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NEWSLETTER of the American Society for Legal History

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NEWS OF THE SOCIETY

Annual Meeting

Put aside October 22 and 23, 1971 for a trip to historic Boston and the annual meeting of the American Society for Legal History. The meeting will be a major development in the on-going program to revitalize the Society as a dynamic professional organization serving the field of legal history. The hotel site will be announced in time for reservations to be made. Current plans are for the meeting to include panels on the following: Roman and foreign civil law, English legal history, American legal history to the 19th century, American legal history of the 19th century, and American constitutional history. Members desiring to present papers at one of these panels should write to the Acting Program Chairman, Herbert A. Johnson, 610 Pollard Park, Williamsburg, Va. 23185.

Plans are also in the making for the 1972 meeting, to be held in Buffalo, New York. The dates are tentatively set for April 21 and 22.

Board of Directors to Meet

A meeting of the board of directors of the American Society for Legal History will be held at the offices of Covington & Burling, 888 Sixteenth Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. at 2:00 P.M. on May 19th. Members of the Society are urged to contact the officers or any member of the board to submit proposals concerning the program of the Society. As presently constituted the board of directors is composed of fifteen members, Dr. Brendan F. Brown, Professor Morris D. Forkosch, Professor Jerome Hall, Professor Lawrence A. Harper, Professor Leonard W. Levy, Dean Richard G. Maxwell, Professor Daniel J. Meador, Professor Ralph A. Newman, Professor Erwin C. Surrency, Professor William F. Schulz, Jr., Dr. John D. Cushing, Professor Joseph W. McKnight, Professor Milton M. Klein, Professor Michael G. Kammen, and Professor Arthur A. Maass.

Under the Society's by-laws the board of directors is charged with the management of the business of the Society, and all new programs must receive board approval before they are implemented. During the course of the May 19th meeting the board will hear



reports from the chairman of the publications committee, Dr. Cushing, the chairman of the new membership committee, Professor Klein, and the chairman of the committee on the preservation of court records, Professor Richard B. Morris. The officers will also submit reports on their activities since May of 1970.

Although the size of the conference room will not permit the attendance of any substantial number of members of the Society, Professor George L. Haskins, president of the Society, has urged all members to participate in the business of the Society by communicating their ideas and suggestions to him or to the board of directors.

#### Appointments and Elections

George L. Haskins, Professor of Law at the University of Pennsylvania Law School and President of the American Society for Legal History, has recently been elected, for a five-year term, to the Council of the Association Internationale d'Histoire du Droit et des Institutions.

The Society's committee on new members now includes Professor Dorsey D. Ellis, Jr., of the University of Iowa Law School and Professor Robert M. Ireland of the University of Kentucky.

#### Society Communications

Alfred S. Konefsky, the Book Review Editor of the American Journal of Legal History, would like to thank all who replied to the request for names for potential reviewers in the first issue of the Newsletter. He regrets that considerations of both time and energy did not allow him to reply individually to each letter, but assures those answering that their listings of areas of specialization and interest will be utilized when reviewing choices are being made.

The Secretary of the Society, Professor William F. Schulz, Jr., is compiling a Register of Legal History Research in Progress which will be made available to all members when completed. Those currently engaged in research are requested to communicate with him in order that their work may be included. Professor Schulz is at the University of Pittsburgh Law School, Fifth Avenue and Bigelow Boulevard, Pittsburgh, Pa. 15213.

#### PUBLICATIONS

The Society, in association with the Harvard University Press, has announced a new series of books in legal history designed to focus and stimulate attention to research and writing in this field. Professor Stanley N. Katz of the University of Wisconsin is Editor of the series, assisted by an Editorial Advisory Board composed of John D. Cushing (Massachusetts Historical Society),



John P. Dawson (Harvard Law School), Lawrence M. Friedman (Stanford Law School), Charles M. Gray (University of Chicago), Oscar Handlin (Harvard University), George L. Haskins (University of Pennsylvania Law School), J. Willard Hurst (University of Wisconsin Law School), S.F.C. Milsom (London School of Economics), Joseph H. Smith (Columbia Law School), and L. Kinvin Wroth (University of Maine Law School). The first volume in the series, to be published this Spring, is *Frederic William Maitland* by C.H.S. Fifoot. Persons interested in having a manuscript considered for inclusion in the series should write to Professor Katz at: Department of History, 3211 Humanities Building, University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin 53706.

The Genealogical Publishing Company, 521-523 St. Paul Place, Baltimore, Maryland 21202 has announced the availability of the following volumes: *Jillson, Old Kentucky Entries and Deeds*. A Complete Index to All of the Earliest Land Entries, Military Warrants, Deeds and Wills of the Commonwealth of Kentucky. (1926); *King, Abstract of Early Kentucky Wills and Inventories*. (1933); *Magruder, Index of Maryland Colonial Wills, 1634-1777 in the Hall of Records, Annapolis, Maryland*. (1933); *New Jersey, Department of the State, Index of Wills, Inventories, etc. in the Office of the Secretary of State Prior to 1901*; *Baldwin, The Maryland Calendar of Wills from 1635 to 1743*. (1904-1928); *Currer-Briggs, Virginia Settlers and English Adventurers: Abstracts of Wills, 1484-1798, and Legal Proceedings, 1566-1700, Relating to Early Virginia Families*. (1969); *Fernow, [New York] Calendar of Wills On File and Recorded in the Offices of the Clerk of the Court of Appeals, of the County Clerk at Albany, and of the Secretary of State, 1626-1836*. (1896); *Grimes, Abstract of North Carolina Wills*. (1910); *Vicars, Index to the Prerogative Wills of Ireland, 1536-1810*. (1897); *Waters, Genealogical Gleanings in England: Abstracts of Wills Relating to Early American Families, With Genealogical Notes and Pedigrees Constructed from the Wills and from Other Records*. (Bound with:) *Genealogical Gleanings in England (New Series)*. (1901, 1907); *Phillimore, Indexes to Irish Wills*. (1909-1920).

A Bibliography of the Catholic Church, recently published in London contains a guide to library holdings in the United States and Canada pertaining to the Catholic Church, and covers various editions of the Corpus Juris Canonici and the Codex Juris Canonici, as well as editions of the earlier compilations of Gregorius IX, Bonifacius VIII, Clemens V, and Johannes XXII. It may be obtained from Mansell Information Publishing, Ltd., 3 Bloomsbury Place, London WC1, England.

The Wiltshire Record Society, 37 Hilperton Road, Trowbridge, Wiltshire, England plans to publish this Spring, *Civil Pleas of the Wiltshire Eyre, 1249*, edited by M.T. Clanchy. The roll of the



Wiltshire eyre of 1249 is the second earliest eyre roll for the county.

The Yorkshire <sup>5.9</sup>Archaeological Society has published volume 13 of its Record series, which is Court Rolls of the Manor of Acomb, edited by Harold Richardson.

The Joint Committee on Lancashire Bibliography has published Lancashire Acts of Parliament, 1266-1957, compiled by Sidney Horrocks.

*Howe*  
The David Murray Lectures by Professor Robert Feenstra have been published under the title, Philip of Leyden and his treatise De cura reipublicae at sorte principantis.

The first two volumes of Children and Youth in America, A Documentary History, have been published by the Harvard University Press. The editor is Robert H. Bremner; associate editors, John Barnard, Tamara K. Jareven, and Robert M. Mennel. A third volume is planned. A similar documentary collection, but briefer and encompassing a longer period, is Juvenile Offenders for a Thousand Years, edited by Wiley B. Sanders.

#### ACQUISITIONS AND HOLDINGS

The Biddle Law Library of the University of Pennsylvania has recently received a six page autograph letter written by Thomas Jefferson and dated August 10, 1814. The letter was addressed to General John Minor, and outlined a suggested program of law study with a recommended list of readings. A xerox copy of the letter may be obtained from Mr. Paul Gay, Assistant Librarian, Biddle Law Library, University of Pennsylvania Law School, Philadelphia, Pa. 19104.

Due by June, 1971 in the Archives Branches of the eleven Federal records centers around the country are microfilm records of some of the most significant records in the National Archives. Included are many Supreme Court records and documents as well as World War II War Crimes Records. A complete listing of records in this first shipment is in Prologue: The Journal of the National Archives, vol. 2 pp. 138-140, 1970. Reprints of the list may be obtained from federal records centers in Boston, New York, Philadelphia, Atlanta, Chicago, Kansas City, Fort Worth, Denver, Los Angeles, San Francisco, and Seattle. New direct acquisitions of federal court records have recently been announced by the centers in New York, Chicago and San Francisco.

The Archives of Labor History and Urban Affairs of Wayne State University has accessioned papers of the Workers Defense League for the period of 1936-1965 which include trial briefs and transcripts.

The Harry S. Truman Library has reviewed previously closed papers of President Truman and J. Howard McGrath relating to the



federal judiciary and decided to open the majority of them.

The Editor of the Newsletter has solicited all of the law libraries and state libraries for information of interest to legal historians. The response was extremely generous, resulting in far too much material for complete inclusion in a newsletter. Some of the information has been noted, however, and the policy of "selective incorporation" will continue to be followed.

#### MEETINGS

The conference on "Present-Day Implications of the History of Violence and Other Crime", announced in the last issue of the Newsletter, had to be postponed until next year. A new date and further details will be announced.

The New Jersey Historical Society will sponsor a seminar on "Law Enforcement in New Jersey," on May 3, 1971. Details from the Society at 230 Broadway, Newark, N.J. 07104.

The American Association for State and Local History will hold a seminar on Publications of Historical Agencies and Museums in Nashville, Tennessee from June 27 to July 2. Details from Donna McDonald, at the Association's office, 1315 Eighth Avenue, South, Nashville, Tenn. 37203.

A group of Virginia legal historians has been holding semi-annual meetings at Richmond; lawyers, historians and political scientists are included within the group, and new members are welcome. In the past the sessions have dealt with the archival sources for the legal history of Virginia, and court reform legislation of the 20th century. The group will hold its next meeting on April 22, 1971. For further information contact Mr. Charles T. Cullen, The Papers of John Marshall, P.O. Box 220, Williamsburg, Virginia 23185.

#### GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

In an immodest effort to stimulate reports of grants or fellowships from Society members for inclusion in the Newsletter, the Editor reports his Senior Fellowship from the National Endowment for the Humanities for studies in the jurisprudence of juvenile justice.