUEL L., 12 S. 12th St., Philadelphia 7, Pa.; atty.; b. 1893, Philadelphia, Pa.; assns.: A.B.A., Pa. Bar Assn., Philadelphia Bar Assn., The

Am. Judicature Soc., Assn. of Interstate Commerce Practitioners.

ELROD, HARVEY, Deramus, Fitts, Johnston & Mullins, 622-638 Brown-Marx Bldg., Birmingham 3, Ala.; atty.

EMMONS, WILLIAM R., 926 South Bonnie Brae, Los Angeles 6, Calif.; b. 1925.

EPPS, JAMES HAWS, JR., 2171/2 E. Main St., Johnson City, Tenn.; atty.; b. 1892, Jonesboro, Tenn.; assns.: A.B.A., Tenn. Bar Assn., Washington County Bar Assn., Labor, Transportation and Ins. Sections of A.B.A., Am. Jud. Soc., Am. Counsel Assn., Natl. Assn. of R.R. Trial Counsel.

ESS, HENRY N., III, Messrs. Sullivan & Cromwell, 48 Wall St., New York 5, N.Y.; atty.

FARBSTEIN, LEONARD, 500 Grand St., New York 2, N. Y., atty., Congressman 19th C.D., N. Y.: b. 1902, New York City; Assn.: N.Y.C. Bar Assoc., N.Y. State Bar Assoc., N.Y. County Lawyer's Assoc., Amer. Bar Assoc., former member Judicial Conference of State of N.Y., former member of Judicial Council of the State of N.Y.

FEDYNSKYJ, JURIJ, Indiana Univ., Bloomington, Ind.; Indiana Univ., asst. law librarian; b. 1912, Mosty Welyki, Ukraine; assns.: Shevchenko Scientific Soc., Am. Assn. of Law Librarians; res.; American official editions of state session laws published in German, French and Spanish; History of the institution of aftesting witnesses; pub.; Rechstatsachen auf dem Gebiete des Erbrechts im Gerichts bezirk Innsbruck, 1937-1941 (Innsbruck, 1943); Sovietization of an occupied area through the medium of the courts (Northern Bukovina) Am. Slav and East. Europ. Rev. 1953.

FIECHTER, FREDERICK C., JR., 12 S. 12th St., Philadelphia 7, Pa.; atty.; b. 1911, Wyndmoor, Pa.; assns.: A.B.A.; awds.: Phi Beta Kappa; mil. 1942-46; pub.: "The Preparation of an

American Aristocrat," New England Otly. (1933).

FITTS, ALBERT N., 113½ Magnolia Ave., Sanford, Fla.; atty.

FLOOD, GERALD F., Judge, Court of Common Pleas No. 6, Room 606, City Hall, Philadelphia 7, Pa.

FLYNN, FRANK J., Continental Manor, Newport, R.I.; U.S. Naval War College, International Law and Relations Specialist; b. 1923, Maine; assns.: A.B.A., Inter-Am. Bar Assn., Instit. of Int'l Air Law (Montreal), Judge Advocates Assn.; mil. 1943-46; 1949; 1956-present; res.: Laws of Naval Warfare in Transition (Naval War College, Newport, R.I.); pub.: "A Brief Rationale of Law and Medicine," McGill Medical Journal (Oct., 1956).

FORBES, ANTHONY H., 134 Beverly Court, Los Angeles 49, Calif.; atty.

FORKOSCH, MORRIS D., Brooklyn Law Sch., 375 Pearl St., Brooklyn 1, N.Y.; Brooklyn Law Sch., prof. chmn., Dept. of Pub Law; b. 1908, New York, N.Y.; assns.: Academy of Pol. Sci., Am. Econ. Assn., Am. Pol. Sci. Assn., Am. Phil. Assn., N.Y.C. Bar Assn., Industrial Rel. Res. Assn., Am. Hist. Assn.: awds: Army Commendation Ribbon, Dist. Unit Badge, Phil. Ind. Medal, Phil. Mil. Merit Medal, Justice Brandeis Honor Soc.; mil. 1944-46; res.: Constitutional Law Text (B'klyn, N.Y.); Labor Law Casebook, as co-ed. (B'klyn, N.Y.); pub.: A Treatise on Labor Law (1953); Antitrust and the Consumer (1956); "American Dem. and Procedural Due Process of Law," Brooklyn Law Rev. (1958); "An Analysis of the 'Prima Facie Tort' Cause of Action," Cornell Law Otly. (1957): "A Suggested Limitation upon the 1955 Amendment Permitting the U.S. to Sue for Treble Damages-An Analysis," Antitrust Bulletin (1955); "Jurisdiction (of N.L.R.B.) and Its Impact on State Powers," Ohio St. L.J. (1955); "The Legal Status and Suability of Labor Organizations," Temple L. Qtly. (1954).

FRANK, MARTIN, 27 Madison Ave., N.Y. 10, N.Y.; b. 1900; Judge, Appellate Division, First Dept.

FRIEND, HENRY, 414 Colby-Abbott Bldg., Milwaukee, Wisc.; atty.

FREUND, PAUL A., Harvard Law Sch., Cambridge 38, Mass.; Harvard Law Sch., prof.

FULD, STANLEY H., Court of Appeals, Albany 1, N.Y.; judge; b. New York, N.Y., 1903; assns.: A.B.A.., N.Y. State Bar Assn., New York City Bar Assn., N.Y. County Lawyers Assn.

GERBER, GUSTAVE A., 55 Broadway, New York 6, N.Y.; atty.

GRIMES, JOHN S., Indiana Univ. Sch. of Law, Indianapolis Div., 102 W. Michigan St., Indianapolis, Ind., prof.; assns.: Boston Bar Assn.; mil. 1944-46.

GROSSMAN, BERNARD A., 1 Wall St., New York 5, N.Y.; atty.; assns.: Fed. Bar Assn. of N.Y., N.J., Conn. (pres.).

GUICE, WILLIAM L., Rushing and Guice, First Natl. Bank Bldg., Biloxi, Miss.; atty.; b. 1887, Jonesville, La.; assns.: Biloxi Bar Assn., Harrison County Bar Assn., Miss. Bar Assn., A.B.A., Amer. Jud. Society, Inter. Law Assn.

GUICE, JACOB D., First Natl. Bank Bldg., Biloxi, Miss.; atty.; b. 1915.

GUTMAN, DANIEL, New York Law Sch., 244 Williams St., New York 38, N.Y.; N.Y. Law Sch., dean; b. 1901, New York, N.Y.; assns.: Brooklyn Bar Assn., N.Y.S. Bar Assn., Omega Chi Law Fraternity.

HALBERT, SHERRILL, P.O. Box 1047, Sacramento 5, Cal.; United States Dist. Judge; b. 1901, Terra Bel-

la, Cal.; assns.: A.B.A., Am. Jud. Soc., Selden Soc.; res.: Relation of Lincoln and Taney (Dred Scott Decision-Ex parte Merryman); pub.: "The Suspension of the Writ of Habeas Corpus by Pres. Lincoln," The Am. Journal of Leg. Hist. (1958).

HAMLIN, PAUL M., 121 S. Mountain Ave., Montclair, N.J.

HANCOCK, MOFFATT, Stanford Law Sch., Stanford, Cal.; Stanford Law Sch., prof.; b. 1912, Toronto, Can.; assns.: Am. Soc. for Legal Phil., Selden Soc.; pub.: Torts in the Conflict of Laws (1942) pp. 1-30; "Conflict, Drama and Magic in the Early English Law," 14 Ohio St. L.J. 119 (1953).

HAND, LEARNED, U.S. Courthouse, Foley Square, New York 7, N.Y.; U.S. Circuit Judge for the 2nd Circuit, retired; b. 1872, Albany, N.Y.; pub.: The Spirit of Liberty (A. A. Knopf Co.); "The Bill of Rights," Harvard Univ. Press.

HANES, CHISMAN, Klagsbrunn, Hanes, and Irwin, 710 Ring Bldg., Washington 6, D.C.; atty.; b. 1909, Pine Hall, N. Car.; assns.: A.B.A., N. Car. Bar Assn., Bar Assn. of D.C., Nat. Legal Aid Assn., Amer. Jud. Society, mil., 1942-1955; awd.: Cert. of Merit. Service, USAF, W.W.II; pub.: "The Constitutional Validity of a Federal Statute Limiting Present Portal-to-Portal Claims Under Sec. 16(b) of the Fair Labor Standards Act," J. Bar Assn. of D.C. (1947).

HARPER, LAWRENCE A., Dept. of Hist., 3303 Durnell Hall, Univ. of Cal., Berkeley, Cal.

HARRISON, JAMES T., 1616 Highland, Helena, Mont.; Chief Justice, Sup. Ct., Helena, Mont.; b. 1903, Hankinson, N.D.; assns.: A.B.A., A.J.S., Mont. Bar Assn., Natl. Conf. on Uniform Laws, A.L.I., Conf. of Chief Justices; res.: Commission for adoption of Civil Rules of Procedure in Montana in Line with Fed. Rules.

HAYS, PAUL R., 503 Kent Hall, Columbia Univ. Sch. of Law, New York, N.Y.; Columbia Univ. Sch. of Law, prof., b. 1903, Des Moines, Iowa; assns.: New York County Lawyers Assn., Assn. of the Bar of the City of New York, A.B.A., Am. Acad. of Pol. and Soc. Sci.

HEINISH, NED O., 1302 Washington Ave., Huntington 4, W. Va.; assistant U.S. Atty. for the S. Dist. of W. Va.; b. 1920, Huntington, Cabell County, W. Va.; assns.: A.B.A., Fed. Bar Assn., Cabell County Bar Assn.; awds.: A.B. cum laude, Marshall College; mil. 1942-46.

HENLEY, WILLIAM S., P.O. Box 326, Jackson, Miss.; atty.; b. 1896.

HIASSEN, CARL A., McCune, Hiassen, Kelley & Crum, Broward Nat. Bank Bldg., Fort Lauderdale, Fla.; atty.

HITCHCOCK, ROBERT B., 3110 Colby Ave., Los Angeles 66, Cal.

HITCHCOCK, ROBERT S., P.O. Box 627, Sierra Vista, Ariz.; atty.

HOGAN, JOHN C., The Rand Corp., 1700 Main St., Santa Monica, Cal.; Leg. Admin.; b. 1919, Pilot Point, Tex.; assns.: Selden Soc.; Am. Pol. Sci. Assn.; Classical Assn. (London); Civil War Round Table of S. Cal.; mil. 1942-43; res.: "Phaleas: Legal and Political Theories in the 5th Century B.C.," Santa Monica, Cal.; pub.: "Joseph Story," Encuclopaedia Britannica, 1960 ed.; "Joseph Story's Anonymous Law Articles," 52 Mich. L. Rev. 869 (April, 1954); "The Role of Chief Justice Taney in the Decision of the Dred Scott Case," 58 Case and Comment 3 (Jan., 1953); "The Last Will and Testament of Stephan J. Field," 36 Cal. Hist. Soc. Otly. 41 (March, 1957); "Blackstone and Joseph Story-Their Influence on the Development of Criminal Law in Am.," 40 Minn. L. Rev. 107 (Ian., 1956); "Hippodamus on the Best Form of Government and Law," Western Political Quarterly (September, 1959); The Wills of the Justices: The Last Wills and Testaments of Twenty-three Justices of the U.S. Sup. Ct. (1956); Joseph Story (1959).

HOLT, THAD, JR., Covington & Burling, 701 Trust Bldg., Washington, D.C.; atty.; b. 1929, Birmingham, Ala.; assns.: A.B.A., Ala. State Bar. Assn.; awds.: Phi Beta Kappa; pub.: "The Resignation of Mr. Justice Campbell," Ala. L. Rev. 105 (April, 1959).

HOPKINS, VINCENT C., S.J., Fordham Univ., New York 58, N.Y.; assoc. hist. prof., lect. in hist. jurisprudence; b. 1912, Brooklyn, N.Y.; assns.: Am. Hist. Assn., U.S. Catholic Hist. Soc., Academy of Pol. Sci., Am. Catholic Hist. Assn.

HORN, MARTIN L., 261 Broadway, New York 7, N.Y.; atty.

HUNT, RICHARD C., 1102 Vista Way, Chula Vista, Calif.; Comdr., U.S.N.; b. 1911; res.: Antecedents of 22d Amend., 1775-1789.

HURST, HAROLD E., Univ. of Denver, 1445 Cleveland Place, Denver, Colo.; Univ. of Denver, prof.

HURST, WILLARD, Univ. of Wisconsin, Sch. of Law, Madison 6, Wis.; prof.; b. 1910, Rockford, Ill.; assns.; Wis. State Bar Assn., Am. Phil. Soc., Social Sci. Res. Council; awds.: Phi Beta Kappa, Order of the Coif; mil. 1943-46; res.: Law and processes of social change (Madison); pub.: The Growth of American Law: The Law Makers (Boston, 1950); Law and the Conditions of Freedom in the 19th Century United States (Madison, 1956); Essay in Cahn, ed., Supreme Ct. and Supreme Law (Bloomington, 1954); "Treason in the U.S.," 58 Harvard L. Rev. 226, 395, 806 (1945).

HYMAN, JACOB D., Buffalo Law Sch., 77 W. Eagle St., Buffalo 2, N.Y.; Buffalo Law Sch., dean and prof.; b. 1909; assns.; A.B.A., N.Y.S. Bar Assn., Erie County Bar Assn.

INSALATA, SABATO JOHN, 3518 N. Fremont St., Chicago 13, Ill.; atty.; b. 1933, Chicago, Ill.; assns.: Ill. St. Bar Assn., Chicago Bar Assn.; res.: A Summary of the Contributions of Post-Roman Italian Jurists to the Formation of the Common Law.

JACKSON, AMOS W., Room 323 State House, Indianapolis, Ind.; Justice, Supreme Court of Indiana; b. 1904, Versailles, Ind.; assns.: Ripley County and State Bar Assns., Indianapolis Bar Assn.

JACKSON, JOHN PAUL, Robertson, Jackson, Payne, Lancaster & Walker, 2800 Republic Nat'l Bank Bldg., Dallas 1, Tex.; atty.

JAMES, LOUIS C., 2103 N. Glebe Road, Apt. 104, Arlington, Va.

JEFFREY, WILLIAM, JR., Univ. of Cincinnati College of Law, Cincinnati 21, Ohio; Univ. of Cincinnati College of Law, assoc. prof., law librarian; b. 1921, Sioux City, Iowa; assns.: Am. Hist. Assn., Selden Soc., Am. Library Assn., Am. Assn. of Librarians; mil. 1942-45; res.: A bibliography of published American court records to 1800; pub.: "Early New England Court Records," Boston Pub. Library Qtly. (July, 1954); "Recent Literature," I Am. Journal of Leg. Hist. 96-97, 379-382.

JENNER, ALBERT E., 135 So. La Salle St., Chicago 3, Ill.; atty.

JOHNSON, KENNETH M., 35 Montalvo Ave., San Francisco 16, Cal.; V.P. and counsel for Bank of America NT & SA; b. 1903, San Jose, Cal.; assns.; A.B.A., San Francisco Bar Assn., Cal. Hist. Soc.; pub.: Parker H. French by Edward Mcgowan with Introduction, Notes and Comments by Kenneth M. Johnson (1958).

JONES, WILLIAM C., Washington Univ., Sch. of Law, St. Louis, Mo.; Washington Univ., prof. JUROW, LUCIE S., c/o Brooklyn Law Sch., 375 Pearl St., Brooklyn I, N.Y., Brooklyn Law Sch. librarian.

KARMEL, BURRESS, 1204 Burlingame, Cal.; city atty.; b. 1910, San Francisco, Cal.; assns.: Cal. State Bar Assn., San Mateo County Bar Assn.; mil. 1943-46.

KEMPIN, FREDERICK G., JR., Wharton Sch. of Finance and Commerce, Univ. of Pa., Philadelphia, Pa.; Wharton Sch. of Finance and Commerce, assoc. prof. of bus. law; b. 1922, Philadelphia, Pa.; assns.: Am. Bus. Law Assn.; awds.: Beta Gamma Sigma; pub.: "Precedent and Store Decisis: The Critical Years, 1800 to 1850," 3 Am. J. of Leg. Hist. 28 (Jan. 1959).

KENNY, ROBERT W., 1557 Beverly Blvd., Los Angeles 26, Cal.; atty.; b. 1901, Los Angeles, Cal.; assns.: Nat. Lawyers Guild, Los Angeles Bar Assn.

KESSLER, HENRY C., Jr., 25 So. Duke St., York, Pa.; atty.

KHARAS, RALPH E., Syracuse Univ., Syracuse, N.Y.; Syracuse Univ., dean.

KING, CHARLES H., Detroit Coll. of Law, 130 E. Elizabeth St., Detroit 1, Mich.; dean and prof. of law; b. 1906; assns.: A.B.A., Michigan Bar Assn., Detroit Bar Assn., Am. Jud. Soc.

KING, EDGAR I., Western Reserve Univ., Sch. of Law, Cleveland 6, Ohio; Western Reserve Univ., dean, prof.; b. 1913, Logan, Kans.; assns.: A.B.A., Ohio St. Bar Assn., Cleveland Bar Assn., Am. L. Instit.; mil. 1943-46; pub.: "Accord and Satisfaction by a Third Person," 15 Mo. L. Rev. 115 (1950).

KNAFLA, LOUIS A., 11828 Kiowa, Los Angeles 49, Calif.; b. Bakersfield, Calif.; assns.: A.H.A., M.V.H.A., E.H.A.; res.: "The Military Commission in the Civil War," "Administration of Eng. Local Govt. by Quarter Sessions, 1678-1713."

KOTTLER, HARRY, 2539 N. Moreland Blvd., Shaker Heights 20, Ohio, atty.

KRISLOV, SAMUEL, Michigan State Univ., East Lansing, Mich., Michigan State Univ., visiting asst prof.. Univ. of Oklahoma, asst. prof. of govt.; b. 1929, Cleveland, Ohio; assns.: Am. Poli. Sci., Southwestern Social Sci. Assn.; awds.: Phi Beta Kappa, Social Sci. Res. Council Grant for Conference on Judicial Process; res.: "The Supreme Court since 1937: Nine Judges in Search of a Role" (Princeton, 1955); "The Singular Case of Pluralism," 31 Social Sci. 43 (1956): "Oliver Wendell Holmes: The Ebb and Flow of Judicial Legendry," 52 Northw. Univ. L. Rev. 514 (1957): The Politics of Judicial Review, 1937-57, Arnold Foundation Monographs (1957); "Constitutionalism versus Constituency: Desegregation and Tensions and Aspirations of Southern Attorneys General," 3 Midwest Jour. of Poli, Sci. 75 (1959).

KRONSTEIN, HEINRICH, Georgetown Univ. Law Center, 506 E. St., N.W., Washington 1, D.C.; b. 1897, Karlsruhe, Germany; assns.: Am. Soc. of Intl. Law; The Am. Assn. for the Comparative Study of Law; res.: History of the Federal Trade Commission; pub.: Book Review: Guido Kisch, The Jews in Medieval Germany, A Study of Their Legal and Social Status; "Jewry Law in Medieval Germany, Laws and Court Decisions Concerning Jews," 8 The Jurist 83-91 (1950).

KUPFERMAN, THEODORE, c/o Cinerama Productions Corp., 34 E. 51st St., New York 22, N.Y.; atty.; b. 1920 New York; N.Y.; assns.: Fed. Bar Assn. of N.Y., N.J. & Conn. (Chairman of the Board); N.Y.C. Bar Assn., Bronx Bar Assn.; awds.: Phi Beta Kappa; pub.: ed., Col. L. Rev. (1942-43); ed., C.C.H.; "7 Copyright Problems Analyzed" (1952-53); ed., "Family Legal Advisor" pub. by Greystone Press and Hawthorne Books.

LEE, RICHARD H., University of Miami School of Law, Coral Gables, Fla.; b. 1915, Cleveland, Ohio; assns.: Florida Bar Assn.; res.: A thesis in the area of Restitution (N.Y.U.).

LESLIE, WILLIAM R., Dept. of Hist., Univ. of Mich., Ann Arbor, Mich.

LEUCA, WALTER, 3545 Mass. St., Gary, Ind.; atty.; b. 1922, Gary, Ind.; assns.: A.B.A., Ind. Bar Assn., Gary Bar Assn.; mil. 1943-1945.

LIPMAN, MICHEL, 703 Market St., San Francisco 3, Cal.; publicist-writer; b. 1913, San Francisco, Cal.; assns.: A.B.A., San Francisco Bar Assn.; awds.: Freedom Foundations Award—George Washington Honor Medal (1955 & 1957), Midwestern Writers Conference Phelan Award.

LORRY, WILFRED R., Freedman, Landy & Lorry, 1415 Walnut St., Philadelphia 2, Pa.; Temple Univ. Sch. of Law, lect., atty.; b. 1905, Philadelphia, Pa.; assns.: A.B.A., Pa. Bar Assn., Philadelphia Bar Assn., Fed. Bar Assn., Am. L. Instit., Am. Jud. Soc.

LYNN, KELTON S., Rapid City Natl. Bank Bldg., Rapid City, So. Dak.; atty.

McBRATNEY, WILLIAM H., 802 Valley Natl. Bldg., Tucson, Ariz.; atty.; b. 1913, St. Louis, Mo.; assns.: Pima County Bar Assn., Selden Soc.; awds.: Phi Beta Kappa; mil. 1942-46; pub.: "The One Witness Rule in Mass.," Journal of Leg. Hist. (1958) 155.

McCALLIN, JOSEPH A., S.J., St. Louis Univ., 221 N. Grant Blvd., St. Louis 3, Mo.; prof.

McCLURE, DONALD, 1414 Sherwood Way, Sacramento 22, Calif.; b. 1892, Oakland, Calif.; assns.: A.B.A., State Bar of Calif., Am. Soc. of Intl. Law.

McKNIGHT, JOSEPH WEBB, Southern Methodist Univ., Sch. of Law, Dal-

las, Tex.; Southern Methodist Univ., assoc prof.; b. 1925, San Angelo, Tex. assns.: Tex. Bar Assn., A.B.A., Selden Soc., Am. Soc. Int. Law; awds.: Phi Beta Kappa, Rhodes Scholar, James Kent Fellow (Columbia Law School-Ford Foundation); mil. 1941-46; res.: "The Spanish Legacy to Texas Law" (Dallas and N.Y.); "Probate Records in the Bexar Archives, 1744-1845" (Dallas and San Antonio); pub.: Review of four books on Matrimonial Property Law, 11 Stv. L.J. 272 (1957); Review of two collections of early English writs and charters, 2 Am.  $\hat{I}$ . Leg. Hist. 360 (1958); "The Spanish Legacy to Texas Law: I. Civil Procedure," 3 Am. J. Leg. Hist. (1959); Review of Ehrlich's Blackstone, 13 Sw. L. J. (1959).

MACKAY, JOHN R., 123 W. Front St. Wheaton, Ill.

MANN, W. HOWARD, Indiana Univ. Sch. of Law, Bloomington, Ind.; Ind. Univ. Sch. of Law, prof.; res.: Constitutional history institutional development of national law enforcement of private rights and personal liberties.

MAROSHICK, EILEEN, 921 Montgomery St., Brooklyn 13, N.Y.; b. 1937, Brooklyn, N.Y.

MARTIN, DONALD L., Seton Hall Univ. Sch. of Law, 40 Clinton St., Newark 2, N.J.; Seton Hall Univ. Sch. of Law, librarian; b. 1920, New York, N.Y.; assns.: Am. Assn. of Univ. Professors, Am. Assn. of Law Libraries; res.: Church and State Bibliography; Jurisprudence Bibliography; Natural Law Bibliography.

MATHIASEN, JOANNE, 528 W. 114th St., New York 27, N.Y.; Columbia Univ. Sch. of Law, librarian; b. 1920, Cleveland, Ohio; assns.: Am. Hist. Assn., Am. Assn. of Law Librarians, Am. Library Assn., Medieval Academy of Am.; res.: Some Problems of Admiralty Jurisdiction in the 17th Century, Am. J. of Leg. Hist.; Hospitals, Beguin(e) ahes, and Corpora-

tions (Columbia Univ.); Bartolus on Assns. (Columbia Univ.); pub.: "Some problems of admiralty jurisdiction in the 17th century," 2 Am. J. of Leg. Hist. 215 (1958).

MAXWELL, RICHARD C., Univ. of Calif., Sch. of Law, Los Angeles 24, Calif., Univ. of Calif., dean.

MERRILL, MAURICE H., Univ. of Oklahoma, College of Law, Norman, Okla.; Univ. of Oklahoma, res. prof. of law; b. 1897, Washington, D.C.; assns.: A.B.A., Okla. Bar Assn., Cleveland Bar Assn., Nat. Acad. of Arbitrators; awds.: Phi Beta Kappa, Order of the Coif; mil. 1918; res.: The Public's Concern with the Fuel Minerals (Edward G. Donley Memorial Lectures, W. Va. Univ.); pub.: Cases and Materials on Administrative Law (Am. Casebook Series, 1954).

MEYER, DONALD A., 400 Saratoga Bldg., New Orleans, La.; atty.; b. 1934, New York, N.Y.; assns.: A.B.A., La. Bar Assn., New Orleans Bar Assn.; pub.: "Section 301 (a) of the Labor Management Relations Act and Its Effect on State Court Jurisdiction to Enforce Collective Bargaining Agreements," 32 Tul. L. Rev. 447 (1958); "Consideration Necessary to Support a Contract of Suretyship," 31 Tul. L. Rev. 645 (1957).

MORGAN, W. EDWARD, Suite 407 Tucson Title Ins. Bldg., 45 West Pennington, Tucson, Ariz., atty.

MORRIS, RICHARD B., Col. Univ., N.Y. 27, N.Y.; Prof., Dept. of Hist.

MULLIGAN, WILLIAM H., 302 Broadway, New York 7, N.Y.

MURPHY, EARL F., Temple Law Sch., 1715 N. Broad St., Philadelphia, Pa.; Temple Law Sch., prof.; b. 1928; assns.: Ind. St. Bar Assn., A.B.A., Inter-Am. Bar Assn.

MURPHY, PAUL L., Univ. of Minn., Dept. of Hist., Minneapolis 14, Minn.; Univ. of Minn., assistant prof. of hist.;

b. 1923, Caldwell, Idaho; assns.: Am. Hist. Assn., Miss. Valley Hist. Assn.; awds.: Phi Beta Kappa; mil. 1943-46; res.: A Study of the Legal and Constitutional Career of Richard Olney, railroad atty. and both Atty. Gen. and Sec. of State under Grover Cleveland (Newberry Library, Chicago, Ill. & Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.); A Study on Freedom of Expression in the U.S. in the Twentieth Century.

NASH, GERALD D., Dept. of History, Northern Illinois Univ., DeKalb, Ill.; Northern Ill. Univ., prof.

NASH, WILLIAM, 314 W. Markham St., Little Rock, Ark.; atty.; b. 1907, Liberal, Kan.; assns.: A.B.A., Pulaski County Bar Association, Ark. St. Bar Assn., National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws.

NEWMAN, LAWRENCE, Strasser, Spiegelberg, Fried, & Rank, 120 Broadway, New York 5, N.Y.; atty.

NILES, RUSSELL D., N.Y.U. Sch. of Law, Washington Square, New York 3, N.Y.; N.Y.U. Sch. of Law, dean.

NOBLE, AUSTIN B., 7 Clarendon Ave., Montpelier, Vt.

NUNIS, DOYCE B., Jr., Univ. of Calif., Univ. Lib., Los Angeles 24, Calif.; ass't. res. historian; b. 1924, Cedartown, Ga.; assns.: Amer. Hist. Assoc.; Miss. Valley Hist. Assoc.; Calif. Hist. Assoc.; res.: Biographies of three Southern Calif. lawyers; study of civil rights cases in Southern Calif.

O'BYRNE, JOHN C., College of Law, State Univ. of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa; b. 1920, Albany, N.Y.

OLIVER, MARY W., Box 733, Chapel Hill, N. Car.

O'MEARA, JOSEPH, Law Bldg., Notre Dame Univ., Notre Dame, Ind.; Notre Dame Univ., Sch. of Law, dean; b. 1898; assns.: Am. L. Instit., Am. Jud. Soc., A.B.A., Ind. St. Bar Assn.

OTTENBERG, LOUIS, 3900 16th St., Washington 11, D.C.; b. 1886, Washington, D.C.; assns.: Am. Hist. Assn., D.C. Bar Assn.; pub.: "An Unwritten Privilege of Congress," Jour. of Bar Assn., D.C.; "Alexander Hamilton's First Court Case," N.Y. Hist. Soc. Qtly.; "Magna Carta Documents," A.B.A.J.; "The Wills of Gen. Koscluszko," A.B.A.J.; "Lord Chief Justice Coke," A.B.A.J.; "One Hundred Seventy Years Ago: The Birth of the American Republic," A.B.A.J.

OWENS, CLAUDE M., 822 Jade Way, Anaheim, Cal.

PAPALE, ANTONIO E., Loyola Law School, New Orleans 18, La.; b. 1904; Dean.

PARK, LAWRENCE N., Temple Univ. Sch. of Law, 1715 N. Broad St., Philadelphia 22, Pa.; Temple Univ. Sch. of Law, prof.; b. 1907; assns.: Camden County Bar Assn., Gloucester County Bar Assn., New Jersey St. Bar Assn., A.B.A.

PAYNE, JOHN C., Univ. of Alabama, Sch. of Law, Ala.; prof.; b. 1913, Alexandria, Va.; assns.: A.B.A., S. Car. Bar Assn., Selden Soc.; awds.: Phi Beta Kappa; mil. 1942-45; pub.: "The English Theory of Conveyances Prior to the Land Registration Acts," 7 Ala. L. Rev. 227 (1955); "The Theory of Conveyances at Law in Ala.," 8 Ala. L. Rev. 10 (1955).

PECK, DAVID W., 48 Wall St., New York 5, N.Y.

PEELLE, STANTON C., JR., Peelle and Nichols, 725 Fifteenth St., N.W., Washington 5, D.C.; atty.; b. 1906, Washington, D.C.; assns.: A.B.A., D.C. Bar Assn., Amer. Hist. Assn.; mil., 1943-46.

PERLITZ, CHARLES A., III, Baker, Botts, Andrews & Shepherd, Esperson Bldg., Houston 2, Tex.; atty.

PHELPS, ARTHUR WARREN, 107 Bryan, College of William & Mary, Williamsburg, Va.; College of William & Mary, prof.; b. 1909, Westmoreland County, Va.; assns.: A.B.A., Va. St. Bar Assn., Am. Assn. of Univ. Professors; awds.: Phi Beta Kappa; res.: Handbook on Va. Procedure.

PHELPS, M. T., Chief Justice, Supreme Court, Phoenix, Ariz.; b. Dunlop, Tenn.; A.B.A., Amer. Jud. Soc.; Ariz. State Bar Assn.

PHILBRICK, FRANCIS S., Univ. of Pa., 3400 Chestnut St., Philadelphia 4. Pa., emeritus prof. of law; b. 1876. Iowa City, Ia.; assns.: N.Y. Bar Assn., Ill, Bar Assn.; awds.: Phi Beta Kappa. Phi Delta Phi, LL.D.; pub.: vol 21 of Collections of Ill. St. Historical Library, The Laws of Ind. Territory: 1801-1809 (the introduction discusses the laws, courts, judges, and enforcement of law); vols, 28, 30, Pope's Digest (the introduction deals with statutory law of the five states of the Old Northwest and Illinois revisions to 1845); vol. 25, The Laws of Illinois Territory, 1809-1818 (the introduction deals mainly with the law of Territorial government, in all territories. down to 1835); "American Law, History," Encyclopaedia Britannica, since 1925; "Law Courts and Litigation of Ind. Territory," Ill. L. Rev., XXI, 720-733; "Changing Conceptions of Property in Law," Univ. of Pa. L. Rev., LXXXVI, 1-42; "Seisin and Possession as the Basis of Legal Title," Iowa L. Rev., XXIV, 268-308; "Loss Apportionment in Negligence Cases," Univ. of Pa. L. Rev., XCIX, 572-609, 766-812; prefatory note to County Court Records of Accomack-Northampton, Va., 1632-1640 (1954).

PITTLUCK, NORMAN, 208 W. Eighth St., Suite 700, Los Angeles 14, Cal.

POLSKY, SAMUEL, 336 Wellesley Road, Philadelphia 19, Pa.

POWERS, JOSEPH L., Rev., C.S.C., Univ. of Portland, Portland 3, Ore.; Univ. of Portland, Dir. of Student Welfare.

PRAGER, FRANK D., 1960 Adams Ave., Abington, Pa.; patent atty.; b. 1907, Munich, Germany; assns.: Pat. Law Assn. of Chicago, Philadelphia Pat. Law Assn., Newcomen Soc. for the Study of the Hist, of Engineering and Tech.: res.: Privileges and Patents until 1800 (Philadelphia, Pa.), Patents in the 19th and 20th centuries (Philadelphia, Pa.); pub.: "Geschichte und Bedeutung des Par." 6 Arch. f. Funkrecht (1933) 269; "A Hist, of Intellectual Prop. from 1545 to 1787," 26 Jour. Pat. Off. Soc. (1944) 711; "Standards of Patentable Invention from 1474 to 1952," 20 Univ. of Chi. L. Rev. (1952) 69; "Proposals for the Patent Act of 1790," 36 Jour. Pat. Off. Soc. (1954) 63.

PRINCE, JEROME, Brooklyn Law Sch., 375 Pearl St., Brooklyn 1, N. Y.; Brooklyn Law Sch., dean, prof.; b. 1907, New York, N.Y.; awds.: Phi Beta Kappa; assns.: A.B.A., N.Y.S. Bar Assn., Brooklyn Bar Assn., Nassau County Bar Assn., Assn. of the Bar of the City of New York.

QUILLIN, JACOB JOHN, 222 S.W. Pine St., Portland 4, Ore.; judge; b. 1894, Yuma, Colo.; assns.: A.B.A., Oregon St. Bar, Multnomah Bar Assn., Am. Jud. Soc., Am. Assn. for State & Local Hist., Oregon Hist. Soc.; res.: Roger Brooke Taney and pass-time study of George H. Williams, Atty. Gen. in Pres. Grant's Cabinet and "Almost chief justice."

RAAB, IRA J., 60 W. 68th St., New York 23, N.Y.; atty.; b. 1935, New York, N.Y.; assns.: N.Y.S. Bar Assn., Phi Delta Phi Law Fraternity; awds.: Veterans of Foreign Wars American History Award (1951).

RABINOWITZ, SAMUEL N., 1227 S. Farragut Terrace, Philadelphia 39, Pa.; Internal Revenue Service, estate and gift tax examiner; b. 1932, Hazleton, Pa.

RAMSEY, BENNIS G., Funderburk, Murray and Ramsey, 3520 Montrose Blvd., Houston 6, Tex.; atty.; b. 1916, Center, Tex.; assns.: A.B.A., Tex. Bar Assn., Houston Bar Assn., Fed. of Ins. Counsel, Amer. Jud. Soc.; mil., 1940-46.

RAPHAEL, JESSE, Dept. of Law, Pace College, 41 Park Row, New York, N.Y.; Pace College, prof.

REAMS, FRAZIER, 303 Bell Bldg., Toledo 2, Ohio; b. 1897; atty.

REHMET, VINCENT W., Barrow, Bland, Junell & Rehmet, Bank of the S.W. Bldg., Houston 2, Tex.; atty.

RENFREW, JAMES, 323 W. Sixth St., Room 202, Royal Oak, Mich.

RHEINSTEIN, MAX, Univ. of Chicago Law Sch., Chicago, Ill.; Univ. of Chicago Law Sch., prof.; b. 1899, Wreuznack, Germany; assns.: Am. L. Instit., Am. Foreign Law Assn., Helenic Instit. of Internl. Law; mil. 1917-18; res.: "Legal devices to Protect and Promote the Stability of Marriages," a study in hist., sociology, and comparative law; pub.: Max Weber on Law in Economy and Society (1954).

RIDPATH, CLARK A., 640 E. Armour Blvd., Kansas City 9, Mo.; Asst. U.S. Atty, West Dist. of Mo.; b. 1930, St. Louis, Mo.; assns.: A.B.A., Mo. Bar Assn., Lawyer's Assn. of Kansas City, Amer. Jud. Soc.; awds.: Fellowship, Univ. of Kansas City Law Sch. (1955-56), Bur. of Nat. Affairs Scholarship (1955); res.: Reasonable Use as a Defense in the Law of Nuisance (Kansas City, Mo.).

RIESENFELD, STEFAN-AL-BRECHT, Univ. of Cal., Sch. of Law,

Berkeley, Cal.; b. 1908, Breslau, Germany: assns.: A.B.A., Amer. For. Law Assn., Amer. Soc. of Inter. Law. Amer. Br., Inter. Law Assn.; awds.: Fulbright (1957, 1958), Univ. of Breslau Prize (1932); mil., 1943-46; res.: Outline of Anglo-American Legal History (Berkeley), Evolution of Enforcement of Judgments (Berkeley); pub.: The Protection of Coastal Fisheries Under International Law (1942); Modern Social Legislation (1950) (with R. C. Maxwell); "The French System of Administrative Justice: A Model for America?" 18 Boston Univ. Law Rev. 48-82, 400-432, 715-748 (1938); "Sovereign Immunity of Foreign Vessels in Anglo-American Law: The Evolution of a Legal Doctrine,' 25 Minn. Law Rev. 1-65 (1940); "Evolution of Modern Bankruptcy Law, A Comparison of the Recent Bankruptcy Acts of Italy and the United States, 31 Minn. Law Rev. 401-455 (1947); "Law-Making and Legislative Precedent in American Legal History," 33 Minn. Law Rev. 103-144 (1949); "The Formative Era of American Public Assistance Law," 43 Cal. Law Rev. 175-233 (1955); "Collection of Money Judgments in American Law-A Historical Inventory and A Prospectus,' 42 Iowa Law Rev. 155-182 (1957); Review of Yale's edition of Edward Hake's Epieikeia (comments on the evolution of English Equity), 55 Columbia Law Rev. 119-123 (1955); Review of Bruck's Kirchenvater und Soziales Erbrecht, 71 Harvard Law Rev. 1183-1186 (1958); "Patent Protection and Atomic Energy Legislation," 46 Cal. Law Rev. 40-68 (1958).

RITZ, WILFRED J., Washington and Lee University, Lexington, Va.; Washington and Lee University, prof.; b. 1915, Conklin, Michigan; assns.: Va. St. Bar Assn., Committee on Uniform Laws (chm.); awds.: Phi Beta Kappa, Order of the Coif; res.: A Legal Study of the Origin, Purpose, and Early History of the Provisions of the Federal Constitution that relate to (1) The Cinflict of Laws, (2) The Criminal Jurisdiction, and (3) The Federal Judi-

ciary; pub.: U.S. v. Yale Todd, 15 Wash. & Lee L. Rev. 220 (1958).

ROBERTS, M. M., Citizens Bank Bldg., Hattiesburg, Miss.

ROBINSON, MICHAEL C., 12308 Mitchell Ave., Los Angeles 66, Calif.; b. 1932; res.: English Court Structure in 17th Century.

ROONEY, MIRIAM THERESA, Seton Hall Law Sch., 40 Clinton St., Newark 2, N.J.; Seton Hall Law Sch., dean and prof. of law; assns.: A.B.A., Natl. Assn. of Women Lawyers, Dist. of Columbia Bar Assn., Women's Bar Assn. of D.C., Am. Soc. of Intl. Law, Inter-Am. Bar Assn.

ROSTOW, EUGENE V., Yale Law Sch., New Haven, Conn.; Yale Law Sch., dean and prof. of law; b. 1913; pub.: A National Policy for the Oil Industry (1948); 4th Ed., Sturges' Cases on Debtors' Estates (1949).

RUBIN, MAURICE, 44 Court St., Brooklyn 1, N.Y.; atty.; b. 1898, New York, N.Y.; assns.: Kings County Lawyers Assn., Am. Instit. Electrical Engineers; pub.: "Julius Caesar and the Law"; "Napoleon and his Code"; "Charles Dickens"; "Outlook on the Law."

RUDD, MILLARD H., Univ. of Texas, Sch. of Law, Austin 12, Tex.; Univ. of Texas, Sch. of Law, prof.; b. 1917, Ostrander, Minn.; assns.: St. Bar of Tex., Natl. Legislative Conference, Am. Soc. for Pub. Ad.

ST. PETER, GEORGE M., St. Peter and Hauer, Suite 203 Empire Bldg., Fond du Lac, Wisc.; atty.

SAMUELS, AARON D., 389 Fulton St., Farmingdale, N.Y.; atty.; b. 1905, New York, N.Y.; assns.: South Nassau Lawyers Assn., Nassau County Bar Assn., N.Y.S. Bar Assn.

SAMUELS, LOUIS H., 320 Broadway, New York 7, N.Y.; atty.; b. 1895, Newark, N.J.; assns.: A.B.A., N.Y. County Lawyers Assn.; awds.: C.C.N.Y., Ward Medal in Logic, 1915; mil. 1918-19; pub.: "An Early 'Reform' of the Court," N.Y. County Lawyers Assn., vol 15, No. 4, p. 161 (March, 1958); res.: "A Comparative History of the Legal Forms and Practices of New York from Settlement to Sovereign State."

SCHECTER, ALLEN E., 1 N. LaSalle St., Chicago, Ill., atty.

SCHULSINGER, GERALD G., 710 Ring Bldg., Washington 6, D.C.; atty.; b. 1929, Newark, N.J.; assns.: A.B.A., D.C. Bar Assn., Fed. Bar Assn., Am. Soc. of Int. Law; awds.: Phi Beta Kappa; mil. 1946-48.

SCHULZ, WILLIAM F., JR., Univ. of Pittsburgh, Sch. of Law, Pittsburgh 13, Pa.; Univ. of Pittsburgh, prof.; b. 1912, Urbana, Ill.; assns.: Am. L. Instit., Am. Jud. Soc., A.B.A., Pa. Bar Assn., Ill. St. Bar Assn., Fed. Bar Assn., Am. Academy of Pol. & Soc. Sci.; mil. 1941-46; pub.: Conservation Law and Administration (1953).

SCHWARTZ, ARTHUR H., 19 E. 70th St., New York 21, N.Y.; atty.; b. 1903, New York, N.Y.; assns.: N.Y.C. Lawyers Assn. of Bar, St. & Fed. Bar.

SCHWARTZ, RICHARD S., 1151 Chapel St., New Haven 11, Conn.; atty.

SEYMOUR, WHITNEY NORTH, 120 Broadway, New York 5, N.Y., atty.

SHAFER, MORRIS L., Dickinson School of Law, 150 S. College St., Carlisle, Pa.; b. 1903, Weatherly, Pa.; assns.: A.B.A., Pa. Bar Assn., Lehigh County Bar Assn., Am. Jud. Soc.

SHAPIRO, NORMAN, 622 Homestead Ave., Maybrook, N.Y.; atty.

SMITH, JOSEPH H., 70 Broadway, New York, N.Y.; atty., prof.; b. 1913; assns.: A.B.A., N.Y. State Bar Assn., N.Y. City Lawyers Assn.; mil. 1942-45; awds.: Phi Beta Kappa; res.: Introduction to the Pynchon Court Record covering period 1638-9 to 1702 (N.Y. and New Eng., for Cromwell Foundation); Introduction to Prince Georges County, Md. County Court Records, 1669-1702 (for A.H.A., Littleton-Griswold Committee); pub.: Appeals to the Privy Council from the American Plantations (1950).

SNEE, JOSEPH M., S.J., Georgetown Univ. Law Center, Washington 7, D.C.; b. 1917, Wilkes Barre, Pa.; assns.: A.B.A., D.C. Bar Assn., Am. L. Instit., Am. Soc. of Intl., Selden Soc., Jud. Soc., Canon Law Soc. of America; res.: Study of law and administration of military justice (Guggenheim Fellowship, 1959-60); pub.: "Religious Disestablishment and the Fourteenth Amendment," Wash. U. L. Qtly. 371 (1954).

SNEED, EARL, Univ. of Okla., College of Law, Norman, Okla.; Univ. of Okla., prof.

SNYDER, ORVILL C., Brooklyn Law Sch., 375 Pearl St., Brooklyn 1, N.Y.; Brooklyn Law Sch., prof.; b. 1896; assns.: A.B.A.

SPIEGEL, SAMUEL A., 291 Broadway, New York 7, N.Y.; atty., member of the N.Y.S. Legislature; b. 1914; assns.: A.B.A., N.Y. County Lawyers Assn., N.Y.S. Bar Assn.; res.: Housing and Utility Controls; pub.: "The Site Tenant" (1959). "The Forgotten Man in Housing," 1959-

SPIVACK, OSCAR, 902 Market St., Natl. Bank Bldg., Philadelphia, Pa.; Temple Univ. Sch. of Law, lect., atty.; b. 1929, Philadelphia, Pa.; assns.: A.B.A., Philadelphia Bar Assn., Pa. Bar Assn.; mil. 1947-50.

STEEG, MOISE S., JR., 400 Saratoga Bldg., New Orleans 12, La.; atty.; b. 1916, New Orleans, La.; assns.: La. St. Bar Assn., New Orleans Bar Assn., Am. Jud. Soc., A.B.A.; res.: Community property (Memorandum to Congressional Committee).

STERN, DAVID SACHS, Miami Law Sch., Coral Gables 46, Fla.; Miami Law Sch., prof.; b. 1919, Chicago, Ill.; assns.: Phi Alpha Delta Law Frat., Am. For. Law Assn., Assn. of Am. Law Schools, Am. Soc. of Intl. Law, Sociedad Panamericana de Derecho Internacional (honorary member), Florida Bar Assn.; res.: Constitutional History of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico (N.Y.U.).

STERN, JULIUS LONG, Holiday House, R.D. 4, Dallas, Pa.; b. 1893; Philadelphia, Pa.; assns.: Am. Hist. Assn., Soc. for Br. Studies; res.: Justices of the Peace of Buckinghamshire in Reigns of Charles II, James II and William III (Princeton Univ., Princeton, N.J.).

STEVENSON, NOEL C., 655 D Street, Wasco, Calif.; atty.; b. 1907, Sacramento, Calif.; assns.: St. Bar of Calif., A.B.A., Kern County Bar Assn., Dist. Attorneys Assn. of Calif.: res.: Development of California Law During the Gold Rush Period, Law of the Western Frontier; pub.: "The Glorious Uncertainty of the Law 1846-1851," 28 Calif. S.B.J. 374, (Sept.-Oct. 1953); "Mariposa Courthouse," 29 Calif. S.B.J. 13 (Jan.-Feb. 1954); "The Great Index Conspiracy," 30 Calif. S.B.J. 63 (Jan.-Feb. 1955); "Jails, Jailers and Prison Brigs," 30 Calif. S.B.J. 217 (May-June 1955); "Gold Rush Elections," 31 Calif. S.B.J. 424 (Sept.-Oct. 1956); "Search and Research," 1951, rev. 1959.

STRAKER, CYNTHIA, 654 Girard St., N.W., Washington, D.C.; b. Brooklyn, N.Y.; assns.: A.B.A., A.A.L.L., A.A.L.S.

SURRENCY, ERWIN C., Temple Univ. Sch. of Law, 1715 N. Broad St., Philadelphia 22, Pa.; assoc. prof. and law librarian, Temple Univ. Sch. of Law; b. 1924, Jesup, Ga.; assns.: Spec.

Lib. Assn., Amer. Assn. of Law Libraries; res.: History of the Development of the Admiralty Jurisdiction in the Federal Courts (Temple Univ. Sch. of Law); pub.: Editor, American Journal of Legal History (1957 to date); The Marshall Reader (1955); "Appointments of the Federal Judges in Alabama," I Amer. J. Leg. Hist. 148 (1957); "The Judiciary Act of 1801," 2 Amer. J. Leg. Hist. 53 (1958).

SWINDLER, WILLIAM F., College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, Va.; Marshall-Wythe School of Law, prof.; b. 1913, St. Louis, Mo.; assns.: A.B.A., Am. Jud. Soc.; res.: Theory and Praetice of Constitutional and Public Law, 1775-1835; pub.: The Common Law in America (1959).

TESCHNER, PAUL A., Pope, Ballard, Uriell, Kennedy, Shepard & Fowle, 33 North LaSalle St., Chicago 2, Ill.; atty.; b. 1925, Green Bay, Wisc.; assns.: A.B.A., Chicago Bar Assn., Ill. St. Bar Assn., Ind. St. Bar Assn.; awds.: Beta Alpha Psi, Order of the Coif, Bronze Star Medal (Leyte, P.I. 1944) Oak Lf. Cluster, Bronze Star Medal (Okinawa, P.I. 1945); mll. 1943-46; pub.: "Increasing Land Alienability Through Re-recording Acts—The Ind. Stat.," 27 Ind. L.J. 101 (1951).

THOMAS, LEONARD O., 518 Brotherhood Bldg., Kansas City, Kan.; atty.; b. 1911, Eugene, Ore.; assns.: Order of the Coif, Am. College Trial Lawyers, A.B.A.

THORON, GRAY, Cornell Univ., Ithaca, N.Y.; Cornell Univ., dean and prof. of law; b. 1916; assns.: A.B.A., N.Y.S. Bar Assn., N.Y.C. Bar Assn., Tompkins County Bar Assn., Am. Jud. Soc., Am. L. Instit.

TINNELLY, JOSEPH T., Rev., 96 Schermerhorn St., Brooklyn I, N.Y.

TINKER, WILLIAM, McDonald, Tinker, Skaer, Quinn & Porter, Suite 570, 4th Natl. Bank Bldg., Wichita 2, Kans.; atty. TUCKER, JOHN H., 1300 Henry C. Beck Bldg., Shreveport, La.; atty., La. St. Law Instit., pres.; b. Pine Bluff, Ark.; assns.: La. Bar Assn., A.B.A., Am. Bar Foundation; awds.: Order of the Coif, Phi Beta Kappa, LL.D. Wash. and Lee Univ., LL.D. La. State Univ., French Leg. of Hon., Army Commendation Ribbon, Hatton W. Sumners Award S.W. Legal Foundation; mil. 1917-19; 1940-41; res.: Source Books of La. Law (Tulane L. Rev.); Code and Common Law in La. (in Code Napoleon and the Common Law World).

VAN VOORHIS, 714 Rock Beach Rd., Rochester, N.Y.; atty.; b. 1897, Monroe County, N.Y.; assns.: A.B.A., N.Y.S. Bar Assn., Monroe County Bar Assn.

WAGNER, W. J., Notre Dame Law Sch., Notre Dame, Ind.; Notre Dame Law Sch., assoc. prof.; b. 1917; assns.; Am. Foreign Law Assn.; res.: "The History of Intl. Public Air Law" (with Dean John M. Speca of Kansas City Law Sch.); pub.: "Les Libertés de l'Air," Paris, 1948; "Law and Organization of Courts in Federal States." The Hague, 1959; Treaties and Executive Agreements: Historical Development and Constitutional Interpretation, 4 Catholic Univ. of Am. L. Rev. 95 (1954); Codification of Law in Europe and the Codification Movement in the Middle of the Nineteenth Century in the U.S., 2 St. Louis Univ. L. J. 335 (1953); Laurentius Grimaldus Goslicius and His Age (co-author), 3 Polish Rev. 37 (1958).

WALLACH, KATE, La. State Univ. Law Sch., Baton Rouge, La.; State Univ. Law Sch., librarian; b. 1905; assns.: Am. Assn. of Law Librarians, Am. Library Assn., Louisiana Library Assn., Sp. Libraries Assn.

WARREN, EARL, the Supreme Court, Wash. 25, D.C.; Chief Justice, the Supreme Court.

WARREN, WILLIAM C., Kent Hall, Columbia Law Sch., New York 27, N.Y.; Columbia Law Sch., dean; b.

1909; assns.: A.B.A., Am. Soc. of Intl. Law, Intl. Fiscal Assn.

WATKINS, H. V., 1347 Deposit Guaranty Bank Bldg., Jackson, Miss.; b. 1912; atty.

WATKINS, THOMAS H., 800 Plaza Bldg., Jackson, Miss.; atty.; b. 1910, Jackson, Miss.; assns.: Miss. St. Bar Assn., A.B.A., Intl. Assn. of Ins. Counsel, Am. Jud. Soc., Am. College of Trial Lawyers.

WEISMAN, MORRIS, 2417 N. 52nd St., Philadelphia, Pa.

WHELAN, CHARLES M., Woodstock College, Woodstock, Md.

WIENER, FREDERICK BERNAYS. 1025 Connecticut Ave., N.W., Washington 6, D.C.; attv.; b. 1906, New York, N.Y.; assns.: A.B.A., Bar Assn. of D.C., R.I. Bar Assn., Assn. of the Bar of the City of N.Y., Judge Advocates Assn., Selden Soc.; awds.: Rep. to the Comm. of the Sup. Ct. of the U.S. on the Revision of its Rules, 1953-54: Consultant-Advisor, U.S. Army War College, 1954; mil. 1941-46; pub.: "The R.I. Merchants and the Sugar Act," 3 New Eng. O. 464 (1930); "Notes on the R.I. Admiralty. 1727-1790," 46 Harv. L. Rev. 44 (1932); "The Militia Clause of the Constitution," 54 Harv. L. Rev. 181 (1940).

WILLIAMS, GEORGE P., III, Orr, Williams and Baxter, 2020 Packard Bldg., Philadelphia 2, Pa.; atty.

WILLIAMS, JOHN C., Fulbright, Crooker, Freeman, Bates & Jaworski, Bank of the S.W. Bldg., Houston 2, Tex.; atty.

WILSON, WILL, JR., Atty. Gen., Capitol Station, Austin 11, Tex.; atty.

WOOD, JOHN H., JR., Birkhead, Beckman, Stanard, Vance & Wood, 1516 Majestic Bldg. San Antonio, Tex.; atty.

WORMUTH, FRANCIS D., Dept. of Pol. Sci., Univ. of Utah, Salt Lake City, Utah; Univ. of Utah, prof.

ZACHARIAS, WILLIAM F., Chicago-Kent College of Law, Chicago 6, Ill.; Chicago-Kent College of Law, prof., acting dean; b. 1905, London, Eng.; assns.: A.B.A., Ill. Bar Assn., Chicago Bar Assn., Am. Jud. Soc., Am. Foreign Law Assn., Am. L. Instit.; awds.: Phi Beta Kappa; pub.: "Joseph Mead Bailey, 1833-1895," 16 Chicago-Kent L. Rev. 1-16, 311-327 (Dec., 1937); "Thomas DeWeyland: Lawyer and Knave," 22 Chicago-Kent L. Rev. 118 (March, 1944); "John Marshall, Sidney Breese and Ill. First Law Book," 33 Chicago-Kent L. Rev. 291 (Sept., 1955).

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### Members' Bibliography

The following is a Selected Bibliography of books and articles on legal history published by members of the Society. Publications not directly related to legal history have been omitted. A 1958 questionnaire revealed that our members have wide interests in law, as evidenced by their publications in fields not directly related to legal history. The Index of Legal Periodicals and Books in Print, An Author-Title-Series Index to the Publishers' Trade List Annual, therefore, should be consulted for a full list of publications by any member.

The Bibliography will be revised annually, at which time members will have the opportunity to submit titles that have been published during the past year.

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# Registry of Projects in Legal History

THE Society is establishing a Registry of Projects in Legal History which will give advance information of research which may be published. The Registry is organized by sub-topics, and includes: (1) the tentative title; (2) author's name; and (3) the place of research. The only requirement for a listing is that work on the project has progressed to the point where the member is reasonably certain that a publishable manuscript in legal history will result.

A project will be carried in the Registry for only two years, unless the member requests that it be carried for a longer time. Members should notify the Secretary when a project has been completed and published in order that the title may be transferred to the Members' Bibliography section of THE LEGAL HISTORIAN.

The Registry is open for the submission of new titles at any time. These should be sent to the Secretary of the Society.

# ANCIENT LAW

A Review of Recent Publications of Ancient Charters. Joseph Webb McKnight. Southern Methodist University.

Phaleas: Legal and Political Theories in the 5th Century B.C. John C. Hogan, Santa Monica, California.

# AIR LAW

History of International Public Air Law. W. J. Wagner, Notre Dame Law School, Notre Dame, Ind. (with John M. Speca).

# BIOGRAPHY

Biographical Study of Mr. Justice John A. Campbell. Thad Holt, Jr. Birmingham, Alabama.

The Legal and Constitutional Career of Richard Olney, Railroad Attorney, and Both Attorney General and Secretary of State under Grover Cleveland. Paul L. Murphy. University of Minnesota, Newberry Library in Chicago, and Library of Congress.

The Resignation of Mr. Justice Campbell. Thad Holt, Jr. Birmingham, Alabama.

Daniel Webster and the Supreme Court. Maurice G. Baxter, Dept. of History, Indiana University, Bloomington, Ind.

# CANON LAW

Contributions of Canon Law to Modern Legal Procedure. Thompson Black, Jr. Los Angeles State College.

# COMMON LAW

Glossary of Terms Supplementary to Those in Maitland's Manorial Rolls. Joseph Webb McKnight. Southern Methodist University. Historical Introduction to Anglo-American Law. William Wirt Blume. University of Michigan, Law School.

The Contributions of Post-Roman Italian Jurists to the Formation of the Common Law. Sabato John Insalata. Chicago, Illinois.

The Scope of Appellate Procedure Relating to the Review of Facts Determined by the Jury in Early English Common Law. James R. Bryant. Chicago, Illinois.

Outline of Anglo-American Legal History. Stefan-Albrecht Riesenfeld. University of California, Berkeley.

# CONSTITUTIONAL LAW

Relation of Lincoln and Taney (Dred Scott Decision—Ex parte Merryman). Sherrill Halbert. Terra Bella, California. Text in Constitutional Law. Morris D. Forkosch. Brooklyn, N.Y.

# CORPORATIONS

Bartolus on Associations—A New Look at Corporations Through the Opera Omnia. Joanna Mathiasen. Columbia University.

Hospitals, Beguin[e]ages, and Corporations—An Investigation of Some Aspects of Medieval Hospital Administration Based on a Collection of Statutes. Joanna Mathiasen. Columbia University.

# COURT RECORDS

A Bibliography of Published American Court Records to 1800. William Jeffrey, Jr. University of Cincinnati College of Law.

Introduction to Prince Georges County, Md. County Court Records, 1696-1702. Joseph H. Smith. New York.

Introduction to the Pynchon Court Record (1638-39 to 1702), Constituting the Record Kept of Courts on Lower Jurisdictional Levels in the Vicinity of Springfield, Mass. Joseph H. Smith. New York and New England.

Records of the North Carolina General Court, 1693-1767. W. Bryan Bolich. Duke University Law School.

# CRIMINAL LAW

Criminal Law on the Frontier. William Wirt Blume. University of Michigan, Law School.

# ESTATES AND TAXATION

Last Will and Testament of Supreme Court Justice Oliver Ellsworth. Thompson Black, Jr. and E. Schnitzer. Los Angeles State College and Santa Monica, California.

Probate Courts in the Territories of the United States: 1787-1837. William Wirt Blume. University of Michigan, Law School.

The Estate for Years—Some Historical Aspects. W. Bryan Bolich. Duke University School of Law.

# **FAMILY LAW**

Legal Devices to Protect and Promote the Stability of Marriages. Max Rheinstein. University of Chicago.

# GOVERNMENT

The Historical Bases of Nonpartisan Local Government in California. Leon Thomas David. Los Angeles.

# **IUDGMENTS**

Evolution of the Enforcement of Judgments. Stefan-Albrecht Riesenfeld. University of California, Berkeley.

# **JURISPRUDENCE**

Law and Processes of Social Change. Willard Hurst. University of Wisconsin.

Text on Jurisprudence. Brendan Francis Brown. Law School of Loyola University of the South.

The Spanish Legacy to Texas Law. Joseph Webb McKnight. Southern Methodist University.

# MILITARY AND MARITIME LAW

Laws of Naval Warfare in Transition. Frank J. Flynn. Naval War College, Newport.

The Legal Structure of the Militia System, and Its Importance in the American Revolution. Leon Thomas David. Los Angeles.

The History of the Development of the Admiralty Jurisdiction in the Federal Courts. Erwin C. Surrency. Temple University School of Law.

# NATURAL LAW

Natural Law Reader. Brendan Francis Brown. Law School of Loyola University of the South.

# OIL, GAS, MINERALS, ETC.

The Public's Concern with the Fuel Minerals—Historical Survey of Adjustment of the Law to Social Needs in This Field. Maurice H. Merrill. University of Oklahoma:

# PATENT LAW

Patents in the 19th and 20th Centuries: Substantive Principles. Soliciting and Licensing Techniques, and Judicial Reactions and Reform Proposals. Frank D. Prager. Philadelphia, Pa. Privileges and Patents until 1800. Frank D. Prager. Philadelphia, Pa.

# TRUSTS

Trusts by Operation of Law-a text, containing considerable legal history treatment. Neill H. Alford. University of Virginia.

The Development of English Legal Policy Concerning Philanthropic Giving. Neill H. Alford, Jr. University of Wisconsin and University of Virginia.

The Impact of Foreign Policy upon the American Law of Charities.

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# Current Developments

# NEWS AND NOTES ABOUT LEGAL HISTORY RESEARCH

# AMERICAN JOURNAL OF LEGAL HISTORY

The Editorial Board of the American Journal of Legal History has voted to devote a full issue of the Journal to John Parker and to the contributions of Supreme Court Justice Joseph Story to American law.

# THE JOHN MARSHALL PAPERS

The American Bar Foundation has authorized a project in the field of legal history, and the Committee for the John Marshall Papers has been appointed by the President. The project envisions (1) the completion of the collection of the John Marshall Papers; (2) their indexing and copying; and (3) the preparation of a legal study on John Marshall based on these documents and other available materials. Inquiries concerning this project should be addressed to the Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Irwin S. Rhodes, 1410 Union Central Building, Cincinnati 2, Ohio.

# ENGLISH CRIMINAL LAW

The Rockefeller Foundation has granted about \$42,750 to the University of Cambridge in England for completion of the monumental History of English Criminal Law and Its Administration from 1750.

# LEGAL RECORDS PROJECT

Plans are under way to microfilm some 1,500 old record books containing about 900,000 pages in the files of the Fulton County Superior Court, Atlanta, Ga., J. W. Simmons, clerk of the court, has announced. Most of the records are writ and mortgage records, some dating back to the beginning of the county. The sum allocated for this job is \$25,000.

# FORD FOUNDATION GRANTS

During the 1958 fiscal year, the Ford Foundation made the following grants in support of legal studies:

American Association of Law Libraries—for a study of the practicability of preparing an Index of Foreign Legal Periodicals.

University of Miami—to finance translation and research in inter-American law.

University of Illinois—for research on measures to increase the effectiveness of the Federal prison system.

Northwestern University—for a program of training and research by the School of Law in criminal law and criminology.

University of Wisconsin—for legal research and writing on criminal law and administration; and for a law school seminar on legal research relating to philanthropic giving.

# LEGAL AND POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY

The Rockefeller Foundation program in Legal and Political Philosophy represents the major effort of the Foundation in the field of law:

About four years ago, the Foundation undertook a modest program of encouragement to legal studies, fully realizing that funds alone can do little to stimulate speculative thinking. In the first decades of this century, political scientists and lawyers were necessarily caught up in reform movements and in the immediate task of blueprinting new and expanding systems of public administration, social services, and the administration of justice. However, their efforts left them little time for the elaboration of more general theories of democracy, law, or administration. The scholars are frank to call this their unfinished business. In consequence, the decade following World War II has witnessed a resurgence of interest in the broader issues of law and politics which in earlier times were the province of philosophers and statesmen.

Three lines of approach can be identified. First, some scholars of law and politics, in pursuit of more general principles, are returning to the study of the classics of the Western and non-Western world. A few examples may illustrate this interest. The Foundation has made grants for research on Thomistic legal and political thought, on the classical background of modern political theory, and on the idea of justice and virtue in Greek political thought. Other scholars have turned to the more recent classics of John Stuart Mill, John Locke, Edmund Burke, and David Hume; still others are investigating the underlying political and legal philosophy of jurists and statesmen like Justices Holmes and Brandeis, and Abraham Lincoln.

Another promising trend results from attempts to grapple with the pressing issues of contemporary societies. It is obvious, for example, that the problems of constitutionalism, political representation, federalism, freedom and order, and civil liberties have taken on new urgency throughout the world.

A third approach is the quest for new and relevant political concepts that will reduce the study of political behavior to tractable pro-

portions. Without a few ordering concepts to demarcate the field of politics or law from other social spheres, the scholar can scarcely orient himself in a maze of empirical phenomena. Promising newer concepts that have been elaborated and applied are power, interest groups, decision-making, and forms of leadership and organization.

The Foundation has sought to respond to this revived interest in theoretical work by encouraging younger scholars on these three fronts. A few distinguished senior scholars who have already made definitive contributions have also been encouraged to bring important and original work to completion.

Inquiries concerning this program of the Foundation should be addressed to: Mr. Kenneth W. Thompson, The Rockefeller Foundation of the Foundation should be addressed to: Mr. Kenneth W. Thompson, The Rockefeller Foundation of the Foundation of the

tion, 49 West 49th Street, New York 20, N. Y.

# Legal History Societies

THE following is a partial list of scholarly societies in a number of countries whose members are dedicated to the study of legal history. The list will be expanded in future issues of THE LEGAL HISTORIAN as the names and addresses of other societies and associations become known to us.

THE SELDEN SOCIETY
Institute of Advanced Legal Studies
25 Russell Square
London, W.C.1, England

THE STAIR SOCIETY Signet Library Edinburgh, Scotland

Societe d'Histoire de Droit 22 rue Soufflot Paris V, France

COLECTIVUL DE DREPT VECHI ROMINESC (Old Rumanian Law Research Group) Piata Krubisev, 9 Bucharest, Rumania

ACADEMIA PARAGUAYA DE CIENCIAS HISTORICAS, POLITICAS, Y SOCIALES 15 de Agosto, 410 Asuncion, Paraguay

ACCADEMIA ROMANA DE S. TOMMASO D'AQUINO 1 Piazza della Cancelleria Rome, Italy

Istitudo de Diritto Romano Via Carlo Tavrolacci 5 Rome, Italy

# Membership

MEMBERSHIP in the American Society for Legal History, Inc. is open to all persons who are interested in the historical background and development of the law, and who wish to keep informed of current developments and progress in this area.

Members of the Society are entitled to the following privileges:

- (a) to receive without charge, and as part of their dues, *The American Journal of Legal History*, a quarterly publication containing scholarly articles on law. The Journal is the official publication of the Society.
- (b) to receive THE LEGAL HISTORIAN, an annual publication of the Society.
- (c) to receive the monthly membership reports.
- (d) to receive a membership certificate.
- (e) to attend regional meetings, conferences, and discussions of the Society.
- (f) to participate in the activities of the Society, through membership on committees for preservation of legal records, publications, etc.
- (g) to purchase books on legal history at reduced rates.

The annual dues for regular members are \$10.00, payable on the first of each year; for institutions, \$15.00; for students, \$5.00. There are also sustaining memberships for \$25.00.

Prospective members should write to the Secretary of the Society, indicating their desire to join and enclosing the amount of their annual dues. The Society's membership year is the same as the regular calendar year (January 1st to December 31st). Those joining after the first will receive all issues of *The American Journal for Legal History* published that year prior to the date of their membership.

# AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR LEGAL HISTORY, INC. Brooklyn Law School 375 Pearl Street · Brooklyn 1, N. Y.

### APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

| Date  |
|---|
| Name:   |
| Address: Office:  |
| Home:   |
| Date and place of birth:  |
| Military service and awards:                                    |
| Education:  |
| Date and place of admission to Bar, if applicable:              |
| Professional associations and societies:                        |
| Writings (in Legal History):                                    |
| Research projects underway, if any:                             |
| Committee work desired, if any (Please check no more than two): |
| ☐ Preservation of Legal Records ☐ Publications                  |
| Regional Conferences  |
| Foundations   |
| Membership  |
| ☐ Projects (research in legal history) ☐ Others                 |
| □ · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·                         |
| Annual dues enclosed:   |
| Regular Life membership\$10.00 membership \$250.00              |
| ☐ Institutional ☐ Student ☐ Student ☐ membership\$15.00         |
| ☐ Sustaining membership\$25.00                                  |
| Note: The above information is desired for inclusion in         |

Note: The above information is desired for inclusion is membership listing and background in our annual Legal Historian, as well as for committee assignments.

# Bequests

A number of persons have expressed an interest in furthering the purposes and functions of The American Society for Legal History, Inc., by gift or bequest. The officers of the Society will be glad to discuss details with anyone interested. A standard form of bequest, one of several types, is reproduced below.

# LEGAL FORM OF BEQUEST

# A SELECTION OF LETTERS of Justices of the Supreme Court of the United States in the HAMPTON L. CARSON COLLECTION of the Free Library of Philadelphia Edited by Howell J. Heaney\*

This second selection of letters, G through L, continues that published in *The Legal Historian*, Number 1, 1958, pages 48-59. It includes not only letters on legal matters, but also many which throw light on the character and interests of the justices:—William Johnson's speculation on the gestation of the bear, Thomas Johnson's opinion of his new judicial robes, Robert Grier's sharp comment on the "drunken worthless clerk of the court," and the moving note from Ward Hunt to Mr. Justice Miller, bidding good bye to him and to all his brethren upon the bench.

<u>ELECTORIO ELECTORIO ELECT</u>

GRIER, Robert Cooper, 1794-1870. Associate Justice, 1846-1870.

To Messrs. T. & J. W. Johnson.

Messrs T. & J. W. Johnson

I have examined with some care & attention the treatise on the "law of covenants for title" by Wm. H. Rawle Esqr.,¹ which you were so kind as to send me. I am much pleased with the work. It is one much needed by the profession in this country. The very artificial and complicate system of conveyancing in England has never been adopted & is little known in

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>e</sup>Bibliographer, Rare Book Department, The Free Library of Philadelphia.

the United States. This work gives a condensed view of the doctrines established by judicial decision on this subject in almost every state in the Union, which is nowhere else to be found. The industry and research which it exhibits do honor to the learned author and entitle his work to the patronage of the profession. The typography & style in which the volume appears is worthy of the publishers & the city where it was executed.

R. C. Grier

Washington Feby 21, 1852.

<sup>1</sup> William Henry Rawle, A Practical Treatise on the Law of Covenants for Title (Philadelphia, T. & J. W. Johnson, 1852).



GRIER, Robert Cooper, 1794-1870. Associate Justice, 1846-1870.

To Messrs. T. & J. W. Johnson.

Messrs. T. & J. W. Johnson

I have to thank you for your new Edition of Smith on Contracts.<sup>2</sup> Of the many works on that subject, I know of no one which contains so much valuable matter, in so small compass. It is indeed a brief & comprehensive exposition of the subject. The Notes of Mr. Rawle add greatly to its value. They illustrate the differences as well as similarities between the law of England & this country and add to this simple and concise treatise, a full & complete reference to all the important & leading cases.

Yours &c

R. C. Grier

March 21, 1853,

<sup>2</sup> John William Smith, *The Law of Contracts*, 3d American ed., with Additional Notes and References . . . by William Henry Rawle (Philadelphia, T. & J. W. Johnson, 1853).



GRIER, Robert C., 1794-1870. Associate Justice, 1846-1870.

TO EDWARD BATES.

Court room
Wash[i]n[g]ton
Jany 29, 1862.

Mr. Attorney Genl.

Dear Sir

In March last a certificate of division was ordered to be certified, in the case of a man (*Jackalow*) convicted of Robbery and murder on *high* seas.

The man lies in prison, and would I presume like to know whether he is to be hanged or not. I do not find the case on our list. Has the record

been sent to your office & been forgotten or has the drunken worthless clerk of the court neglected to send up a record? The latter I presume to be the case. Please let me know.

respectfully your se[rvant]

R. C. Grier



HARLAN, John Marshall, 1833-1911. Associate Justice, 1877-1911.

TO HAMPTON L. CARSON.

PERSONAL

Pointe au Pic, Province of Quebec, Canada July 27th, 1908.

Dear Sir:

I am making a book of Select Cases on Constitutional Law in order to supply what I deem a great want in Law Schools.3 The books of that kind which have been published do not appear to me to have been put up rightly. Upon one point I am in doubt and will be glad to have the benefit of your opinion as to what I should do. You are aware, of course, that there are a great number of important cases in the Supreme Court of the United States in which the Court have been seriously divided in opinion. Some of the opinions in those cases have, it is thought, been so materially modified by subsequent decisions as to sustain the views of the minority. Now, my question is whether in all such cases the dissenting opinion should not be published along with the opinion of the majority, or should I omit all dissenting opinions? The average American lawyer, as we all know, will have his own opinion as to the soundness of a decision, and, if his convictions are strong, he will criticise the decision. Will it or not be wise to give law students an opportunity to consider the whole argument on both sides of the case, which he can do if he is given the opinions by both the majority and minority?

You have, perhaps, gone upon your vacation, but assuming that your mail will be forwarded to you, I address this letter to you at your home. Please let me hear from you at a tolerably early day, addressing me as in-

dicated at the head of this letter.

Yours truly,

John M. Harlan

Hon. Hampton L. Carson,

Philadelphia, Pa. I am here for my vacation.

With this letter is the following note in Mr. Carson's hand:

If I were asked how I wished to be remembered best I would say unhesitatingly by my dissenting opinions. I have put more labor

upon them than on any others, and they represent the Constitutional doctrines in which I believe. No matter what any one may say I am going to dissent when I want to.—

Mr. Justice Harlan in conversation with H.L.C. Apl 26, 1909

<sup>3</sup> Apparently this work was never published. Harlan lectured on constitutional law at Columbian (now George Washington) University from 1889 until 1910.



HOLMES, Oliver Wendell, Jr., 1841-1935. Associate Justice, 1902-1932. To Hampton L. Carson.

Supreme Court of the United States, Washington, D. C. April 2, 1921.

My Dear Mr. Carson,

Your generous review4 of my book reached me this Evening. I postponed answering your letter until the review should come. I suppose that one should not thank a critic, for he is supposed to express Judgment not friendship. But I thank you for the sending and am made happy by the generosity of the appreciation. I was glad to have the volume appear before I reached 80, the other day, as I was anxious (before Dr. Osler's pronunciamento) to get out my Common Law before I was 40. I venture to mention to you, now that you have written, what I did not care to mention in the book-that the Article on Early English Equity has started a good deal of investigation. Maitland called it epoch making and the late lamented Prof. Barbour devoted half a volume in the Oxford Studies in Social & Legal History to pursuing in MS records the construction that I hinted at from a bone and a scale, so to speak-of the history of Contracts in Early English Equity-Confirming my guess in the main points, I think I may say. I also was pleased to see Prof. Caillemer pursuing a line of thought as to Executors not unlike mine-at a later date but I presume in ignorance of what I had written-transl[ated] in 3 Select Essays in Anglo-Amer[ican] Legal Hi[story] p. 746. I rely upon the kindness that you have ever shown to pardon this egotism as to 'Old unhappy far off things.' Now I think not of them but whether my brethren will swallow the decision I send round to them yesterday.

I need not emphasize the value I set upon the judgment of a man of your distinction.

Sincerely yours,

O. W. Holmes

Hon. Hampton L. Carson

<sup>4</sup> Review of Holmes's Collected Legal Papers (New York, Harcourt Brace, and Howe, 1920), in 69 University of Pennsylvania Law Review 291-294.



HUNT, Ward, 1810-1886. Associate Justice, 1873-1882.

TO WILLIAM ALLEN BUTLER.

Washington Dec 5 1876

Dear Sir,

We have a case before us, involving the rights and duties of surveyers or adjusters or appraisers, acting upon goods arriving by sea and which appear to be damaged. We get no aid from the briefs submitted. I find that these general duties in N. Y. are devolved upon the Warden of the port, whose duties are referred to in the Act of 1857 as well as in the Rev. Laws of 1813.

Can you refer me to any treatise or authority upon this subject, which would aid us in reaching a decision? Your general acquaintance with maritime law, marine insurance & the like, has suggested to me, that you might aid us here. If convenient, I should be glad to hear from you, but please not to make it a matter of any labor to yourself.

I Am very Respectfully

Ward Hunt

Wm. Allen Butler Esq.

[Written on verso of last leaf, in pencil:]

Innes v Alliance Mu Ins Co
Rogers v Niagara Ins Co

2 Hall 86
10 Wheat 411
7 " 581
2 Peck 249
4 Cow 222
The Freedom
3 PC 594

Nolara v Henderson 52 B 346, 2 B Exch 225 8 CP 552

Robinson v Clifford Condy's Marshall 159a Griswold v Nat Ins. Co 3 Cow 96

[And by Mr. Joline: ] The above citations in Mr. Butler's handwriting.

A. H. Joline

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HUNT, Ward, 1810-1886 Associate Justice, 1873-1882.

TO SAMUEL FREEMAN MILLER.

Washington April 13 1880

Mr. Justice Miller

Dear Sir

I write you a letter with my left hand. I cannot spell anything, nor can I a [r] ticulate any better.

My portion shall not be in the Court Room during the rest room of the court of the session, but I hope to see you at the consultation once more, once during the present session.

Good bye to yourself, good bye to all my brethren upon all the bench.

Yours Most Sincerely

Ward Hunt



IREDELL, James, 1751-1799. Associate Justice, 1790-1799.

To OLIVER ELSWORTH.

Philadelphia April 10th, 1797.

Dear Sir,

I called at your lodgings the morning that you left the City, but unfortunately was too late to have the pleasure of seeing you. I wished very much to have delivered you a receipt I had prepared, and of which the above<sup>5</sup> substantially is a copy, with a variation as to the dates. At Trenton only two Cases were to be decided, one by the Courts and the other by a Jury, both involving the great question as to Interest on British Debts. The Jury Case came on first, and was strenuously argued. I was alone, and after time taken to consider charged the Jury (assigning my reasons particularly) in favour of the full Interest, but after being out two hours they found contrary to my direction. It was the case of a Bond to which Payment was pleaded, and upon which it seems it has been always usual for the Jury, not only in the State but the Circuit Courts in Jersey, instead of finding payment or no payment or a partial one specially, to assess the sum due. A Rule returnable next Term to shew cause why a new Trial should not be had was moved for and granted. Had the question come on immediately I should undoubtedly have ordered a new Trial. I gave Judgment however in the case where I was not [controlled ?] by a Jury according to my own sentiments, without deference to the Jury opinion which had over-ruled mine.

I sincerely hope you have found all Your Family well. On my return from Trenton I met the melancholy account of the death of an uncle which has affected me very much.

I am,
Dear Sir,
with great respect,
Your faithful and
obedient Servant
Ja. Iredell

[Addressed on verso of last leaf:] The Honorable Oliver Elsworth Esq Chief Justice of the United States near Hartford Connecticut.

<sup>5</sup> The receipt has been torn away, without affecting the letter itself.



IOHNSON, Thomas, 1732-1819. Associate Justice, 1791-1793.

TO JAMES WILSON.

Geo[rge]. Town 9 Jany 1792.

My dear Sir.

I have been here several Days, indeed longer than I expected. Early next month I hope to see you in Phila[delphia] and you will oblige me by having a Dress made for me agreeable to those intended for the other Judges. I have no Vanity to gratify in this outward Mask of Office. I should have rather inclined against it but am not so perverse as to be singular in Things in themselves indifferent.

I am my Dear Sir Your mo. obedt Servant

Th Johnson

[Addressed on verso of last leaf:] The Honble. James Wilson one of the Associate Judges of the Supreme Court of the United States Philadelphia



IOHNSON, Thomas, 1732-1819. Associate Justice, 1791-1793.

To James Wilson.

Frederick March 1st, 1792.

Dear Sir,

I shall be much obliged to you to write me which Circuit I am expected to ride; I wrote to Mr. Jay, but the State of his Family prevented his being in Phila [delphia] and I have not heard from him. I have a discouraging prospect as to Health if it does not mend I shall not be able to discharge the Duties of the Office and must withdraw. I some Times repent having engaged in it. I am too old for Circuits.

If any Alterations have taken place in the Judiciary Act, and some

are very necessary, I wish to be advised of them.

I am dear Sir Your most obedt Servant,

Th Johnson

[On verso of last leaf:] The Honble James Wilson one of the Associate Justices of the Supreme Co[ur]t of the United States. Philadelphia



JOHNSON, William, 1771-1834. Associate Justice, 1804-1834.

To Messrs. Gales & Seaton.

Charleston So[uth] Ca[ro]l[in]a

Gentlemen

On purusing my Opinion in the Case of Hunter & Fairfax lately published in your Paper, I find in it a number of Errors some of which very

Materially affect the Sense. You will oblige me much by taking some Notice of this in your Paper & referring your Readers to the Southern Patriot in which a tolerable correct Copy was published on Monday last.

Yours very respectfully

Will<sup>m</sup> Johnson Jr.

23 April 1816

Mess<sup>rs</sup> Gales & Seaton



JOHNSON, William, 1771-1834. Associate Justice, 1804-1834.

TO SAMUEL MITCHELL.

Charleston May 12, 1818

My dear Sir

I avail myself of the Visit of a Friend to your City to submit to you a question in natural History on which I shall expect your Answer, as the Answer of the acknowledged Arbiter on all such questions on this side

[of] the Atlantic.

Aristotle says that the Time of Gestation of the Bear is thirty Days. Buffon combats this Assertion on the Ground of Analogy deduced from the Size & Longevity of the Animal. Yet I suspect that Aristotle is Right, and that in this Circumstance the Bear resembles the Opossum & perhaps the Kangaroo Jerboa & some other Animals. With the Opossum we know that the Time of Gestation in the Womb is very short & that the young is found in the Pouch adhering to the Teat when not much larger than a Bean; with no Eyes, no Mouth but only a circular Orifice just large enough to receive a very small sharp Nipple. To this it instinctively adheres and is with Difficulty separated from it until it attains to that Stage of Advancement at which Animals are generally ejected from the Matrix. Why may not the Young of the Bear be also brought forth in a similarly immature State? I have conversed with many of our Frontier Men who Concur in assuring me that the Young of the Bear is often found entirely naked and in Size not larger than a Rat. They have also a Tradition that there never lived the man who had taken the young of the Bear from the Mother's womb when killed. But this I presume is a vulgar Errour arising from the smallness of the Size at which the Foetus must always be found in the Matrix, since it is generally found so very small when discovered soon after being brought forth. The Subject is a curious one and nobody possesses such ample Means as yourself to determine the Fact. There is one Circumstance in which the Habits of the Bear and the Opossum much resemble each other and may be the Cause of Nature's making this wise Provision for the Preservation of their young; that is, throwing them frequently from the Tops of Trees. And the same thing may be said of the Kangaroo & Jerboa which in their wild Leaps to escape must be much exposed to Injuries that would affect their young.

Permit me my dear Sir to avail myself of the Opportunity of assur-

ing you of the very high personal Regard with which I have the Honour to be,

Your very hbe Sert

Will<sup>m</sup> Johnson

To Samuel Mitchell

[Addressed on verso of last leaf:] Dr Samuel Mitchell New York Dr E. S. Bennett.



LAMAR, Lucius Quintus Cincinnatus, 1825-1893. Associate Justice, 1888-1893.

To George T. Barnes.

Supreme Court of the United States, Washington, Oct 5<sup>th</sup> 1888

Hon. Geo. T. Barnes
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.

My dear Sir,

It will give me pleasure to comply with the request of Col. Jones, mentioned in your letter of the 27th ult, which I have been prevented from

answering by a sprained shoulder.

Yes, my thoughts often recur to "those early days" you refer to, when Iwas a young representative, from Newton county, in the Georgia Legislature & you (much younger still) were the "Correspondent" of "The Constitutionalist." Among the most pleasant incidents connected with my services (?) in that body was my intercourse with you. Indeed I understate the fact when I say among those incidents, for I can't think upon any one with equal pleasure. To you I am indebted for the first fresh feeling of gratification & surprise at seeing my name mentioned in the papers in favorable terms. The first compliments I ever had as a debater & public speaker came from your pen & I have many of your letters to the Constitutionalist yet, although my house has since been visited by the enemy's troops & by fire. If I were an artist I could present you with a photographic likeness of yourself in those days; young, full of bounding aspiration, enthusiasm & energy, a vigorous writer, a sparkling talker keenly susceptible to the impressions of the time & thoughtfully appreciative of the events & men you were in contact with. I am still as I was then

Your friend

L. Q. C. Lamar



LAMAR, Lucius Quintus Cincinnatus, 1825-1893. Associate Justice, 1888-1893.

TO HAMPTON L. CARSON.

Supreme Court of the United States, Washington.

March 9, 1891.

Hampton L. Carson, Esq.,

Drexel Building, Philadelphia, Penn.

My dear Mr. Carson:-

I received your letter of the 29th of January, stating that you were engaged in writing biographical sketches of the Chief Justices and Associate Justices of the Supreme Court of the United States, and that as your work is now approaching completion you desired me to send such biographical information relating to myself as would enable you to make your sketch full and accurate, and, more especially, the decisions ren-

dered by me which I deem most important.

I beg to assure you that my long delay in answering grew out of no want of interest in the work, or any underestimate of yourself as a sound thinker and an able and eloquent writer, but was due to reasons exclusively personal to myself. My public career has been, before my nomination as Associate Justice of the Supreme Court, so entirely political, that I was really embarrassed by the want of any noteworthy incidents and events in my career as a lawyer; and as my personal associates and friends were, to no great extent, outside of the politicians and statesmen of the country, I did not feel at liberty to tax them with the work of sending you such materials as you asked for. Nor could I speak to you of my own decisions as a Supreme Court Judge, or designate which of them I deem as the more important contributions to the jurisprudence of the country without a depressing consciousness of unwarranted egotism. I happened, a few days ago, to speak of my embarrassment to an old friend, who is recognized as an able and eminent jurist, George Ticknor Curtis. With his usual and characteristic kindness, he said to me, "If Mr. Carson will accept what I can give him, it will be a labor of love to me to prepare for his use something of the kind that he wishes."

The object of this letter is, to make my apology for what must have seemed to you an inexcusable silence on my part, and to ask if Mr. Curtis'

kind offer comes too late.

Very truly yours,

L. Q. C. Lamar

P.S. I have just seen a review by Mr. Curtis of the decision of the Supreme Court, and my dissenting opinion, in the Neagle case, dated July 3, and published in the "New York Sun" of July 6, 1890.



LAMAR, Lucius Quintus Cincinnatus, 1825-1893. Associate Justice, 1888-1893.

Apparently to George Ticknor Curtis.

Supreme Court of the United States,

Washington.

[March or April 1891?]

One of his brethren being asked whether Mr. Justice Lamar had met the expectations of his friends, replied: "Fully. Mr. Cleveland made no mistake in appointing him. Whatever doubts existed as to his fitness for the Supreme Bench, growing out of his long political and parliamentary career, and absence from the active practice of his profession, have wholly disappeared. This will be conceded by all who have read his opinions. He has sound judgment, a calm temperament, and a strong sense of justice. He possesses the judicial faculty in a very high degree. He takes broad, comprehensive views of legal and constitutional questions, and states his conclusions with unusual clearness and force, and in language most aptly chosen to express the precise idea in his mind. His brethren are greatly attached to him."

The foregoing is on a single sheet, attached to sheets numbered 2

and 3, with text as follows:

I was born September 17, 1825. Was admitted to the bar in 1847. And whilst in a very good practice for so young a man, was elected to the Georgia Legislature; was elected to Congress in 1857. I think I won some distinction in that body; withdrew from Congress to serve in the Secession Convention of Mississippi in 1860, and served in the Confederate Army as Colonel of the 19th Miss. Regiment; was elected in 1872 to the Congress of the United States, my disability being removed after my election. In 1876 I was elected U. S. Senator. As a Member of the House of Representatives and as a Senator I think you can say, with truth, that I shared in the debates only on important questions, and then maturely prepared, as I never failed to be, my arguments were sustained by a logic and a style which won for me the attention and respect of both those bodies.

If it be not out of place, I would like it stated that I was the son of L. Q. C. Lamar of Georgia, who was one of the Judges of the higher court in that State, and of whom it was said, "from the day of his election to that of his lamented death, he discharged the duties of his office with signal ability and with public applause, which few in judicial stations have

had the good fortune to receive."

I have omitted to state above that during the reconstruction period I filled the position of a Professor of law in the University of Mississippi, and was engaged in a large practice at the time of my election to Congress in 1872.

I also enclose you a copy of a letter received from Mr. Carson. With assurances of great thankfulness, I am, very truly,

Your friend, L. Q. C. Lamar

P.S. I have had all this typed off in order that it may save your eyes

LAMAR, Lucius Quintus Cincinnatus, 1825-1893. Associate Justice, 1888-1893.

TO HAMPTON L. CARSON.

Washington, D. C., April 24, 1891.

Hampton L. Carson, Esq., Drexell Building, Philadelphia, Penn.

Dear Sir:-

I received yours of the 21st inst., on yesterday, too late to answer it by return mail. I hasten to do so now, first, to express my deep regret that anything has occurred to embarrass you, with reference to myself; second, to assure you that any course you may see proper to adopt with regard to any sketch you may put in your book, concerning myself, will meet my

cheerful acquiescence and approval.

My only reason in referring your request, to furnish you material, to Mr. Curtis, was, that among my political associates there were but few who had the time and the opportunity to give you such data as you could employ. When I spoke to Mr. Curtis, as I informed you in one of my letters, I supposed he would write such an estimate of my judicial capacity and my status among my associates as would be of use to you. The letter to which he refers, stating that he has "received some material from me," was in response to his request that I should do so; and it was, as well as I can recollect, that I was born in Putnam County, Georgia, September 17, 1825; that I was admitted to the bar in 1846, and practiced law in Newton County, Georgia; that I was elected in 1854 to the Georgia legislature. At the expiration of my term, moved to Oxford, Mississippi; was elected in 1857, to the House of Representatives in Congress, and served in that body until my resignation, in order to become a member of the secession Convention in Mississippi; that I served in the Confederate Army as Colonel, during the entire war, except a short period, during which I was commissioner of the Confederate government to Russia. For a short time after peace,—and that during the period of reconstruction, I occupied the position of Professor of law in the University of Mississippi; and whilst engaged in an active and growing practice of the law, was elected, in 1872, to the House of Representatives, where I served for four years. Was elected in 1876 to the Senate, and continued in that position until I entered the Cabinet of President Cleveland, as Secretary of the Interior.

During that time public attention was somewhat attracted to the legal decisions and opinions which emanated from my department upon questions relating to the public lands, and upon the authority of the United States government to institute a suit for the annulment of the

patent issued to the American Bell Telephone Company.

I said to Mr. Curtis that he knew and could state his own judgment, as to my career in the House and the Senate; and that he could safely state (I thought) that I shared in the debates only on important questions, and then maturely prepared, as I never failed to be, my arguments

were sustained by a logic that won the respect of my colleagues of all

parties.

He had already reviewed by dissenting opinion in the Neagle case, and I sent him a list of some of the opinions which I delivered that were considered, by one of my associates, as being the most noted. I enclose that list to you. Note in margin: I am unable to find the list. It is from one of the Senior Associate Justices in whose judgment I think you have entire confidence.

I also send you a remark made about myself by one of my Senior

Associates, which he has authorized me to give to you.

I have thus, sir, repeated to you, as literally as I can recollect, the

contents of my letter to Mr. Curtis.

I have omitted one item which I here add. It was that I would be glad if he would state that my father was Lucius Q. C. Lamar, a highly and justly distinguished jurist in Georgia, who, elected at an early day in his life, as a judge of the highest Court in the State, continued until his lamented death to discharge the duties of that position with signal ability, and with a public applause which few in judicial stations have had the good fortune to receive.

I am, sir,

With great respect, Yours truly,

L. Q. C. Lamar



Supreme Court of the United States, Washington, D. C.

April 29, 1891.

Hampton L. Carson Esq.,
Drexel Building,
Philadelphia.

My dear Sir:

Yours of the 27<sup>th</sup> inst., has been received. My typewriting amanuensis has been very much prostrated with something like *La Grippe*, and it may be that in writing from her stenographic notes she omitted to send you the copy of the remarks furnished in writing by one of my senior associates. I supposed it was in the enclosures at the time I mailed your letter. If it was not, I will have it copied and sent to you.

The enclosed is the list of cases from his hand. Those marked with

a † are the ones he thought the best.

If you will not deem it egotistic in me, I will put down here certain notes made by my associates on the two or three last opinions submitted for either approval, criticism or suggestion, which we have to do. On the last case which involved a constitutional question, a copy of which I send you, the following was endorsed: "Your differentiation of cases where a State may and may not be sued is the best I have seen. The case seemed

to me a difficult one, and I should not have suspected that you did not

enjoy writing opinions. This is excellent."

On the same case, from the oldest justice now on the bench was the following: "I think that your summary of the constitutional principles applicable to the reciprocal relations of Art. I, Sec. 10, and the Eleventh Amendment of the Constitution is so clear that it would suffer from abridgment."

On a recent case involving the question of contingent or prospective profits, a marked copy of which I enclose, was the following endorsement from another Justice whose opinions are deemed of the highest authority: "Your enunciation of the principles applicable to the question of profits is

unusually clear and concise."

I have not communicated with Mr. Curtis upon the subject of your letter, and think it best that I should not. I shall, however, defer to your wishes in the matter. I think, however, it would be of use to you to look over what he has written.

Yours very truly,

L. Q. C. Lamar



# List of cases

Clement v. Packer, 125 U.S., 309. Southern Development Co. v. Silva, 125 U.S., 247. †United States v. Beebe, 127 U.S., 338. †Kidd v. Pearson, 128 U.S. 1. Cragin v. Powell, 128 U.S. 691. Wood v. Guarantee Trust Co., 128 U.S., 416. Dent v. Ferguson, 131 U.S., 397. †Hastings & Ry Co. v. Whitney, 132 U.S., 357. †Richardson's Ex. v. Green, 133 U.S., 30. McKey v. Hyde Park, 134-84. †In re Neagle 135-1. Dissenting Opinion W & G. R. R. Co v. McDade, 135-554. †McCall v. California, 136-104. N & W R. R. Co v. Penn, 136-114 Busell Trimmer Co. v. Stevens, 137-423. Redfield v. Windom, 137-636. Young v. Clarendon Tp., 132-340. †Lake Co. v. Graham, 130-674.

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